



THE REPEATER

*Welcome to the monthly
Newsletter publication of the
Fannin County Amateur Radio Club*



K5FRC Repeaters

145.470 (No tone) IRLP 3602 ECHOLINK 143902

145.130 (No tone)

443.750 (No tone) IRLP 7901

Digital SSTV 446.460

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Portable Antenna Mount

Most every ham has had a need to hold an antenna while testing or simply working as a portable station. Surplus fiberglass or aluminum poles have become available the last 2 or 3 years and they make good temporary masts. However, to be really useful, a way is needed to hold the mast and antenna in position. During the 2009 Hamcom in Plano, I came across a vendor in the “tailgate” section that had a metal mount that would allow using 3 of these poles as a base for any number of sections used in the upright position. This mount is shown in the following pictures.



This lower left view shows a hanger for a sand bag and the next photo shows a sand bag attached. This sand bag adds stability in case of wind.



This last photo shows a different style bracket that was designed and built by Chance Backest KE5DLY. This bracket is a prototype and Chance is continuing to refine this design.

David Keene

W5DBK

FCARC

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thursday, December 9, 2010

Shumardi's 6:30 PM

Bonham, Texas

(located across from the Majestic 6 Movie Theater on 121)

Join us at Shumardi's in the private dining room for fellowship, fun, silent auction, and some great door prizes ! We will elect our officers for the 2011 year.

If you plan to attend please RSVP by December 6th so that we may have a head count for the Buffet. Cost is \$10.99 per person plus gratuity. This is a family event so everyone is invited !

RSVP to David Reeder, WA0URJ@yahoo.com

Officers for 2011

The officers nominated for the year 2011 are as listed below. These candidates will be presented to the club at the 2010 December club meeting. Others may also be nominated from the floor.

President - Mike Durbin K5MJD

Vice President - David Keene W5DBK

Secretary - Kathy Brewer KE5SLG

Treasurer - Carly Tassan KE5ZKV

K5FRC

November 20, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Fannin County Amateur Radio Club began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

President Mike Durbin expressed his apologies for having missed the last few meeting and at the request of some present gave a brief but interesting overview of what he does on these trips. He said that he is working on a DVD of behind the scenes activities on the ship to present to the club at a later date.

Jody Lindsey gave an oral summary of her October and November reports. The reports are combined since there was no regular monthly business meeting in October due to the "Mini" Field Day held at the VA Park on that day. David Reeder WAØURJ made the motion to accept the report and Mike Lindsey KD5UNY seconded. The motion passed.

Due to the fact there were no minutes for October; the minutes for the month of September that had been posted in the newsletter were presented in hard copy by the secretary. David Keene W5DBK summarized then made the motion to accept the September minutes. Darrell Brewer KE5JHN seconded. The minutes were approved as presented.

David Keene told that there were about twenty people showed up at the Mini Field. There were three boy scouts and their leader came also. They were able to make some contacts on 20 meter and we were all given instructions on how to raise and lower the trailer tower. It was a good day.

Mike Durbin shared a "Thank You" letter from the Chamber for the bike rally, and a QSL card from Eric Wise.

Mike then called on Darrell Brewer KE5JHN, the Fannin County Emergency Management Coordinator. Darrell said there had been some changes in the RACES requirements and now it will be necessary to send a copy of the radio license

along with the RACES applications. This along with the fact that there is a new RLO in position has been the reason for the delay in the renewal process. Darrell shared the names of the members that need to update their applications, those pending and the ones that are still in good standing. He asked for anyone interested in joining RACES to fill out the application and get it and a copy of their license to him.

Darrell also passed out copies of the invitation he received from the National Weather Service about the 2010 SKYWARN Recognition Day. This will be a twenty-four hour event beginning Friday, December 3, at 6:00 PM. Saturday there will be an open house and lunch will be provided. Darrell asked if anyone wanted to make a day of it and attend the open house. A group could carpool together. We need to RSVP before Thursday, December 2.

Mike pointed out two little picture books on the table of people, equipment, rooms and antennas since 1980. Just a little history of the club that he thought might be nice for those interested.

