



## Deep East Texas Amateur Radio Club

**DETARC, Inc.**  
**Lufkin, TX**

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Roger K0YY Editor,  
[k0yy@arrl.net](mailto:k0yy@arrl.net)

### 1.DETARC/ARES INFORMATION:

#### Club Meeting Highlights:

--RM K5AGE Secretary

#### January meeting Minutes highlights:

--A local business has donated some office furniture that we will be adding to the Armory Communications Room.

--Steve KB8QWN donated two computers to the Club. Thanks Steve!

--A motion was made and carried to make door prizes an on-going part of Club meetings. Thanks Gary KI5LR for your good work!

--Discussed the possibility of a pre or post-meeting social event. More to follow.

-- There will be a Search and Rescue (SAR) exercise in the May/June timeframe. We will likely be asked to assist again.

#### February meeting Minutes highlights:

--Comm Room work party date is March 11<sup>th</sup>. Meet at IHOP for brunch at 8:00 AM and then the cleanup and painting to commence. Y'all come now ya hear!

--Club insurance payment of \$300 due to be paid April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Neches River Rendezvous coming this June, planning meeting February 27<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.

--We discussed and decided to hold a Club Social gathering at IHOP the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:30 AM, after the monthly meeting. This is a casual get together to chat with Ham friends and hear about others' Ham projects.

### President's Comments:

--Steve KG5ODZ, [kq5odz@arrl.net](mailto:kq5odz@arrl.net)



I'm traveling for work this week and won't make the February meeting. See you on the radio and at the March meeting.

73, Steve Capp, KG5ODZ

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

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

**DETARC Email Reflector:** To join send an email request to: [detarc@detarc.net](mailto:detarc@detarc.net)

**DETARC 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.

**ARES Wide Area Net:** The third Monday at 8:30 PM on the 94 repeater. The 94 repeater is linked to several regional repeaters for this wide area net.

**Texas ARES HF Net:** Mondays 7:30 PM, 3.873 MHz. Lufkin is in District 2. Check in by district.

**DETARC Repeaters:** 146.940 MHz-600, 141.3 CTCSS, W5IRP-R, high level repeater with linking for emergencies to most regional repeaters. 147.360+600, 141.3 CTCSS, local coverage. 146.980-600, CTCSS 141.3 (in Alto). 444.975+5 MHz, CTCSS 107.2 local coverage with an Echolink node and an Allstar link node. Allstar Sysop- Kris K5KRK, Echolink node-- K5KRK-R, Allstar node-- 27272.

**DETARC also supports APRS and WinLink:**  
APRS Digipeater and Igate 144.390 MHz (Lufkin)  
WINLINK node 145.050 MHz (Lufkin) (High level).  
(Packet Radio repeater/node)  
K5KRK-10 Packet node 145.070 MHz (local)

## DETARC/ARES News:



**DETARC/ARES members have you upgraded, or recently accomplished something special in Ham Radio? Are you working on a special project? Do you have a good information item for the Club? Share it with fellow Club members and let us all know what you are doing.** Contact [k0yy@arrl.net](mailto:k0yy@arrl.net) to share it in the Newsletter or bring it up at a meeting or the new DETARC Social Gatherings. (See upcoming events for details). We'd like to hear about what you are doing.

**Club badges & hats:** The Club has a special account at The SignMan in Louisiana where individual members may order their own DETARC call sign badges or Club hats. *Several members may go together to share shipping costs.*

Here are the direct URLs for DETARC members to place an order with The SignMan:

**BADGE**

<http://thesignman.com/clubs/detarcbadgcart.html>

**HAT**

<http://thesignman.com/clubs/detarchatcart.html>

Mention on you orders if you are ordering both.

Prices:

Badges-- \$11.50 plus shipping & handling of approximately \$6 for a single item.

Hats-- \$15.00 plus shipping & handling of approximately \$6 for a single item.

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

Congratulations to Patricia K5HER who won the BaoFeng UV-5R fully programmed handheld transceiver door prize at the January meeting. Way to go Patricia.

The door prize for the February meeting was won by Mike WD5EFY and was a Solder Station with temperature control, iron holder, and cleaning pad plus a 40 meter CW transmitter kit to use it on. Congratulations Mike.

