
SIGNALS

**Rockwell
Collins**

Monthly Newsletter of the

Amateur Radio Club

Volume 40 Issue 05

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

February 2019

RCARC Membership Meeting

**Tuesday 26 February 2019
1700 Social 1730 Meeting
1800 Program**

**Methodist Richardson Medical Center
At Bush/Renner/Shiloh Intersection
Conference Room A in Hospital Building**

Subject:

**Gene Duprey, K1GD, will present
Flex Radio Part Two**

Some Trivia

Early aircraft throttles had balls on their ends, in order to go full throttle the pilot had to push the throttle all the way forward into the wall of the instrument panel. Hence "balls to the wall" for going very fast. And now you know the rest of the story.

Did you know the saying "God willing and the creek don't rise" was in reference to the Creek Indians and not a body of water? It was written by Benjamin Hawkins in the late 18th century. He was a politician and Indian diplomat. While in the South, Hawkins was requested by the President to return to Washington. In his response, he was said to write, "God willing and the Creek don't rise." Because he capitalized the word "Creek" he was referring to the Creek Indian tribe and not a body of water.

One more: bet you didn't know this! In the heyday of sailing ships, all warships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. However, how to prevent them from rolling about the deck? The best storage method devised was a square-based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon.

There was only one problem; how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a 'Monkey' with 16 round indentations. However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it.

The solution to the rusting problem was to make 'brass monkeys.' Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts more, and much faster than iron when it's chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would roll right off the monkey. Thus, it was quite literally, 'Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey.' (Ed. Note: According to Wikipedia, the Navy discredits this, but I still like it.)

(Reprinted courtesy of Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club newsletter.)

Local Club News

Meeting Notice

The next general membership meeting business will concentrate on the new club name, call sign and logo as a result of the Rockwell Collins-United Technologies merger.

RCARC Community Service Activities

Siren Testing Dennis Cobb WA8ZBT, John McFadden K5TIP and Jim Skinner WB0UNI participate in the Richardson emergency siren testing. The test scheduled for 6 February 2019 was cancelled due to cloudy weather. The sirens are monitored by amateur radio operators and reports made using the Richardson Wireless Klub (RWK) repeater at 147.120 MHz. Siren testing occasionally uses the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) repeater at 145.430 MHz, which is designated as the backup repeater.

Crime Watch Patrol Jim Skinner WB0UNI participated in Richardson Duck Creek Crime Watch Patrol (CWP). CWP members, after successful completion of Richardson Police Department Training, patrol their neighborhoods and report all suspicious activities to the Police Department.

RCARC OFFICERS	
PRESIDENT Gene Duprey 319.270.8159 geneduprey2015@gmail.com	K1GD
SECRETARY Jim Brown 972.495.2209 jhksbrown@verizon.net	AF5MA
ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE	
STATION TRUSTEE Bob Kirby 319.360.0500 k3nt@arrl.net	K3NT
MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE	
VICE-PRESIDENT AVAILABLE	
TREASURER Rohan Thomas 972.697.3512 Rohan7066@yahoo.com	KG5RCN
WEBSITE MANAGER Mike Hollingsworth 972.571.6060 w5qh@arrl.net	W5QH
NEWSLETTER EDITOR Jim Skinner 214.535.5264 wb0uni@arrl.net	WB0UNI
W5ROK CLUB STATION 972.705.1349 461-290	

church building. For further information contact Don Klick KG5CK. 972.464.2889 or E-mail rwkhamtest@gmail.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 © 2018 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 and VP Messages

Well, last month's Flex Demo was only partially successful, but I think I have found a way to do the demo in spite of the RF reflectors on the windows at the hospital. If my test works, I will bring the Maestro and we can see just how it works and the features of the radio.

I received an e-mail from the company wanting to know if the club was still in existence. I replied and let them know we do indeed exist and have a working station at the facility.

This month we will be making a decision on the club's new name and also possibly a call sign change to reflect the new company name. We also need to find a new membership officer, so if anyone can take this on, please speak up.

I have been successful in repairing my Collins 32S-3 transmitter and the Collins Station is back making contacts. I am also working on a solution to my 22Vac problem, so I may be putting my 30L-1 on 220 volts soon. This will also pave the way for other amplifier projects. I'm having fun on the air with the Flex and my Collins rigs. The bands (20 & 40) have been quite active lately, so if you have not been on, now is the time.

Well, that is all for now.

Hope to see you all at the meeting and 73's,
Gene, K1GD
RCARC President

VE SESSIONS

Dallas tests are held on the fourth Saturday of each month at 1000 hrs. 13350 Floyd Rd. (Old Credit Union) Contact Bob West, WA8YCD 972.917.6362

Irving tests are held on the third Saturday 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.

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

Secretary's Report

22 January 2019

President Gene Duprey K1GD called the meeting to order at 1735.

