



The Shamrock

P.O.Box 4401
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Volume 19, No. 5

July 2001

Field Day was enjoyed by all the participants

—Dwayne T. Fox, W5ZOX, Vice President and Co-chairman for Field Day

Field Day Events began in the 1930s. The event is sponsored by the A.R.R.L. Every year, the event is used to demonstrate the communications ability of Amateur Radio Community in simulated emergency situations.

Field Day began at 1:00 PM on Saturday at the Midland Amateur Radio Club grounds. The club operated under 4A West Texas. The planning crew began the “set up” on Friday evening. The club generator was set up along with a generator that Pat England, KB5MBK, provided. Stations operating on 20 meters, 40 meters, 75 meters, 10 and 15 meters, and satellite stations were planned for the event on Saturday.

Pat England, KB5MBK, Joe Coldewey, KK5ZG, John Wilder, WA5PFJ, John Peterson, NX5E, Les Bradshaw, KC5ETV, Jerry Hearn, N5JHX, and Hunter Watkins, KD5HC, operated the 10 and 15 meter stations.

Bill Lawless, W5WRL, Scott Johnson, KD5MHM, Alton Teague, N5PSP, provided the satellite operation station. Helpers were Jessica and Timmy Teague. The satellite crew earned 100 points for their contact with Gerald R. Brown, K5OE, Houston, Texas. Thanks guys.

Bill Lawless, W5WRL, and Scott Johnson, KD5MHM, are making plans for the next satellite pass in picture to the right..



Scott, KD5MHM, & Bill, W5WRL, planning for the next satellite contact or drinking soda pop.



Alton, N5PSP, attempting a satellite contact.

Alton Teague, N5PSP, attempting to make contact with a satellite.

Ted Harwood, W5WTX, worked 40 & 75 meters along with PSK-31, Doug

Harwood, K5MTX, helped with this operation. Jerry, N5JHX, and Heather Hearn operated 20 meter station. Thanks Jerry and Heather for the husband and wife team.

Thank you, Wayne Reddin, WT5M, for operating CW station.

See Field Day page 2

MARC Meetings

July 9, 2001

Report on Field Day Activities by Jerry Hearn, N5JHS, and John Wilder, WA5PFJ.

MARC Happenings

July 21-22 - MS Cactus & Crude
50 Mile Bike Tour

**A Message from
President, Joe
Coldewey ,
KK5ZG**



Field day has come and gone for this year. The Midland Club had a great time, and Field Day was enjoyed by all who attended. We had lots of good “old” fun, while setting up the antennas, and as a whole, had plenty of good help. We went on the air about 1:30 p.m. and stayed busy until time to eat. After a good meal of Bar-B-Q brisket, chicken, and sausage with all the trimmings, it was back to the radios and more hamming until about 9:30 or 10:00 p.m., when the thunder clouds rolled in. All radios were disconnected and put in the club house in case it rained. Around mid-night some were put back on the air. This ham, KK5ZG, went home at 12:00 mid-night, since I had to work on Sunday. I did not go to work Sunday morning, since I was sick at my stomach. I think I ate too much of Doug, K5MTX’s, good cooking. Thanks Doug. We had four stations set up. Thanks to Pat, KB5MBK, we had an extra generator with a light plant. Hope everybody enjoyed the field day as much as I did. Hope to see all at the July Meeting on the 9th. Remember July, August, we will have only one meeting each month, so plan your business around these days, if you can.

See you In July
73's KK5ZG



Self Explanatory

Field Day from page 1

The event went well for the club. A big thank you to the planning committee and to all the club members for making this field day a great event.



Bill, W5WRL making a satellite contact.



Let’s give a big thank you to Doug Harwood, K5MTX, and Beverley Harwood, KC5BNT, for cooking and planning our dinner Saturday night. The food was good.

A field day report will be given by Jerry Hearn, N5JHX, and John Wilder, WA5PFJ, at the next club meeting.

I want to thank each and everyone personally for your hard work at Field day. If I missed naming anyone, I apologize.

