



# The Shamrock

P.O.Box 4401  
Midland, Texas 79704-4401  
915-685-3372

Volume 19, No. 6

August 2001

## MS 150 Bike Tour 2001

—By Larry Nix, N5TQU

Today is Friday, July 20. Tomorrow is the day of the MS 150 Bike Tour and Nena, B5TUP, and I are driving the first half of the route in search of unforeseen obstacles and surprises. The tar and gravel coating was not supposed to be put on highway 158 until after the Tour. Surprise, it had recently been applied to the road bed. Between rest stop 2 and rest stop 3 was another surprise, road construction and one lane traffic. Just past rest stop 4 was an obstacle, a large hole had been washed out in the East bound road bed. And finally, we were surprised to find that there was no road sign marking the approaching FM 818 turn, as we flew by the turn. We were selected as the lead vehicle and we needed to know about these potential problems before the Bike Tour.



**Sterling Talley, WB5G, Coordinator MS Tour**

Friday was also a time to test radios and to be sure we would be able to communicate through both Midland and Big Spring repeaters. Ted Harwood, W5WTX, was acting as base station. All was going well until about 30 minutes into the route. Suddenly Ted quit transmitting. In fact, everyone quit transmitting. To my horror, my new Yaesu FT100D had suddenly gone deaf. I stopped and checked all connections, but there was still no noise. I had an untested radio that was unreliable. This is totally unacceptable when communications is a must.

After finishing the route, I returned to Midland. It was time to unpack my standby radio, an Alinco DR600, and install it in my vehicle. I left the Yaesu in the truck. My plan was to use the Alinco only as a backup. As it turned out, the Alinco became the primary radio.

It is now 5:30 AM Saturday morning. It is cool, dark and I am still sleepy. I didn't get to bed until 2:00 AM. We have loaded everything we need and, after a quick stop for ice, we are on our way to the EOG building.

When we drove by the EOG building Friday evening I was a little worried about the size of the parking lot. That is why I wanted to arrive early so I could park up front. Otherwise, I would not be able to exit in front of the bike riders.

We were certainly not the first to arrive. The parking lot was already half full. Like a parade, the other Midland Amateur Radio Club HAMS helping with this Tour arrived right behind me and we parked as a caravan. Sterling Talley, WB5G, was busy, as usual, trying to locate all radio operators, ambulances and mechanics. He had to be sure the non HAM officials had scanners in their vehicles, so they could monitor our communications, and respond to a request for assistance.

**See Bike Tour page 3**

### MARC Meetings

**August 13, 2001**

Sterling Talley, WB5G, and the Finance Committee. They will release the results of their finds.

### MARC Happenings

**11/2-3, 2001 Odessa Hamfest**

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



The month of July is gone for this year. Not much went on in July; so not much to report. We did have a MS Bike Tour, that went very well with no serious problems; just a few flat tires. The dog days of summer are fast coming to a close and I think most people are ready for some cooler weather and lower electric bills. School is about to start, and we need to be very careful of kids, while we are driving the streets. I guess most of our members have had their vacations and are ready to get down to somewhat a normal life style again. Remember, that beginning in September, we will begin having two meetings a month, so make plans to attend as many meetings as possible. This is what makes a good club. We need to have as many members and non-members attend as possible. Bring a friend; he or she just might become a member.

Don't forget the meeting on August the 13<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you there.  
73, Joe

**“The Shamrock” will not be mailed after this issue**

At the last MARC Director Meeting, it was decided to discontinue the monthly mailing of “The Shamrock” You can read “The Shamrock” by going to the MARC Home Page at <http://www.wb5cdd.org/>. When you reach the web page, click on “ The Shamrock”. You will now see a listing of the “back” editions and

**Continued at top of next column**

last edition of “The Shamrock”. Click on “The Shamrock, September 2001, and the newsletter will be displayed in your Adobe Acrobat Reader. You can copy “The Shamrock” to a hard copy, if you prefer or you can read it on-line. Pictures in “living color” will be displayed for your reading pleasure.

If you do not have the Adobe Acrobat Reader installed, look above and you will see the following statement, “You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to Read the Newsletters listed below.” Click on “Acrobat Reader”, follow the instructions, and download a free copy.

**ARRL, AeroAstro Square off over 2300-2305 Mhz**

**Published by permission of The ARRL Letter, Vol. 20, No. 31, August 3, 2001**

In a spectrum battle pitting Amateur Radio against a commercial interest, the ARRL and AeroAstro this week filed comments with the FCC to bolster their respective--and competing--proposals for 2300 to 2305 MHz. ARRL has petitioned to elevate the Amateur Service from secondary to primary status on the band and requested that no commercial operations be introduced. AeroAstro seeks co-primary status with the Amateur Service to accommodate a Miscellaneous Wireless Communication Service satellite-based position-monitoring system.

The FCC put both petitions on public notice last month. There is no primary occupant at 2300-2305 MHz.

