



## Deep East Texas Amateur Radio Club

### DETARC, Inc. Lufkin, TX

© Copyright 2017, DETARC  
Roger K0YY Editor,  
[k0yy@arrl.net](mailto:k0yy@arrl.net)

### 1. DETARC INFORMATION

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

**Club Web Page:** [www.detarc.net](http://www.detarc.net)

**Club Email Reflector:** Join the reflector to receive  
Club information. To join send an email request to:  
[detarc-join@detarc.net](mailto: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](http://www.detarc.net)

### DETARC/ARES News:



### Special DETARC Bylaw Review Committee Formed.

The Acting President and Club Officers appointed a  
special Bylaw Review Committee at the August  
meeting. Committee members include Mike  
WD5EFY, RM K5AGE, Steve KB8QWN, Gary  
KI5LR, and Roger K0YY.

The Committee is to make recommendations to  
improve the flow of meetings, operation of the

Executive Committee (Club Offices,) and encourage  
new members. Recommendations will be presented  
to the general membership for final approval.

Note: Changes to the Bylaws require two thirds vote  
from the active (paid up) members.

### NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PER THE BYLAWS:

***The general membership vote on  
recommended changes to the Bylaws will  
occur at the October meeting. See the last  
pages of the Newsletter for a copy of the  
recommendations. The recommendations will  
also be presented at the September meeting.***

### 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.

**Door Prizes:** The Club meetings have door prizes  
thanks to Gary KI5LR's 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.

The September door prize will be a National  
Weather Service type rain gauge.

The Quarterly door prize given away this month will  
be a Signallink External Soundcard Interface device  
to work with digital modes. **FT8 digital anyone?**

### DETARC/ARES Projects/Events:

**FOX HUNT:** Would you be interested in a Fox Hunt on 2 meters? We talked about it at the August meeting. Let your preferences be heard at the September meeting.

### **Boy Scouts Jamboree on The Air (JOTA).**

The JOTA is October 20<sup>th</sup> through 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will activate the Club station if there is interest. We have contacted local BSA officials.

Let Roger know if interested in operating at [k0yy@arrl.net](mailto:k0yy@arrl.net)

### **Notice: Annual Club dues are due in July**

See our Treasurer Randy N5CRW to pay your dues.

**Unpaid members may be dropped from the active Roster after the September meeting.**

Please--



## **2. Upcoming Ham Radio Contests/Special Events:**



### **UPCOMING CONTESTS:**

#### **October**

North American SSB Sprint Contest 0000Z-0400Z, Oct 1

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Oct 28 to 2400Z, Oct 29

#### **November**

4-6 ARRL [Nov. Sweepstakes – CW](#)

18-20 ARRL [Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone](#)

### **SELECT HAM SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**10/07/2017 | Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, Oct 7-Oct 15, 0000Z-2359Z, W5B,** Albuquerque, NM. High Desert Amateur Radio Club. 14.235 7.180. QSL. Jerry Aceto, 1023 Purple Aster Dr, Bernalillo, NM 87004. [www.nm5hd.com](http://www.nm5hd.com)

**10/13/2017 | NASA Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club 50th Anniversary, Oct 13-Oct 15, 1700Z-2200Z, W5RRR,** Houston, TX. NASA Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club. 14.290. QSL. Tanner Jones W9TWJ, 2540 Kildeer Ct, League City, TX 77573. [w5rrr.org](http://w5rrr.org)

**10/20/2017 | 60th Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) Oct 20-Oct 22, 0000Z-2359Z,**

**UPCOMING HAMFESTS:** --from ARRL Web Site.

10/07/2017 | HamEXPO  
Location: Belton, TX  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Temple Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://tarc.org/hamexpo/>

10/21/2017 | [NTX Mentorfest 2017](#)  
Location: Irving, TX  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Irving Amateur Radio Club & ARRL NTX Section  
Website: <http://www.irvingarc.org>  
Georgetown Community Center

03/17/2018 | Swapfest  
Location: Georgetown, TX  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Williamson County Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://wcarc.com>

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

[www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/](http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/)

[www.arrl.org/contest-calendar](http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar)

[www.arrl.org/special-event-stations](http://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.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_contests/cq_annual_contest_calendar/cq_annual_contest_calendar.html)

<http://www.rsgbcc.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).



