

In the DARC



Dallas Amateur Radio Club—www.W5FC.org

July 2005

Inside This Issue:

<i>DARC Public Service</i>	2
<i>President's Corner</i>	3
<i>HamCom Report</i>	3
<i>...Key To Success</i>	3
<i>Spectrum Protection Act</i>	4
<i>Good Things in AR</i>	5
<i>Dayton Hamvention</i>	5
<i>House Resolution 230</i>	6
<i>Texas BPL Initiative</i>	7
<i>Upcoming Events!</i>	8

The Dallas Amateur Radio Club welcomes all who are interested in Amateur Radio be they prospective Amateurs or Amateurs of any License Class in becoming members of our organization.

July Business Meeting

Tuesday, July 5, 2005

7:00 PM—Dinner at 6:00 PM

Talk-in on the 146.88 repeater

Midway Point Restaurant

(S.W. corner LBJ and Midway Rd.)

July Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 13th, 2005

7:00 PM

Spring Creek Barbeque

(Beltway Dr. and Midway, Addison)

Listen to 146.88 for new location.

W5FC Repeaters

146.28/146.88 MHz

223.28/224.88 MHz

447.425/442.425 MHz (110.9)

DARC FIELD DAY 2005



July 2005 Club Meeting
Tuesday, July 5th
A Camper's Guide to QRP Ham Radio — By Jerry Karlovich KD5OM

Dallas Amateur Radio Club

Founded 1914

To contact the DARC call (972) 669-8433

or email us at W5FC@arrl.net**2005 Officers****President:** Joe Isabella, N3JI**Vice-President:** Mason Sarles, KD5YHX**Treasurer:** Mont O'Leary, K0YCN**Secretary:** Craig Modrzynski, KD5WJV**Board of Directors:**

Colin Buckup, N5GG

John Carlson, K9SQ

Don Murray, W9VE

Bill Chapman, WB5DX

N. T. "Len" Carlson, K4IWL

OPEN

2005 Other Officers**Public Information &** Colin Buckup, N5GG**Webmaster:** John Carlson, K9SQ**Emergency Officer &** Johnny Davis, K5JD
W5FC Trustee:**Programs:** Jim Heye, K5WLQ**Public Service:** Richard Bartlett, KE6LOU**Technical Officer:** Bernie Parker, K5BP**Membership:** Don Murray, W9VE**Field Day:** Joe Isabella, N3JI**Auction:** Don Murray, W9VESend any information, articles, and pictures to John Carlson.

The Dallas Amateur Radio Club meets the first Tuesday of each month. Guests are welcome! **The Dallas Amateur Radio Club welcomes all who are interested in Amateur Radio be they prospective Amateurs or Amateurs of any License Class in becoming members of our organization.** See membership application for details at www.W5FC.org. The Dallas Amateur Radio Club is a non-profit, American Radio Relay League Affiliated Organization. Contributions to *In the DARC* are always welcome and may be submitted to the Public Information Officer by e-mail (K9SQ@arrl.net). Letters to the Editor will be printed as space permits. DARC accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the contents of this newsletter. Reproduction is permitted provided that this newsletter and the original source are credited.

Copyright © 2005 Dallas Amateur Radio Club


**Public Service Event
Announcement**
PUBLIC SERVICE VOLUNTEERING***MAKING THE MOST OF THE EXPERIENCE******By Richard Bartlett, KE6LOU*****August 20, 2005****Red Hot Chili Pepper Rally**
38 Radio Operators Needed**October 1, 2005****AIDS Arms Lifewalk**
10 Radio Operators Needed**November 5, 2005****Walk For Diabetes**
9 Radio Operators Needed**November 24, 2005****Dallas Turkey Trot**
7 Radio Operators NeededFor additional information contact Richard Bartlett, KE6LOU via email at KE6LOU@arrl.net

To participate, go to the following web URL, fill out the form, and press "Submit". It's that easy!

http://www.w5fc.org/pse_info/pse_appl.htm
**The publication deadline for the
August 2005 issue of**
In the DARC
is July 15, 2005.



