



NEWSLETTER

Deep East Texas Amateur Radio Club

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Roger K0YY Editor,
k0yy@arrl.net

DETARC, Inc.
Lufkin, TX

1. DETARC INFORMATION

Club Officers: President- Steve KG5ODZ
kg5odz@arrl.net, Vice President/Repeater Trustee-
Mike WD5EFY, Secretary- RM K5AGE, Treasurer-
Randy N5CRW.

Club Web Page: www.detarc.net

Club Email Reflector: Join the reflector to receive
Club information. To join send an email request to:
detarc-join@detarc.net

Meeting Times/Location: Fourth Thursday of the
month at 7 PM at the old armory on Tulane Drive,
across from Kiwanis Park.

DETARC/ARES Net: 146.940 MHz-600, 141.3
CTCSS. Every Tuesday at 8 PM, alternates
147.360+600 MHz, 141.3 CTCSS, or 146.42
Simplex.

For additional information on DETARC/ARES see
the web site at www.detarc.net

DETARC/ARES News:



DETARC/ARES members have you upgraded, or recently accomplished something special in Ham Radio?

Are you working on a special project? Share it with fellow Club members and let us all know what you are doing. Bring it up at a meeting or the 4th Saturday DETARC Social Gatherings. We'd like to hear about what you are doing.

Rich KB5EDR is working on getting a good outside HF antenna up. Rich had been using an indoor attic

antenna. He is also practicing his CW. Good luck Rich!

Jerry KC5JWB has just received his new HF antenna tuner. Jerry is also rebuilding an older tuner with a damaged inductor switch. Have fun on the HF bands Jerry.

Door Prizes: The Club meetings now have door prizes thanks to Gary KI5LR. Good efforts.

Door Prize Donation: Each attendee receives one free ticket for showing up. For each dollar donated to the prize fund you will receive one additional ticket. See Gary KI5LR for additional details.

This June's door prize is a very nice set of a coax connector crimper tool and a coax stripper tool for installing crimp-on coax connectors.

Don't forget the Quarterly door prize coming up at the June meeting, a Kenwood TM-281 50-watt VHF mobile radio. Yes, a 50-watt VHF radio!

DETARC/ARES Projects/Events:

Old Armory Comm Room:

Great progress has been made with the HF G5RV antenna now installed. The tower is completed with a dual band VHF/UHF antenna at 45 feet. A good ground system is installed with three ground rods to help protect the tower and coax feed lines entering the Comm Room. Good Alpha Delta lightning surge protectors are installed in the exterior surge protector box for both the VHF/UHF and HF coax cables. There is now an in the room grounding buss bar where all radio equipment is tied to this single ground point.

Many thanks to all of the folks who have donated equipment, loaned equipment, or worked at the

Comm Room. There has been a great deal of effort and time spent to make this a reality.

The new Comm Room is something to be proud of for our Club and ARES group. Be sure to stop by and check it out.

Neches River Rendezvous Report-- June 3.

The River Rendezvous was cancelled for a third year in a row due to high water.

"Hurricane Charlie" State-wide Exercise Report, 7 June:

Mike, WD5EFY and Roger K0YY participated for the ARES Group coordinating with City and County Emergency Managers at the Civic Center. We touched base with the Red Cross, EMS, Hospitals, County Health, and several fire department representatives.

We also put the new Comm Room on the air contacting several local Counties on VHF. We contacted an Austin area ARES member on HF SSB to simulate contacting the State EOC in Austin.

DETARC FIELD DAY, June 24-25th.

We are a go for Field Day at the new Comm Room in the old Armory at the corner of Tulane and Armory street. Enter via the front door.

The Comm Room will be active from 1 PM on Saturday through 4 PM on Sunday. We may do some operating overnight if someone decides to spend the night. The operating schedule has been published several times via the DETARC and ARES email reflectors.

The station is ready, we've made our plans and have an operating schedule set up. We can always use more operators. Please feel free to sign up with Roger K0YY at k0yy@arrl.net, or just stop by.

We are holding three Field Day and Comm Room station equipment training sessions to familiarize members with Field Day operations and the new station equipment. We will also show these two PowerPoint presentations at the June monthly meeting on June 22nd at 7 PM.

