

# The **HOTLINE**

Official Newsletter for the  
Heart O' Texas Amateur Radio Club  
Waco, Texas

Volume XXXV, Number 3

March 2010

## *Are You Ready to Go?*

by Ed Hynan, KC5KNI



Many of us take an HT along on our daily activities. Obvious accessories are an extra battery pack, external power cord, some sort of gain antenna and comfort and safety items in case of some unexpected disaster. It only takes one time of having your battery to “go south” when you need to report a traffic accident, or to get lost or break down in an unfamiliar place to appreciate the value of being “prepared.”

For you, the best “go kit,” as we like to call them, may not fit a “canned” list, but should be based upon your operating mode, experience, and local conditions. It is better to have a small bag with the bare essentials always handy than to have a large, bulky pack someplace where you can't get to it. A larger kit/bag might be more practical if you are almost always in or near your home or car.

At our March Club meeting we will discuss what Go-Kits are all about and how you can put the bare essentials together. One size does not fit all. What's your size?

## *President's Corner*

by John Chamberlain, AC5CV

### *Special Events and Activities*

Whew! This is a busy time of year for HOTARC! We're busy doing what hams do best—serving the public with our skills, knowledge, equipment, and privileges. We were prepared to deliver for the *Baylor Bearathon* this past weekend, but Mother Nature didn't cooperate with the event planners. Heavy rains, gusty winds, and—the last straw—lightning strikes, were enough to force the event organizers to call it off despite the best intentions. So, many of the *Bearathon* HOTARC volunteers drifted over to lend moral support at the Salvation Army building where we just happen to be having the first session of our [Technician License training class](#)—another fine example of public service delivered by amateur radio operators. We have five students attending the class who are eager to test for their Technician license after next weekend's class session.



John AC5CV

Another event coming up in April: we will support the *Race for the Cure* on April 24. Please contact Jim KA5QKL to volunteer your support for this equally important special event.

And, just for the fun of it, don't forget to mark your calendars for April 17: [Belton HamExpo!](#)

Hope to see you at the Thursday meeting, where we'll learn about getting ready for “hitting the road” with our radios and other gear, should we ever need to put these skills into real use.

John AC5CV  
HOTARC President

Reminder: Have you renewed your HOTARC Membership?  
 March 30 is your *last chance!* You can even [pay online](#) now!

## For the Record...

### HOTARC Meeting of Members February 25, 2010

HOTARC's February Meeting was called to order by John Chamberlain AC5CV Thursday, February 25, 2010 at 7:04 pm at the Kultgen Automotive Center of the TSTC Waco campus. Wayne Branscum KD5SMC opened the meeting with a prayer.

Present were 12 full members, 1 associate member, 3 family members and 5 guests. Guests were Bill and Nancy McFarland, Mark Mitzel of Waco, Jo Ann Barrington and James Harris KD5FKY.

A motion to approve the Minutes for the January meeting as published in the HOTLINE was recognized from Jerry Tollison KD5JML, with second by Bill Feltenberger KD5UEW. The motion was approved by the members.

A motion to approve the January Treasurer's Report as published in the HOTLINE was recognized from Terry Williams KD5KJU, with second by KD5SMC. The motion was approved by the members.

#### Committee Reports:

- **ARES:** No News
- **Trailer:** Mike Ross N5MVL reported that once some nicer weather is here we will plan a trailer work day
- **Repeater:** No News
- **D-Star:** No News
- **Web page:** AC5CV reports that PayPal is up and running on the webpage. Members can pay their dues, donate to the flower fund and deposit money to a miscellaneous fund for future needs.
- **ATV:** David Bush KC5UOZ reported the ATV repeater needs to be reset and the SkyCam will need some downtime now that the remodeling is done at the Hilton.
- **Education:** AC5CV reported that the Technician License Class will be happening on March 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.
- **Public Relations:** No News
- **Special Events:** Jim Judd KA5QKL reported that he needs some more volunteers for the Bearathon race on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The Komen Race for the Cure is coming up on April 24<sup>th</sup>. June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> will be the 2010 ARRL Field Day.

#### Old Business:

- None.

## The Treasurer Reports...

### Heart O' Texas Amateur Radio Club Treasurer's Report, February 2010

<b>Beginning Account Balance</b>	\$ 6,470.22
<b>Income</b>	
Interest	<u>0.10</u>
TOTAL Income	\$ 0.10
<b>Expenses</b>	
Flowers for W5AYX funeral	\$95.25
meters for door prizes	6.45
batteries for 440 HTs	<u>\$57.00</u>
TOTAL Expenses	\$ 158.70
<b>Ending Account Balance</b>	\$ 6,311.62
<b>Uncleared activity (as of 3/16/2010)</b>	
<i>Debits:</i> PayPal fees, \$7.08	
<i>Credits:</i> Dues \$420.00, Flower fund, \$50.00, Tech class \$30.00	
<i>Amount in account:</i> \$6,804.54 (includes Flower Fund: \$202.74)	
<b>Submitted by</b>	
<b>Norris Martin, KB5SLI</b>	
<b>HOTARC Treasurer</b>	

## New Business:

- A new member application was received from Byron Bottoms KG5FM. A motion was made by KD5UEW, with second by N5MVL. The motion was approved by the members.
- Refreshments will be needed for the upcoming Technician Class. A motion was made by KD5SMC to spend \$50, with second by Mark Plough. The motion was approved by the members.
- If we want to get matching HOTARC shirts for field day we need to decide pretty quickly to get them in time.
- Clint Anderson AE5CA brought up that we could get name badges for around \$8.53 a piece. Another idea was to create our own. Further discussion will take place to decide what we want to do.