The President's Corner

By Joe Isabella, N3JI

Welcome to the July edition of *In the DARC!* As I write this, HamCom 2005 is history and Field Day is fast approaching. First and foremost, we all need to give Mont O'Leary-KOYCN and his team a big thanks for making the outdoor flea market a huge success! It was bigger than ever, and they did the DARC proud! For those of you that don't know, it takes months of planning and preparation to put something like that together. Countless hours are spent starting 6 months ahead of time getting things kicked off, planned, and putting lists of volunteers together. I know I appreciate it, and so does the rest of the DARC. Thank you Mont and the whole HamCom 2005 team for a job well done!

Now that Field Day is over, what else do we have going on? Well, for starters, we have started work on a repeater upgrade. The repeater system we have while functional, is aging rapidly and lacks capabilities that will greatly enhance the way the DARC's repeaters will serve the Metroplex. The new system will make controlling it much more streamlined, and will allow all of the machines to be linked together more efficiently. It will also provide much easier announcement configuration and uploading. As many of you know, we have been spending quite a bit over the last couple years doing repairs to keep this one going. The idea is to invest some dollars into a modern replacement so that the current system will remain as a backup should a failure occur. Not that we think anything like that will happen, but it pays to be prepared! Along those lines, we also have a plan in place (and hardware on hand) to upgrade the lightning protection to keep everything in good operating condition when all those storms rumble through our area. Look for that to take place sometime this month and please come to the meeting to hear more about the repeater upgrade. Hope to see you all there!

As always, feel free to contact me via email at n3ji@arri.net with any questions or suggestions. Again, thanks for continuing as members and your help in keeping the DARC one of the best clubs around!

73,

Joe Isabella, N3JI

Ham-Com 2005 Report

By Mont O'Leary K0YCN

With over 4,000 attendees, Ham-Com 2005 was a big success this year. The DARC was responsible for the Outdoor Flea Market this year and we more than doubled the number of spaces sold to 68 from the 25 sold in 2004. The following members contributed several hours each to making this a successful event for the Club:

John Carlson, Karl Meyer, Mason Sarles, Jim Heye, Bill Dyer, Jim Galloway, Richard Bartlett, Len Carlson, Don Murray, Dave Best, and Bill Chapman.

Their combined effort resulted in over \$1,000 of income for the Club.

Special thanks goes to Thanksgiving Square who loaned the Club over 30 traffic cones for the weekend saving approximately \$300 in barricade rental fees. This loan was arranged by Dave Best.

Involvement...the Key to Success

By Richard Bartlett KE6LOU

For a club to thrive and grow, several key elements are necessary:

1. A sense of purpose.
2. Achievable goals and a sense of accomplishment.
3. A sense of ownership and involvement by the membership.
4. Continuity.
5. Recognition and appreciation.

A club needs a sense of purpose. This can be challenging in a diverse organization where many members join for specific reasons or interests. Ultimately, a club needs a unified sense of being, one where the various interests come together to a focus. Through awareness and instilling support of a member's interests to the other aspects of the organization, the various cogs begin to spin together and rely upon each other for success.

An organization needs achievable goals and a sense of accomplishment. Goals should be set, constantly monitored, and results publicized. Perception is reality. If the members don't feel anything is being accomplished, then that's how they will feel, regardless of what's actually

happening. Through publicizing goals, and results as they happen, the membership can see the growth and accomplishment as it happens.

A sense of ownership and involvement is necessary for success. You can talk about what needs to be done, but ultimately someone has to do the work...or it doesn't get done. We all have families, jobs, and other volunteer commitments, but if nobody steps up to the plate and helps lead, then things don't get done, and ultimately the club ceases to exist. By taking on a level of responsibility that you can balance adequately with your other commitments, you become a vital link in the success of the club.

If everyone becomes "takers" and nobody is "givers" then soon there is nothing to "take".

Continuity is essential to the long term health of a club. If part of the club's success is because of the efforts of one person, and there is not anyone in the wings to carry on, after that leader is gone, then things fall apart. If you are not in a leadership position, then consider helping someone who is...that way, volunteer leadership appointments don't become lifelong (or until that person finally quits).

