
SIGNALS

Rockwell
Collins **Amateur Radio Club**

Monthly Newsletter of the

Volume 35 Issue 11

Web Site <http://www.w5rok.us>

August 2014

RCARC Membership Meeting

Tuesday 26 August 2014
1700 Social 1730 Meeting
1800 Program

Methodist Richardson Medical Center
At Bush/Renner/Shiloh Intersection
Second Floor Conference Room 200

Subject:
Show and Tell

something to give us ideas for our next project. So see you on the 26th.

RCARC Community Service Activities

Siren Testing Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT, John McFadden K5TIP and Jim Skinner WB0UNI participated in the Richardson emergency siren testing on 6 August 2014. The testing was performed on schedule, after two months of cancelled testing due to threatening weather. With the exception of a few problems, the sirens performed correctly. The siren testing is performed on the first Wednesday of each month. The sirens are monitored by amateur radio operators and reports made using the Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) repeater at 147.120 MHz.

CAF B-29/B-24 Squadron Move Update.

The move from Addison to Meacham Field VFM is about complete. This past month members Joe Wolf N5UIC, Paul Jarvis KC5MVE, Mike Schmit WA9WCC & Bob Kirby K3NT helped load 2 fifty five foot tractor trailers with aircraft and support equipment. Each pallet had to be wrapped and loaded carefully. Paul and Bob had a brand new fork lift to help move items from the large speed racks. Joe and volunteer Vickie preferred to operate the manual hand truck. A big thanks and tip of the hat was received from the squadron's crew chief as most of the squadron volunteers were out of pocket, touring with "LIL" or "FIFI".

(Contributed by Bob Kirby K3NT)

Troubleshooting Low Level RF Driver

Mike Schmit WA9WCC & I (Bob Kirby K3NT) had a little time this past weekend before the Squadron meeting to work some RF circuit design for impedance and expected oscilloscope levels. Mike referred to a great book from his Ham Radio library "RF CIRCUIT DESIGN" by Chris Bowick WD4C. This book presents a practical approach to the design of RF amplifiers, impedance matching networks and filters. Should you have need for this type of information, you may find this book of value. The patient is a TEN-TEC 580 with strange variable low RF output.

(Contributed by Bob Kirby K3NT)

Local Club News

Meeting Notice

The August meeting will be dedicated to Show-and-Tell. Show-and-Tell night is an opportunity for our members

(and non-members and guests) to show off something they have been working on. It doesn't have to be real recent, just something you invented, bought and adapted or found somewhere that looked interesting and you made it your own. It doesn't even have to be amateur radio-related. We are all interested in what everyone else has been doing, so bring something and show it off. We are always looking for



Homebrew Radio for contacting the dead

something and show it off. We are always looking for

RCARC OFFICERS

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VE SESSIONS

Dallas tests are held 4th Sat of each month at 1000 hrs. 13350 Floyd Rd. (Old Credit Union) Contact Bob West, WA8YCD 972.917.6362

Irving tests are held 3rd Sat of each month at 0900. Fifth and Main St. Contact Bill Revis, KF5BL 252-8015

McKinney VE test sessions are held at the Heard Museum the first Sunday of the month. The address is 1 Nature Place, McKinney TX. The time of the testing is 1430, ending no later than 1645. **Note: no tests given on holiday weekends.**

Garland testing is held on the fourth Thursday of each month, excluding November, and begins at 1930 sharp. Location is Freeman Heights Baptist Church, 1120 N Garland Ave, Garland (between W Walnut and Buckingham Rd). Enter via the north driveway. A HUGE parking lot is located behind the church. Both the parking lot and the Fellowship Hall are located on the east side of the church building, with big signs by the entrance door. Contact Janet Crenshaw, WB9ZPH at 972.302.9992.

Plano testing is on the third Saturday of each month, 1300 hrs at Williams High School, 1717 17th St. East Plano. Check Repeater 147.180+ for announcements.

Greenville testing is on the Saturday after 3rd Thursday, 1000 hrs at site TBA, contact N5KA, 903.364.5306. Sponsor is Sabine Valley ARA. Repeater 146.780(-) with 118.8 tone.

