



K5RWK UPCOMING EVENTS

Meeting-on-the-Air

Monday, May 2, 7:30 P.M.
RWK Repeater, 2 Meters
147.12 (no PL Tone)

###

Monthly Meeting

Monday, May 9, 7:00 P.M.
St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church
1220 W. Beltline Rd, Richardson

Operating a HF station via remote control

How to set up a remote operation

Jim Popelarski W5WN & Robert Turner W5APN

###

Monthly Breakfast

Saturday, May 14, 8:00 A.M.
Luby's Cafeteria
300 W. Campbell Rd
Richardson

###

RACES Nets & Siren Test

Wednesday, May 4, Noon (Test)
Monday, May 2, 9:00 P.M. (Net)
Monday, May 16, 9:00 P.M. (Net)



THE CHAWED RAG

Volume 41, Issue 5 May 2011

REMOTE RIG CONTROL



W5WN's shack includes a Flexradio 3000

Have you ever heard an Australian VK ham remotely operating a transceiver... on a Caribbean island... from his home in Sidney? It is not unusual, given the Internet and the level of amateur radio technology these days.

Jim Popelarski W5WN and Robert Turner W5APN, both long-time hams, will discuss and demonstrate the benefits of remote rig control.

This 'dynamic duo' will use two computers and two separate transceivers to demonstrate how to operate remote and keep within FCC rules and regulations.

Jim is an Army and Coast Guard veteran. He also was a MARS operator. He worked for the Dept. of Defense and several other federal agencies, then with EDS and later with FEMA. Jim is a member of the Plano ARK.

Robert Turner, a graduate of the University Of Texas School Of Law, is an experienced intellectual property attorney in Dallas. Robert has been active in Plano ARK and in Chapter 41 of the QCWA.

So, don't be remote...attend on May 9!

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K5RWK Repeater 147.12/147.72
No tone needed - start talking!

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Klub membership is open to all persons interested in amateur radio. Join at any meeting, by mail or website. Annual dues are \$15 individual, \$20 family, and \$5 student rate.

The Chawed Rag is available online at http://k5rwk.org/index.php?option=com_docman&Itemid=55

RWK Web Page & E-mail Reflector Information

RWK Website: <http://www.k5rwk.org>

RWK E-mail:

The Klub has a Yahoo group mailing list. Go to

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rwk-ntx/>

All Klub members are encouraged to subscribe. The E-mail list is a forum for comments and ideas of interest to members.

Any Klub member on the list may post a message to the group at rwk-ntx@yahoogroups.com.

RWK Siren Testing Services

The City of Richardson will test all emergency sirens on first Wednesdays, at noon (weather permitting). The test is not conducted if the weather looks threatening to avoid confusing residents. Hams assist each month by going to a designated siren, checking into the net on 147.12 MHz, watching and listening to the performance of the siren, then reporting on the net. Most sirens have an assigned ham, but there are a few unassigned sirens.

Please contact Don Bowen K5LHO, 972.235.3063, if you can assist with siren tests near your QTH.

Why "The Chawed Rag?"

Ham radio operators love to talk! In addition to the many emergency communications services provided to their communities, hams enjoy chatting with fellow hams on the air. Hams exchange information about their locations, radio equipment they use, antennas and tuners, etc.

Additionally, hams often discuss the weather and exchange personal and family information. With regular communications, they develop on-the-air friendships. Such discussions are characterized as "chewing the rag" with a friend or several friends over a network. That is the origin of this newsletter's strange name.

Frankly, rag chewing with fellow hams is something that you must experience to appreciate. **Ham radio is fun!** If you want to explore amateur radio, contact one of our board members and join us at our monthly meetings. You are always welcome.

Future RWK Events:

May 02 – Monday – Meeting on the Air, 7:30 P.M.

May 02 – Monday – Richardson RACES Net, 9:00 P.M.

May 04 – Wednesday – City of Richardson Siren Test, 12:00 noon <http://www.cor.net/EM>

May 09 – Monday – Monthly Meeting, 7:00 P.M. (Cookies courtesy of Brian Davis KT3X)

May 14 – Saturday – Breakfast at Luby's, 8:00 A.M.

