



The Peanut Whistle

The Monthly Newsletter of the Amateur Radio Club of Parker County

ARCPC NEWSLETTER VOLUME 27 NO. 9

SEPTEMBER 2017 ISSUE

HURRICANE HARVEY

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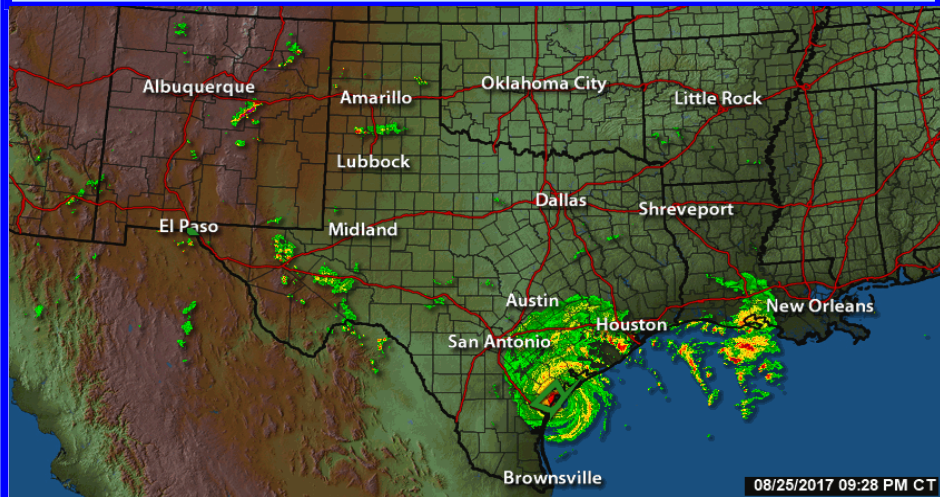
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Fueled by warm Gulf of Mexico waters, Harvey grew rapidly, accelerating from a Category 1 early in the morning to a Category 4 by evening. Its transformation from an unnamed storm to a life-threatening behemoth took only 56 hours, an incredibly fast intensification.

In addition to devastating winds, Harvey was expected to drop prodigious amounts of rain -- up to 3 feet. The resulting flooding, one expert said, could be "the depths of which we've never seen."

Galveston-based storm surge expert Hal Needham said forecasts indicated that it was "becoming more and more likely that something really bad is going to happen."

At least one researcher predicted heavy damage that would linger for months or longer.

"In terms of economic impact, Harvey will probably be on par with Hurricane Katrina," said University of Miami senior hurricane researcher Brian McNoldy. "The Houston area and Corpus Christi are going to be a mess for a long time."

Before the storm arrived, home and business owners raced to nail plywood over windows and fill sandbags. Steady traffic filled the highways leaving Corpus Christi, but there were no apparent jams. In Houston, where mass evacuations can include changing major highways to a one-way vehicle flow, authorities left traffic patterns unchanged.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Ham Fests/Conventions

10/07/2017 | HamEXPO

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

10/27/2017 | Texoma Hamarama

Location: Ardmore, OK
 Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor:
 Texoma Hamarama, Inc.
 Website: <http://texomahamarama.org>

11/04/2017 | Enid ARC Hamfest

Location: Enid, OK
 Type: ARRL Hamfest
 Sponsor: Enid Amateur Radio Club
 Website: <http://enidarc.org>

03/17/2018 | Swapfest

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

ARCPC VE TESTING

VE testing for all license classes and upgrades will be conducted on the third Monday of each month, except November and December.
 Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: Douglas E. May WB5VQQ
 (817) 613-7289
 Email: dougmay@uwmil.com
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: What-a-Burger off of I20

ARCPC HOSPITALITY

September, 2017 Meeting

**Refreshments**

Judy Wolf
 KB5JEY

**Jake Sez!**

"Practice makes perfect, so be careful what you practice"



As always the month of August is the ARCPK annual 'Ice Cream Social'. Therefore no business meeting and no monthly minutes.