Richardson The Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) VE team hold license testing on the third Thursday of each month at St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church, 1220 West

Beltline Rd. Testing begins at 1900 hrs in room 12. Enter through the Northern most door on the east side of the church building. For further information contact Dave Russell W2DMR, at 972.690.9894 or E-mail warhog4@tx.rr.com.

SIGNALS is the monthly newsletter of the Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club, published by and for its members. The entire contents of this newsletter are copyright © 2014 by the Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club. Permission is hereby granted to any not-for-profit amateur radio publication to reprint any portion of this newsletter provided both the author and Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club are credited.

President's Message

The end of the fiscal year is coming up for the Radio Club and we need to propose a new budget for next year. I need your input for any items that you think would be good for the club going forward. Example: do we need to change out any item/items to newer or improved models. Elections are coming up next month. This is your time to step up and run for an office (including President) so the club can continue. Program ideas for the September meetings and beyond would also be appreciated.

That is about it for this month. The meeting is Tuesday August 26, 2014. See you there. 73,

Dennis Cobb
WA8ZBT
RCARC President

Secretary's Report

22 July 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT at 1740.

The following members and guests were present at the meeting:

Dennis Cobb	WA8ZBT
Kathy Cobb	
John Kliewer	AC5NB
John McFadden	K5TIP
Mike Schmit	WA9WCC
Jim Skinner	WB0UNI
Joe Wolf	N5UIC

Officers and Committee Reports:

President's Report: See under Old Business and New Business below.

Vice-President's Report: There was no VP report, as Bob Kirby, K3NT was unable to attend the meeting.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's Report is in this newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of the Treasurer, President Dennis Cobb reported the RCARC treasury balance. The balance was somewhat lower than last month due to purchase of accessories (Super VGA adapter) for the K-3. The figure as reported was accepted by a vote of members present.

Website Manager's Report: There was no Website Manager's Report.

Station Trustee's Report: There was no Station Trustee's Report.

Database Manager's Report: There was no Database Manager's Report.

Old Business:

President Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT announced a number of actions:

1. As reported last month, the Weather Picture wall display is up and running in the RCARC radio shack. A maintenance request needs to be generated for the mounting of the display on the wall outside the shack.
2. The Pixel Technologies magnetic loop antenna as previously approved has been installed on the roof and connected to the ham shack. A small rotor is needed. John McFadden, K5TIP, recommended Radio Shack as a possible source.

New Business:

1. Dennis Cobb announced that he has purchased 2 speakers at Best Buy for the K-3 for about \$43. No amplifier is needed since the K-3 output is 1.5-2.0

watts. The club agreed to reimburse Dennis for the cost.

2. The K-3 needs some repairs. Symptoms include (1) the power below about 30 watts will not adjust to the level that it is set it at and (2) it appears to put out only about 80 watts max; on 6 meters about 60 watts is max. The club will consider sending it back to the manufacturer for repairs, but will try to get an estimate before. Bob Kirby and Dennis Cobb will characterize the problem and contact Elecraft. The club voted to spend up to \$750 to perform the repair, and perform modifications and updates.
3. Dennis asked whether the club is interested in purchasing a Cushcraft D3W rotatable antenna to facilitate operation on the 12, 17 and 30 meter bands. The club does not currently own an antenna for these bands. The cost is about \$450. Dennis will research other possible sources and report at the next meeting.
4. Joe Wolf, N5UIC, had the following comments:
 - Listen to the repeater! It needs more activity.
 - Pressing "8" while keying your transmitter will get a power report from the repeater.
 - Membership renewal is in December.
 - Gate access list is not current—the guards are using the club roster.
 - Joe needs current email address for all members.
 - Dennis will load the current email addresses into the club reflector.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1840.

The next meeting will be at 1730 on Tuesday, 26 August 2014.



[Supporting feature for amateur radio publications]

Embargoed until 12.00z Tuesday 12 August 2014

Date: 8 August 2014

Celebrating the dawn of mass global communication

At the turn of the last century, radio communication was in its infancy. The properties of "Hertzian Waves" – what we now call radio waves - were only just beginning to be understood.