We've had a very active hurricane season so far this year and now more than ever is the time to be prepared for communications assistance. This applies not only to our local area but to outlying areas as well.

We have agreements with surrounding counties and districts to provide communications assistance if needed. We have already had one request but with no takers locally.

The hurricane season is far from over so keep up to date with what the Gulf and Caribbean are doing and provide assistance when called upon!

Thanks to everyone for your interest in ARES®

ARES monthly Wide-Area Net Remember the Wide Area Net is held monthly on the third Monday night on the 94 and other participating repeaters at 2030 hours local time. Multiple Counties participate.

#### **Amateur Radio Volunteers Respond to Historic Hurricane Irma** --ARRL Letter, 9/14/17

*Hurricane Irma is history, but the recovery continues. ARRL West Central Florida ([WCF](#)) Section Manager Darrell Davis, KT4WX -- who is also Hardee County Emergency Coordinator --*

*reported that the storm's eye passed over the Hardee County emergency operations center just before midnight EDT on September 10. The storm, which left death and destruction in its wake, eventually moved inland, carrying with it heavy rainfall and consequent additional flooding*

*Thirty Florida counties were under mandatory evacuation orders, and thousands took advantage of Red Cross shelters.*

SKYWARN nets activated in the West Central Florida Section and elsewhere to gather severe weather information, and Florida's Statewide Amateur Radio Network (SARnet) conducted a coordination and assistance net to help communicate between the county EOCs and the State EOC and to provide assistance to Amateur Radio operators in other ways, time permitting. The priority during the weekend was tactical shelter communication, EOC communication, and SKYWARN nets as Hurricane Irma approached.

*"At our own EOC, the data from APRS stations was very important to our decision makers in the EOC to allow Fire and EMS back on the road, post storm," Davis reported.*

*Northern Florida SM and Florida Emergency Support Functions 2 (ESF2 -- communications) Liaison Steve Szabo, WB4OMM, said on September 13 that the Florida EOC may need Amateur Radio operators to provide communication support in the Florida Keys. Volunteers will need a dual-band handheld with earphone/headset, external gain antenna, spare batteries, and a charger. Food and sleeping quarters are available, but responders must be self-sufficient for other personal needs. Deployment requests will vary.*

*"Do not self-deploy," Szabo stressed. "These missions will be filled through the State of Florida EOC ESF2 Liaison." Interested hams should [register](#), selecting "Casework/Recovery" under Type of Work, and "Amateur Radio" under Volunteer Skills. Potential volunteers will be notified and can accept or decline an assignment. Volunteers may be required to pass a background check.*

The Salvation Army Team Emergency Network (SATERN) was on extended monitoring status from September 6 until September 13 for Hurricane Irma.

The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) stood down on September 11 after more than 6 days of activation for Irma as well as for hurricanes José and Katia. "Once Irma was downgraded to a Tropical Storm, our focus shifted to collecting post-storm reports and handling emergency and priority traffic only," HWN Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, said. He anticipated that nets such as the HWN would "be busy for days" handling health-and-welfare, emergency, and priority traffic. At mid-week, the HWN was at Alert Level 2 -- Monitoring Mode, keeping an eye on now-Tropical Storm José.

As if Earth's weather was not bad enough already, an X-class solar flare

at around midday on Sunday, September 10, hobbled the HF bands. The widespread communication blackout lasted for nearly 3 hours and "could not have happened at a worse time," Graves said. "But," he added, "we cannot control Mother Nature, only work around her." Earlier solar flares also had affected HF propagation.

The [VoIP Hurricane Net](#) activated over the weekend to track the impact of Irma as well as of Hurricane Katia, which made landfall on the coast of southeastern Mexico. The activation continued until September 11.

Puerto Rico fared better than had been expected. "We were lucky that all we got were tropical storm winds," said Puerto Rico Section Public Information Coordinator Angel Santana-Diaz, WP3GW, adding that the storm did down some trees on the island. While electrical power was up, there was still no water, Santana said on September 11.