May 16 – Monday – Richardson RACES Net, 9:00 P.M.

May 21 – Wild Ride Bike Rally in Richardson. To help, contact Doug Kilgore at 972.231.8539

Jun 01 – Wednesday – City of Richardson Siren Test, 12:00 noon <http://www.cor.net/EM>

Jun 06 – Monday – Meeting on the Air, 7:30 P.M.

Jun 06 – Monday – Richardson RACES Net, 9:00 P.M.



Jun 10-11 – Friday/Saturday – Ham-Com & ARRL National Convention, Plano, TX

Jun 13 - Monday – Monthly Meeting, 7:00 P.M. (Cookies courtesy of Kevin Sims KD5YVL)

Jun 18 – Saturday – Breakfast at Luby's, 8:00 A.M.

Jun 20 – Monday – Richardson RACES Net, 9:00 P.M.

Jun 24-25 – Saturday/Sunday – ARRL Field Day

Jul 04 – Monday – Meeting on the Air, 7:30 P.M.

Jul 04 – Monday – Richardson RACES Net, 9:00 P.M.

Jul 06 – Wednesday – City of Richardson Siren Test, 12:00 noon <http://www.cor.net/EM>

Jul 11 – Monday – Monthly Meeting, 7:00 P.M. (Cookies courtesy of TBA)

Jul 16 – Saturday – Breakfast at Luby's, 8:00 A.M.

Jul 18 – Monday – Richardson RACES Net, 9:00 P.M.

“QUA” (I HAVE NEWS OF.....)

ARRL offers free Morse Code ringtones for mobile phones

Tom Hart, AD1B, spent part of his holiday working on a small project. “After years of procrastination, I finally told my wife that I was ready to get a cell phone. I’m not a Luddite, but I simply did not feel the need for a cell phone until now. Plus, I needed some peace and quiet in order to chase DXCC entities on the air (about 178 to go). “But since I now own the phone, I decided that I needed two ringtones customized for my ear. Specifically, I wanted a ‘CQ’ and a ‘QRZ’ ringtone.”

Tom created the ringtones by recording his Tented Argonaut transceiver on 80 meters. He sent the code using a Bencher paddle with the Argonaut keyer set to 20 WPM. Tom recorded the audio digitally, then trimmed the files to the proper lengths and further enhanced the sound quality. The MP3 ringtones files for “CQ” and “QRZ” are available for downloading in “Normal” and “Loud” versions below. To save the files to your computer, right-click on the links below and choose "Save Target As" or "Save Link As."

[CQ Normal](#) [CQ Loud](#) [QRZ Normal](#) [QRZ Loud](#) (I downloaded them and they work!)

Every cell phone model has its own system for loading ringtones, but nearly all accommodate MP3 files. Check your phone manual for specifics. You can edit the files with free software such as [Audacity](#). According to Tom, the ringtones may give hams impromptu opportunities to promote Amateur Radio whenever someone hears the ringing phone and asks, "What's that strange sound?"

Got a program idea?

Carl Solomon W5SU, Vice President and Program Coordinator invites you to contact him with your ideas for future RWK Monthly Forum presentations.

What fundamental topic or operating area of amateur radio interests or confuses you? What new or more in-depth knowledge would improve your ham radio experience?

Suggest a program that you are prepared to present to RWK members, **or** simply give Carl your topic of interest and perhaps someone you know who is expert in the topic area, and who may be willing to share his or her expertise at one of our upcoming forums.

We want to plan program presentations several months in advance to allow more time for preparation, publicity, and for attendance planning.

Email Carl at cdsol@swbell.net or call him at 972-233-1233 with your suggestions.

Hear how you sound on the air

Here is how you can use our K5RWK 2 meter repeater to record your transmission and play it back.

1. Set your 2-meter transceiver to 147.12 MHz, the K5RWK repeater frequency (no PL).
2. Key your PTT mike button and hold it in as you punch in 411
3. Release PTT and listen for the response from our repeater (- - - -.), OK in Morse code.
4. Key your PTT mike button again and speak your message in your normal voice.