Thanks to Bob (Sorry Bob seems nobody took notes so I was unable to get your name or call.) for your very informative presentation on manually programing the B

ORIGIN OF THE TERM "ELMER"

From: The ARRL's Web Page
 The term "Elmer"--meaning someone who provides personal guidance and assistance to would-be hams--first appeared in QST in a March 1971 "How's DX" column by Rod Newkirk, W9BRD (now also VA3ZBB). Newkirk called them "the unsung fathers of Amateur Radio." While he probably was not trying to coin a term at the time, here's how Newkirk introduced "Elmer" in his column and, as it turned out, to the rest of the Amateur Radio world:
 "Too frequently one hears a sad story in this little nutshell: 'Oh, I almost got a ticket, too, but Elmer, W9XYZ, moved away and I kind of lost interest.'" Newkirk went on to say, "We need those Elmers. All the Elmers, including the ham who took the most time and trouble to give you a push toward your license, are the birds who keep this great game young and fresh."--Rick Lindquist, N1RL

As you can see, the term is not very old. Prior to the first use of Elmer as the one who guided and encouraged us, what were these folks called? I have received a lot of suggestions; teacher, mentor, tutor, guide, helper, sage? All are appropriate but my guess would be that first and foremost they were called friend.
 Norm Fusaro, W3IZ

ARRL finally realizes status quo isn't going to cut it

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

An item in the July 2017 ARRL board meeting caught my attention. It notes that a committee of staff members was tasked with identifying the challenges facing ARRL and possible solutions. The August 3, 2017 issue of the ARRL Letter ran the following report:

“ARRL Chief Executive Officer Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, presented the report of six Headquarters staffers who had been tasked with identifying the challenges facing ARRL and devising feasible solutions. Specifically, the committee addressed market research findings that have continued to reveal that only a small percentage of new hams join the League, and only about one-half of new hams actually get on the air.

“The committee began with the premise that ARRL must act in order to remain relevant going forward. It proposed instituting a Lifelong Learning Program to focus on developing a clear developmental path for all radio amateurs, from newcomers to established radio amateurs. The committee recommended the creation of new programs and services to increase the knowledge base of newcomers in order to get them active, as well as programs to keep experienced amateurs up to date with changing technology and practice.”

The board meeting minutes were a little more detailed:

“Mr. Roderick yielded the floor to CEO Gallagher who presented the report of a committee of staff members tasked with identifying the challenges facing ARRL and possible solutions. The members of the committee – Diane Petrilli, KB1RNF; Norm Fusaro, W3IZ; Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY; Debra Jahnke, K1DAJ; Steve Ford, WB8IMY; and Sean Kutzko, KX9X, joined the meeting at 9:20 AM, to present this report. Their findings show the importance to ARRL of getting newly licensed hams actively on the air and how that relates to continued growth of the organization. In order to achieve that goal, the committee proposed developing a lifelong learning department, which would address the needs of all amateurs with the focus being on developing a clear knowledge path for all amateurs. They proposed creating straightforward programs and services to enhance the knowledge base of new amateurs as well as to enhance their sense of community within the hobby.

“Another recommendation involved refocusing the priorities of the emergency preparedness department to address the current trends in public service.

“A third recommendation was to improve the value proposition of membership. The committee proposed doing a survey, which would include test material that is targeted to the interests of newer hams. The content would include a strong emphasis on serving communities, agencies, and partners; digital communications, and human interest. Projects would be simple. The survey would obtain information on new ham's interests and needs in the hobby. The survey would also try to determine the delivery system that might best meet the newcomer's desire for receiving this type information (print, digital, messaging, etc). The test material is proposed to be delivered to recipients in fall 2017.

“From the committee's vantage point, the status quo is no longer adequate: we need to have a vision of the future and convey it to our current membership. If we do not convey the need to change the paradigm, the ARRL's relevancy will not move forward.”