The ARRL characterized AeroAstro's petition as "a Trojan horse" and came out with both barrels blazing. "There is nothing contained in the four corners of the AeroAstro petition that would

**See Square Off next column**

**Square Off from 2nd column**

indicate the extent of compatibility between incumbent and future Amateur operation and the open-ended MWCS operation proposed by AeroAstro," the ARRL asserted. Given the unpredictable and mobile nature of Amateur Radio and AeroAstro's proposed use, the League said, "There is no possibility whatsoever of coordination of operations between auctioned MWCS and Amateur operations in the band."

AeroAstro claims in its comments that the 1 W spread-spectrum uplinks of its proposed Satellite Enabled Notification System (SENS) and Amateur Radio can share the 5 MHz of spectrum and still protect the nearby NASA Deep Space Network. While asserting that it "does not seek to cut back current Amateur operations in the band," AeroAstro also called on the FCC to impose severe power and antenna limitations on hams at 2300-2305 MHz.

Under the AeroAstro petition, Amateurs would be limited to 100 W output and antennas with a beamwidth no greater than 5 degrees for "narrowbeam" operation such as Earth-Moon-Earth communication. For other operation, AeroAstro wants the FCC to limit amateurs to 25 W EIRP.

"This is totally unacceptable," the ARRL retorted in its comments. "It is preclusive of most Amateur operation in the band." The current situation, where no service is primary, is preferable to such a sharing arrangement, the ARRL said.

A co-primary allocation such as AeroAstro proposes also would make no provision to mitigate interference. AeroAstro's mobile SENS consumers, the ARRL said, "would not be able to meet any standard of responsibility in

**See Square Off page 5**

## Bike Tour from page 1

We all made last minute tests of our radios, attached signs to our windows and red streamers to our antennas. Sterling secured the fre-



Larry, N5TQU, & Nena, KB5TUP Nix

quencies and the dreaded time had arrived. How the heck are we supposed to get out of this little parking lot! The parking scheme looked like a Chinese fire drill. The Bike Tour had not started, but I started picking my way through the bikes, trailers, people and police. We barely cleared the curb when we heard the announcer say "Let the race begin". That was close. We had to hurry, because we were about to have bikes all over us.

Nena and I were in the lead, Ted and Beverly, KC5BNT,



George Toone, WB5FBJ, & Jim Reid, K5KUX

were next. Bringing up the rear was Joe Coldeway, KK5ZG. Joe,

how is it that you always manage to get this position? Actually, this is a very important position. Joe is responsible for counting how many bike riders leave the parking lot. This time it was 114. Now, it is our job to keep up with all 114 riders and to be sure that anyone having trouble receives assistance.

Joe's position was designated as "SAG". I never did find out what SAG means. However, I did make up several meanings of my own. Once every hour the SAG position was rotated with another MARC member. This kept the position from becoming too monotonous, and allowed you to speed up and cool off your engine.

The other Midland Amateur Ra-



Bill Bentley, N5POB, with riders

dio Club members helping were Bill Bentley, N5POB, Jim Reid, K5KUX, Doug Salyers, KB5TUN, Doug Harwood, K5MTX, Jerry Hearn, N5JHX, Heather Hearn, SWL, Hunter Watkins, KD5HCQ, and George Toone, WB5FBJ. Besides handling much of the communications for Jim Reid, George did an excellent job of navigating for Jim. However, George, I am still not ready to let you drive my new truck.

The Bike Tour proceeded through the morning with very few problems. One rest stop was not set up when we drove past, and some of the National Guard troops were still not quiet awake. Otherwise, all went very well. I heard two calls for assistance with flat tires, and one call for a medic to assist with an over heated rider. Then there was the black Ford Mustang that was tormenting some of the riders. One radio relay to the Sheriff seemed to take care of this problem.

Without the communication assistance from members of the Midland Amateur Radio Club, the previous paragraph may not have sounded so routine. It could have told of a rider dying from heat exhaustion and of riders injured or killed from a speeding vehicle. We want to sincerely thank all who helped make the 2001 MS 150 Bike Tour a fun and SAFE event. This cannot happen without our Club members volunteering their time, equipment and skill.

Congratulations for a job well done!

Pictures by Bill, N5POB: Thanks

## Round-the-world ham-sailor sets November return date

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

Ham-sailor David Clark, KB6TAM, plans to sit out the Atlantic hurricane season and complete his round-the-world sail this fall. Clark left Brazil June 10 and expects to make Trinidad around June 25. There he plans to rest and wait out the hurricane season before resuming his adventure. He now says he'll arrive in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on his wife's birthday, November 18.

Clark, 77, is seeking to be the oldest solo circumnavigator on record. Lynda Clark has been in regular contact with her husband via Amateur Radio phone patches. This week, however, Clark reported his radio was not working when he called his wife during a refueling stop in French Guiana.