Come join in the fun and see what Field Day is all about. Operate a radio, log contacts, or just observe and learn what to expect at a Field Day.

2. Upcoming Ham Radio Contests/Special Events:



SELECT HAM CONTESTS: (There are many more).

June 24-25 [Field Day](#)

July 2017

8-9 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

Example listing from the ARRL DX email Newsletter. –ARRL DX Newsletter June 15th.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The All Asian DX Contest, CW, SMIRK Contest, Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest, ARR BPSK63 Contest, AGCW VHF/UHF Contest, IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest, Stew Perry Top band Challenge, West Virginia QSO Party, Feld Hell Sprint, WAB 50 MHz Phone, Kid's Day Contest are all on tap for this weekend. The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is June 19. Please see June 2017 QST, page 87 and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest web sites for details.

SELECT HAM SPECIAL EVENTS:

07/01/2017 13 Colonies Special Event

07/19/2017 National Scout Jamboree

UPCOMING HAMFESTS: --from ARRL Web Site.

Hamfest/Convention

07/08/2017 | [Texas City/Tidelands ARS Hamfest](#)

Location: Texas City, TX
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Tidelands Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://tidelands.org>
[Learn More](#)

Hamfest/Convention

08/04/2017 | [South Texas Section Convention \(Austin Summerfest\)](#)

Location: Austin, TX
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Austin ARC & Texas VHF-FM Society
Website: <http://www.austinsummerfest.org>
[Learn More](#)

For further details on Contests/Special Events/Hamfests see:

www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/
www.arrl.org/contest-calendar
www.arrl.org/special-event-stations
http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_contests/cq_annual_contest_calendar/cq_annual_contest_calendar.html
<http://www.rsqbcc.org/hf/>
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search/Location.state:TX>

3. AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE® (ARES)

Mike WD5EFY, South Texas Section, District 2 Emergency Coordinator (DEC) (Angelina & Surrounding Counties).



Hurricane season is upon us and is predicted to be rather active! If you haven't already, think about these preparation tips...
Is that HT programmed with all the standard ARES frequencies? How about your mobile rig and spare rig (you do have a spare, right)?
Do you keep at least a half tank of gas in your vehicle all the time?
Go Bags checked, refreshed? Dates good on perishables and food items?
Be sure and check out the DETARC, Inc. web page for more ideas!
See <http://detarc.net/index.php/ares-forms-and-lists> for lots of great ideas for preparedness.

To join our ARES email reflector, send an email request to ares-join@detarc.net.

4. OPERATING:



NEW HF OPERATORS - THINGS TO DO

It's the season to make VHF contacts, so getting WSJT-X set up and giving MSK144 or JT65 a try could yield some new skills. The June 17 weekend has the [Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge](#) offering a typical 160 meter summertime CW activity. Careful listening to those static crashes, they can be fatiguing.

The [ARRL Field Day](#) operating event will generate a lot of activity the week of June 24. It's can be a great way to connect with other Amateurs in your area, take radios on a camping trip, or whatever you'd like to make of it. Depending on the operating group, it may or may not be a good place to learn or polish contest operating skills.

--ARRL Contest Update Newsletter

GOOD HAM RADIO REFERENCE WEB SITES:

- A. ARRL— WWW.ARRL.ORG OPERATING, REVIEWS, NEWSLETTERS, ARES, NPOTA, LOTW
- B. QRZ— WWW.QRZ.COM CALL SIGN LOOKUP, REVIEWS, DX
- C. EHAM-- WWW.EHAM.COM HAM INFO, EQUIPMENT REVIEWS, DX
- D. HRO— HAM RADIO OUTLET- WWW.HAMRADIO.COM NEW EQUIPMENT ACCESSORIES, SUPPLIES, CONSIGNMENTS
- E. UNIVERSAL-- WWW.UNIVERSAL-RADIO.COM NEW EQUIPMENT, ACCESSORIES, SUPPLIES
- F. HOUSTON-- WWW.HARSRADIO.COM NEW EQUIPMENT, CONSIGNMENT GOOD PRICES
- G. QTH.COM— WWW.QTH.COM HAM INFO, EQUIPMENT FOR SALE, READ SAFE BUYING TIPS
- H. TEXAS TOWERS— WWW.TEXASTOWERS.COM TOWERS, ANTENNAS COAX, ACCESSORIES
- I. MFJ— WWW.MFJENTERPRISES.COM ACCESSORIES, SUPPLIES
- J. MAIN TRADING CO (MTC)— WWW.MTCRADIO.COM RADIOS AND SURPLUS

5. REPEATER NOTES:



All the repeaters on the air continue to perform at full functionality except for the 2nd remote base transceiver on the 94 repeater. This transceiver was doubling as the remote base #2 radio but it was moved to the new ARES Comm Center for the VHF/UHF rig over there. Remote base #1 is still active and functional for emergency linking.

