

DETARC, Inc.
Lufkin, TX



Deep East Texas Amateur Radio Club

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Roger K0YY Editor,
k0yy@arrl.net

1. DETARC INFORMATION

2018 Club Officers:

President- Steve KG5ODZ, Vice President- Randy N5CRW. Secretary- RM K5AGE, Treasurer- Patricia K5HER.

Club Web Page: www.detarc.net

Club Email Reflector: Notice: The old DETARC email reflector is no longer in use. Join the "DETARC of Lufkin" Google Group email reflector to receive Club information. To join contact Megan KB5MEG the Group Administrator.

Meeting Times/Location: Our monthly meeting is the 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

Meeting Minutes: January 2018

Vice President Randy N5CRW thanked all past Club Officers and staff for their good efforts to keep our Club up and running. Great job folks.

The Treasury received \$468 from the Christmas Party Raffle. The door prize fund has \$285 left over from last year.

RM is looking for assistance with the Old Stone Fort Bicycle Race on April 14th. Contact RM if you can assist.

The Club is looking for members to stand up and take over the Door Prize Fund, Megan will assist. The Club is also looking for a member to coordinate meeting presentations.

Now is the time to get out of your comfort zone a little and volunteer to help the Club and your fellow members. These activities generate interest and bring in new and old members alike.

--RM K5AGE, Secretary

DETARC/ARES News:



Net Control Operators: We all owe a big round of applause to Jerry KC5JWB for his work as Net Control for our weekly DETARC/ARES Nets. Many thanks to Jerry for his great job.

Door Prizes: The Club needs a member to step up and take over the door prize function. Contact a Club Officer if interested. Many thanks to Gary KI5LR for starting the door prizes and handling it for 2017.

DETARC/ARES Projects/Events:

Christmas Party:

The annual Christmas Party was a great success as usual. Everyone had a good time socializing with their fellow Hams and exchanging gag gifts.

Patricia K5HER won the 4th quarter prize – a Kenwood TM-281 Radio. Congratulations Patricia.

There were Special Christmas Party prizes-- Hartzel won the antique Lafayette Radio NIB straight key (Japan Radio ball bearing brass base), RM won a Possum J-270 dual-band antenna, Jerry Black won an ARRL book on CW and an Antenna Book.

Jody N5ZWW won several raffle tickets and re-raffled them to assist the Club treasury. (thanks Jody!) there were several other prizes such as two sets of four 2-inch-long UHF bulk head connectors, ratcheting wire crimpers (nice!), and a set of 10 PL-259s. Congratulations to all.

The gag gift exchange was a big hit and lot of fun for everyone. One example is Hartzel getting the Donkey Alarm Clock.

A special thanks to Megan and Gary for their good efforts for the Christmas Party coordination and special prizes respectively.

Fox Hunt:

The Club Fox Hunt was a big success even with the cold weather.

All that was required to participate in the Fox Hunt was a basic 2-meter hand-held radio.

Thanks to all who participated; everyone said they had a great time and look forward to future extended Fox Hunts in warmer weather.

We had a good turnout considering the cold weather with Ray AG5EG from Conroe, Gary KI5LR, Steve KE5CJE, Army AE5P from Nacogdoches, Randy N5CRW, Hartzel N5HEJ, Megan KB5MEG, Steve KB8QWN, Mike, WD5EFY, and Roger K0YY. Several folks sent their regrets with conflicts for the day.

We had a PowerPoint presentation on Basic Fox Hunting techniques and equipment usage. We had good discussions with input from most folks on their experiences and equipment. Mike WD5EFY explained how the Fox transmitter works and what we could expect when searching for it. We discovered some minor issues with the Fox Controller unit that will require some additional programming.

Thanks to Megan who took the Fox and hid a few blocks away in several different locations.

Passersby wondered about us all wandering around the armory area and Kiwanis Park with Yagi beams and radios while searching for the Fox.

Thanks again to Jerry K5JLW who donated and built the new Fox unit. Thanks Jerry, hope you are feeling better after your recent minor surgery.

Ray AG5EG brought his newly built "tape measure Yagi". These 2-meter yagis can be built for around \$12 dollars and are great for fox hunting. Randy N5CRW just purchased the necessary parts at Lowes. We plan more Fox Hunts in the future.