Motion to adjourn was recognized from KD5UEW at approximately 7:37pm.

Tonight's presentation was from Sergeant Mark Mitzel. He discussed the Community Outreach of the Waco PD and programs and presentations that they offer.

Submitted by:

Jeremy Neal KE5PRG  
HOTARC Secretary

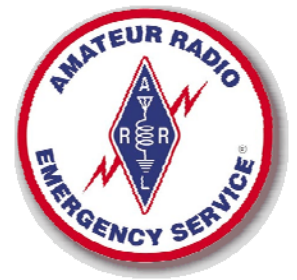


**Sergeant Mark Mitzel**

## Severe Weather Season 2010

by Ed Hynan, KC5KNI  
McLennan County Emergency Coordinator

Bakers Dozen Weather Net activation procedures remain the same. National Weather service will request spotter activation when observed or potential severe weather threatens the area. The net is automatically activated any time a severe thunderstorm or a tornado warning is issued for McLennan County. As the storm season nears, please be aware of conditions that could lead to net activation. Monitor local television, radio, and the National Weather Service Weather Radio for potential severe events. The net will be activated from the Waco-McLennan County EOC or by one of the ARES Net Control Stations until the EOC can be opened.



Things can happen fast when spotting. As activation is a result of a warning, reports should relate directly to the type of warning issued. For severe thunderstorms, winds of more than 50 mph and any size hail (using coins for size) should be reported with exact location and time of occurrence. For tornados, wall clouds, wall clouds with rotation, funnel clouds, and tornados on the ground should be reported, again with exact location and time of occurrence. In the case of an actual tornado on the ground, direction and speed of movement are needed. Report any visible damage and/or injuries associated with either type of storm. All other weather related reports should be held until requested by net control.

Good training and continued excellent spotter participation should see us through the severe weather season.

## Race for the Cure: Volunteers Needed!

by Jim Judd, KA5QKL  
Special Event Chairmant



It's time for the Susan B. Komen *Race for the Cure* again. I'm still waiting for specific information about the event, although we see from the event web site that there are some changes coming this year: for example, a 10k race has been added to the 1-mile and 5k events of the past.

However, from our standpoint, I definitely need you to volunteer to help with this big special event. So, please contact me as soon as you can to indicate your availability to participate for a few hours on the morning of Saturday April 24, and we'll hope for better weather than last weekend!

Thanks and 73! Jim KA5QKL

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Edited and Published by John Chamberlain AC5CV, [AC5CV@arrl.net](mailto:AC5CV@arrl.net)

## HOTARC 2010 Board of Directors

**President:** John Chamberlain, 855-7731, [AC5CV@arrl.net](mailto:AC5CV@arrl.net)  
**Vice Pres:** Rodney Baden K5YKC, 857-9760, [K5YKC@arrl.net](mailto:K5YKC@arrl.net)  
**Secretary:** Jeremy Neal KE5PRG, 881-2123, [JeremyLeeNeal@gmail.com](mailto:JeremyLeeNeal@gmail.com)  
**Treasurer:** Norris Martin KB5SLI, 829-2138, [KB5SLI@flash.net](mailto:KB5SLI@flash.net)  
**Past-Pres.:** Wayne Branscum KD5SMC, 857-3964, [wbscum@grandecom.net](mailto:wbscum@grandecom.net)  
**Director (2010):** Ed Hynan KC5KNI, 666-4873, [KC5KNI@arrl.net](mailto:KC5KNI@arrl.net)  
**Director (2011):** Ed Middlebrook KC5NT, 826-4053, [KC5NT@arrl.net](mailto:KC5NT@arrl.net)  
**Director (2012):** Clint Anderson AE5CA, 855-5080, [AE5CA@grid-em11.com](mailto:AE5CA@grid-em11.com)



### 2010 Board of Directors

Back: KD5SMC, KC5KNI, KC5NT, AE5CA  
 Front: AC5CV, K5YKC, KE5PRG, KB5SLI

## Club Repeaters

145.15 MHz (input at -600 kHz, tone 123 Hz)  
 146.98 MHz (input at -600 kHz, D-Star)  
 442.875 MHz (input at +5.0 MHz, tone 123 Hz)  
 ATV: 421.25MHz (Cable 57), input 439.25 MHz (Cable 60)

## VE Testing

Next session is scheduled for **Saturday March 27, 2010 at 3:30 PM. Location:** Salvation Army Worship Center, 1225 S. Jack Kultgen Expwy (southbound interstate 35 near 12th Street) in Waco. **Bring: 1)** testing fee of **\$15** (cash only); **2)** a photo ID (two for first-time licensees); and for already licensed amateurs: **3)** current license **and photocopy of it**; and **4)** photocopy of any relevant CSCE. **Contact:** Linda Hynan, AC5QQ at 666-4873 or [Linda.Hynan@UTSouthwestern.edu](mailto:Linda.Hynan@UTSouthwestern.edu).

### Meeting Notice

The next Meeting of HOTARC Members will be at 7:00 pm on Thursday March 25 in the [Kultgen Automotive Center](#) of the TSTC Waco Campus. Visiting hams, family members, and prospective hams are welcomed!

*Special events need  
volunteers! Contact KA5QKL*

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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