

# AIRWAVES



## IEEE Fair

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>IEEE Fair</i>	1
<i>LGames 5k</i>	1
<i>Meeting Minutes</i>	2
<i>Meeting Presentation</i>	2
<i>Classes and Tests</i>	3
<i>Presentations Wanted</i>	3
<i>Calendar</i>	3

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, or IEEE, held a local Society event for L-3 Employees at the Recreational Hall today in order to provide a venue for vendors to show off their latest technology and products. The IEEE Technology Showcase 2016 was to allow vendors of various electronic components and test gear come and talk about their products and new technologies that are being developed. The event started in the afternoon and provided lunch to all that attended the event, especially IEEE members. William Sanitate is the organizer of this year's event. Being a member of the Majors Field Amateur Radio Club, William invited our club to setup a table to possibly demonstrate Amateur Radio to those in attendance. Since vendors would be present with display tables, it might be beneficial for the club to have a table to share the hobby and answer questions.

Thanks to all of the folks who helped with this station setup. We learned a few things from this event, such as proper antenna feed line connection work. This was the only unknown going into the event that we did not address in time. However, we do have a nice club banner that can be displayed in front of any table for future events. The thought being we could setup the table in the cafeterias in order to attract more interest in Amateur Radio. Thanks to Joseph Scott – K5BGL for lending us his Buddy Pole antenna system, which was easy to erect and came with its own tripod structure. I'm going to seriously look at this product for future field setup for my own station.

73 de Michael – K5MDK

Several volunteers answered the call to come help setup a table with a working HF station: Mark Bushnell – AE5FG, Scott Davis – KK7JS, James Harper – KK5Y, Scott Joseph – K5BGL (and his buddy pole antenna), Michael Ketchum (and his radio gear), David Rogers – KG5KPU, Jon Titzell – KG5PUR, and Robert Yakel – KG5KKE. A table with the HF station was setup to demonstrate digital modes, such as WSPR and PSK31. The Buddy Pole antenna was erected near the front of the hall in a grassy area. However, we could not get a good connection with the antenna in order to transmit. However, we were able to receive quite well.



### Special points of interest:

Volunteers needed to help with the LGames 5k on May 7

We need people to present a topic at our club meetings

In addition to the table with the working demonstration, we also had ARRL Band Charts and business cards with the license class schedule for 2016 to give away. The IEEE Hosts provided BBQ from Soulman's, which was very good. Each of the vendors provided a speaker in order to address the audience. The MFARC was also mentioned during the speaking time.

## LGames 5k

The LGames 5k will be held on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. We need approximately 8 hams to help monitor the course. The only equipment you will need is an HT with a charged battery. We will meet around 7:30 am, with the race starting at 8. Activities should conclude by 10:00. Please contact Stephen Denison or Michael Ketchum if you are able to help.

## March Club Meeting Minutes

Stephen Denison – President, opened the meeting at 11:45.

- Announcements made by club President, Stephen Denison:
  - SVARA Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays at 7pm at Greenville Hospital 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
  - Ham Expo at Belton, Texas – 4/16.
- Field Day – pursue location at Greenville Hospital. –
  - Proposed dates of June 24 -25.
  - Need to resolve shifts.
  - Plan to use green space in front of hospital.
  - Discussed the availability of equipment with several attendees volunteering to bring radios and antennas.
  - Other possible locations were discussed – parks and doctor's office parking lot just west of the hospital.
- Four new Hams were licensed at our recent class.
- North Texas Ham Radio Rodeo discussed for Saturday, May 7th.
  - We will have local Hams at Cooper Lake.
  - Bonham club will be invited.
- L-3 Games 5K run is Saturday 5/7. They have requested 8 operators at this event.
- Discussed checking out the MSTF facility and coordinating a tour of that facility sometime in the near future.
- Repeater Update:
  - Discussed purchasing a new Kenwood repeater to replace VHF repeater (approximately \$525 on eBay).
  - Discussed relocating our VHF machine from the Fire Dept. to the MSTF co-located with our VHF machines.
  - Need to look at antennas, coax, splitter, etc.
  - Contact has been made to the Texas VHF-FM society to get the freq pair coordinated.
- Presentation by Stephen Denison (W5SMD): Proper Station Grounding.
  - Copy of the power-point presentation can be found at the club website [www.wd5gsl.net](http://www.wd5gsl.net).