"Our Section Emergency Coordinator remained in contact with the Red Cross," he said, and on

September 9, ham volunteers went to the island of Culebra to establish HF communication there to keep in touch with the Red Cross office in San Juan, where ARRL Puerto Rico Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF, was stationed. More than 350 Puerto Rico residents took advantage of Red Cross shelters, while another 150 or so evacuated to shelters in the US Virgin Islands. Santana-Diaz said the Friendly Net and Caribbean Emergency Weather Net ([CEWN](#)) were active too.

In Cuba, Irma caused destruction from one end of the island to the other. Cuban Amateur Radio Federation (FRC) information officer Joel Carrazana Valdés, CO6JC, said some 1,200 radio amateurs from all over Cuba "were active at the disposal of the defense councils, providing one of the more valuable and necessary services."

.As Irma stormed the Caribbean, Amateur Radio was a crucial link in the US Virgin Islands. Section Manager Fred Kleber, K9VV, was in contact with the Red Cross and getting considerable help from FEMA, the National Guard, and US Navy vessels. He told ARRL on September 7 that responders were in search-and-rescue mode on St. Thomas, St. John's, and St. Croix -- all of which were severely impacted. Work continued on evacuating people from the islands in St. Thomas Harbor, damaged hospitals, and other buildings, and providing shelter. Traffic was being passed from Kleber's location to stations in Puerto Rico and to the Hurricane Watch Net, but solar flares compromised communication.

In Irma's wake, radio amateurs in the Eastern Caribbean have been passing information into and out of the affected area, Eric Mackie, 9Z4CP, told ARRL on September 12. The Caribbean Emergency and Weather Net (CEWN) has been using 7.162 MHz, 7.188 MHz, and 3.815 MHz, and has requested clear frequencies.

**To join our ARES email reflector**, send an email request to [ares-join@detarc.net](mailto:ares-join@detarc.net).

#### **.4. OPERATING:**



**Faith Hannah, AE4FH, in DeLand, Florida, was among those checking into the Hurricane Watch Net.**



### FT8 Digital Mode –See September DETARC Newsletter Article or [www.ARRL.org](http://www.ARRL.org)

#### **FT8 offers DX opportunities to Techs on 10 and 6 meters!**

QST Magazine this month has several great articles on the new FT8 digital mode. This mode is capable of making DX contacts with low power, limited antennas, and under poor propagation conditions. See also the article in last month's Newsletter.

### 630 & 2200 Meters to Open as Early as October 16, 2017 --CQ Newsroom 9/15/17

CQ MF/LF Editor John Langridge, KB5NJD/WG2XIQ, reports that the PLC (Power Line Communications) database is live and that hams may begin operating on 472 kHz (630 meters) and 137 kHz (2200 meters) as early as October 16 **if they register today and receive no objection in the next 30 days. Hams may not operate on the bands without going through this process.**

The link to the sign-up page is here:  
<https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/>

The effective date for use of the new bands by amateurs was published in today's *Federal Register*. The relevant pages are at:  
<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-09-15/pdf/2017-19578.pdf>

The FCC's Public Notice is at:  
[http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2017/db0915/DA-17-893A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db0915/DA-17-893A1.pdf)

*John is asking all amateurs to register, even if they don't plan to use these bands in the near*

*future, as the FCC rules prohibit UTC (the Utilities Technology Council) from deploying PLC in these bands closer than 1 kilometer from registered stations. Registration now will protect your ability to use our new MF/LF bands in the future.*

## **5. REPEATER NOTES:**



All is well with the repeaters and the Alto link is working fine.

I have been discussing the UHF Backbone link with the EC for Houston county and they are very interested in adding a UHF link to the Lufkin hub. This coverage would provide excellent coverage to the west of Angelina county for emergency communications and evacuees travelling north from Gulf areas.

They have agreed to a UHF antenna installation and doing the link but we're still in the groundwork / testing phases. I have a visit planned the second week of October to do further testing and discussing!

