



Newsletter of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, K5FD February, 2019

Alpine, Texas

Big Bend ARC Meeting

The Big Bend Amateur Radio Club will meet Tuesday night, February 12 at 7:30 p.m. In the Community Room of the West Texas National Bank. The meeting will be presided over by 2019 President Bill Smith, K5WSA.

Members are asked to bring their 2019 dues which are \$36.

From ARRL

John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, is New ARRL West Gulf Division Director

John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, of Austin, Texas, is the new ARRL West Gulf Division Director. Stratton, the incumbent Vice Director, moved up to the Director's chair after Director Dr. David Woolweaver, K5RAV, announced his immediate retirement during the ARRL Board of Directors meeting January 18 – 19.

An attorney, Stratton served as West Gulf Division Vice Director since 2009, when he was appointed to succeed Woolweaver, who became Director following the resignation of then-Director Coy Day, N5OK.

Woolweaver served as West Gulf Vice Director from 2000 until 2009, and as Director from 2009 until 2019. During his tenure, he served on several committees, including the ARRL Board Executive Committee. He is a member of the ARRL Foundation Board of Directors.

Stratton holds a bachelor of science in aerospace engineering from the University of Texas and is a graduate of the University of Texas Law School. ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, will fill the vacant West Gulf Division Vice Director's position by appointment.

From the Daily DX

Confusion among hams about the increasingly rapid drift of the magnetic north pole

By W3LPL, Frank Donovan

There's considerable confusion and misinformation in the amateur radio community caused by misinterpretation of press reports about the surprisingly rapid rate of northward drift of the Earth's magnetic north pole over roughly the last 35 years.

Contributing to the confusion are two broadly defined magnetic north poles: - the fairly rapidly drifting dip north pole (often called the magnetic

pole), and - the relatively slowly drifting geomagnetic north pole.

The dip north pole being discussed in current news reporting is drifting northward ten times more rapidly than the more lethargic geomagnetic north pole which has much greater significance to DXers and contesters.

www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-earth-has-more-than-one-north-pole

The slowly drifting geomagnetic north pole has much greater significance to DXers and contesters because the northern auroral oval - which greatly affects HF propagation over the north Atlantic and north Pacific Oceans -- is closely centered on the geomagnetic north pole and not on the dip north pole. The geomagnetic north pole has been drifting generally northward only about three miles per year.

The geomagnetic north pole's location is defined by global models of the Earth's magnetic field, its location cannot be determined by direct measurement. Its currently located on Ellesmere Island about 165 miles southwest of Alert, Nunavut the northernmost permanently inhabited place on Earth. Its drifting much more slowly than the dip north pole, it has drifted roughly northward only about 75 miles over the last twenty years.

The much more rapidly drifting dip north pole is defined to be the location in the northern hemisphere where the geomagnetic field is exactly vertical as determined experimentally by magnetic surveys on land, ships and spacecraft. Its location is currently near the center of the Arctic Ocean about 250 miles southeast of the geographic north pole roughly halfway between Nunavut and Eastern Siberia. The location of the dip north pole is important to navigation but of relatively little importance to space-based phenomenon such as HF ionospheric propagation.

From ARRL

Reshaping ARRL Objectives, Refocusing ARRL HQ Structure is New CEO's Goal

A plan by ARRL CEO Howard Michel, WB2ITX, to reshape and reorganize the management structure at ARRL Headquarters will go into effect on Monday, February 11. The ARRL Board of Directors endorsed the plan during its Annual Meeting on January 18 – 19 in Windsor, Connecticut.

“I see ARRL as a membership association, a business, and a 501(c)(3) public charity. As CEO, I intend to strengthen all three aspects. And all three must remain in balance for ARRL to function effectively,” Michel said.

“As a business, ARRL is not just *QST* magazine, *The Handbook*, DXCC or the VEC program. We can't allow ourselves to continue to think within those traditional parameters.” He continued, “ARRL's businesses are not membership, publishing, and advertising. ARRL's businesses are value creation, value delivery, and advocacy. I plan to architect ARRL along those lines. To quote Steve Jobs, ‘More important than building a product, we are in the process of architecting a company that will hopefully be much more incredible, the total will be much more incredible than the sum of its parts.’” Michel said.