We may make this an in-classroom project for the Club if there is sufficient interest from the membership. Make your interest known.

Here is a website on how to build the Tape Measure Yagis.

http://theleggios.net/wb2hol/projects/rdf/tape_b_m.htm

Tape Measure Yagi for Fox Hunting



--Photo by Randy N5CRW

2. Upcoming Ham Radio Contests/Special Events:



UPCOMING CONTESTS:

February 2018

12-16 [School Club Roundup](#)

17-18 [International DX – CW](#)

SELECT HAM SPECIAL EVENTS:

Winter Field Day January 27-28

<http://www.arrl.org/news/club-group-will-operate-w1aw-for-winter-field-day>

02/03/2018 | Space Shuttle Columbia Special Event

Feb 3-Feb 4, 1500Z-2200Z, K5C, Nacogdoches, TX. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club. 21.350 14.270 7.220. All contacts will be confirmed via LOTW. Special QSL card available for SASE. See--w5nac.com

04/21/2018 | San Jacinto Day Special Event

Apr 21-Apr 22, 1400Z-2100Z, K5T, Nacogdoches, TX. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club. 21.350 14.270 7.220. All contacts will be confirmed via LOTW. Special QSL card available for SASE. w5nac.com

UPCOMING HAMFESTS:

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/

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.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)



[www.ARRL.ORG](http://www.arrl.org)

Real Disasters Happen to Real Hams: The Great Tubbs Fire of 2017

At 11:02 PM, October 8, 2017, I answered my land line and heard:

"THIS IS SONOMA COUNTY SHERIFF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION - EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY - THIS IS AN EVACUATION CALL - THIS IS NOT A DRILL - EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY - THERE IS A WILDFIRE AND MARK WEST SPRINGS ROAD MUST EVACUATE"

I walked to the top of the driveway and watched the full moon go from crimson red to completely blacked out - not good. At 11:02 PM, I received the emergency evacuation call on my landline and raced to the closest neighbors and woke them up. I phoned the more distant neighbors, rousing them - *FIRE, GET OUT NOW, EVACUATE NOW!!!*

After loading both cats, my luggage, and my very old, slow walking dog into my car, I



Chimney antenna stand and rotor after the fire. (photo KU6J)

went back into the house for food. But, I heard in my head "NO!" so I immediately moved towards the front door. I asked, "what do I need before I leave?" and heard the answer in my head "YOU NEED TO GET OUT NOW! LEAVE NOW!" I grabbed my flashlight and sleeping bag, locked the front door, got into my car, and drove away.

Saraj Cory, KU6F, Santa Rosa, California,

--ARRL E-Letter Jan 7, 2018

**Do you have an evacuation checklist?
When you just have moments to react
what is critical to take? Are your radios
ready to go if called to help? Do you have
a go kit set up and ready to grab?**

Yes, it can happen to you.

As always, be prepared with fueled vehicles, charged batteries and a ready go-bag!

--73 for now, Mike WD5EFY

ARES monthly Wide-Area Net Remember the ARES 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.

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

4. OPERATING/TRAINING:



The [NCVEC](#) Question Pool Committee has announced some errors in the 2018-2022 FCC [Element 2 \(Technician class\) Question Pool](#) released on January 8.

These changes have been made in the download files as

of January 12: **T1F11** -- Distractor A; change "They" to "The"; **T4A01** -- Change to correct answer; correct answer is D; **T5B13** -- Distractor A; change "GHZ" to "GHz"; **T6A07** -- Modified question. "What electrical component is usually constructed as a coil of wire?" **T8C08** -- Distractor A; change "VOIP" to "VoIP". ARRL VEC teams are advised to check the [NCVEC website](#) regularly for updates to the Question Pool, which may include errata and withdrawn questions. The new Element 2 Question Pool goes into effect on July 1, 2018.

--ARRL Letter Jan 8, 2018

5. REPEATER NOTES:



The new Saltgrass repeater needs some tuning of the duplexers to improve sensitivity. Thanks to Steve, N5ZUA for keeping this complex system up and running.