The good thing here is that the ARRL finally realizes that there are some serious problems. I've written about these in the past. I've challenged the ARRL to set a membership goal of 25% of the licensed amateurs in the U.S (<http://www.kb6nu.com/arrl-membership-is-25-asking-too-much/>). I've also encouraged the ARRL to play a bigger part in emergency communications research (<http://www.kb6nu.com/go-big-go-early-go-fast-smart/>).

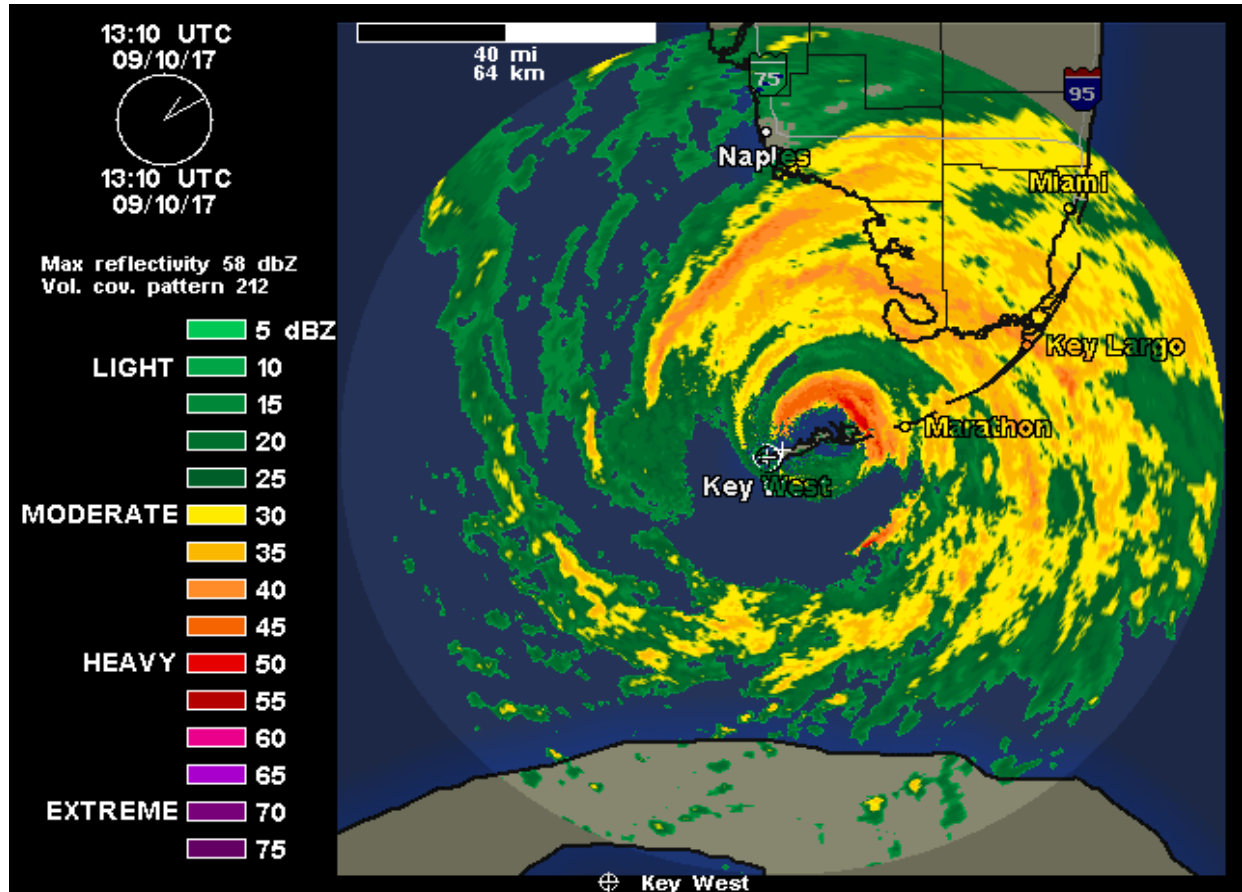
Unfortunately, it appears that the ARRL is approaching this issue in typical ARRL fashion. That is, working on these issues in their little cocoon in Newington and then issuing these statements as if they expect everyone to just fall in line. I quote, “From the committee's vantage point, the status quo is no longer adequate: we need to have a vision of the future and convey it to our current membership.” That approach is doomed to failure. Any “visioning” or strategic planning that doesn't get the membership involved right from the start just isn't going to work.