The reorganization has three key components. The first major change is the creation of a management council (MC). The MC will be a deliberative and generative body to discuss ideas, operations, and long-term planning for ARRL. The group's goal is to foster horizontal lines of communication within the organization. Direct horizontal lines of communications are much more efficient than “up, over, and down,” Michel offered.

The second key change, Michel said, is the addition of a Product Development Manager. This individual's responsibility will be to create new

ideas for products and services, create pilot programs to quickly test those ideas, and then — if the pilot programs are successful — transition them to operations. “The motto in startups is to fail fast,” Michel said. “Let’s innovate like a startup.”

Third, he said, is creating the position of a Marketing Communications Manager. “Our brand works with our traditional members. It is not working for newly licensed hams,” Michel said. “If we are to create a demand for the value we bring to Amateur Radio, we need a coordinated and consistent message, across all forms of media that resonates with current and potential members.”

In conjunction with its support of this reorganization plan, the ARRL Board of Directors also endorsed a proposal to create a new Lifelong Learning platform that will establish ARRL as an educational leader in Amateur Radio, and the purchase of a modern association management software system that should dramatically improve ARRL members’ experiences.

“These are big investments the Board is making in ARRL, and a strong positive vote of confidence that we can deliver,” Michel said. “They are giving us the tools to be successful.”

FOR SALE

Offered by Rusty Herman, KB5R

Kenwood: TM-221-A VHF Transceiver

Kenwood TM D-700 UHF / VHF Mobile Transceiver with manuals, power cord, and programming disk

Palomar SWR Meter, 0 to 1000 watts

Kenwood TL-922A 2 KW SSB Linear Amplifier 160 to 15 Meters with Manuals

Heathkit SB-604* External Power Supply / Speaker

Heathkit SB-104A* 100 W HF Transceiver, 80 to 10 Meters
*to be sold as a unit

Free standing 80 foot tower by Rohn

Please call 432-837-0002 for details

Request for News, Classified Ads

The BARK editor is requesting club members and readers provide news items and classified ads for inclusion in this newsletter.

“To provide a newsletter that meets the needs of our members and readers we are reaching out,” said Editor Bill Brooks, KE5OG. “We can better serve club members if we know better what they want to see in the newsletter.”

Personal equipment for sale is also suitable.

You can send appropriate items for inclusion to bill.ke5og@gmail.com.

Deadline for copy is the Monday the week before the club meeting on the second Tuesday of each month.

Of course, the editor reserves the right to include or exclude materials submitted.

**BIG BEND EMERGENCY NET REPORT
From WA5ROE**

Date	Net Control	Check-ins	Length	Remarks
01/06/19	WA5ROE	46	37	
01/13/19	WA5ROE	43	37	
01/20/19	WA5ROE	39	36	Add KG5LMK, Mike, Fort Davis
01/27/19	W5NPR	41	30	Reception Difficult

Remember – the BBEN meets **every** Sunday on 3922 KHz at 8:15 a.m. Central time (either CST or CDT). Visitors are always welcome. Early check-ins are welcome beginning around 8:05 a.m. on 3922 kHz or on the BBARC repeater system or on EchoLink.

2 Meter Net Report

Our 2 meter net meets EVERY Wednesday at 8:00 PM (local time) on the clubs repeater system network. These are good training grounds for potential emergency situations as well as helping new hams in the area to have an easy way to get use to "talking on the radio"!

Our club website (www.bigbendarc.com) has all the information about our 2 meter net. This includes the Net Control members schedule, the "script" (supplied only as a guide to insure that the important information is given out weekly - you can use it anyway you see fit) and a list of the recent check-in members.

If you have an interest in joining the NET CONTROL stations as an operator, please call me (432/837-2257) or holler during the Wednesday Net. The script and "check-in roster" are both posted on the club website for you to download and use as a NCS!