Be sure to get your tickets for the door prizes. You can send in cash with a friend if you can't make the meeting.

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.

Armory Comm Room: We now have a lock on the door, bars on the window and HF radio equipment in the old armory comm room. We are working on a tower and antenna systems.

## **DETARC/ARES upcoming projects/events:**

Comm Room work party at old armory March 11<sup>th</sup>. Meet at IHOP at 8 AM for breakfast. Come help!

***HOT-- Old Stone Fort Bicycle Ride March 18<sup>th</sup>, need operators.*** Joint effort with Nacogdoches Club. Contact RM K5AGE at [k5age@fastmail.com](mailto:k5age@fastmail.com)  
See the article at the end of the newsletter for info.

***NEW-- DETARC Social Gathering March 25<sup>th</sup>***, IHOP 10:30 AM. This is a monthly occurrence now on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday. Stop in and visit with your Ham friends. Put it on your calendar.

Hudson Search & Rescue (SAR) Event May 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, radio operators needed, Marine League and multiple SAR teams again involved.

Neches River Rendezvous coming in June, more info coming. Many radio operators needed.

FIELD DAY, June 24-25<sup>th</sup>. W5IRP Club station??

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



### American Legion Ham Radio Special Event: --Military.com, February 20, 2017

The American Legion Amateur Radio Club (TALARC) will operate a special event station on Saturday, March 11, 2017 between 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Eastern time to commemorate the Legion's upcoming birthday. Ham radio operators at club station K9TAL in Indianapolis will communicate with amateur radio operators around the world. Ham radio operators wishing to contact Special Event Station K9TAL should tune to 40 meters: 7.225 MHz (+/- 5 KHz) LSB; or to 2 meters: K9DC 147.315 Repeater at Indianapolis; or IRLP Node 9735; or, to EchoLink \*CROSSRDS\* Conference node. All amateur radio operators are invited to check in. Those with hearing difficulties can check in via relay through TALARC members: Everett, WA3DVO in Maryland, 40M: 7.225 MHz (+/- 5 KHz); or Bill, KI0CW in South Dakota, 20M: MHz (+/- 5 KHz). [Editor's note: 20M frequency missing from article, possibly 14.225+- 5KHz].

### KEY HAM CONTESTS: (There are many more).

See the article on contesting in this issue.

4-5 March, International DX– Phone

12 March, North American RTTY Sprint

25-26 March, CQWW WPX SSB

16 April, Rookie Roundup – Phone

### HAM SPECIAL EVENTS:

The Nacogdoches ARC will hold San Jacinto Day on Apr. 21-23 using the call K5T. See here for details. <http://w5nac.com/news/>

03/29/2017, Viet Nam Veteran's Day, USS Kidd, Baton Rouge, LA

### HAMFESTS:

**Houston Area Hamfest:** March 24 & 25, 2017 County Fairgrounds. at the Fort Bend County

Fairgrounds in Rosenberg, TX. Presented by the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.

See <http://houstonhamfest.org/> for more info.

Interested in going? Speak up, maybe a group will get together from Lufkin.

**For further details on contests/special events:** See the article in the Operating Section below and

[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/>

## 3. AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE® (ARES)

Roger K0YY,

Emergency Coordinator (EC). [k0yy@arrl.net](mailto:k0yy@arrl.net)

Steve KB8QWN Assistant EC (AEC)



### Come Join Us!

We inspected and tested the voice and data Ham equipment at the County Health Center on Feb 22.

We are planning another Simulated Emergency Test (SET) in conjunction with a State-wide "Hurricane Charlie" exercise on June 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. We plan to have operators deployed to several operational locations around the area.

We recently published a Net Control Station (NCS) assignment list for all ARES operators to take a turn at NCS duties on the weekly net. Contact [k0yy@arrl.net](mailto:k0yy@arrl.net) with any questions or if you didn't receive the ARES Reflector email with the NCS Assignment List, Net Preamble, and Directed Net Protocol.

Here again are our key **ARES goals for 2017**:

1. Training and on-the-air operation on the WinLink (old RMS) software for both VHF and HF operations
2. An SET with operators at actual deployed locations such as hospitals, shelters, and EOCs.
3. Establishing the ARES Comm Room at the old armory and getting VHF/UHF and an HF station on the air.
4. Net Control training for all ARES members.