The following were present at the meeting:

Jim Brown	AF5MA
Dennis Cobb	WA8ZBT
Gene Duprey	K1GD
Bob Kirby	K3NT
Frank Krizan	KR1ZAN
Jimmy McCasland	KC5BZY
Mike Schmit	WA9WCC
Jim Skinner	WB0UNI
Kerry Weeks	K5WKS

Officers and Committee Reports:

There were no formal reports other than the Secretary's Report, which is contained in this newsletter.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

There was a general discussion of continued access by retirees to the club's radio shack following completion of the Rockwell Collins-United Technologies merger. Access was restricted soon after the merger, but privileges appear to be restored. Gene Duprey K1GD will coordinate with Facilities Security to confirm current practices.

In recognition of the name change of corporate sponsor Rockwell Collins to Collins Aerospace, it was proposed that the club name be changed from Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club (RCARC) to Collins Amateur Radio Club - Texas (CARC-TX). This seemed to be favored by a majority vote of members present.

It was also suggested that the club call sign, W5ROK, be changed to reflect the new club name. Bob Kirby K3NT volunteered to research available call signs and to propose a replacement at the next meeting.

The lack of a club membership manager was noted as a continuing problem, and a volunteer was sought to fill this gap; no volunteers were found among meeting attendees.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1757, followed by a presentation and demonstration of the FlexRadio FLEX-6500 with Maestro remote control unit by proud owner Gene Duprey.

Rose, Chapter 3 of 22

Here is the next chapter of a new original work by Scott, N7NET. Enjoy, and once again, thanks to Scott.

Reliving the moment he'd decided to lure the Italian radio operator away from his clandestine station had haunted him since day one. Had he let his country down? He'd run the situation through his head a thousand times, trying to justify why he spared the man's life. Had he not chatted with him and exchanged QSL cards, and had they not become friends before the war, his decision would have been clean cut, no contest. But a prewar, radio-bond clouded his judgment that day. Again, had he let his country down? He would never know.

Gathering his tools he went back to work. The Lord's Acre Day was only weeks away. If he hoped to have a traffic-handler's booth operational on opening day he would have to shake a leg.

His swing-down door served as a counter, providing a flat area where people could write their messages to their friends and loved ones. Inside, was enough room for two operators, Artie being the other one, he hoped.

He found Artie at his uncle's gas station. "You haven't let your amateur ticket lapse, have you?" Charlie asked, watching him check the oil on his last customer's car.

"No, I haven't. Do you have something in mind?"

"Yes, two things. You grew up in my dad's shop. You know the auto repair trade as well as anyone, and I need a good man to help me."

"Wrenching? You think there's enough business for both of us?"

"I know there is. You'd work commission, of course."

"I know. That's the bad part. I'd never know what I was going to make."

"True. But on your worst week your check would be better than what your uncle pays you here. Think about it and let me know," Charlie said, turning to leave.

"Wait, you said two things."

"Yes, I did. I'd like you to help out sending radiograms during the noon traffic net. Will you?"

"Sure."

The morning of the Lord's Acre Day he was prepared. Hitching his booth/trailer behind his father's Dodge, he drove to the Butler Square and set up in his appointed location. The sign over his window read: FREE RADIO MESSAGES SENT ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES. INQUIRE WITHIN.

Long-distance telephone rates were not affordable for most. By eleven o'clock he had more than two-dozen messages waiting for the noon, forty-meter net to start. At

twelve sharp the NCS began sending his net preamble and then issued QNI.

Charlie had installed his station so people could see his bug and watch the radio in operation. Turning his current meter slightly, provided a reflective view of the faces. He was half-way through his third message when the meter caught the image of the prettiest redhead he had ever seen. Charlie was a bashful young man, but this girl changed that.

In the middle of the message he sent an AS. Spinning around on his stool he shouted

“ROSE!”

“How did you know my name?” Rose replied, her mouth gaping, her blue eyes goggling at this man she’d never before seen.

“Wull ... what else could it be?” he replied.

Only then did he notice her father on one side and her mother on the other. Mom was a small lady, also a redhead with a sweet smile. Dad, however, was not smiling. His handlebar mustache hid most of his mouth, but not enough to conceal his displeasure, nor did his bushy eyebrows hide his glaring eyes.

“Young man, aren’t you supposed to be doing something besides chatting with my daughter?” he barked in a tone that equaled his menacing expression.

“Yes. Of course,” Charlie babbled: “But may I take the three of you to lunch after I’m finished here?”

“And when will that be, young man?” her father growled.

“In about ten minutes.”

He shot a glance at his wife and she him, but neither considered Rose’s opinion.

“We’ll be back,” her father promised.

When he turned back to resume his message he was only mildly surprised to find the NCS was holding the net in limbo. Knowing that Charlie was operating at a public event, he realized that unforeseen things sometimes occur.