The month of January we had five Wednesday's and it went this way:

Date	Check-ins	Net Control
01/02/19	21	KG5BMK
01/09/19	17	KG5LMG
01/16/19	27	KA5PVB
01/23/18	17	W5RHN
01/30/19	20	KF5KMA

*****Total of 91 Check-ins for the month.

If you don't have the time to check-in to the net and participate in the round-table discussion, take a minute of your time and check-in as an "in-and-out" (you're in for the head count, but not participating in the actual net). ALL participation is appreciated and encouraged!

During the month of January we had check-ins from the following hams on the Echo-Link System as follows:

- KD5KC – Mike from El Paso (two times)
- KF5YIV – Bill from Mansfield
- KG5HEJ – Al in Terlingua
- KM5OE – Lloyd from Spring
- KM6ZYL – Javier form near San Diego, Calif.

I would like to thank KG5HEJ - Al in Terlingua for keeping up appraised of the Echo-Link activity during our net times! VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!

I want to specifically thank our five (5) Net Control stations for all of their efforts on behalf of the club's 2 meter net for the entire year. It just wouldn't have happened if you were NOT there! Our Net Control stations are: KF5KMA – Dan, KG5BMK - Chuck, KG5LMG - Marvin, N5BBJ - Bruce, and W5RHN – Bob

73,
Chuck Dobbins - KA5PVB
2 meter Net Manager

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BBARC Club Officers

President – Bill Smith, K5WSA
Vice-president Stephen Cook, KE5WCP
Secretary - Billy Roberts, W5NPR
Treasurer - Angie Otoupol, N5MVV

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THE BARK

Newsletter of the BBARC

Big Bend Amateur Radio Club
1402 N. 5th St.
Alpine, Texas 79830

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BIG BEND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

<http://www.bigbendarc.com>

Meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at the West
Texas National Bank Building in Alpine, 7:30 P.M.
CST/CDT.

ARRL Affiliated Club

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MEMBERSHIP AND NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

2019 Dues are due

Annual membership is Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 each year. Dues
are \$36 per year for individual or individual & spouse.

Membership allows you to participate in all club activities
and vote at the monthly meetings.

Dues can be mailed to Bob Ward, WA5ROE at 1402 N. Fifth
Street, Alpine, Texas 79830.

Newsletters are available by e-mail for members,
subscribers, and interested recipients. Send your e-mail
address to [bill.ke5og at gmail.com](mailto:bill.ke5og@gmail.com) to be put on the list.

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ABOUT THE BBARC

Founded December 17, 1974

ARRL affiliate since 1986

The BBARC is a 501(C)3 organization. Contributions are
tax deductible.

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Big Bend Emergency Net, 3.922 MHz

Founded September 18, 1977

Meets every Sunday morning at 8:15 A.M. CST/CDT

Controlled net format. Welcomes new participants and
visitors.

Established by Bob Ward, WA5ROE.
Net Manager, Bob Ward, WA5ROE, [wa5roe at juno.com](mailto:wa5roe@juno.com)

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Big Bend 2-meter Net

Founded July 9, 2008

Meets every Wednesday evening at 8:00 P.M. CST/CDT

Controlled net format. Welcomes new participants and
visitors.

Established by Bob Ayer, KA1AAJ (SK)

Net Manager, Chuck Dobbins, KA5PVB,
[charles.dobbins52 at yahoo.com](mailto:charles.dobbins52@yahoo.com)

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BBARC Repeater System

All standard offsets. All repeaters require 146.2 Hz PL tone encoded on your transmit signal. All repeaters are linked.

147.120+	Shafter, Cibolo Creek
147.020+	Elephant Mt. south of Alpine. System hub
146.620-	Ft. Davis located at McDonald Observatory
146.720-	Alpine, Pearce Mountain
146.820-	Terlingua, Study Butte
146.920-	Glass Mountains, Alpine / Ft. Stockton
145.230-	Emergency Repeater

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Big Bend ARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 12 – Big Bend ARC Club Meeting at 7:30, at the Community Room of West Texas National Bank.

CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest: 0000Z, Feb 9 to 2359Z, Feb 10

ARRL International DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Feb 16 to 2400Z, Feb 17

North American QSO Party, RTTY 1800Z, Feb 23 to 0600Z, Feb 24