Starting with Marconi, the use of a crude form of radio communication began to evolve. The development of the thermionic valve then opened up opportunities both in radio

transmitter and receiver design. However, the 'conventional wisdom' remained that the longer wavelengths of radio signals (as used by Marconi) were those most suited to long-distance radio communication.

In that age of technical discovery, many every-day people experimented with radio. These people were the early radio amateurs and their work was at first largely unregulated. When it became clear that radio amateurs could cause interference to the emerging commercial radio circuits, the decision was made to restrict their experiments to wavelengths shorter than 200m – corresponding to a frequency of 1.5 MHz and above, as it was felt that such frequencies were worthless for long-distance communication.

And so radio amateurs began to experiment at these 'short waves'.

It wasn't long before they began to realise that, far from being worthless frequencies, they in fact held the key to low power long distance communication.

In 1923, tests were conducted to span the Atlantic with radio. Then, in 1924, as both transmitter power and receiver sensitivity improved, the dream was to span the globe by radio. After some false starts, on 18 October 1924, two-way communication was finally established between Frank Bell, call sign 4AA, a sheep farmer in South Island New Zealand, and Cecil Goyder, callsign 2SZ, a former pupil of Mill Hill School, operating from the School in North London.

The world had been shrunk, and things would never be the same again.

To commemorate the 90th anniversary of this historic contact made by Goyder and Bell, radio amateurs in the UK and New Zealand will be operating a number of special event stations.

GB2NZ will be operated from 20 September to 18 October 2014 from a number of UK locations and all bands from 10m to 160m.

The unique callsign 2SZ will be aired from 11-18 October from Mill Hill School. The UK spectrum regulator Ofcom has agreed to issue this special callsign for the anniversary week, and the radio waves can be expected to be buzzing with stations seeking to contact this rare call.

A special station, using the call ZL4AA, will also be operating from Shag Valley in South Island, New Zealand, from 11-18 October 2014. At Mill Hill School and Shag Valley, amateurs will recreate the first Goyder/Bell contact, hopefully on a wavelength close to that used in 1924.

Radio amateurs in New Zealand will continue to operate ZM90DX on all bands.

Pupils at Mill Hill will be able to visit the radio station, speak to the operators, and even speak over the air. Displays will be situated around the School giving more information about the history and technologies involved, so that the whole event will be a real learning experience for the

School's pupils. Whilst the station won't be open to the public, on 18 October 2014 there will be a live webcam at the School covering the communications and celebrations.

Members of the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB), which is the national society for amateur radio in the UK, will be providing the station at Mill Hill School and much of the supporting documentation. The School will be using the facility provided by the RSGB as an interactive learning tool for the pupils.

Don Beattie, Vice President, RSGB commented: "This was a significant milestone in the development of global communications. I am delighted that the RSGB is able to help Mill Hill School celebrate this anniversary, and share with its pupils and the amateur radio world the historic nature of this event."

Notes for editors

The UK spectrum regulator, Ofcom, has agreed to issue the unique callsign 2SZ for this anniversary week.

The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) was first founded in 1913 as the London Wireless Club, and its current patron is Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. It represents the interests of over 60,000 licensed radio amateurs in the UK. It also acts as a medium for communication between UK radio amateurs and the UK government through Ofcom, the UK radio spectrum regulator.

The RSGB publishes a monthly magazine, *RadCom*, which is respected throughout the world. It also publishes a range of books, provides online advice and guidance, and gives up-to-date news through its website and weekly broadcasts.

In conjunction with the UK radio clubs, the RSGB conducts the examinations that are required to qualify to be licensed as a radio amateur.

For more information about the RSGB please visit the website www.rsgb.org.uk or contact **Don Beattie, Vice President, RSGB:**

Tel: **01694 781 666 / 07802 922 219**

Email: **g3ozf@btinternet.com**

(Reprinted with permission of Radio Society of Great Britain) (Contributed by Frank Krizan, KR1ZAN)

Bikes, Blues, Bombers & BBQ

This is 15th annual Bikes, Blues & BBQ Rally. The first Bikes, Blues & BBQ rally was held in the year 2000 with just over 300 riders. Today, Bikes, Blues & BBQ is the largest motorcycle rally in the United States benefiting local charities. Last year, it was estimated that over 400,000 people attended the rally from all 50 states and many other countries.

