



NEWSLETTER

Deep East Texas Amateur Radio Club

DETARC, Inc.
Lufkin, TX

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Roger K0YY Editor,
k0yy@arrl.net

1. CLUB INFORMATION

To pay your dues of \$25, see Patricia K5HER our Treasurer at a meeting. Please provide all of your current information on the Roster update sheet when paying or signing in at a meeting. Alternately, send a check and full information including address, email, phone & cell phone, and ARRL membership status to the Club address at 904 Sherwood Rd, Lufkin, TX 75904-4567.

2019 Club Officers:

President- Gary KI5LR, Vice President- Steve KE5CJE, Secretary- Andy KE5JEK/Alternate Andy KE5EXX, Treasurer- Patricia K5HER.

President's comments:

We had a great time at the Texas Forest Museum special event for K5F this past month. Hope everyone had an opportunity to operate. I made 3 contacts on 40-meter SSB which was a blast. The event was a warmup for the upcoming Field Day in the later part of June.

I recommend everyone gather up your power cords form a good inspection and repair if necessary. Make sure the oil is changed in the generator. Have some ethanol free (E0) fuel with stabilizer on hand. The fuel station in front of the Walmart in Lufkin sells the E0 fuel by the way. Be sure to fire your generators up and run them under a load for 30 minutes or so to ensure there are no surprises waiting on you when you need the power.

--DE KI5LR Gary D. Antley

Club Web Page: www.detarc.net

Club Email Reflector: Join the "DETARC of Lufkin" Google Group email reflector to receive

Club information. To join contact Megan KB5MEG the Group Administrator via the Google Group web page or at a meeting.

<https://groups.google.com/group/DETARCOfLufkin>.

Meeting Times/Location: Our monthly meeting is the fourth Thursday of the month at 7 PM, We meet at the Carpenters Way church at the NE corner of John Redditt Drive and West Frank Ave. The GPS location is 400 N. John Redditt Drive. Enter the church parking lot via the northbound on-ramp to John Redditt drive.

DETARC Net: 146.940 MHz-600, 141.3 CTCSS. Every Tuesday at 8 PM, alternates 147.360+600 MHz, no tone, or 146.42 Simplex.

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

DETARC NEWS:



April DETARC Meeting Minutes

Call to order - Start time: 19:05 Gary KI5LR.
Reading and approval of last meeting. (need motion to accept Mike WD5EFY , second Andy Delgado KE5EXX , Passed

Reports:

Treasurer's Report \$ 1645.16 accept Steve KB8QWN Second. Jerry Black KC5JWB

Membership report: No Report

Repeater Reports: VHF and UHF in Angelina and Cherokee County. Alto Repeater fixed, Link to

Lufkin OK, shout out - (Thank you Army AE5P), Link to Tyler - currently Down, .94 repeater OK, Ok to proceed with controller for .36 and connect to Saltgrass and Allstar at the 240 ft. level controlled by Trustee Mike WD5EFY. Ducett working on, DMR 444.000 + 5 C Bridge, Huntsville - new tower site 360. On air . Revisited Andy KE5EXX motion, Andy Spivey, 2nd. Move to authorize up to \$525.00 to fix 147.360 controller board. PASSED.

Events: need coordinators on events open for input for the following:

Neches River Rendezvous - status Steve Glass-KB8QWN

Tailgate Sale- immediate action -On Hold No coordinator.

Texas Forestry Museum Special Event In May - immediate action needed to secure access to a 1 X 1 call sign. Dayton - KG5TKF) volunteered to be Coordinator.

Field Day in June old Lufkin Ind. campsite at Lake Sam Rayburn - June 22-23rd 2019. Gary (KI5LR) Coordinator, Piney Point , Class 2A - GOTA station

Old Business:

Repeater Site Environmental Status - Mike WD5EFY and Steve KB8QWN are contacts. Site is stable at this time. Steve will be contacting the site owners in the next two months to open dialog about dealing with the A/C issue. No new information (Getting Hotter).

Alto Repeater Situation of the 146.980 repeater (CE1980) - Mike WD5EFY and Steve KB8QWN has this back on the air - update

Records Collection /Update day. We must get this done.

Gun raffle for 2019: suggest draw date of 11 November 2019 as Veterans Day. Suggested a rifle this year (Handgun next year - alternate them.) Ruger American Rifle 6.5 Creedmoor @ \$ 400.00 after taxes. Suggest the club get the gun bought and secure availability of the gun. See Gun Raffle list of business attached. Dayton motion, Andy Spivey KE5JEK 2nd. Passed. - Megan Glass K5MEG -coordinator.