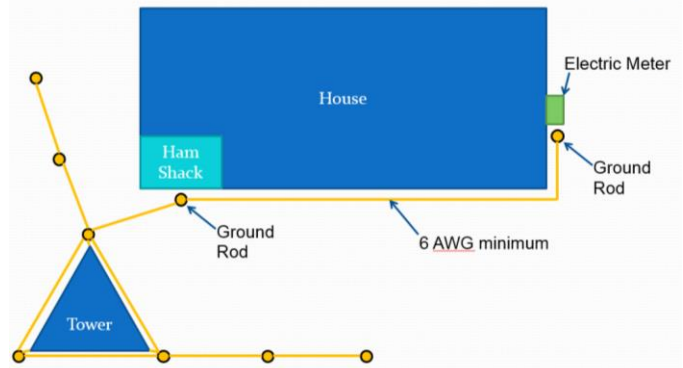
Adjournment at 12:30

## March Meeting Presentation– Grounding for Hams

Grounding is an important issue for amateur radio operators that fulfills three main purposes. Proper grounding will prevent electrical shock hazard by keeping high voltages off of equipment chassis. Many antenna systems require a good ground to be effective and some setups are improved by directing stray RF currents to ground. Finally, a good ground system will help protect equipment from nearby lightning strikes.

NEC 810 is the standard that covers grounding for external antennas. A ground rod must be installed near the station and it must be bonded to the ground rod near the electric meter with wire no smaller than 6 AWG. In addition, towers and masts should have ground rods which are bonded to the ground system. Antennas attached to the main structure may be tied into the ground system using 10 AWG wire on the exterior of the structure.

### Installing a Ground System (NEC 810)



The point at which the cables enter the building should have a grounding panel bonded to the exterior ground rod. The grounding points on each piece of equipment should be bonded to this panel. In addition, lightning protection devices should be employed on each conductor. Including antenna feedlines, rotor control cables, and tower raising/lowering control lines.



## Upcoming Classes and Test Sessions

The Majors Field Amateur Radio Club is planning on having classes on the following Days:

May 26, 27, 28 General Class, Test on May 28  
November 4, 5 Technician Class, Test on November 5

If anyone is interested in taking a class, teaching a class, or becoming a volunteer examiner to administer the test, please email [classes@wd5gsl.org](mailto:classes@wd5gsl.org).

## Presentations Wanted

We are looking for presenters to present a short topic on Ham Radio at our monthly club meetings. Presentations may include, but are not limited to:

- Building or Modifying Station Equipment
- Different types of Digital Operation
- Software used for Ham Radios
- Emergency Radio Equipment
- Ham Radio Activities, such as contests or events

If you would like more information on a particular topic, and would like someone to do a presentation on it, you may suggest it as a topic. Please email Stephen Denison or Michael Ketchum to present a topic or to suggest a topic for presentation.

April

21 SVARA Meeting at 7:00pm at Greenville Hospital  
28 MFARC Meeting PD North Conference Room at 11:45am

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Daily DFW Early Traffic Net (NTS) at 6:30pm 146.88 – PL 110.9Hz

Daily DFW Late Traffic Net (NTS) at 8:30pm 146.72 – PL 110.9Hz

Daily DFW CW Traffic Net (NTS) at 7:00pm and at 10pm on 3541 KHz [www.k6jt.com](http://www.k6jt.com)

Thurs Sabine Valley Amateur Radio Association Net Every Thursday night at 7:00pm on the K5GVL/R 146.780 MHz (+) PL 114.8Hz

**Friday Majors Field Amateur Radio Club Talk-In Net** Every Friday morning on your way in to work on the WD5GSL/R 147.160 MHz (+) PL 100.0Hz

Contest Calendar: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/weeklycont.php>

**MAJORS FIELD  
AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB**

***Phone:***

(903) 457-4127

***E-Mail:***

president@wd5gsl.org

***We're on the  
Web!***

***See us at:***

www.wd5gsl.org

Your article submissions  
are welcomed. Please  
submit to Stephen  
Denison

Majors Field  
Amateur Radio Club  
Greenville, Texas



## Club Officers

President Stephen Denison – W5SMD  
 Stephen.Denison@L-3com.com  
 (817)-501-5269 cell

Vice-President: Michael Ketchum – K5MDK  
 Michael.Ketchum@L-3com.com  
 (972) 408-6573 cell

Secretary Treasurer John Nelson – N0DFW  
 John.C.NelsonJr@L-3com.com

## Club Station

Club Station: TBD

VHF Repeater: WD5GSL/R  
 147.160 MHz (+) PL 100.0 Hz  
*Friday Morning Talk-In Net*

UHF Repeater: WD5GSL/R  
 444.625 MHz (+) PL 151.4 Hz  
 Temporary Antenna Position Limits Range Currently