A Spirit of Giving Back

Bikes, Blues & BBQ is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and has donated over \$500,000 to local charities since

2000. Bikes, Blues & BBQ is also a recipient of the Arkansas State Tourism 2008 Henry Award for Special Achievement. The Henry Awards honor individuals and organizations that have made important contributions to the state's tourism industry in the preceding year. This year will draw around 300 to 450 thousand bikers.

For details see the **Upcoming Events** box in the right column of this page.

QSL Cards

QSL card can be obtained by sending a SASE #10 business envelope to:

Joe Dunn
167 Ireland Street
Springdale, Arkansas 72762
(Contributed by Bob Kirby K3NT)

CAF AirPower History Tour
Tour Schedule

For location, times and admission info click on the city name

[Lancaster, TX \(B-24 Only\)](#)
[August 30](#)

[Oklahoma City, OK](#)
[Sept. 18-21](#)

[Enid, OK](#)
[Sept. 22-24](#)

[Fayetteville, AR](#)
[Sept. 25-28](#)

[CAF WWII Air Expo Dallas](#)
[Oct. 3-5](#)

[CAF AIRSHO Midland, TX](#)
[Oct 10-12](#)

[New Orleans Air Expo](#)
[Oct. 23-26](#)

CAF WWII DALLAS AIR EXPO

Friday Oct 3rd through Sunday October 5 at



Dallas Executive (RedBird) Airport

For more CAF DALLAS WWII AIR EXPO information see the link below. Also see details on page 6 and a poster on page 7 of this newsletter.

<http://www.airpowersquadron.org/#!caf-wwii-air-expo-dallas/c1lm>

Also of note is that Dallas Executive (RedBird) Airport will be the new home for the CAF HQ.
(Contributed by Bob Kirby K3NT)

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

- 13-15** **September VHF Contest.** Objective: for amateurs in the US and Canada (and possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside US & Canada (and possessions) may only work stations in the US (and possessions) and Canada.
- 20-21** **10 GHz & Up Contest–Round 2:** The objective is for North American amateurs to work as many amateur stations in as many different locations as possible in North America on bands from 10-GHz through Light. Amateurs are encouraged to operate from more than one location.
- 26-27** Special Event Station N5A. Operation from Drake Field Air & Military Museum on HF and VHF/UHF. SASE for N5A QSL. See article above. See <http://qrz.com/db/N5A>.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- Daily** DFW Early Traffic Net (NTS) at 6:30pm 146.88 – PL 110.9Hz
- Daily** DFW Late Traffic Net (NTS) at 8:30pm 146.72 – PL 110.9Hz
- Daily** Texas CW Traffic Net (NTS) at 7:00pm and at 10pm on 3541 KHz www.k6jt.com
- 1st Wednesday** Richardson Emergency Siren Test. At noon using the Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) repeater at 147.120 MHz.
- 2nd Wednesday** ARES North Texas HF Net Every month—3860 KHz at 830 pm—930pm
- Thursday** Sabine Valley Amateur Radio Association Net Every Thursday night at 7:00pm on the K5GVL/R 146.780 MHz (+) PL 114.8Hz

CAF World War II Air Expo at Dallas Executive Airport



The CAF is bringing “hands on” history to Dallas this October 3 through 5 when the world’s only flying B-29 Superfortress, *FIFI*, the famous P-51C *Tuskegee Airmen* and over a dozen other World War II military aircraft take center stage at their first event at Dallas Executive Airport.

The event will be open to the public Friday, October 3 through Sunday, October 5 bringing the sights, smells and sounds of World War II aviation history to south Dallas. Attractions will include the CAF’s RISE

ABOVE Traveling Exhibit – a 160 degree panoramic theater in which visitors watch a video highlighting the courage and determination of the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II. Participants will also tour the bomber cockpits, watch the airplanes fly and can even purchase rides in many of the visiting aircraft. These aircraft are powerful history lessons for young and old alike. The visual display combined with the enthusiasm and knowledge of CAF members will create an unforgettable experience for visitors.

