



TARC Bulletin



W5LM Repeaters:

146.820- MHz (PL 123.0) — 444.700 MHz (PL 123.0)

April 2011

www.tarc.org

April 2011

Officers

President: John Hobson, WD5BFS, (254) 554-7705, jshobson@embarqmail.com

Vice President: Myron Mesecke, N5TFK, (254) 770-0529, meseckem@vvm.com

Secretary: Albert Howe, N5AWH, ahowe20790@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Mike Hankins, KI5M, (254) 228-9336, ki5m@arrl.net

Board Members

Frankie Baugh, KA5IHY, (254)

Darwin Geiselbrecht, K5DOA, (254) 487-3167, k5doa01@gmail.com

Ron Thompson, W5WRE, (254) 859-3000, rwthompson@clearwire.net

Gerald Richmond, N5ZXJ, (2011-13), richmond@vvm.com

Committees

Programs: Board of Dir.

W5LM Trustee: Ron Thompson, W5WRE, (254) 859-3000, rwthompson@clearwire.net

Technical Director: —

Education: —

Membership: —

HamEXPO!: Mike LeFan, WA5EQQ, (254) 773-3590, expo@tarc.org

Bulletin Editor & Webmaster: WA5EQQ



N5AUS, ARRL W. Gulf Vice Director, to bring TARC program

John Robert Stratton N5AUS, Vice Director ARRL West Gulf Division, will be our guest speaker at the April 7 TARC meeting. He will be updating us on the current legislative lobbying in the Texas legislature being led by our ARRL representatives. I am sure he will also be able to answer questions on the Texas Amateur Radio EmComm Fund project. All Hams in Bell County and surrounding counties are invited and encouraged to attend. This is your chance to have a one on one with our ARRL Vice Director.

I would like to thank Terry AB5K for his presentation on tower safety at our March meeting. I really enjoyed his pictures of towers that failed and the many tips on working safe around towers.

The three punch disaster in Japan is about as bad as it can get: a top of the scale earthquake followed by a tsunami and then the failure of the nuclear reactors. Being in a major earthquake zone, Japan has prepared for years

(Continued on page 2)

Make HamEXPO! guests feel welcome

HamEXPO, sponsored by TARC, is Saturday, April 2, at the Bell County Expo Center in Belton. Among those who will be attending is American Radio Relay League's West Gulf Division Vice Director John Robert Stratton, N5AUS (N5AUS@arrl.org). Be sure to greet N5AUS and make him feel welcome. In fact, make a point of saying "Thanks for attending" to all our guests at HamEXPO. Urge them to return.

At Our Next Meeting

ARRL's West Gulf Division Vice Director Stratton, N5AUS will present the program at our meeting on April 7. He will update us on the latest legislative and other factors affecting Amateur Radio.

See you at the Church of Christ in Western Hills in Temple, 210 N. Gen. Bruce Dr. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. on April 7.

In this issue

Our President Says... — Make EXPO Guests Welcome — At Our Next Meeting	1
Sullivan Family Full of Hams — TARC Storage Unit — Key Clicks from the Armadillo	2
Japan's Ham Gear Companies — Hams Track New Satellites	3
HamEXPO! — Meeting Info	4

(Continued from page 1)

for the "big one." Mother Nature always has a surprise just when you feel you have it all under control. While living in the Kansas City area we had an ice storm that took out power for over a quarter of the homes and businesses. A week later, 10 percent were still without power. Can you do with out power for a few days? A week? We do not have a major earthquake fault in the area and rarely have a ice storm, but there are many other possible disasters, natural or manmade, that can bring our communities to a halt. Keep this in mind when you say it can never happen here. Be sure to plan for your family's safety, and if you participate in ARES be sure to have your own personal go-kit ready.

Please check out the Texas Amateur Radio EmComm Fund Web site at www.tarefund.org/. This fund was established to purchase standardized and specialized equipment for amateur radio disaster responders in Texas. The Web site does a better job of explaining the project than I can do in the limited space I have in our newsletter. I personally believe this is a worthy cause.

Don't forget HamEXPO on April 2. Darwin is in need of help starting Friday at noon and we can sure use all the help we can get Saturday morning starting at 6:30 a.m. Also plan to attend the TARC HamEXPO breakfast the following Saturday for all TARC members and VEs.

Till next month, 73.

Sullivan family full of Ham operators

On the March 14 Monday Night 2-Meter Net, we had a treat—the "Sullivan Family Check-in. (Pictured below are the Sullivans at Field



Day a couple of years ago.) The Sullivans who checked in were Miriam KE5WLD (upgraded to General on March 3); Steven, KE5VSW (an Extra class Ham and dad to this bunch); Rebekah KE5WLE (a General class upgrade as of March 3); and Joshua KE5WLF (General class Ham as of March 3). There may have been another Sullivan check-in, but that is not on the net control's log. This is a tremendous crop of new young Hams.



TARC storage unit being refurbished

Darwin Geiselbrecht, K5DOA has acquired, cut to size, and supervised the placement of railroad ties beneath TARC's storage unit. This procedure gets the container off of the soil. Darwin says "Thanks" to David and Don Sprankle and their big toy that lifted the the storage unit. The procedure went off without a hitch. It took all of 13 minutes to lift the container and place 3 foot railroad ties under the corners. It is now high and dry and ready for sandblasting and the primer coat. Myron Mesecke, N5TFK is arranging the sandblasting and priming events. Thanks to all involved.