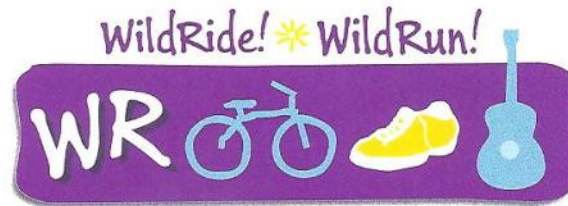
Release PTT and listen to the message you just recorded into our repeater.

HAM GLOSSARY:

*Remote Control –
The use of a control operator who indirectly manipulates the operating adjustments in the station through a control link to achieve compliance with the FCC rules.*

RWK coordinates communications for the Wild Ride Bike Rally

RWK members, along with volunteers from other local ham clubs will provide vital communications during the upcoming Wild Ride Bike Rally. Doug Kilgore says that he needs more volunteers! To help, call Doug at 972.231.8539.



AGAINST CANCER

Benefiting

Methodist Richardson Cancer Center

Saturday, May 21, 2011

2400 North Glenville Dr, Richardson Texas

RICHARDSON
Bike Mart
bikemart.com

Presents

8th Annual WildRide!
Against Cancer Bike Rally
Consisting of 16-, 40-,
and 65-mile routes
through beautiful North
Texas countryside and
over the Lavon lake Dam

For details and
registration go to:
WildRideBikeRally.com

FUJITSU

Presents

Inaugural 5K Timed
Run and 3rd annual fun
run/walk through
scenic Richardson parks

For details and
registration go to:

WildRunAgainstCancer.com


Methodist
RICHARDSON MEDICAL CENTER
FOUNDATION

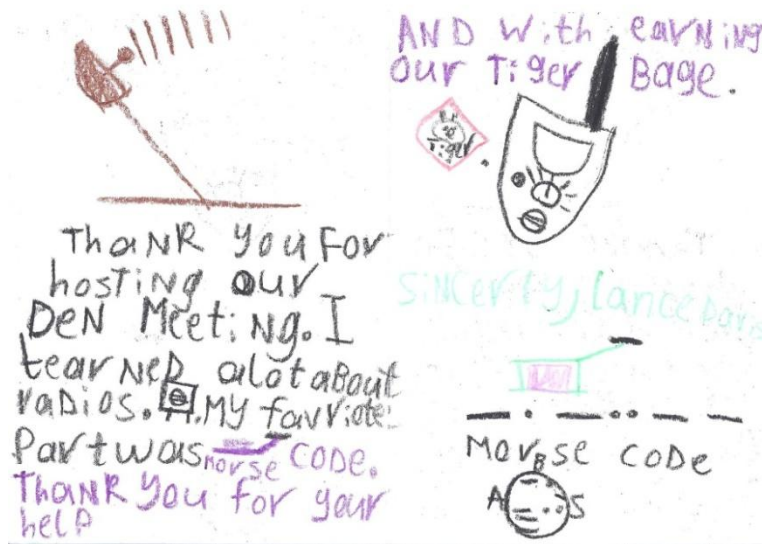
How about it?

We need cookie sponsors for the months of July, August, and November.

To be a sponsor, email k6rah@arrl.net and specify a month. Thanks!

Cub Scouts thank RWK for the ham radio demonstration

The Richardson Wireless Klub K5RWK introduced members of Cub Scout Pack 516 to the wonders of ham radio during a field trip to Adam Epler's KF5EMX ham shack. The Cubs were 1st grade students at Yale Elementary school in Richardson. Adam, who is a Boy Scout now in the 7th grade, was previously a member of Pack 516.



Lance Davis, along with the other members of Cub Scout in Pack 516, sent RWK thank you notes after several RWK members demonstrated radio and Morse code. Each scout earned his Tiger merit badge for participating and learning about ham radio.