Last, and most important is recognition and appreciation. You can never say thank you enough. A pat on the back, a thank you letter or certificate, and the occasional T-Shirt are the only pay a volunteer gets...don't leave a volunteer without their paycheck.

Whether you step up to the plate, or are "drafted", accept a leadership challenge and help make the club even better.

US SENATE VERSION OF AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT OF 2005 INTRODUCED

The ARRL Letter, Volume 24 Number 24

A US Senate version of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2005 has been introduced in the 109th Congress with bipartisan support. Sen Michael Crapo of Idaho sponsored the measure, S 1236, on June 14. The wording of the bill is identical to the House version, HR 691, introduced earlier this year by Rep Michael Bilirakis of Florida. Joining Crapo as cosponsors of the Senate bill were Senators Christopher Bond of Missouri, Max Baucus and Conrad Burns of Montana, and Daniel Akaka of Hawaii. The bill has been referred to the US Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee of which Burns is a member. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the League is pleased that Crapo has agreed to once again sponsor this legislation at ARRL's urging.

"We are grateful for Sen Crapo's demonstration of support by introducing the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2005," Sumner said. "His sponsorship of this bill shows his appreciation for the value and utility of Amateur Radio to the US public, especially in times of emergency."

Like previous versions of the proposal, the House and Senate measures would require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to the Amateur Radio and Amateur-Satellite services in the event of reallocation to other services of primary amateur spectrum or the diminution of secondary amateur spectrum. The bill also would cover additional allocations within Amateur Radio bands that "would substantially reduce" their utility to Amateur Service licensees.

In a letter this week, ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, also thanked Crapo for his continued support of the Spectrum Protection Act. "As you know, this legislation is vital for ensuring that the Amateur Radio Service, the only 100 percent fail-safe emergency communication capability, remains a viable public safety option," Haynie said, adding that the League also appreciates the work of Crapo's staff in getting the bill into play in the new Congress. "The ARRL looks forward to working with you on successfully passing this legislation during the 109th Congress," he said.

The legislation references Amateur Radio's role in providing "voluntary, noncommercial radio service, particularly emergency communications," and it points out that hams have "consistently and reliably" provided communication support in the event of emergencies and disasters including tornadoes and hurricanes, chemical spills, forest fires and rail accidents. As the measure notes, FCC actions already have led to the loss of at least 107 MHz of spectrum to radio amateurs.

Efforts will continue-now in both chambers of Congress-to attract additional cosponsors for S 1236 and HR 691. The League encourages its members to urge their congressional representatives and senators to sign aboard. A sample letter for HR 691 <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr-691-sample-letter.html>> and a sample letter for S 1236 <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/s-1236/>>--are available on the ARRL Web site for members to use as guides in writing their members of Congress to seek their support.

To expedite delivery, send all correspondence bound for Members of Congress-preferably as an attachment-to research.assistant@chwatco.com or fax it to 703-684-7594. The ARRL will bundle correspondence addressed to each Member of Congress for hand delivery.

"GET INVOLVED IN THE GOOD THINGS IN AMATEUR RADIO!"

The ARRL Letter, Volume 24 Number 24

FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth told the Dayton Hamvention FCC Forum May 21 "all you need to know to enhance your radio service-in one simple lesson." Drawing upon his nearly seven years experience as the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement point man, Hollingsworth told his audience "what I personally think you need to do to make the Amateur Radio Service thrive and to enjoy the incredible opportunity" to have fun and engage in public service activities.

"Overall, amateur compliance, I think, is very, very good-I'm really happy with it," although, he said, "we still have a good distance to go" in certain areas. Complaints also have continued to decline steadily over the past year. "I think that's a good sign," he said, predicting the trend would continue. He advised hams to avoid ugly on-the-air situations and confrontations. "Just use the VFO and go somewhere else," he said.

On the other hand, enthusiasm and happiness on ham radio are contagious, Hollingsworth asserted, and amateur licensees themselves are responsible for creating and maintaining a hospitable operating environment. Among the good things going on in ham radio, Hollingsworth elicited a round of applause by singling out Pennsylvania teacher Sean Barnes, N3JQ, whose classes have helped 60 youngsters to obtain Amateur Radio licenses over the past three years.