The 10 and 15 Meter Operation was “manned” by Pat England, KB5MBK, Joe Coldewey, KKTZG, John Wilder, WA5PFJ, John Peterson, N5XE, Les Bradshaw, KC5ETV, Jerry Hearn, N5JHX, AND Hunter W Watkins, KD5HCQ.

Jerry, N5JHX, and Heather Hearn operated the 20 Meter Station. Thanks, Jerry and Heather for the husband and wife team.



Ted Harwood, W5WTX, is working 40 and 75 Meters with PSK-31. Doug Harwood, KT5MTX, helped in the operation.

Important Information for VE Testing Candidates

This information was submitted by Sterling Talley, WB5G, a member of the VEC Team for the June newsletter. Your editor "goofed" and failed to get it in the June newsletter.

Morse code Exam Standards Changed as of July 1, 2001

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators voted to set up revised standards for the administration of Morse code examinations in the US. The move at the NCVEC's July 21, 2000, meeting in Gettysburg, PA, came in the wake of the FCC's December 30, 1999, action to establish 5 WPM as the sole Amateur Radio Morse code requirement.

Under the NCVEC revised standards, examinees would have to show 25 character-count solid copy on their test sheets or successfully answer seven out of 10 questions of a fill-in-the-blank quiz on the sent text. Multiple choice 10-question exams for Morse code are no longer permitted beginning July 1, 2001.

Morse examinations will specify use of the Farnsworth method of code generation as the default, where characters are sent faster than the overall speed and additional spaces added between characters, words and sentences. The Farnsworth "character speed" as a default must be within the range of 13 to 15 WPM. Standard 5 WPM tests with 5 WPM characters could be administered as a special accommodation (as the exception rather than the standard).

The revised standards also call for a Morse code exam audio pitch within the 700 to 1000 Hz range. The new Morse testing standards are to be in effect by next July 1, 2001, but VEC's may implement them sooner.

ARRL, VEC has chosen its settings within these standards to be 15 WPM Farnsworth Characters at a tone frequency in the 720-750 Hz range.

Question Pool Revisions Schedule:

The three current question pools (and any exam designs based on these questions pools) are valid (and will be revised on the following schedule.

- Extra class Element 4 - valid through midnight June 30, 2002
- Technician class Element 2 - valid through midnight June 30, 2003
- General class Element 3 - valid midnight June 30, 2004

All Applicants Must Provide Adequate ID - Every applicant is required to provide sufficient identification to prove his/her identity. A legal photo ID will do this, as will certain other 'formal' photo-IDs (things like a driver's license, passports, government agency/work IDs, some school IDs, etc.).

Persons without photo IDs, and/or young persons must supply TWO forms of alternate identifications to satisfy their ID requirements. These two items can include: • Nonphoto ID/driver's license, • Social Security Card (as FCC presently requires each applicant to supply a taxpayer ID number also known as our Social Security Number) • Birth certificate (must have the appropriate seal); • Minor's work permit or school report card; • Utility bill, bank statement or other business correspondence that specifically names the persons; • Postmarked envelope addressed to the person indicating the same mailing address as shown on Form 605; • Employment ID.

A.R.E.S Meeting set

Remember that the A.R.E.S. meeting has been set for the 7th of July at the News West 9 Studios.

Net procedures will be covered and some of the N.T. System. Please come and bring your A.R.E.S. badge as you will need to sign in with it.

Thanks Dwayne, W5ZOX

Support your club. Enjoy the meetings, club activities, and pay your dues.
Thanks!

QSL postage increased

Published by permission of The ARRL Letter, Vol. 20, No. 25, June 22, 2001

QSL card postage jumped a penny on July 1. It will cost another penny to mail a QSL card (postcard) after July 1. The US Postal Service announced in January that it would raise the postcard rate by one cent--to 21 cents. The complete postal rate schedule is available on the USPS Web site, <http://www.usps.com/>.

WTCS donates printer to club

West Texas Computer Consulting Services, Inc. have donated a dot matrix printer to the club.

