



President-Mark Hetherington - KF5KUW Vice-President-James Hunt - KI5DQ Secretary-Sarah Richardson – KI5PZF

Treasurer-Sharon McEachern - KI5FHN Trustee-Dr. Mike Durbin - K5MJD

# Fannin County Amateur Radio Club K5FRC

Volume 1 Issue 4 - April 2023

## APRIL 2023 K5FRC TREASURER'S REPORT

Currently, the club has a balance of \$4,689.42 in its checking account and a balance of \$224.03 in its savings account. Since our last club meeting, the club has had the following deposit and expenditure:

Deposit of \$248 on 3-28-23 which included four individual memberships and monies from the garage sale at CLEAN OUT THE RED BARN AT MIKE'S PLACE.

One expenditure of \$288.58 for reimbursement of the purchase of Technician books. This has yet to clear the bank.

Reminder: If you need to renew your ARRL membership, you can do so through the club and the club will receive a commission from ARRL. I will have the forms at our next meeting.

73's  
Sharon  
KI5FHN

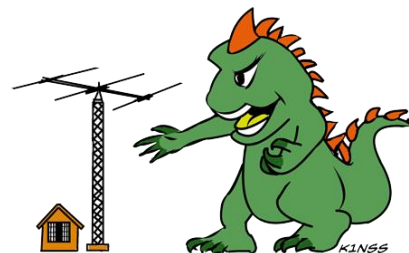
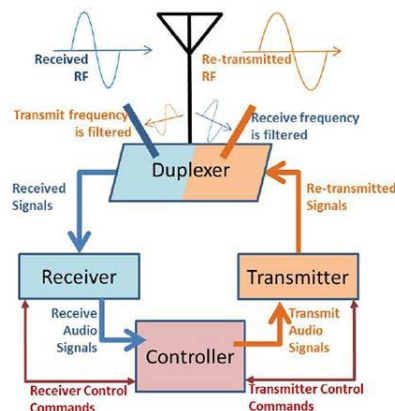
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## REPEATER CLASS



Mike, K5MJD will give a class on repeaters, cavity alignment, and at his QTH in the near future. Standby for date time.

Here is a simplified functional block diagram of a repeater station.



## K5FRC REPEATERS

- 145.470 (100Hz tone; -600Khz offset)  
C4FM or Analog; IRLP 3602;  
ECHOLINK 143903; WIRES 21151;  
Tuesday Night Net 8:00 PM
- 442.525 (100HZ TONE; +5.0 Mhz offset)  
C4FM or Analog;
- 443.750 (100Hz tone; +5.0Mhz offset)  
C4FM or Analog;
- FCARC meets every third Saturday at  
9:00 AM at the BOIS D' COWBOY  
CHURCH
- ZOOM sessions are held every Tuesday  
at 7:00 PM CST before the net on the  
145.470 Mhz repeater. Website:  
[www.k5frc.org](http://www.k5frc.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/K5FRC/](https://www.facebook.com/K5FRC/)  
Mark, KF5KUW is the administrator.  
Website: [www.k5frc.org](http://www.k5frc.org)

Trustees' report  
Simple report All systems are up  
and operational

NOW FOR TRUSTEE FUN INFO

The standard "NATO" phonetic alphabet (actually the International Radio-Telephony Spelling Alphabet) is: Alfa, Bravo, Charlie, Delta, Echo, Foxtrot, Golf, Hotel, India, Juliett, Kilo, Lima, Mike, November, Oscar, Papa, Quebec, Romeo, Sierra, Tango, Uniform, Victor, Whiskey, X-ray, Yankee, Zulu.

What is the difference between NATO and phonetic alphabet? Phonetic alphabets are used to indicate, through symbols or codes, what a speech sound or letter sounds like. **The NATO Phonetic Alphabet is instead a spelling alphabet** (also known as telephone alphabet, radio alphabet, word-spelling alphabet, or voice procedure alphabet).

What does Tango Mike mean? Answer: It means "thank you," or specifically, "thanks much." In 1955, many military organizations, including NATO and the U.S. military, adopted a phonetic alphabet to aid in correctly transmitting messages.

What does Lima Charlie mean? "Loud and Clear" "Lima Charlie" is representative of the letters "L" and "C" in the NATO alphabet, which when used together in military parlance stands for "**Loud and Clear**".

"Bravo Zulu" is a Naval signal, conveyed by flag-hoist or voice radio, meaning "**well done**;" it has also passed into the spoken and written vocabulary. There are some myths and legends attached to this signal.