The question of the Christmas Party and the increased number of club regulars was brought up by Mike Durbin. Do we want to have it at Hickory Bar-B-Q as usual? David Reeder WAØURJ suggested Shumardi's adding that they now have a buffet and Roger Ashcraft KE5CCJ agreed saying that they also have a large meeting room. Lake Fannin was also suggested and we bring our own food but the cost for the room is about \$150. Rolando's doesn't have a meeting room. After some discussion Thursday, December 9th, at 6:30 PM was selected for the time. David Reeder and Roger Ashcraft volunteered to contact the Shumardi's about menu and cost. David will post his findings on Fanninhams.

At the Christmas Party we will have the election of officers for 20118. David Keene shared the slate of officers so far is:

President.....Mike Durbin K5MJD	Vice
President....David Keene W5DBK	Secretary.....Kathy Brewer
KE5SLG	Treasurer.....Carly Tassan KE5ZKV

Jody Lindsey KE5GIB said she has decided to give up the treasurer's position this year and volunteered to assist Carly or whoever in learning all that needs to be done as treasurer. Mike said if anyone wants to nominate someone for any of the positions they can do it now, on-line, or at the Party. No one else was nominated.

There will be lots of door prizes. Mike Durbin thanked Jeff Cotner for the 2009 ARRL Handbook donated to be used for a door prize. Over the last year or so the club has receive various radios in need of repair. Most have been repaired. David Reeder made the motion that in order to recoup the money spent on the repairs we have a silent auction. David Keene said he would post the list of radios for the auction on Fanninhams so everyone could look them up on internet to learn more about the radio. Jen Peaco KE5OPS seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Danny Loyd requested that the weekly net be move back to the 47 machine until the problems with the 130 can be resolved. Mike agreed and said he would link the two for the upcoming Tuesday night so the announcement could be made and Danny would put it on Fanninhams Yahoo Group so everyone would know before making the change. That way we wouldn't lose any one.

Mike Durbin explained the differences in the antennas we use at home and a real repeater antenna and why we need another antenna for the 130 repeater. He told us about a sale at Texas Towers on repeater antennas. They have both 4 bay and 8 bay for \$100 and \$200 respectively which is dirt cheap. David Reeder made the motion we purchase an 8 bay antenna for the 130 machine at the \$200. George Phillips KE5ERU seconded. All were enthusiastically in favor. Roger Ashcraft made the motion that we also purchase a 16 bay antenna for the 450 machine while this price is so good even though it is not a critical at this time. The price is also \$200. Darrell Brewer KE5JHN seconded the motion. This motion also passed.

Mike Durbin also said to get the RAILS to come back on the 450 machine we need LMR 400 coax. Steve Ten Eyke said he had a source for a better coax if someone would help him haul it.

Mike Durbin gave a summary of the problems at the North Tower and the repeaters there. These problems beginning with getting water in the coax include the antennas and the radio used to build the repeater. He said that the antennas that were voted to be purchased would eliminate much of the noise. He also has another radio and a transmitter that is more suited for use as a repeater ready to install there. The installation of the antennas will require serious effort from the club members and will probably be a club spring project to get the antennas up and done properly. These changes will make the repeaters there commercial grade repeaters.

He also explained about linking the different machines together and IRLP and gave the codes on how to do certain things. As it sits right now 450 and IRLP are normally linked together.

To get it in that mode send AB01. It will come back and say what mode it is in.

To get remote base only send AB02.

The 450, Remote,

plus IRLP send AB03.

To connect to the 130 machine it is

A752.

To go to 6 meters it is A755.

If you want to bother the guys in Sherman on 147.00 on 450 sometime it is A753.

To connect to 47

without going through IRLP send A751.

When you do this the radio will come back and talk to confirm your connection.

Also the tower is tied into an alarm if there is a power glitch. To reset the alarm use AB07 which turns it off to reset then send AB06 to turn it back on.

Please, use the AB01 to leave the repeater in its normal mode, if you don't it will reset itself in ten minutes without activity.

Jennifer Peaco KE5OPS made the motion to adjourn and Steve Ten Eyke KE5CXT seconded. The motion passed.

X

Kathy Brewer KE5SLG
Secretary