AMATEUR RADIO

A
National
Resource



KEY CLICKS FROM THE ARMADILLO

...There is a new repeater in the area: Taylor's new machine is up and running on 145.450 MHz, minus offset, 162.2 Hz tone.

...Extra Class class results: Darwin K5DOA reports that several candidates will be ready for testing at HamEXPO on April 2.

...Mike Rhoden, W5MIK, arranged for the Belton Police facility to be used by Joe Dorn, W5VEX for VE testing at HamEXPO. Thanks Mike, and thanks Joe.

...TARC Bulletin is available in an online digital edition (.pdf format). It's posted on the TARC website and on the Yahoo Discussion Group site. If you need a paper copy, notify Mike WA5EQQ.

...Weekdays and Saturdays, Hams meet for coffee at McDonald's at IH-35 and Adams Ave. from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Come add your 2-cents' worth.

...TARC Net — Mondays at 7 p.m. on 146.820 MHz (PL 123.0). Are YOU checking in?

...See you April 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of Christ in Western Hills in Temple for the next TARC meeting. Be there.

Yaesu, ICOM and Kenwood Issue Statements Regarding Effects of Earthquake on Operations

In a letter to the Amateur Radio community, Vertex Standard Chief Executive Officer and President Jun Hasegawa



expressed his "sincere appreciation to all of you for your kind words and thoughts about us" after the devastating 9.0 earthquake that struck Japan on March 11. Vertex Standard is the parent company of Yaesu. All Vertex Standard employees and their families are safe and unhurt, Hasegawa said, but the company has not been able to reach many of their dealers and sub-contractors who are located on the coast area: "We just hope that they are alive." Hasegawa said that a Vertex Standard factory in Fukushima was damaged in the earthquake. Even though the factory is not located near the coast and the damage was minimal, he said that Vertex Standard has decided to "disable the operation at this moment." Saying that they are working very hard to get the factory back to its normal operation, Hasegawa said that "it may take one to two weeks to restart operation in the Fukushima factory. I would like to ask for your understanding and cooperation at this time."

According to a press release, no one from ICOM is known to be injured. No damage has been reported at ICOM's headquarters in Osaka, or at either of their two main factories in Wakayama; both Osaka and Wakayama are located far south of the most severely affected areas. The branch offices in Tokyo and Sendai, however, did suffer some minor damage. "Most of

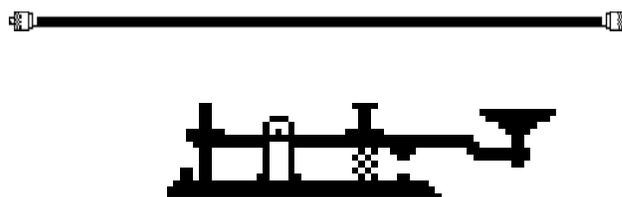


ICOM's facilities and systems are ready to get back to normal business, but supplier logistics, commuting issues and future power disruptions will affect our company," the press release said. "It is too soon to tell how big an impact the earthquake and its aftermath will have on ICOM. We appreciate your interest and concern."

"Thankfully, our staff in Japan is safe due to earthquake preparedness and the special construction of our buildings," said Kenwood USA President Junji Kobayashi on the Kenwood website. "Power

outages and interruption of mass transit have kept most of Kenwood's staff at home since the earthquake; however, we expect the infrastructure to improve in the coming week and our operations to fully resume accordingly. We appreciate the concern for our employees expressed by all those who have contacted us." Kenwood's primary office facilities in Yokohama and Hachioji were not damaged, due to their proximity further south and west of the quake's epicenter. Since Kenwood's primary manufacturing facilities are in Malaysia, electronics production is unaffected.

— via The ARRL Letter, March 16, 2011



Hams invited to help track satellites

In November 2010, five research satellites were carried to orbit aboard a Minotaur V rocket from Kodiak Island, Alaska. Two of these satellites -- FASTRAC 1, known as "Sara Lily" and FASTRAC 2, referred to as "Emma" -- entered orbit as a single nanosatellite, but on March 15, scientists sent the command to have them separate.

According to FASTRAC Student Program Manager Sebastian Munoz, KE5FKV, students at the University of Texas will be confirming the separation as the satellites pass: "We started one of the most exciting phases of our project by separating both of our girls so that they can compute on-orbit real-time relative navigation solutions while both of them are freely drifting from

one another." Munoz said that they will continue to update the satellites' two line elements (TLEs) on their website for those radio amateurs interested in tracking the two nanosatellites. "I want to thank the ham community all over the world for supporting our project," Munoz said. "Your support has been incredible and we really value it. We really appreciate all of your help so far and we hope that we can continue to count on it."

TARC Bulletin

Temple Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 616
Temple, TX 76503



First Class Mail

Temple Amateur Radio Club meets the first Thursday of each month from 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the Church of Christ in Western Hills, 210 N. General Bruce Dr., in Temple—across I-35 from Starbucks Coffee. Refreshments are served, and guests are invited and welcome!

TARC Bulletin — April 2011 — page 4

HamEXPO!

Saturday, April 2, 2011

7:00 a.m.— 2:00 p.m.

Bell County Expo Center

VE Testing at 11:00 a.m.

Dealers—Tailgaters—Doorprizes

TARC Members, Support HamEXPO! With Your Presence and Time. Thanks.

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.