According to the Navy, the popular term comes from the [Allied Naval Signal Book](#) created by NATO as a system of signals displayed by either a flag hoist or voice radio to communicate and relay messages back and forth between various naval vessels.

73 de K5MJD

ITU Phonetic Alphabet

- A Alfa AL FAH
- B Bravo BRAH VOH
- C Charlie CHAR LEE
- D Delta DELL TAH
- E Echo ECK OH
- F Foxtrot FOKS TROT
- G Golf GOLF
- H Hotel HOH TELL
- I India IN DEE AH
- J Juliett JEW LEE ETT
- K Kilo KEY LOH
- L Lima LEE MAH
- M Mike MIKE
- N November NO VEM BER
- O Oscar OSS CAH
- P Papa PAH PAH
- Q Quebec KEH BECK
- R Romeo ROW ME OH
- S Sierra SEE AIR RAH
- T Tango TANG GO
- U Uniform YOU NEE FORM
- V Victor VIK TAH
- W Whiskey WISS KEY
- X X-ray ECKS RAY
- Y Yankee YANG KEY
- Z Zulu ZOO LOO

NOTICE ANY DIFFERENCE FROM THE NATO?

## *President's Report*

April showers bring May flowers... what about those March showers that brought wind, hail, and then some rain. For some of us, there was quite a bit of rain. And for those of us under the dome, we got some but we are still far from where we need to be.

Our meeting this month will be held at Bonham State Park, where we will also be participating as volunteers with their 100-year anniversary event. We will have a table to share information about us and amateur radio, and we will also have an operating radio there making contacts and showing people how easy and fun it can be. But alas, Mother Nature has her own ideas, so it looks like Saturday might be a bit on the rainy side. So, let's bring some canopies, raincoats, and if you have them, rain slickers. We are planning to start setting up at 7:30 am, as Mike will be bringing the club's trailer with the portable crank-up tower. And with the great radio propagation on 10 meters lately, we will plan to be operating on that band. Additionally, we will try our hand at activating K-2991 Bonham State Park. This should also bring us more contacts, and allow us to let folks try their hand with a radio.

We got word that the LDS Emergency Preparedness Fair has been postponed to May 13<sup>th</sup>. Apparently, there was a conflict that caused this change. We will be participating in this event again this year, having been participating since it was started some years back. We have the chance to show off what amateur radio is all about, and show folks why they should be considering getting their technician license, and be better prepared for what they might face in the future. And, it can be a lot of fun, too.

May 6<sup>th</sup> is our Radio On The Lake, where we will once again boat on out to Treasure Island in the middle of Lake Texoma, for a day of fun, radio, and for those lucky enough, some fishing too. Last year we had a great time, until the heat got to be too much and we pulled the plug a couple hours early. This year, we are going a month earlier in the year, and should be a lot more bearable. The event is scheduled to run from 9:00 am through 7:00 pm, which will give us lots of time on the radio. Some of us will likely go out the night before and spend the night on the lake fishing, and playing radio.

So, I am curious to see everyone's opinion on Daylight Savings Time. Should this be abolished, and we stick to the same time frame year around? Or, do you feel that it is important that we adjust the clock for the shorter day lengths in winter?

We have had a great month with six amateurs' getting their Technician's license, and one more who advanced to General. This is very encouraging to watch our community of amateur operators grow, and so rewarding seeing some what to move on and get a higher license for more privileges.

Now we need for our current amateur operators to reach out to these new hams, and offer their advice, opinions, and assistance. Being an Elmer is an enjoyable feeling, helping another to learn and improve. And, you don't have to buy a commercial antenna to get on the air; make your own and have fun learning what not to do, and then seeing your rewards when you get it working. Make It a family project, and share these experiences with your children, grandchildren, and for those fortunate few, great grandchildren. These are our future ham radio operators, in training.

Speaking of Training, I am going to start up another Technician class starting April 24<sup>th</sup>, as we have already gotten more requests for when the next class will be. We will be meeting on Monday and

Thursday evenings from 7:00 pm through 9:30 pm, and depending on our students' needs, this class will be either four or five weeks long.

In closing, don't forget to consider joining our Texas RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service), as you will need to be an active member in order to assist with amateur radio communications at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). With our success during the March 2<sup>nd</sup> weather event, we are being invited to have a RACES member there onsite if the EOC is ever activated. This will help them with better tracking and understanding of our Skywarn and other emergency services we as a club deliver. An active RACES membership is required because of the state background check required for membership addresses all the security restrictions in the business areas of the Sheriff's Department. But even if you are not in RACES, we still need and want your help with all the other activities that are involved.