The other great feature at the repeater site is the presence of a 60KW Onan diesel generator for backup power. Well, I went to the site a few weeks ago, late in the evening, and noticed the generator running! I thought this was strange because it is not on a timer to periodically exercise the generator so the only time it should run is when there is a power failure! Well, I went into the repeater building and everything seemed just fine – all equipment was up and running, lights were on, big air conditioners running – just like every other time I visit. In fact, I

was talking to Roger, K0YY, on the 94 repeater on the way over there and all was normal. So, I checked the other building's generator for the other cell phone site and their generator was running too! Ominous sign there was no power to the site!

I checked several indicators such as if the electric meter was spinning (it wasn't), if there were outside "booger lights" on the Hudson building (no lights), so Roger called Oncor to have a service technician come check it out.

Dayton, KG5TKF, also heard our traffic so he and his son Israel decided to come over to the site. I had to leave the site for a few minutes so by the time I returned, Israel and the Oncor guy had the problem nailed down! Sure enough, an unfortunate bird and gotten in the primary side of the transformer feeding the site and blown the fuse on the transformer primary! (Also blew the bird's fuse by the way!) Normally this type of fuse swings out on a hinged mount when they blow but this one didn't so it wasn't obvious that it was blown. A new fuse element and holder got everything back on line as normal. Thanks, Oncor!!

So...the two great observations we made from this incident is that according to the "hour meter" on the generator, it had only been running less than SIX MINUTES when I got there (very little fuel used!). Secondly, the generator and transfer switch performed exactly as they are designed to do...sense the power failure, automatically start the generator, and when up to speed and voltage, transfer building power to the generator then retransfer when the power came back on!! Very reassuring to know all is well with the generator backup system at the repeater site!

Thanks to Roger and Dayton for all the assistance!

73, --Mike, WD5EFY, Repeater system Trustee, design engineer, and maintenance technician.

Thanks for all you do Mike!

6. ARRL NEWS:



Texas Governor Declares June 19-26 Amateur Radio Operation Week.

In declaring June 19-26 as Amateur Radio Operator Week, Texas Governor Greg Abbott noted Amateur Radio's contribution to technology as well as at times "when other forms of communication may be unavailable or unreliable, Amateur Radio operators have stepped into the void to relay critical emergency information." Abbott concluded, "In times of crisis and in times of calm, ham radio operators' commitment to community remains steadfast." —ARRL Letter June 15th.

FCC and OSHA Release Communications Tower Best Practices Guide

The FCC and OSHA have announced the release of a free publication, [Communications Tower Best Practices Guide](#). While aimed more at those who tend commercial communication towers, the guide offers information applicable to the Amateur Radio community and contractors working on Amateur

Radio antenna support structures. The FCC said the guide was a result of two tower safety workshops.

"Recognizing the risks that tower employees face, OSHA and the FCC held a workshop on communication tower employee safety on October 14, 2014," the new guide explains. "During this workshop, industry stakeholders, along with employee safety advocates and the families of communication tower employees who had been killed on the job, gathered to discuss issues affecting the safety of communication tower employees."



A second workshop followed in February 2016, during which a panel of industry stakeholders and advocates discussed best practices that could reduce injuries and fatalities among tower workers. "This document is a collection of the best practices gathered from those workshops and from the discussions that continued beyond those events," the guide says.

Among other points, the guide emphasizes that all tower workers need "to have and use proper safety equipment at all times," and that, "no work should be done if proper safety equipment is unavailable or if the safety equipment available is not functioning properly."

The guide also notes an increasing use of drones for tower inspection. "This technology has the potential to reduce unnecessary climbing and can avoid putting [tower workers] at risk," the guide points out.

"Every tower climber death is preventable," stressed FCC Chairman Ajit Pai.