See Ham-sailor page 5

## 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.

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

**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.

**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.

## August Birthdays



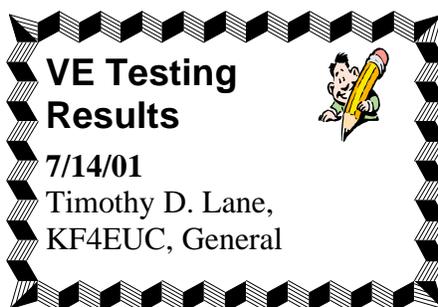
K5JXN, 14, BOB STEVENS  
KM5OK, 27, C. A. ROSS JR  
KA5ZKA, 24, DAVID GRIMES  
AA5IC, 10, RON WALMSLEY  
WB5EZR, 31, BOB PORTER-FIELD

K5CGW, 15, CLINTON ADAMS  
N5KNB, 11, JAMES RADTKE  
WB5IWP, 21, MARY STICE  
WB5T, 18, CHARLEY ROYALL  
KA5BJF, 03, JOE THOMAS  
KC5GUV, 06, JOE CUMMINS  
N5ME, 08, ALFRED JOHNSON  
KC5TY, 13, GEORGE OVERTON  
N5NBR, 04, ROGER HYATT  
W5LXS, 02, ROGER ROSE  
KG5ZA, 11, JOHN PETERSON  
KB5TUP, 24, NENA NIX

KB5DEM, 12, DAVID CARLSON  
N3CHE, 10, NICK MARZIANI  
N5UAI, 08, ROY MARSHALL  
KB5THR, 15, JERRY NAYLOR  
N5MI, 01, MARK INGRAM  
N5XXD, 09, MARK CRANFORD  
KD5DRO, 17, JANET MCDANIEL  
KC5DTB, 03, SCOTT SHEWARD  
KB5GXW, 10, LUIS GONZALES  
KC5LWH, 18, GARY GIBSON  
KB5RTL, 17, PETER BALOG  
N5POB, 30, BILL BENTLEY  
KC5PHO, 02, PATTI HUNT  
WD5EPP, 06, DEBORAH MCCLEERY

KC5VCD, 19, TINA BRILEY  
KB5MBK, 14, PAT ENGLAND  
KB5PJR, 19, RACHEL HOWARD  
KB5YYR, 05, TRICHELE BARBER  
KB5PKN, 14, ELMER HOWARD, JR

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



## VE Testing Results

7/14/01  
Timothy D. Lane,  
KF4EUC, General



## 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](mailto:wa5zap@apex2000.net) or Sterling Talley, Contact Person, WB5G @ 684-6994, Email: [sterling@apex2000.net](mailto:sterling@apex2000.net).

## Pay Your Dues

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

## MARC Cabinet Director

**Date:** 1st Wednesday each month

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

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

## Officers for 2001

**Joe Coldewey, KK5ZG** - President  
4510 Fairbanks Dr., Midland, TX 79707-4314

Phone: 697-7846  
Email: joeec1@juno.com

**Dwayne Fox, W5ZOX** - Vice President  
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Phone: 699-4574

Email: w5zox@home.com

**Doug Salyers, KB5TUN**, Secretary  
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**Robert Boyd, KC5ZJO**, Treasurer  
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Home Phone: 689-6355  
Work Phone: 563-5006

**Pete Stull, WB7AMP** - Director  
306 E. 57th St., Odessa, TX 79762-3611  
Home Phone: 362-6644

Email: wb7amp@caprok.net

**Ted Harwood, W5WTX**, Director  
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Telephone: 686-1841

Ham Shack Phone: 570-1987  
Email: shamrock109@home.com

**Ken Williams, K5JOG** - Director  
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Phone: 684-3738  
TELCOKEN@worldnet.att.net

**Jim Reid, K5KUX** - Trustee  
3504 Douglas Ave., Midland, TX 79703-5016

Home Phone: 694-0725  
Work Phone: 694-0969

## VE Testing Results



6/09/01.

Jerry E. Hearn, N5JHX, Extra

Michael J. Carr, Tech  
Alan T. McCurdy, Tech  
Kevin J. Laman, Tech

## Ham-sailor from page 3

Clark survived a disaster in February that sank his original sailboat, the Mollie Milar. His beloved canine companion Mickey was lost during the rescue efforts.

Clark gets support from corporate sponsors, but he has funded much of the trip through Social Security earnings and occasional clarinet gigs. For more information on Clark's journey, visit <http://www.dclark.com> and <http://www.captainclark.com>.--Archie McKay, K4GA

## Odessa Hamfest date set

The 2001 Odessa Hamfest will be November 2-3 at the Holiday Inn.

## Square Off from page 2

addressing interference avoidance and remedies relative to Amateurs."

The ARRL said the FCC already has made "adequate accommodation" for services such as the one AeroAstro has proposed "without compromising the 2300-2305 MHz Amateur allocation." Calling on the FCC to either dismiss or take no action on the AeroAstro petition, the League noted that a proposal now pending before the FCC would allocate 1670-1675 and 2385-2390 MHz "for exactly the type of use proposed by AeroAstro."

## New Repeater at Big Lake

There is a new repeater in Big Lake on the PBR REPEATER SYSTEM 442.650 tone 146.2 tone.

Thanks, Pat and Bill

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

## West Texas Section Manager

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



## Midland Amateur Radio Club Application Form

Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Web Page \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to purchase a speed call? \_\_\_\_\_

Names and Calls of Additional Family Members:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Add 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: \_\_\_\_\_