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

## **ARES E-Letter News:**

Notes from the February 15th ARES E-Letter from the ARRL.

For what it is worth (FWIW) Here is an excerpt from The Orlando, FL Hamcation, (Hamfest) and the ARRL Division Forum there:

“The [Lakeland Amateur Radio Club](#) said that the club had faced declining attendance at club meetings and membership until they eliminated the business portions of the meetings in favor of more hands-on, show and tell demonstrations of equipment, modes and antennas, which turned into big hits. Membership and attendance soared from a modest 33 members to over one hundred. That seemed to me a magic bullet that could spur memberships and meetings attendance for all clubs and ARES groups.”

--K1CE, Richard Palm, ARRL ARES E-Letter Editor

## **4. OPERATING:**



## **Contesting, what is it all about?**

--Bob K5ME

Contesting is one of the many aspects of ham radio that you may not have considered. Why might you want to enter a contest? See if any of these reasons fit:

- To improve your operating skills
- To earn an award (WAS, DXCC, etc.)
- To compete with other hams
- To learn what improvements you need to make to your station.

There are many kinds of contests on different bands and modes. Some are sponsored by ARRL, by CQ Magazine, and by the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB). Hams in many states organize state “QSO parties”. Schedules of upcoming contests are published in *QST* and are available online at [<hornucopia.com/contestcal/>](http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/). Note that contest times are in GMT. Web sites containing contest rules are shown with links to them.

Before entering a contest, you should decide what class you will enter. Choices usually include power level, number of operators/transmitters, and whether you use any assistance (spotting programs, etc.). If the contest is on several bands you may want to create a “band plan” that considers propagation at times of the day and times you plan to be off-the-air.

When the time comes, jump in. You may choose to call CQ (called “running”) or answer others folks’ CQs (called “search and pounce” or S&P), or a mix of both. Running may be a poor choice if you are not in the target area of the contest (e.g., Oklahoma, New Zealand), or if you run low power or do not have good antennas.

Logging is essential. Computer logging is preferred. Several programs are available, including LOGic, N1MM, N3FJP, and others. Most cost; some are free. All provide duplicate contact checking. Some identify new multipliers for a new location, band or mode. All can be converted to a format suitable for electronic submission after the contest such as ADIF format.

Do not be intimidated if you get words mixed up at first or your Morse code or voice protocol is a bit

rusty. Most contesters are quite tolerant. They want your contact.

Whether you are wanting states, counties, grid squares, or countries (or something else), you may be surprised how quickly you fill in your holes in contests. Looking over your results can also suggest where you can improve your station. For example, I have an 80-meter dipole mounted for best radiation to Europe (NE). However, I have trouble working the Pacific Northwest or East Asia. This suggests I need to do something: a vertical, a four-square, or just another dipole at right angles to the present one. You might decide you need a better chair if you get tired after sitting for a few hours.

Do not stress over a missed contact. There is no law saying you must spend longer on the air than you care to. However, after the contest, do send in your log to the sponsor, no matter how small. Do look over your results and think about how you might improve next time. Whatever you do, make it fun. I will be looking for you on the bands.

--Bob Knibb, K5ME

Editor's note: Bob is an accomplished high speed CW operator and an avid contesteer.

## 5. REPEATER NOTES:

--Mike WD5EFY, Repeater Trustee/Technician.



The 94 repeater linking system upgrade (UHF backbone project) to other regional repeaters is progressing nicely. Mike conducted a recent test of the repeater site generator. The auto change over function worked well. Mike recently had to reset the WinLink node on 145.050 after it was not responding. Both nodes tested good during the recent Health Department equipment check by Mike and Roger on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## 6. ARRL NEWS:



### ARRL Seeks Opinions Concerning Possible New Entry Level License.

02/08/2017 ARRL Web Site. [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

"An Entry Level License Committee was established by the ARRL Board of Directors and appointed in September 2016. As part of its ongoing work, the committee is gathering member input and will make recommendations to the Board for possible rules changes to submit to the FCC.

The result could mean changes to the Technician license, but it could also be an additional, but simpler, license with privileges that would give a newcomer a taste of most facets of ham radio from HF to VHF and UHF.