### **SECRETARY REPORT**

#### Minutes Regular meeting 18 March 2023

President Mark Hetherington called the meeting to order at 0906. Jessie Brown did the invocation and led the pledges.

President's Report: Mark mentioned the upcoming events for the club.

- March 25 – The FC Master Gardener Garden, Home & Lawn EXPO. The club will have inside table to share what amateur radio is about, and direct visitors to the outside table area where we will have radios set up.
- April 15 – we will be meeting at Bonham State Park with the 100 Years Special Event. We will activate a Parks On The Air, since Bonham State Park is a POTA park K-2991. We will set up our portable tower near the Antique cars, so this should be a good foot traffic area for us to share what amateur radio can do.
- May 6 – Radio on the Lake event at Lake Texoma. 0900 to 1900. We will be departing from High Port Marina. If you want to spend the night on the lake, have fun – just remember there is no camping on Treasure Island.
- June 24<sup>th</sup> through June 25<sup>th</sup> – location options include Bois d'Arc Creek Cowboy Church, Lake Fannin or an alternate location.
- October 7<sup>th</sup> – Autumn in Bonham Bicycle Event – we will be assisting in this event. Communications for the Rest Stops, Support & Gear (SAG) vehicles that pick riders and bicycles up and live stream video back to the Start/Finish area from a point.
- Severe weather practice drill turned into a live event March 2. Sharon and Bob will give report later in the meeting.
- Technician class going well, with testing planned for March 30 at 1900 at Bois d'Arc Creek Cowboy Church. WCARS VE's are needed to help with this.

Vice President's Report: James reported that the bands are wide open, with many contacts made. General class has had one test and gain General license – Rick Huntoon.

Secretary Report: Sarah read the minutes from February 18 meeting, asked for a motion to approve if there were no changes. Motion made, seconded and minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report: Sharon reports balance of \$4,441.42 in the checking and \$223.98 in the savings accounts. Dues received and expenditures paid were listed in the newsletter. She reminds us that ARRL membership renewal benefits the club, and she has forms to use.

Trustee Report: Dr. Mike reports the repeaters are all operating, and our UPS are capable of supporting the repeaters. The repeaters are not internet linked, but the radio link does have internet links. He reminds of the "Free for all" at his red barn this afternoon after the meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Sharon gave a report of the events of March 2, 2023 during the activation of Skywarn and Emergency Management. Sharon was at the Fannin County Sheriff's Office when they lost power. People were manning their posts. Alicia Whipple for monetary concerns if necessary, Jennifer managing logistics, Judge Newt and Tammy Biggar for PSA type things, Sharon for communications. Sharon became NET control when Mark lost power and his battery was in his car. Fuzzy went to Leonard where there was thought to be a structure fire. A report of the repeater being out of power sent Dr. Mike to the Ivanhoe tower, which was operational. Jeff P went to Ravenna, and other operators went to areas as needed. Our teamwork was shown well – stayed on the net because of communication failure for the County. She wished she had her own set for the familiarity. Bob Yakel tells more of the tale. Power was lost at the Bailey tower, but our repeater did not go down.

For Field Day, Sharon moved that our first choice be Lake Fannin if we can get permission, second choice of Bois d'Arc Cowboy Church if we cannot get permission. Keith seconded that motion and Dr Mike will let us know within a couple of weeks.

Brian Heise remarked that we need to introduce ourselves, since we have some new people in with the group now. That followed immediately.

Radio in the Park is upcoming, with our next meeting being held at the Bonham State Park. Motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

### **VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT**

11April2023

James Hunt - KI5DQ

Vice-President and Safety Officer

#### **Spring Time safety tips and awareness.**

##### **2023 SKYWARN Schedule**

The National Weather Service (NWS) SKYWARN Program is now complete.

<https://www.weather.gov/fwd/skywarnmap>

Your NWS certificates are good for 2 years.

The K5FRC 145.470- and 442.525+ repeaters have SKYWARN nets during inclement weather events. They have direct link to the NWS.

#### **Fannin County Exposition – 25March2023**

Saturday morning several of the Fannin County amateur radio club members met at the Fannin County Multi-Purpose Complex, and set up two booths.

One outside with live radio demonstrations. Inside booth with brochures and additional Q & A. Several people stopped by and shared contact information.

The outdoor exhibit booth. Completely portable for quick deployment.

Features a HF/VHF/UHF transceiver, AGM battery, VHF/UHF antenna (mounted on canopy leg).