The ARRL HQ staff just doesn't have the horsepower to pull this off properly. The staff is already pretty bare bones, and they still have to publish QST every month, keep Logbook of the World running, process thousands of license applications, etc., etc. The only way this is going to be a fruitful effort is if they get members—and lots of them—involved in this process.

If you agree with me, please let your director know. Contact your director and tell him that you want to be involved. The status quo of having the HQ staff not working with the membership “is no longer adequate.” That's how we got here in the first place.

Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the “No Nonsense” amateur radio license study guides and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. You can email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

HURRICANE IRMA



Hurricane Irma made landfall at 9:10 am EDT Sunday on Cudjoe Key in the Lower Florida Keys, about 30 miles east of Key West, while classified as a Category 4 storm with 130 mph winds. Irma brought sustained winds near hurricane-force to the entire Florida Keys late Sunday morning, and a storm surge in excess of 3 feet to Key West and Miami. Irma was headed north at 9 mph along the west coast of Florida on Sunday afternoon, and will bring destructive winds and an extremely dangerous storm surge along its path.

Storm surge

The greatest area of concern for storm surge in populated areas remains the southwest Florida coast, especially from Cape Coral/Fort Myers to Naples, where inundation of 10 – 15 feet is possible. High tide is at 4:50 pm EDT [in Naples Bay](#). Further north, inundation of 6 – 10 feet is possible south of Tampa, including Sarasota and Manatee Counties, and 5 – 8 feet in the Tampa/St. Petersburg area, including Tampa Bay. Easterly winds ahead of Irma [can produce lower-than-usual water levels](#) along Florida's west and southwest coast before the core of the storm arrives: a negative surge of 4' was observed at Naples late Sunday morning. **In such cases, we can expect the surge to rapidly increase after the eye of Irma passes to the north, and southwest winds push water onshore.** Inundations of 4 – 6 feet could occur north of the Tampa area to the southeast coast of the Florida Panhandle, as well as along the surge-prone coasts of Georgia and southern South Carolina. Because Irma's circulation is so large, strong onshore winds are bringing significant surge to Florida's southeast coast, including Biscayne Bay. Parts of downtown Miami were under several feet of water at midday Sunday (see embedded tweet below, from 11:40 am EDT).

Information on this page was taken from Weather Underground Webpage

Membership Application/Renewal form 2017-2018



W5PC

www.w5pc.org



**AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF PARKER COUNTY, INC.
P.O. BOX 1795
WEATHERFORD, TX 76086**

ARCPC INFORMATION NET

Mondays at 8:00 pm on 147.040 (Tone 110.9)

WC5C Net

Thursdays at 8:00 pm on 147.1600+ (Tone 110.9)

MEETINGS

The Amateur Radio Club of Parker County holds general membership meetings Throughout the year on a monthly basis the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00pm at the Parker County EOC 215 Trinity Street, Weatherford, Texas 76086.

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF PARKER COUNTY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____
LICENSE CLASS: (E)(A)(G)(T)(N) ARRL MEMBER: (YES) (NO) STATUS: (NEW) (RENEWAL)
(CIRCLE APPLICABLE ANSWERS ON ABOVE LINE)

ADDRESS: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP (plus 4): _____
PHONE: HOME: _____ WORK: _____

INITIATION FEE: One time initiation fee per family - \$5.00 (+ 1 same household or full time college

ANNUAL DUES: \$15.00. HAM FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$20.00 student)(Add an additional \$5.00 if you wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter).

HAM FAMILY MEMBER NAME: _____

CALL SIGN: _____

Cut out and mail this application to the ARCPC Secretary/Treasurer along with you check or money order for the amount due. Or, bring it to the next regular club meeting.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE IN JUNE