The most high-profile recent enforcement case-involving former amateur licensee Jack Gerritsen in the Los Angeles-"is not technically an amateur case," Hollingsworth explained. He pointed out, however, that the FCC is looking to determine who supplied Gerritsen with Amateur Radio equipment and "encouraged him."

His final admonishment: Good amateur practice means "not operating so that whoever hears you becomes sorry they ever got interested in Amateur Radio in the first place." He urged hams to look to the future and "get involved in the good things in Amateur Radio" and spread the word among to acquaint the public and even legislators, lawmakers and government officials.

"It's not about enforcement. It's about your obligation," he said. Enforcement can't cure all Amateur Radio's ills. "It's all about you and what you're doing with [Amateur Radio]," he concluded. "Look beyond enforcement."

DAYTON HAMVENTION ATTENDANCE UP SLIGHTLY

The ARRL Letter, Volume 24 Number 23

Dayton Hamvention 2005 General Chair Gary Des Combes, N8EMO, told ARRL this week that attendance was up by 542 this year over last. The total "official" attendance was 20,411, compared to 19,869 for 2004.

"We heard from many exhibitors who sold out of everything they had and were taking orders as early as Saturday noon," Des Combes said. "In fact I was told by several exhibitors that this was their best show ever." The ARRL 2005 National Convention, which Dayton Hamvention hosted, "pushed the bar way up," he added.

"Virtually everywhere I turned, people were happy," Des Combes continued, while conceding that the vacancy level in the exhibits area and the flea market "were not what we wanted." He chalked that up in part to high gasoline prices--something beyond the control of Hamvention's planners--and a dearth of smaller computer vendors who no longer can compete with the big box stores.

But Des Combes said he was heartened that the vast majority of his e-mail since the show has been positive, "thanking me and expressing how great the show was and they will be definitely be coming back next year," he said. Des Combes expressed confidence that 2006 General Chairman, Jim Nies, WX8F--this year's assistant general chair--will work hard to promote Dayton Hamvention and ARRL and Amateur Radio as well.

"I sincerely will miss it, but it is time for me to pass the torch to a new leader," said Des Combes, who stepped into the top job two years ago and guided Hamvention back to an all-volunteer show. "I have accomplished all the goals I set out to do and feel I am going out on top, so now is a good time."

Dayton Hamvention 2000--the last year Hamvention hosted an ARRL National Convention--logged 28,804 attendees, up modestly from the previous year. The all-

time attendance record for Dayton Hamvention reportedly was 1993, when 33,669 showed up.

Next DARC VE Test Session is scheduled for Saturday, July 9th at 9 a.m.

**Business Jet Center
8611 Lemon Ave., 2nd Floor Cafeteria
Contact: Larry Herring, WR3J
214-350-9580**

See www.dfwlist.org for information.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 230 "A FAIR REQUEST," ARRL PRESIDENT SAYS

The ARRL Letter, Volume 24 Number 23

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, says House Resolution 230 (HRes 230) represents "a fair request" to the FCC and deserves the support of the US House of Representatives. Sponsored by Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, HRes 230 calls on the FCC to comprehensively evaluate BPL's interference potential incorporating "extensive public review and comment," then to "reconsider and review" its new BPL rules in the light of that public input.

Renewing his call for League members to contact their congressional representatives to sign on as cosponsors of the non-binding measure, Haynie said Ross's resolution only asks the FCC to do what it should have done in the first place regarding BPL.

"What this basically asks the FCC to do is to take another look at their methodology and how they arrived at the conclusions they did," Haynie said. The FCC adopted rules to govern so-called Access BPL last October 14 in ET Docket 04-37. "I think that's a fair request and something that we should do as amateurs to make sure this is done right and without a lot of haste." Haynie says Motorola's announcement of its Powerline LV system suggests the FCC rules can provide much greater protection to radiocommunication services without preventing properly engineered BPL systems from going forward.