I have it set up and ready to print labels again. Thanks to Scott Johnson and his employees.

Thanks again.
Joe, KK5ZG

FCC to amateurs: detailed regulation “not in the picture”

Published by permission of The ARRL
Letter, Vol. 20, No. 21, May 25, 2001

The FCC says the ball is in the court of the Amateur Service to determine the course of future Amateur Radio regulation. Speaking May 20 at the Dayton Hamvention FCC forum, Bill Cross, W3TN, of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, said that the days of Commission-imposed regulation are past.

“Detailed regulation of the nitty gritty of communication services, including the Amateur Service, is not in the picture,” Cross said. “Rather, the FCC is shifting to strong and effective enforcement of truly necessary regulations.” The FCC, he said, now plans to look to the amateur community to reach consensus on any new regulations it thinks it wants and needs.

“I hope that those of you who are thinking about asking us to carve up a band by fiat will think again,” he told the packed forum. “You really are asking us to tie your hands regarding your use of your spectrum.”

Before the FCC initiates any rulemaking proceedings in the Amateur Service to change privileges, Cross said it wants to see proposals involving the implementation of “new and more modern communications technologies,” such as digital. In addition, he said, any future proposal “must include all licensees, and it must include all bands,” and--most important--the amateur community must reach a consensus on the topic.

Support your club. Enjoy the
meetings, club activities, and
pay your dues.
Thanks!

Cross said the FCC does not want and cannot handle “multiple proceedings that address piecemeal changes in operating privileges” that affect only certain classes of licensees or certain bands. “You, collectively, need to reach agreement on how you want to use your spectrum,” he reiterated.

Cross said he expected the issue of restructuring operator privileges to come up “in a couple of years” at the outside. “Changes in operating privileges for the different classes of operator licenses are inevitable,” he said.

West Texas getting new Section Manager

Published by permission of The ARRL
Letter, Vol. 20, No. 25, June 22, 2001

West Texas is getting a new Section Manager: Lee Kitchens, N5YBW, of Ransom Canyon, Texas, has been appointed West Texas Section Manager, effective July 1. He succeeds Clay Emert, K5TRW, who stepped down for health reasons. Emert had been appointed SM last January and was recently elected to a two-year term. He also has served as an assistant section manager and assistant director. Kitchens is a retired electrical engineer. An ARRL member even before he got his license, he's been a ham for 10 years and holds a Tech Plus ticket.--Rosalie White, K1STO

Smart

—By Russ Steiner, W4VDA

Teacher: “Who was the smartest inventor, and why?”

Student: “Edison. He invented the phonograph so people would stay up late and use his electric lights.”

From the August '94 Birmingham ARC
“The Birmingham:”, Jim Smiley, KE4CAP,
Editor, ARNS, Mar. 1995

Survey seeks input on Novice/Tech Plus HF Spectrum

Printed by permission of The ARRL
Letter, Vol. 20, No. 26, June 29, 2001

The ARRL Novice Spectrum Study Committee is soliciting input from the amateur community on possible ways to optimize use of the present Novice and Technician Plus allocations on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters. Survey results might form the basis for the ARRL to approach the FCC and request changes in the ways amateurs may operate within HF bands that contain Novice sub-bands.

The Novice Spectrum Study survey is available to ARRL members on the Web <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/NoviceSurvey.html>>. Members will be able to complete and submit the survey only once. Nonmembers are invited to e-mail comments and suggestions to novicesurvey@arrl.org.

The committee--chaired by ARRL International Affairs Vice President Rod Stafford, W6ROD--has been examining the status and usage of the present Novice HF bands with an eye toward determining what changes might be needed now that the FCC no longer issues new Novice licenses. The survey offers members a chance to express opinions and preferences on various options--including leaving things as they are. Respondents are invited to add comments and suggestions before submitting the survey.

Some 40,000 Novice licensees remain in the current FCC database, and that number is dropping by some 6000 licensees each year through attrition and upgrading.