The linked system is slowly growing and working!

Just an FYI, the Alto link is working well from the remote base on the 94 but in order to properly tie Alto to the Lufkin hub, we need a multi-port board for the controller. This would enable the Alto repeater to be a stand-alone repeater (146.98), would allow linking to the Lufkin 94 on the UHF hub, AND provide a port to link to the Tyler group of linked repeaters they've invited us to join. This would be a tremendous asset to emergency communications for the whole of East Texas!  
Board cost is \$149.00 plus shipping if anyone wants to donate to the cause!

73, --Mike, WD5EFY, Repeater System Trustee and maintenance technician.

## 6. ARRL NEWS:



### **ARRL to Seek Greater HF Privileges for Techs** --CQ Newsroom, Sep 1, 2017

The ARRL Board of Directors in July accepted a proposal from its Ad-Hoc Entry Level License Committee to seek expanded digital and voice privileges on HF for Technician-Class, specifically on the 80, 40 and 15-meter bands, where Techs already have CW privileges.

The committee had been tasked to look into better ways of attracting new hams and, once licensed, encouraging those hams to be active on the air and in the amateur community. It looked at the possibility of proposing a new entry-level license as well as expanding Tech privileges.

After conducting a survey which generated nearly 8000 responses, the ARRL Letter says a “clear majority” of the respondents favored enhancing the Tech license.

### **FCC's Updated Rules Governing Personal Radio Services Become Effective on September 28** --ARRL Web Site 09/01/2017

The FCC recently adopted a comprehensive [reorganization of and update](#) to the rules governing the Personal Radio Services (PRS). These include a wide variety of wireless devices used by the general public for personal communication, including hand-held [Family Radio Service \(FRS\)](#) transceivers, radio-controlled models, Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs), medical implant devices, and others.

In addition to the updated rule changes, the FCC enhanced the [General Mobile Radio Service \(GMRS\)](#) to allow new digital applications, allot additional interstitial channels, and extend license terms from 5 to 10 years. It also allotted additional channels to the FRS and increased allowable power on certain FRS channels from 0.5 W to 2 W. It also updated the [Citizens Radio Service \(CB\)](#) rules to

allow hands-free headsets, eliminate a restriction on DX communication, and remove other outdated requirements.

“These changes and others will update PRS rules to be more in line with current public demands for the services and will make the rules easier to read and find information, while also removing outdated requirements and removing unnecessary rules,” the FCC said.

**-Editor's Note:** One major change is that 2-watt hand held radios in GMRS/FRS service are now classified as FRS Radios (only), and do not require a license as do all GMRS radios. See the FCC Report and Order for full details.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/08/29/2017-17395/personal-radio-service-reform>



## 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](mailto: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](http://www.eham.com) or [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com).

9. The cutoff date to receive ads is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the monthly meetings. The next month's Newsletter is published immediately after the DETARC/ARES monthly meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. For example: to place an ad in the May Newsletter, your ad must arrive by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Ham Radio Ads:

**FOR SALE:** 50' 12ga extension cord for sale \$20.00. \$65.00 at Lowes. Randy N5CRW  
[scuba2@banditt.com](mailto:scuba2@banditt.com)

**FOR SALE:** Rohn BX-64, 64-foot light duty free standing tower. Rotor platform in top section. 8 8-foot sections, excellent shape, never been in the air. Hardware package (bolts/nuts) not included. Good for 2/440 beam, small 6-meter beam, or dual-band vertical. \$500 cash. Pick up only in Lufkin. Roger K0YY, [k0yy@arrl.net](mailto:k0yy@arrl.net)

**WANTED:** Rohn 25 tower sections, 10-foot sections, 4 each in good to excellent condition. Will consider partial trade for above BX-64 tower. Contact Roger K0YY, [k0yy@arrl.net](mailto:k0yy@arrl.net).