Ross, who is one of two amateur licensees in the US Congress (the other is Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI, of Oregon), introduced HRes 230 on April 21. He told Broadband Over Power Line World (BPLW) recently that he's concerned about potential interference that BPL deployment could generate. (The interview is on the BPLW Web site <<http://www.etopiamedia.net/bplw/pages/bplw33-5551212.html>>.)

"Based on my own knowledge of the unique nature of the high-frequency radio spectrum, I was concerned about the evidence submitted to the Federal Communications Commission that I believe demonstrates the need to postpone any rules regarding BPL deployment," Ross said. He explained that passage of HRes 230 would put the House on record as "supporting a more careful study by the FCC of the radio interference issue, especially as it relates to public safety communication, and reconsideration of the adequacy of the rules in light of this study."

While HRes 230 does not specifically address the BPL concerns of the Amateur Radio community, Ross said those concerns were what led him to look more closely at BPL's implications for the public safety community. He noted that the federal interagency emergency SHARES (SHARED RESOURCES) network uses HF, and many states and localities still use the 30-50 MHz "low-VHF" band for public safety communications--spectrum that some BPL pilot projects

Ross said BPL interference on HF would be proportional to the extent of the technology's deployment using medium-voltage power lines. "Broadband energy cannot be put on these lines without causing interference to radio receivers using the same frequencies," he explained to BPLW's Marc Strassman. He also said the existing emission limits are "much too high" and never were intended to apply to systems like BPL. Existing BPL systems should be made to conform to future limits, he added.

He said BPL's potential to disrupt aviation operations is so great that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) successfully argued to prohibit Access BPL via medium-voltage power lines on frequencies used by commercial aeronautical communications.

Ross also wants the Commission to address "without further delay" the "substantial number" of BPL interference complaints now pending at the FCC.

And while he'd like to see his colleagues eventually approve HRes 230, he hopes the FCC will "take the interference issue to heart, whether or not the resolution is adopted."

He further expressed the hope that BPL companies will "realize it's in their interest to treat the interference issue as a technical and engineering challenge, not as a political issue."

Speaking at Dayton Hamvention in May, Haynie urged individual amateurs to begin participating in the political process. "We've got to ratchet up our presence," he told a forum audience. Haynie said that while ARRL can serve as the unified voice of the national association for Amateur Radio, individual licensees are voters, and lawmakers are quite aware that there are radio amateurs in their districts.

Regarding HRes 230 specifically, Haynie said this week that the task at hand is to encourage other House members to sign on as cosponsors of the resolution as the first step toward House adoption. And that's where League members come in, he said.

"I really encourage you to contact your congressional representative,"

Haynie said. "It's listed in the front of almost every phone book who your congressman is. If not, you can go to the United States House of Representatives Web site <<http://www.house.gov/>> and find out by typing in your ZIP code. I really encourage you to do this because it's important to the future of Amateur Radio."

The full text of HRes 230 <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/filings/hres230/HRes230.pdf>> and a sample letter <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/filings/hres230/HRes230-SampleLtr.doc>> are available on the ARRL Web site. Haynie called on members to express their support for the resolution in their own words.

***TEXAS BPL INITIATIVE DEAD; ANTENNA
BILL EXEMPTS AMATEUR RADIO***
The ARRL Letter, Volume 24 Number 22

Despite some eleventh-hour political wrangling, Texas legislation that would have encouraged the deployment of BPL by electric utilities has failed to pass. After the original measure, Texas Senate Bill 1748, got stalled in the Texas House of Representatives, its language was grafted onto two other bills in an effort to ease it through the legislative session that wrapped up May 31. The various measures died when House and Senate leaders were unable to resolve their differing versions. Meanwhile, wording to exempt Amateur Radio has been restored to a potentially restrictive antenna bill, HB 843. North Texas ARRL Section Manager Tom Blackwell, N5GAR, says time simply ran out for the supporters of the BPL measure, which was to have served as a model for bills in other states.

"The Texas BPL bill is dead," Blackwell commented on his Texas BPL Web site <<http://www.n5gar.info/>>. "The winners are the Texas Constitution and the people of Texas, who have imposed strict time limits on actions by the Texas Legislature." By law, legislative sessions run 140 days.