Per Andy KE5EXX, the Nacogdoches Rotary Club has asked for Radio Support for the Old Stone Fort Bike Ride to be held on April 13, 2019. Is there

anyone interested in participating? Contact RM Blake, k5age@fastmail.com to volunteer or for questions. Moved to Sunday then cancelled for lack of participation.

New Business:

Consideration for adding some kind of backup power system to Alto Repeater. Suggestion on the line of a Samlex SXA-08081(DX Engineering) \$134.00 + tax and free shipping, 100 amp Battery backup module and 2 (ea.) 100 amp storage batteries purchased locally. Lots of discussion. Motion Andy Delgado KE5EXX, second Dayton and Andy Spivey KE5JEK to allow up to \$ 534.00 general funds to cover BACKUP SYSTEM. PASSED

Meeting adjournment (end time 19:57 CDT). Presentation on Field Day Operations by Roger K0YY.

DETARC SPONSORED OR SUPPORTED EVENTS:

Mark your calendars now.

Texas Forestry Museum Special Event Special 1x1 call-- K5F, May 4th.

The Texas Forestry Museum Special Event was a spectacular success. What a great Special Event for DETARC at the Texas Forestry Museum. The weather and propagation didn't always cooperate, but the dedicated group of Hams and helpers came through with a great performance.

Fifty plus folks operated or visited on Saturday, including area Hams, prospective Hams, and visitors to the Museum. Hams visited from as far away as Henderson, Wells, and Kennard. There were approximately 20 local Hams that assisted, operated, or visited the site.

Lessons learned from TFM for Field Day—

1. We need headphones and “Y” audio connectors 1/8th or 1/4th inch for each station for both the operator and logger.

2. We need table lamps for each station.
3. Everyone who brings equipment and supplies should clearly mark their equipment with their callsign or name.
4. HF operation is very different from 2-meter FM operations. Folks operating HF need to know the RST system, the Phonetic Alphabet, Q Signals, and develop a “feel” for listening to SSB signals, especially when multiple stations are calling. This will be the case for FD.



TFM Operation-- Peggy N5PEG logging, Kris K5KRK operating on 20 meters, Jerry KC5JWB logging, and Phil WB5KSY operating on 40 meters.

Neches River Rendezvous

Neches River/Boggy Slew/Hwy 7

CANCELED due to high water

DETARC Field Day

950 Pauline Street, Zavala, TX. East of Zavala off Hwy 147 on Sam Rayburn Reservoir.

June 22nd & 23rd.

Contact Gary KI5LR at

gary.antley@consolidated.com

to sign up to operate or assist with setup/tear down.

See also www.detarc.net/events

Sign up now to operate or assist with setup and teardown.



2019 DETARC Meeting Presentations:

May 2019 – Meteor Scatter with Marshall K5QE assisted by Bill N5YA.

June 2019 – State EOC Operations with Patrick W5DVG. & RACES by Mike WD5EFY

July 2019 – Older Ham Equipment with Dayton KG5TKF assisted by Israel KI5DZH.

August 2019 – HAM Software with Roger K0YY and Gary KI5LR

September – DXing, To Be Determined

October - Contesting with Gary KI5LR

November – Ice Cream Social, NOTE: date change due to Thanksgiving

December – DETARC annual Christmas Party.



The TFM tear-down crew at 4:30 PM on Saturday
--Pictures by Gary KI5LR

Let a Club Officer know if you would like to have a presentation on a topic of interest.

Upcoming 2019 Hamfests: (ARRL Web Site)

Hamfest/Conventions

June 7 and 8, 2019:

Ham Com 2019

Location: Plano Event Center
2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, TX
75074 www.hamcom.org

Hamfest/Convention

08/02/2019 | [Austin Summerfest 2019](http://www.austinsummerfest.org)

Location: Austin, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Austin ARC & Texas VHF-FM Society

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

[Learn More](#)

--Some info from STX Newsletter Jan 2019

Upcoming Special Events:

June 1st & 2nd.

Museum Ships weekend

For additional details see—

http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/

Upcoming Contests: (ARRL Sponsored)

June 2019

8-10 [June VHF](#)

15 [Kids Day](#)

22-23 [Field Day](#)

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

Contests: www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/

www.arrl.org/contest-calendar

CQ Contests: http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_contests/cq_annual_contest_calendar/cq_annual_contest_calendar.html

RSGB Contests: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/>

Special Events: www.arrl.org/special-event-stations

Hamfests:

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search/Location.state:TX>

DX Operations: <http://www.ng3k.com/> A great DX resource page.