Attending aircraft will include the B-29 Superfortress, P-51C Mustang, P5-1D Mustang, SB2C Helldiver, B-24 Liberator, A-26 Invader and many other transport, liaison and trainer airplanes. The event address is 5303 Challenger Drive in Dallas. Admission is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children age 6 through 17. Children age 5 and under are free. The cost for aircraft rides ranges from \$65 to \$1,995 depending on the airplane. Reservations may be made online at <http://www.AirPowerExpo.org>.

The Air Expo kicks off Thursday, October 2, with a full day of educational programs for local students. Activities that day include the CAF RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit which teaches students the story of men who overcame many obstacles to train and fight as U.S. Army Air Corps pilots during World War II and emphasizes what their spirit and hard work still mean to us 60 years later. Former Tuskegee Airmen and other World War II Veterans will be on hand to talk with the students about all of the airplanes and their experiences during the war.

In June of this year the Commemorative Air Force announced Dallas Executive Airport will be the new location for their national headquarters. They plan to build a world-class aviation attraction at the airport. The World War II Air Expo, hosted by the CAF B-29/B-24 Squadron, offers Dallas residents their first opportunity to learn more about the organization.




COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE

WORLD WAR II AIR EXPO

A GATHERING
OF WWII AIRCRAFT
Featuring "FIA"
FIA
The World's Only Flying
B-29 Superfortress

OCT. 3 - 5
9 A.M. - 5 P.M. DAILY

DALLAS EXECUTIVE AIRPORT

<p>FEATURING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">B-29 SuperfortressB-24 LiberatorP-51 MustangSB2C HelldiverC-45 ExpeditorMilitary VehiclesVintage CarsAircraft RidesFood, Drinks and More...	<p>SPECIAL GUEST:</p>  <p>See the Red Tail RISE ABOVE Exhibit and P-51C Mustang. Watch the <i>Rise Above</i> movie featuring Tuskegee Airmen of WWII FREE with paid admission.</p>	<p>INFORMATION:</p> <p>General Admission At Gate Adults (Ages 18 and up): \$15 Youth (Ages 6 - 17): \$5 Kids (5 and under): FREE</p> <p>Dallas Executive Airport 5303 Challenger Dr. Dallas, Texas 75232</p>
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www.AirPowerExpo.org

Rockwell-Collins

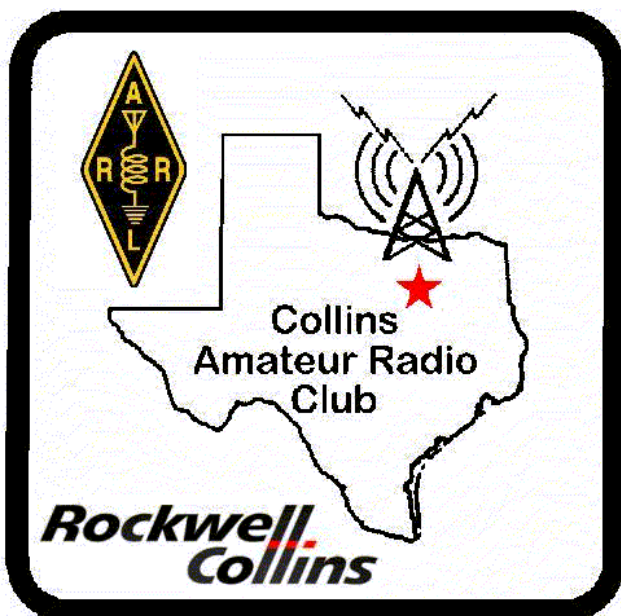
Amateur Radio Club

Mail Station 461-290

P.O. Box 833807

Richardson, TX 75083-3807

TO:



CLUB STATIONS

(972) 705-1349

W5ROK REPEATER

441.875 MHz +5 MHz Input

131.8 Hz PL - RX and TX

W5ROK-1 PACKET BBS ROK Node

145.05 MHz

W5ROK-N1, W5ROK-N2 & W5ROK-N3 HSMM-MESHNET Nodes 2.4 GHz

Tuesday 26 August 2014

1700 Social

1730 Meeting

Methodist Richardson Medical Ctr
At Bush/Renner/Shiloh Intersection

Second Floor Conference Room 200

NEXT SIGNALS INPUTS DEADLINE:

→→→ 12 September 2014 ←←←