He’d finished with the messages and was waiting for Rose and her family when Artie emerged from the crowd.

“I’ve decided to take you up on that job offer,” Artie said, leaning on the counter.

“How’d you know I was here?”

“May, down at the cafe told me.”

“I wonder how she knew?” Charlie asked.

“Need you ask? Maybe you hadn’t noticed that May is aware of everything that goes on in Butler. A barber should be so informed.”

(To be continued)

W5ROE(SK) Electronics Estate Sale

Jo Ann KA5AZK, and John W5BWC are helping W5WXI(SK) family sell his equipment. Wally Wallace was an OO, a WWII Vet and good friend. Below is a flyer with his equipment and prices. Contact info is also included.



W5WXI(SK)_FLYER.p
df

Upcoming Events

Daily	DFW Early Traffic Net (NTS) at 6:30pm 146.88 – PL 110.9Hz
Daily	DFW Late Traffic Net (NTS) at 10:30pm 146.72 – PL 110.9Hz
Daily	Texas CW Traffic Net at 7:00pm on 3541 KHz 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 8:30 pm—9:30pm
MARCH	
2-3	International DX—Phone Objective: To encourage W/VE stations to expand knowledge of DX propagation on the HF and MF bands, improve operating skills, and improve station capability by creating a competition in which DX stations may only contact W/VE stations. W/VE amateurs: Work as many DX stations in as many DXCC entities as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands. DX stations: Work as many W/VE stations in as many of the 48 contiguous states and provinces as possible. The event runs 48 hours, from 0000 UTC Saturday through 2359 UTC Sunday. Details at http://www.arrrl.org/arrrl-dx .
APRIL	
14	Rookie Roundup—Phone Mission: To encourage newly-licensed operators (“Rookies”) in North America (including territories and possessions) to operate on the HF bands and experience competitive Amateur Radio operating. Experienced operators (“Non-Rookies”) are strongly encouraged to participate and help new operators – either on the air or in person. Objective: Rookies exchange information with as many other stations as possible on the 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter HF bands. Rookie entrants are encouraged to read “ HF Contesting – Good Practices, Interpretations and Suggestions .” The event runs from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC. Details at http://www.arrrl.org/rookie-roundup .



HAM LEARNING CENTER

2019 MENTORFEST

ARRL *North Texas Section*
Amateur Radio in North Texas

MENTOR PROGRAM



www.arrlntx.org

Free Event! - Hosted by the **Hella Hams** and the **ARRL North Texas Section**

When: April 27, 2019 **Time:** 9:00am - 4:00pm

Location: **Hella Shrine Center, 2121 Rowlett Rd., Garland, TX 75043**

The Garland Hella Hams and the ARRL North Texas Section would like to invite all current and prospective Hams to attend Mentorfest! This event is a great way for Hams, especially those recently licensed, to meet and learn about a variety of subjects. Amateur radio operators have a great tradition of helping each other learn about and gain experience in the many facets of the hobby. Mentorfest is designed to build on this tradition by providing a place for Hams of all ages and experience levels to come together, exchange knowledge and make new friends while having fun and enjoying the great hobby of Amateur Radio.

Mentorfest will feature....

- Formal presentations on a number of topics.
- Local clubs providing information on their activities.
- "Elmers" (ham-speak for mentors) available for informal discussions on just about any topic.
- Tours of emergency communications vehicles.
- Representatives from the ARRL, Local Clubs, ARES/RACES, and others showing how you can get involved.

Mentoring

In addition to the formal presentations, mentoring will be available on a large range of topics. Many amateur radio clubs, individual Hams and organizations with ties to amateur radio will be at Mentorfest to answer questions and provide demonstrations in a very informal setting.

If you have something amateur radio related that you would like to show and tell about, please consider attending Mentorfest. Your excitement about a favorite subject might be an inspiration to another Ham. Come share your knowledge and experience. Email mentorfest@arrlntx.org to be a mentor.

Participants & Volunteers

All ARRL affiliated clubs are encouraged to participate in Mentorfest by at least having an information table with club representatives. The ARRL will be promoting Mentorfest to new Hams so there should be opportunities for clubs to recruit new members. If your club or group is interested in participating in Mentorfest, please send E-mail to mentorfest@arrlntx.org. This event is free for everyone!

Volunteers are needed to help with the following tasks.

Parking lot control for EMComm vehicle static displays.

Greeters to help direct attendees to where to get the answers they seek.

Email mentorfest@arrlntx.org to volunteer.

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 February 2019

1700 Social 1730 Meeting

Methodist Richardson Medical Ctr
At Bush/Renner/Shiloh Intersection

Conference Room A in Hospital Building

NEXT SIGNALS INPUTS DEADLINE:

→→→ 15 February 2019 ←←←