The Novice Spectrum panel will present an interim report at the July ARRL Board meeting, and a final report at the annual meeting next January.

NETS

Big Bend Emergency Net meets at 8:30 A.M. (Central) Every Sunday Morning. The frequency is 3922.

The West Texas Connection Sunday Morning Net meets at 0900 (Central) every Sunday morning. The net is informal and open to all. Check in for local ham news and events. Midland frequency is 147.220, + offset, 88.5 tone or 444.100 + offset, 162.2 tone. Mike Smith, W5MLS, is Net Control.

The Southwest Lynx System Net meets at 12:00 noon, Sunday. The net meets at 145.130, - offset, 88.50 tone and 440.200, + offset, 162.2 tone. Dwayne Fox, W5ZOX is net control.

West Texas Amateur Radio Club Net, Odessa, meets each Monday at 9:00 P.M. The frequency is 145.470 with an 88.5 tone. Needs a Net Control.

Big Spring 10 Meter Net is at 8:00 P. M on Tuesday evening at 28.485 up or down a few.

Midland 2 Meter Net meets each Tuesday night at 9:00 P.M. on 147.300, offset: - 600 Mhz. Mike Smith, W5MLS is Net Control.

Ares Net meets each Wednesday night at 9:00 p.m. on 147.300, offset: -600 Mz. Dwayne T.Fox, W5ZOX, is Net Control.

ARES 70 Centimeters Net (West Texas & Southwest New Mexico) meets on Wednesday night at 8:00 p.m. on 444.925 UHF with a 2146.2 tone. Net Control is Mark Smith, N5UNH.

New Net, Midland County ARES Packet Net meets on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. on 144.970. Check-ins go through MIDTEX on the talk mode. No net control. Leave your check-ins at Dwayne's mail drop.

Howard County Net meets each Thursday at 8:00 P.M. on 146.820.

Only a lawyer would write a 10,000 word document and call it a "brief".

Q: What is brown and black and looks good on a lawyer? A: A. Doberman

July Birthdays



HENRY ALLEN, 31, K5BUG
AUGUST SCHOOT, 22, K5HCT
DON LANNOM, 01, KB5GLA
GLYNNA STRAIT, 23, KB5JGQ
SANDRA HOWARD, 26,
KB5NAD
DENNIS HOWARD, 07, KB5RGU
WILTON YOUNGBLOOD, 26,
KB5STI
STEVE RIVAS, 22, KB5THU
COLLIN CRAIG, 11, KB5ZQJ
JUSTIN BURRIS, 30, KC5BQH
JOE SZALOY, 02, KC5IPR
ROGER CHRISTOPHER, 01,
KD5RZ
ALAN SEWELL, 05, N5NA
WESLEY CLEMENTS, 16,
N5NOH
BRUCE WHITE, 25, N5OGQ
MATT JOHNSON, 30, N5OKP
ALLAN MOORE, 18, N5SVM
FRANK DEDON, 17, N5WT
HAROLD JOHNSON, JR, 25,
W0ICJ
C. M. ELMORE, JR, 22, W5KPE
BUCK WILLIFORD, 07, W5LKL
ODIE BRIDGEWATER, 30,
WA5UTR
ED MEYER, 25, WG5F

Dayton attendance down slightly

Printed by permission of The ARRL Letter, Vol. 20, No. 26, June 29, 2001

Dayton attendance down slightly: Dayton Hamvention General Chairman Jim Graver, KB8PSO, reports the official attendance at the 2001 Dayton Hamvention--the 50th event--was 26,151, down roughly 9% from last year's 28,804. Hamvention attendance peaked at 33,669 in 1993, before the change in date from April to May in 1996. Graver blamed rainy weather on the opening day of the event and high gasoline prices for the attendance drop. Graver also will chair next year's Dayton Hamvention.

The Shamrock

The Shamrock is published monthly by the Midland Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 4401, Midland, Texas 79704-4401. The phone number is (915) 685-3372.