### **8. EXTRA TIDBITS:**

#### **Spotlight on Ham Radio Groups.**

**USA Radio Scouting Net, Texas-**  
-- ARRL Web Site

Location (state) of Net Control: TX  
Net Coverage: Wide Coverage  
Net Operating Frequencies: Echolink Conference  
\*JOTA-365\* Node 480809  
Day of week: Thursday  
How often does the net meet? 2nd Thursday of each month

Time Zone: Central

Net Time, Local (local time at net control): 2200

Net Time, UTC: 0300 Friday

Net Manager: Chris Overbey

Call Sign: WA5DM

Net Manager Email Address:

[texartnursery@gmail.com](mailto:texartnursery@gmail.com)

Additional description: Providing a forum for discussion of amateur radio and Scouting activities, including Jamboree on the Air, Radio Merit Badge, camp amateur radio activations, etc.



www.clipartof.com - 442408

**“Did you work the Texas QSO Party?”**

**Question of the month—**

“In CW operations, what does QRS mean?”

### **RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO DETARC BYLAWS**

The following will be presented to the general membership at the September meeting and voted on at the October meeting for inclusion in an update to the Club Bylaws.

--Bylaw Review Committee, Mike WD5EFY, RM K5AGE, Steve KB8QWN, Gary KI5LR, Roger K0YY

Article III, Section 3, Executive Committee Meetings. The Executive Committee shall meet prior to each General Membership meeting to establish an agenda, decide any policy issues for the Club, decide on any future projects or events, and approve requests for expenditures of less than \$150. Expenditures that exceed \$150 must be voted on by the General Membership.

Three (3) Executive Committee members shall constitute a Quorum for the transaction of Executive Committee business. The President or Vice President must be present.

Reports to the General Membership, such as the monthly Secretary reading of minutes and financial report from the Treasurer, should be discussed and finalized at this meeting. Any Special Committee reports should be presented at this meeting. General Membership meeting programs and presentations should be finalized at this meeting.

In December, the outgoing Executive Committee will approve the Treasurer's End of Year Report and Inventory of Club Assets. The Report will be entered into the next General Membership meeting minutes.

Executive Committee decisions shall be read into the minutes at the next General Membership meeting by the Secretary.

Article III, Section 4. The previous year's President will be included as a member of the incoming Executive Committee to provide continuity of operations."

Article III, Section 5. The Trustee will be a non-voting member of the Executive Committee, except he or she will vote on decisions effecting the Club License, Club Station, or repeater systems. The Trustee will be appointed by majority vote of the Executive Committee and will serve continuously until replaced by the Executive Committee.

Article IV Section 1, Standing Committees. The President should consider appointing Chairpersons for the following Standing Committees: Membership, Training, Public Service,

Programs/Activities Manager, Field Day, Comm Room/Station Manager, and other Temporary Committees as necessary to meet the needs of the Club.

Article IV, Section 3. "The Secretary will generate and maintain a Roster of Active Members, based upon input of paid members from the Treasurer. The Roster will be available to all active members.

The Secretary will publish the minutes of each General Membership meeting in the next available Club Newsletter.

The Secretary will maintain and update as necessary records for the Club's Non-Profit status, Tax Exempt status, and ARRL Affiliation.

Article IV, Section 4. "The Treasurer may purchase supply items for the Club without further approval by the Executive Committee with a limit of \$30."

The Treasurer will prepare an End of Year Financial Report by the December Executive Committee meeting, listing the Assets and Liabilities of the Club. This Report by the Treasurer, with assistance from the Trustee, will include an inventory of all Club assets. The outgoing Executive Committee will approve the End of Year Report and Inventory of Club Assets. The Report will be entered into the next General Membership meeting minutes.

Article V. Section 3. Membership Delinquency. Members shall become delinquent if not paid up after the second monthly meeting after the July renewal date. Delinquent members will be removed from the Roster of Members and will not be eligible to vote on Club matters.

Article VI, Section 2. General Membership Meeting Quorum. The President or Vice President, one additional Officer, and 20% of the Full members represent a Quorum and are required for decisions requiring General Membership approval.

Article XI. Changes to the Bylaws require a 2/3s positive vote by those Full members present at a previously announced meeting. Official notification may be by Newsletter, Club email reflector, and announcement at a previous meeting.