3. EMERGENCY

COMMUNICATIONS:

As always, be prepared personally with fueled vehicles, charged batteries, fresh fuel for the generators, Power Poles installed on all your rigs, staged equipment and a ready Go-Bag!

--73 for now, Mike – WD5EFY

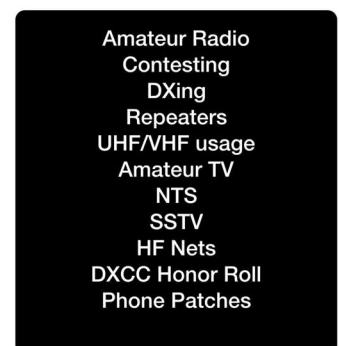
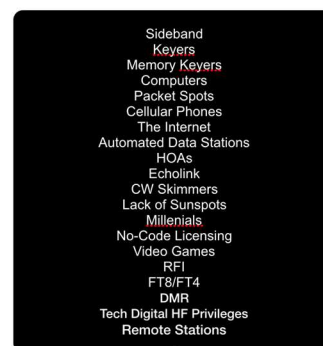
4. OPERATING/TRAINING:



ARRL Contest Letter Article— A Conversation, Changes in Ham Radio. Try A Different Verb--

"X Is Killing Y" - We've all heard it. I'm sure that everyone has their own pet X. Add whatever sub-facet of our hobby you see fit under column Y. Sometimes what was once was a huge issue doesn't mean so much now. For example, if you weren't around in the late 1950's, you might wonder why sideband is even on the list. The 'competition' between AM and SSB was such a big deal we still collectively remember it. Keyers were even controversial at one time.

Sometimes the impact of something isn't really felt until everything has just... changed.



X is killing Y

How many 1985 repeater users understood the impact that cellular phones would have?

You'd think that SSTV would be "dead," killed by globe-spanning networks and all SSTV capable computers also being on the Internet, but non-SSTV operators still seem to avoid 14.230 - 14.233 MHz even in contests.

CW Skimmers were sure to lead to the demise of contesting about ten years ago but has instead turned into a tool that gives similar stations better opportunities to be worked.

FT8 is in the spotlight nowadays as a "disruptor" of all we hold dear. But last January's ARRL VHF Contest saw the largest number of participants in almost two decades, directly attributable to new participants using FT8 on 6 meters. Those new FT8 contesters are having way too much fun to worry about how they might be doing it wrong.

Factors that are "killing" Amateur Radio in general aren't doing that good a job. The [absolute number of licensed Amateurs](#) is the highest *EVER* in the U.S. Over half the U.S. population of Amateurs are Technicians. So, something *is* attracting new people to Amateur Radio, but they're not necessarily making it to HF contesting.

Changing is a more appropriate word to describe the overall effect, because in some cases the X ended up enhancing the Y, in others, diminishing.

But **changing** is a harder word to use than **killing**. "Killing" implies that the activity that we enjoy is not going to exist because of some external factor that is maybe beyond our control. "Changing" implies that our favored activity still exists, but we haven't necessarily changed along with it.

That's all for this time. Remember to send contesting related stories, book reviews, tips, techniques, press releases, errata, schematics, club information, pictures, stories, blog links, and predictions to contest-update@arrl.org

73, Brian N9ADG, Contest Letter Editor

--ARRL Contest Letter May 15, 2019

5. REPEATER NOTES:



The Arcom controller is in for the 147.360 repeater and the interface design work for it and the new Allstar node is underway.

Work is also progressing on the new backup batteries and auto-switchover controller for the Alto 146.980 repeater.

Plans are to eventually add an auto announce feature to both repeaters whenever on backup power.

The DETARC 440 repeater on 444.975+5 CTCSS 107.3 is down with an apparent bad final output power amplifier. Our technicians are evaluating what is needed to fix it.

The DETARC 440 repeater is typically linked to the Saltgrass System via Allstar now that the broken Saltgrass System repeater has been removed from Lufkin.

As always, please let me know of any glitches or malfunctions you find as you use this new system and let me know what you think of it and how it can be improved!

Mike – WD5EFY, Trustee and W5IRP Systems Tech Support with Kris K5KRK, Steve KB8QWN, and Andy KE5EXX assisting.