-- ARRL Letter June 8, 2017



7. FOR SALE/WANTED:

Do you have something to sell or are you looking for a Ham related item? Place a free ad by sending ads to k0yy@arrl.net. (Kilo Zero Yankee Yankee).

Ad Rules:

1. Ham related only
2. DETARC/ARES Members receive priority.
3. Include asking price, name, call, and email address or phone number—**this is required for all ads**. You give your permission to publish your email address and/or phone number by submitting an ad.
4. Be specific, short & concise. Use brand and model numbers if available. State condition if appropriate- poor/fair/good/excellent, or as is.
5. Newsletter Editor determines what is/isn't appropriate and may edit ads to fit or limit the number of ads.

6. Be aware that the Newsletter is shared among many of the regions Hams.
7. This is on a trial basis to see how it works.
8. **Disclaimer:** DETARC and the Newsletter Editor are not a party to or responsible for transactions between individuals. Strongly recommend buyers thoroughly check purchases prior to completing any transaction. Buyers may want to check prices for similar items on www.eham.com or www.ebay.com.
9. The cutoff date to receive ads is the 15th of the month prior to the monthly meetings. The next month's Newsletter is published immediately after the DETARC/ARES monthly meeting the 4th Thursday of the month. For example: to place an ad in the May Newsletter, your ad must arrive by April 15th.

Editor's Notes: If you have an idea for the Newsletter or a question about Ham Radio of general interest to the members, drop a line to the editor at k0yy@arrl.net. We'll try to include the topic or answer the question in a future Newsletter.

60 years in Ham Radio and still loving it!

--Roger Krautkremer K0YY, Editor

Something a little extra:

The new ARRL Band Plan is out. Go to

<http://www.arrl.org/graphical-frequency-allocations>

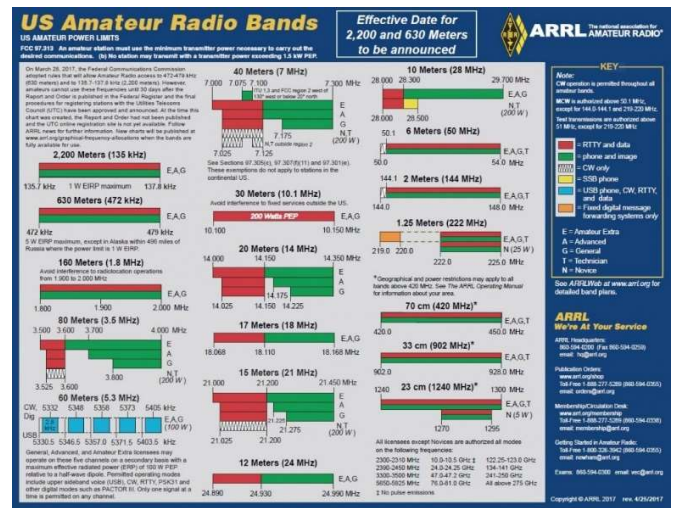
Ham Radio Ads:

FOR SALE: 2 each 50' 12ga extension cords for sale \$20.00 ea. These are \$65.00 at Lowes. Randy N5CRW scuba2@banditt.com

WANTED: Rohn 25 tower sections, 10 foot sections, 4 each in good to excellent condition. Contact Roger K0YY, k0yy@arrl.net.

FOR SALE: AZDEN PCS-7000H 2 Meter Transceiver. Receive range is 118 to 135.99 MHz aircraft AM as well as 136 to 173.995 FM. Transmit is 140.1 to 149.995 mhz. Modifiable for all MARS and CAP frequencies. Radio is 50 or 10 watts. The mic plug could use a reworking and strain relief. Asking \$140, as is condition. Gary.Antley@Consolidated.com

FOR SALE: ICOM IC-3200A 2 Meter/70 Centimeters Transceiver. Older dual band radio. 25-watt max output on VHF/UHF. May need new PA deck on the VHF side. Last time I replace the PA deck I think I paid about \$25 after shipping. This radio has been just laying about for the past 15 years. I don't know if I still have a mic for it (ICOM MH-14.) 440 MHz does not get out of Possum Walk well at all. Asking \$100, as is condition. Gary.Antley@Consolidated.com



Do you speak RTTY?