The committee has created an online member survey. Please complete and submit the survey no later than April 7, 2017. Survey results will be published.

Please read the background information given with the survey before finalizing an opinion." Unquote.

Here are my personal thoughts submitted to the ARRL Committee:

*"I recommend expanding the existing Technician Class License over creating a new license class requiring additional administration.*

*The expanded Technician licensee should be limited to certain narrow HF band segments on certain HF bands (listed on the survey).*

*Repeater control should be allowed for the expanded Technician license, but not the other special control privileges listed above.*

*Regards, Roger K0YY"*

I don't anticipate that everyone will agree with my opinion— Roger K0YY

Do you want your opinion to count? You apparently do not need to be an ARRL member to participate in the survey.

Take ARRL survey-- <http://www.arrl.org/license-1>

## **FCC Invites Comments on ARRL Petition to Allocate New 5 MHz Band.**

ARRL Bulletin ARLB007, (This is a partial copy of the Bulletin to fit the Newsletter). See the full Bulletin at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

"The FCC has invited comments on the ARRL's January 12 Petition for Rule Making to allocate a new, contiguous secondary band at 5 MHz to the Amateur Service. The League also asked the Commission to keep four of the current five 60-meter channels - one would be within the new band - as well as the current operating rules, including the 100 W PEP effective radiated power (ERP) limit. The federal government is the primary user of the 5 MHz spectrum. The FCC has designated the League's Petition as RM-11785 and put it on public notice.

Comments are due Monday, March 20. ARRL plans to file comments in support of its petition.

The proposed ARRL action would implement a portion of the Final Acts of World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) that provided for a secondary international allocation of 5,351.5 to 5,366.5 kHz to the Amateur Service; that band includes 5,358.5 KHz, one of the existing 5 MHz channels in the US. The FCC has not yet acted to implement other portions of the WRC-15 Final Acts.

'Such implementation will allow radio amateurs engaged in emergency and disaster relief communications, and especially those between the United States and the Caribbean basin, to more reliably, more flexibly and more capably conduct those communications [and preparedness exercises], before the next hurricane season in the summer of 2017,' ARRL said in its petition.

Interested parties may comment on RM-11785 using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) at, <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/>" Unquote.



## **7. FOR SALE/WANTED:**

We are starting a new section of the Newsletter. 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).

### 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 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
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 Newsletter Editor are not a party to or responsible for transactions between individuals. Strongly recommend buyers thoroughly check purchases prior to completing any transaction.
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. For example: to place an ad in the May Newsletter, your ad must arrive by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

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](mailto: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!  
--73, Roger Krautkremer KOYY, Editor

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NOTE: This is a short notice request for radio operators on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

RM just got the word. Let him know if you can help!

## Old Stone Fort Bicycle Ride

--RM K5AGE

Hello my fellow radio operators!

We have a great opportunity here to show our presence in the community, volunteer in a much-needed way, and have FUN! We have been asked by the founder of the "Old Stone Fort Bicycle Ride", Ray Mitchum, to help with communications for the second annual running of this event.

This event will not be anywhere near the scale of Pineywoods Purgatory, but our skills and help are much needed and appreciated. Also, being that the scale is much smaller than purgatory, the event should be bit more relaxed. A free lunch will be provided. Another thought, this event could grow to be much larger in the future, it would be nice to have W5NAC part of the team from the beginning. I predict a great partnership in the future for us.

The event date is March 18<sup>th</sup>, they have 3 courses of 25, 36, and 63 miles (40km, 58km and 100km), and they are expecting 130 riders. **My apologies for the short notice.**

I am planning on driving the courses in the next few days to get an idea of where we might best be needed, and how many operators we need at minimum.

Also, please see the attached BASIC course map below. For detailed maps of the courses, with options for export to GPS as a .gpx file, see the hyperlinks below.

25 mile [25 mile course, with export to .gpx](#)

36 mile [36 mile course, with export to .gpx](#)

63 mile [63 mile course, with export to .gpx](#)

Concluding, your help will be appreciated and I think this event will be a lot of fun. Let me know if you would like to help or you have any comments on the matter. I am open for any comments. You can email me at [K5AGE@fastmail.com](mailto:K5AGE@fastmail.com) or call me at my office and ask for Rm, 936-564-0433.