6. ARRL NEWS:

ARRL Reply Comments Stress Need to Update Technician Privileges in a Digital World

[In reply comments to the FCC \(comments on comments already filed\) on its *Petition for Rule*](#)

Making (RM-11828), ARRL has stressed that updating HF privileges for the entry-level Technician license "is the sole subject and intent" of the petition. (Underlining added by editor). ARRL filed its reply comments on April 29, urging the FCC to disregard comments irrelevant to its petition and maintaining that Technician privileges must be relevant within the context of today's technological environment.



"[T]he increasingly rapid pace of change in communications technologies, coupled with the national

need for self-training in science, technology, engineering, and math" necessitate the rule changes requested, ARRL asserted. "ARRL made its request because of the gap between today's digital technologies and the privileges accorded the current entry-level Technician license." ARRL characterized its proposal to update the rules as "balanced and modest."

"If adopted, there would be no change to the operating privileges for all license classes other than those of the Technician class," ARRL said. In 2018, ARRL asked the FCC to expand HF privileges for Technician licensees to include limited phone privileges on 75, 40, and 15 meters, plus RTTY and digital mode privileges on 80, 40, and 15 meters. The FCC invited comments on the proposal in April. (Underlining added by editor).

ARRL pointed out that some comments filed on its petition address subjects related to other open proceedings rather than expanding Technician privileges, citing comments cross-filed in such proceedings as WT Docket 16-239, RM-11708, RM-11759, and RM-11831. "Those filings should be considered in the proceedings that they address, rather than here," ARRL said.

ARRL said some opposition appears based on fears of increased interference potential due to additional digital operation by Technicians. "It is

improbable that all, or even a majority, of Technician licensees suddenly would develop a passion for the same digital technology," ARRL said. "Our hope and expectation is that many will engage with digital modes on the high-frequency spectrum at issue, but it is unrealistic to suggest that every Technician licensee blessed with new privileges would suddenly appear on the same band."

The comments note the development of very

efficient digital modes, such as FT8, which occupies just 90 Hz of spectrum per signal. "The experience with FT8 clearly demonstrates the attraction of the digital modes *and* the spectrum efficiencies that can be achieved," ARRL said. "This is why opening up limited digital opportunities to new radio amateurs so clearly would serve the broad public interest as well as the specific purposes of Amateur Radio in experimentation and innovation, as enumerated in the governing FCC rules."

ARRL further said that comments regarding disagreement on the definition of encryption for masking the content of certain digital transmissions are also "out of place in this proceeding" and "should not delay initiation of a proceeding" proposing to update Technician privileges.

"Technology has changed dramatically in the Amateur Radio domain, and ARRL believes the requested Technician license enhancement would foster the regulatory goals for the Amateur Service and continue to increase amateurs' historical experimentation and service in a meaningful way," ARRL concluded.

--ARRL Letter May 2, 2019

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).

8. Additional Ham Radio News:



Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS)

A message from Paul English, Chief of Army MARS:"

"The MARS programs, both Army and Air Force, are tasked in a classified Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff operations order 2-18 with providing contingency HF communications to a specific DOD headquarters following a worst-day type of scenario during which traditional forms of communication are no longer reliable or available. We train for that mission during the quarterly DOD communications exercises.

In order to execute this contingency HF communications support, the MARS programs are required to interface with the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service." We interface with the amateur radio community in order to help us gather situational awareness information at the county level from as many of the 3,143 US counties and county equivalents. Our main effort for collecting county status reports is during the -4 exercise which takes place in Oct/Nov of each year. During the -1, -2, and -3 exercises, we still want MARS members at all levels to continue your outreach to the amateur radio community to build those relationships." Edited to fit by DETARC Editor.

--Forwarded by AI N6VQO, Army MARS

Do you have a question, an idea for discussion, or an article on an item of interest for the Newsletter?

Contact Roger K0YY, Editor at k0yy@arrl.net

Area Hams, be our guests:

Come join our meetings and see your Ham friends. Or check in to our weekly net on 146.940 Tuesday evenings at 8 PM. We would love to see or hear from you!



LUFKIN, TEXAS USA

W5IRP

Angelina County
CQ Zone: 4

Grid: EM21
ITU Zone: 7



Deep East Texas Amateur Radio Club, Inc
904 Sherwood Road
Lufkin, TX 75904



WWW.DETARC.NET

Come on out to Field Day and help us make lots of contacts and send out W5IRP QSL cards to lots of Hams around the country.