

The Amateur Radio Club of Parker County

Newsletter

June 1, 2010

Next Meeting: June 8, 2010 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM at the Harberger Hill Community Center on the corner of Mill and Narrow Streets.

Agenda: Adoption of the 2010-2011 budget and preparations for Field Day

Program: Inside the 2010 Dayton Hamvention - Scott – KE5SCG, Richard – K5ANR, and Jim - W0UO.

Things to do on the air this summer: The sunspots have disappeared and the HF bands seem to be dead, but there is plenty of activity if you know where to look.

20 Meters – Starting a few weeks ago and running well into late summer, there will be strong openings to the former Soviet Union from just before dark until almost midnight. Signals are strong; you should have no trouble working the stronger stations with low power and dipole antennas.

10 Meters – We are in the beginning of the Sporadic E season. During the summer months there will be occasional openings up to 1000 miles with very strong signals. Openings are unpredictable, so listen for beacons between 28.200 MHz and 28.300 MHz. These beacons run low power to small antennas and indicate when the band is open. Sporadic E signals are usually very strong, and you will have no trouble making contacts. Once in awhile you might be rewarded with a QSO to Europe or Japan on multi-hop Sporadic E propagation or to South America via Transequatorial Sporadic E. When the skip distances on 10 meters shorten up, listen on 6 Meters.

6 Meters – What has been said about 10 meters also applies to 6 meters. Openings are common through the summer months and both multi-hop and Transequatorial E skip are possible. Big antennas are not required.

When in doubt – When in doubt that a band is open, call CQ. You may be surprised.

Two big operating events – Field Day June 26 and 27 and the IARU Contest (which includes the World Radio Team Championship) July 10 and 11 (Rules in QST or at <http://www.arrl.org>.)

Things to do off the Air - Ham – Com, June 11 and 12 in Plano, Door prizes galore!

Recent Doings – A number of our friends ventured out to Campbell Island (TX059R) in the Brazos River to activate it for the Islands on the Air award. Congrats to the core team overnights Scott KE5SCG, Ken KE5QBZ, and Bob AD5VJ; and the core team day timers Mike KE5NCS and his friend Keith, Al WR5AW, Elizabeth N5ONE, Bill KF5FEI, and David KB5YLG. I understand the bugs weren't bad, no attacks by Lions, Tigers, Bears, or Raccoons, and, best of all, the group managed 418 contacts with 45 states and 10 DX stations. Pretty good work with battery power and wire antennas.

**Amateur Radio Club of Parker County
11 May 2010 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Ken Stout, KE5QBZ at 1911 hours.

Doug May, WB5VQQ gave the invocation.

Eighteen members and guests signed the roster.

The May club meeting was held at the Harberger Hill Community Center.

Two guests were introduced: Jeff Harper, KF5VXG and Jeff Webb, WE5BB.

Announcements:

Jeff Webb, WE5BB and Vic Bell, KC5WEN reported on Field Day plans to date and asked for us to choose what we wanted to do. A schedule was presented for sign-up to operate the currently scheduled stations.

Allen Beadel, KB5AB announced that he is now available for ARES/RACES information. His phone number is 817-727-2117 and his email address is: kb5ab@arrl.net. The station at the Parker Co. EOC is controlled by Tony Guess, N5NRU and a new orientation class is to be added to train additional operators.

Old Business:

A motion, by John, W5BNX and seconded by Elizabeth, N5ONE to approve the minutes from the April meeting, as posted on the Club website was approved by unanimous consent.

A motion by Will Teague, W5KD to limit expenditures to \$500.00 on the D-Star antenna and feed line failed for lack of a second.

The delayed motion by Jim Spaulding, W0UO as published on the website and via email was approved by a show of hands. This motion approved the expenditure - not to exceed \$1500.00 - to purchase and install feed line and antenna for a D-Star Repeater for Parker County which was funded by a grant from the NCTCOG.

New Business:

A motion to activate Campbell Island in the Brazos River (US Islands Program) using W5PC as the Call Sign and a joint effort by the members of WC5C and W5PC was approved by voice vote. The motion was by Doug May, WB5VQQ and the second by David Johnson, KB5YLG.

The following two motions by Jim Spaulding, W0U0 and seconded by (1) Scott McBain, KE5SCG and (2) Cecil Robinson, AE5ER were approved by a show of hands:

1. All Members of the Amateur Radio Club of Parker County are encouraged to participate in other organizations and programs which will further their knowledge and understanding of emergency radio communications. This may include, but is not limited to, membership in the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS), or local amateur radio clubs such as Disaster Response and Emergency Communications Team (DIRECT). Support for attendance at local, regional, or national ham conventions, and any other activity that would be helpful in furthering the individual's knowledge in emergency communication is a primary purpose of the Amateur Radio Club of Parker County.

2. The Amateur Radio Club of Parker County no longer encourages officers to serve two consecutive terms in office. Such service has proven to promote burnout and thus serves neither the club nor its' purposes.

The annual election of officers was held. The results were as follows:

President	Ken Stout	KE5QBZ
Vice-Pres	Elizabeth Hunkele	N5ONE
Sect/Treas	Jerry Thompson	W7JT
Director	Doug May	WB5VQQ
Director	Al Warren (Past President)	WR5AW

The motion to adjourn by Doug, WB5VQQ and seconded by Will, W5KD, was approved by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 2024 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry W. Thompson

W7JT

Judy, KB5JEY provided good food and drink. The contributions were short. Please contribute if you want to have refreshments for each meeting.

Thanks,

Jerry

After the meeting Jim Spaulding, W0U0 gave an interesting presentation on D-Star operations and benefits.