Articles and other information are solicited. Send articles to Dewey D. and Daphne Baucum, Co-Editors, 707 Spraberry Drive, Midland, Texas 79703-7060. Telephone number is (915) 694-3162. Call about format. My E-mail address is: cooldewey@apex2000.net.

Midland VE Team

Testing is conducted at the Red Cross Building on Elizabeth Street at 8:30 A.M. on the second Saturday of every month. (Other times may be arranged.) A total of \$10.00 will charged for each session. All elements and code use the multiple choice format. Individual ear phones are used for code testing. Testing is always sponsored by the ARRL-VEC. For more information call Mitch Martin, WA5ZAP @ 561-9397, Email: wa5zap@apex2000.net or Sterling Talley, Contact Person, WB5G @ 684-6994, Email: sterling@apex2000.net.

Pay Your Dues

If you haven't paid your dues for 2001, please do so.

MARC Cabinet Meeting

Date: 1st Wednesday each month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Carrows Restaurant , 2201 W. Wall St. Street

Officers for 2001

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Phone: 699-4574

Email: w5zox@home.com

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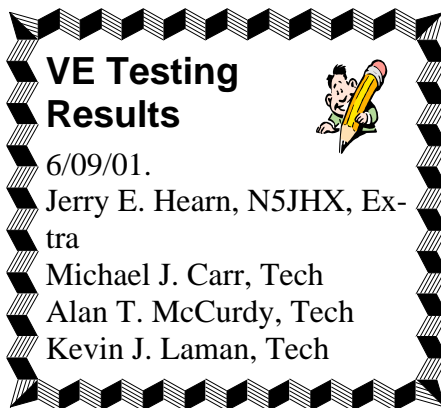
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VE Testing Results

6/09/01.

Jerry E. Hearn, N5JHX, Ex-tra

Michael J. Carr, Tech

Alan T. McCurdy, Tech

Kevin J. Laman, Tech

W1AW seeks 80-Meter signal reports

Printed by permission of The ARRL Letter, Vol. 20, No. 26, June 29, 2001

Maxim Memorial Station W1AW has changed its 80-meter bulletin antenna system and requests signal reports from those monitoring the 80-meter transmissions. An 80-meter "cage" dipole joined the W1AW antenna farm in May. W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, says the new dipole is oriented to radiate east-west. The "cage" complements a coaxial dipole that's been in use for several years.

Field Day marked the first official test of the new 80-meter cage. Previously, RFI problems with the alarm system had prevented general use of the new skywire. Carcia and Building Manager Greg

Kwasowski, KB1GJF, solved the RFI problem by installing a number of ferrite cores on the unshielded wires entering the alarm box from the various smoke heads. "The wire installers failed to take into account that the alarm system is located in a high RF-environment," Carcia said.

Signal reports received during Field Day indicated the 80-meter "cage" antenna appears to be functioning quite well. W1AW put 512 QSOs into its Field Day log on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 meters, using CW, SSB and RTTY--for a claimed score of 1366.

Reports on W1AW's 80-meter signal should note your location, time of reception, mode, signal strength and quality. Use of the standard R-S-T system is acceptable. Mail reports on a postcard to W1AW 80-meter reports, 225 Main St, Newington, CT, 06111. E-mail reports may be sent to w1aw@arrl.org. The complete W1AW Operating Schedule appears in July QST, page 105, and on the Web, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html>.

West Texas Section Manager

Lee G. Kitchens, N5YBW
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Ransom Canyon, TX 79366-2522
Phone: 1-806-829-2180
Email: n5ybw@arrl.net



Midland Amateur Radio Club Application Form

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____

Address _____ ARRL Member _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email Address _____ Date of Birth _____

Do you wish to purchase a speed call? _____

Names and Calls of Additional Family Members:

Number of Years _____ X \$15.00 _____

Addl Members X Years X \$3.00 _____

Speed Call at \$5.00(Optional) _____

Make checks Payable to Midland Amateur Radio Club. Thank You

and Send TO

P O BOX 4401 MIDLAND TX 79704-4401

Total Enclosed: _____