HAM HISTORY: After World War II, VHF radio operation changed from the pre-war model of the 1930s when 10 meters was considered part of the VHF spectrum. Pre-war, hams operated simple super-regenerative receivers and modulated-oscillator transmitters. In the early 1940's, some hams engaged in the War Emergency Radio Service (WERS) used the same types of equipment within the 112 MHz band, although stricter regulations called for better frequency accuracy and stability. The war gave VHF, UHF, and new microwave technology a big boost. As hams returned from the armed services, they incorporated many of the improvements. Changes included not only equipment improvements, but band modifications too. New spectrum allocations like 2 meters (144-148 MHz) and 6 meters (50-54 MHz) replaced the prior 2 ½ meter and 5 meter band allocations. Post-war equipment began to include 6 meters as an extension of the HF frequency coverage. Soon, tunable VHF converters appeared, pioneered by RME followed by Lafayette and Columbus Electronics. National sold updated VHF receivers.

The FCC instituted the Novice class license in July 1951 and granted Novices voice privileges from 145-147 MHz. The Technician class license, introduced at that time, granted all amateur privileges above 220 MHz. The new licensees quickly expanded the market for VHF equipment.

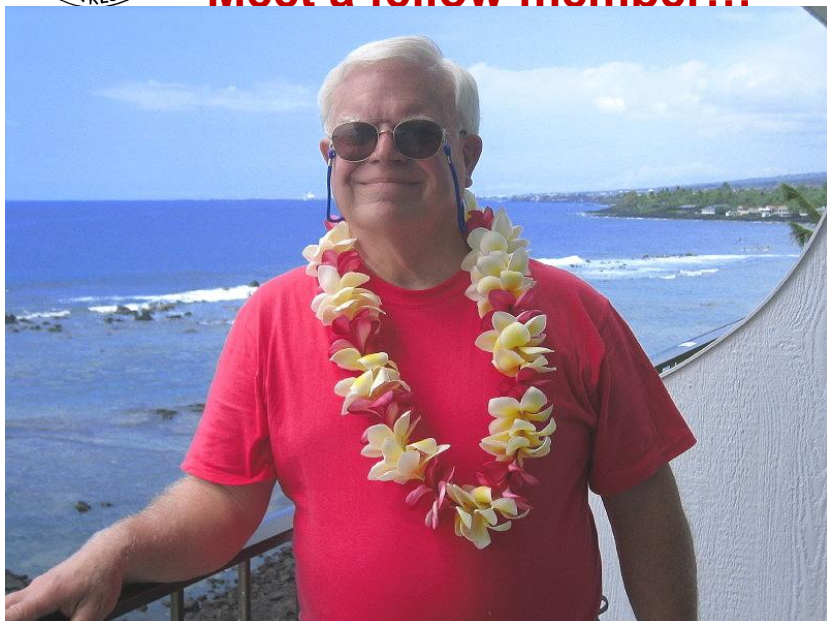
VHF meant very modest antenna requirements, which made VHF popular for mobile and portable operations. Gonset Corp. introduced several converters, followed quickly by their station-in-a-box 2 meter Communicator, an early AM transceiver. The Communicator featured a self-contained AC/DC power supply.



Gonset Communicator, circa 1952 \$189.50



Meet a fellow member...



Dick Sisson W5ONL

My legal given name is John, which is used by the bank, the IRS, and the FCC.

My friends call me Dick. I am a Richardson, Texas resident.

The photo is from 2007, but my appearance has not changed, except to lose some weight. I don't have many photos of me all by myself.

Former call signs: (W5ONL was my original call sign, circa 1948. I got it back later); W8FFL; K0HEM; WA2GWF (later re-issued); W4WZC; VK8AF (later re-issued); W5ONL/HB; W5ONL/HB0; W5ONL/VE3.

SPECIAL NOTE TO RWK MEMBERS: We strongly encourage you to prepare or expand a personal profile, on *QRZ.com* or privately, detailing your history and involvement in amateur radio. Include your picture, pictures of your shack, recognition for your 'Elmers,' and your memorable career, family, and ham radio achievements. A personal profile helps other club members get to know you better and provides a valuable written record of your participation in amateur radio. We would like to feature **you** in a future "Chawed Rag" newsletter, so please provide the editor with your biographical write-up and a digital photo. Thanks.