As always, reports of operational status, good or bad, are always appreciated!

Progress on the Alto Intertie repeater is going steady in the right direction with only a couple of setbacks, the PL encoder in the repeater failed and one of the small cooling fans shorted out and had to be replaced but luckily, I had replacements for both! The replacement controller (CatAuto Cat-300dxl) is interfaced and working well with the Micor repeater and I am now interfacing the two UHF link transceivers and the UHF control receiver to the multiport link board. More next month!

73, Mike WD5EFY, Trustee W5IRP Repeater Systems and Maintenance Technician.

6. ARRL NEWS:



Amendment to ARRL DXCC Rules Expands DXCC List

The ARRL Board of Directors approved a motion to amend the DXCC Rules, when it met January 19-20. Section II, Subsection 1 of the DXCC Rules now will include a new Subsection (d): The entity has a separate [IARU member society](#) and is included on the US State Department [Independent States in the World](#).

"The discussion during the Board meeting



and the rule change did not address any specific entity," ARRL Radiosport Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, said. "The amendment could allow some additions to the current DXCC List of entities. It's a good thing not only for DXCC, but for all active hams."

Effective on January 21 at 0000 UTC, the Republic of Kosovo (Z6) was added to the DXCC List of current entities, increasing the total number of current DXCC entities to 340. Nothing is retroactive, Fusaro said. A new Logbook of The World (LoTW) TQSL configuration file (v.11.4) has been released to accommodate the addition. --ARRL Letter Jan 25, 2018

Club Group Will Operate W1AW for Winter Field Day:

Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will host a group that will take part in Winter Field Day later this month. Sponsored by the Winter Field Day Association ([WFDA](#)), **Winter Field Day will take place over the January 27-28**

weekend, and it can be an opportune time to



prep for ARRL Field Day in June.

"Assuming the weather holds out, a group of hams will be here the last

weekend of January to operate W1AW in the Winter Field Day," W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, said this week. Headed by Frank Gitto, KA5VVI, the group will consist of members of the Warren County Amateur Radio Club ([W2WCR](#)) in New York. Gitto said the club is hoping to have a dozen members at W1AW, operating in shifts of six. Carcia said the Warren County ARC operators will avoid the harsh elements and operate from indoors at W1AW, in the "home" station category.

For the hardier within the Amateur Radio ranks, Winter Field Day is an excuse to get out of the house and enjoy the great outdoors, and -- let's face it -- it's not cold and snowy everywhere during the winter. Gitto said that some Warren County ARC members will be operating WFD from Indian Lake, New York, using special event call sign W2C.

The event, which got its start in 2007, is not restricted to North America. There are three entry categories -- indoor, outdoor, and home. The [rules](#) are similar to those for ARRL Field Day. See here for details--

<http://www.arrl.org/news/club-group-will-operate-w1aw-for-winter-field-day>

--ARRL Letter Jan 8, 2018

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.

Ham Radio Ads:

FOR SALE: New Possum J270 Dual-band 2/440 J pole base/portable antennas \$40 each, \$10 discount for seniors. 1 ½ inch mount.

Gary KI5LR. gary.antley@consolidated.com

FOR SALE: Rohn BX-64, 64-foot medium 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. \$450 cash/**negotiable**. Pick up only in Lufkin. Roger K0YY, 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.

8. EXTRA TIDBITS:

Ham Organizations



The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation, or AMSAT, is a worldwide group of Amateur Radio Operators (Hams). It was formed in the District of Columbia in 1969 as an educational organization.

AMSAT's goal is to foster Amateur Radio's participation in space research and communication. The Organization was founded to continue the efforts, begun in 1961, by Project [OSCAR](#), a west coast USA-based group which built and launched the very first Amateur Radio satellite, OSCAR, on December 12, 1961, barely four years after the launch of Russia's first Sputnik.

To learn more about AMSAT and Ham satellite operations, see-- <https://www.amsat.org/>

DETARC Members— we would like your input.

What have you done recently in Ham Radio that is exciting? Let me know and I'll include mention of it in the next Newsletter. Perhaps we could talk about it at an upcoming meeting, bring it for show and tell.

Roger K0YY, DETARC Newsletter Editor