A collateral benefit of the legislative battle, Blackwell says, is that the BPL bill motivated people not normally engaged in the political process to get involved--some for the first time. Many members of the Amateur Radio community in the Lone Star State contacted their lawmakers to voice their opposition to the original bill and its various successors, he said.

"Potential investors in BPL should be reminded that because of the conduct of the lobbyists they hired and the elected officials they influenced, we were energized," he said. "Because of them we are now better organized and prepared to address interference complaints to the FCC and respond to any other attempt to effectively convert any of our amateur bands to commercial use."

Blackwell suggests it's not too soon to start thinking about the 2007 legislative session. "We expect to see the same kinds of bills filed again," he said.

Blackwell, Bill Lawless, W5WRL (now West Texas SM-elect), Gene Preston, K5GP, and Skip Cameron, W5GAI, testified in opposition to the original BPL bill--SB 1748--while it was under consideration by the House Regulated Industries Committee. Blackwell says a representative of the Texas Coalition of Cities for Utility Issues who also testified against the measure called it unconstitutional.

Radio amateurs in Texas also contacted their lawmakers regarding antenna-related legislation--HB 843--giving certain Texas counties the authority to regulate "communication facility structures." The House version

included an exemption for Amateur Radio antenna support structures, but the Senate version stripped that provision. South Texas State Government Liaison Jim Robinson, K5PNV, said, however, that he got assurances from House and Senate sponsors of the bill that the language would be reinstated when the measure went to conference.

The bill now includes wording exempting "a communications antenna, antenna facility, or antenna tower or support structure located in a residential area that is used by an Amateur Radio operator exclusively for Amateur Radio communications or public safety services."

"Looks like our work is done, insofar as the 79th Legislature is concerned," Robinson told ARRL West Gulf Director Coy Day, N5OK, and Texas ARRL section leadership this week. "Thanks to all of you for the excellent job you collectively did in getting contacts made with key legislators. This reflects a great team effort."

***FCC LAUNCHES NEW SERVICE TO
DELIVER CUSTOMIZED E-NEWS***
The ARRL Letter, Volume 24 Number 21

The FCC Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) is launching the Consumer Information Registry, an expanded and improved e-mail service that will deliver customized information about the FCC's actions and related developments in telecommunications and other communications services.

"The Registry is an Internet database that can be customized to deliver information on whatever topics the subscriber chooses," the FCC said in a news release this week. Among the many choices are "Amateur Radio and Related Interests" and "Ham Radio." The topic checklist also includes Broadcast TV and Cable TV, but subscribers can also specify topics not on the list.

Acting CGB Chief Monica Desai says the FCC is "delighted to be able to offer this valuable tool to everyone interested in communications issues." She says FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin has expressed an interest in ensuring that consumers continue to enjoy the benefits of the best communications system in the world. "I believe the Consumer Information Registry has the potential to play an important role in achieving that goal," she added.

The sign-up information is on the FCC CGB Web site <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/contacts/>>. Subscribers will be asked to indicate the subjects on which they wish to receive information. The service is free, and subscribers may unsubscribe at any time.--FCC

Upcoming Events!

2 July 2005

LACC Swap Meet

Lubbock Amateur Radio Club

Lubbock, TX

<http://www.orgsites.com/tx/w5lcc>

15-16 July 2005

Oklahoma Section Convention

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs

Oklahoma City, OK

<http://www.HamHoliday.org/>

5-6 August 2005

Texas State Convention

Austin, TX

The Red Lion Hotel

6121 IH-35 North (IH-35 and US 290)

<http://www.austinsummerfest.org/>

27 August 2005

Gainesville Hamfest 2005

Gainesville Civic Center

Gainesville, TX

NETS 146.88

July 3rd	1900 CST	DARC Meeting on the Air
July 10th	2000 CST	Dallas County RACES
July 17th	1900 CST	DARC Meeting on the Air
July 24th	2000 CST	Dallas County RACES

Dallas Amateur Radio Club—W5FC

P.O. Box 744266

Dallas, Texas 75374