



The **HOTLINE**

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

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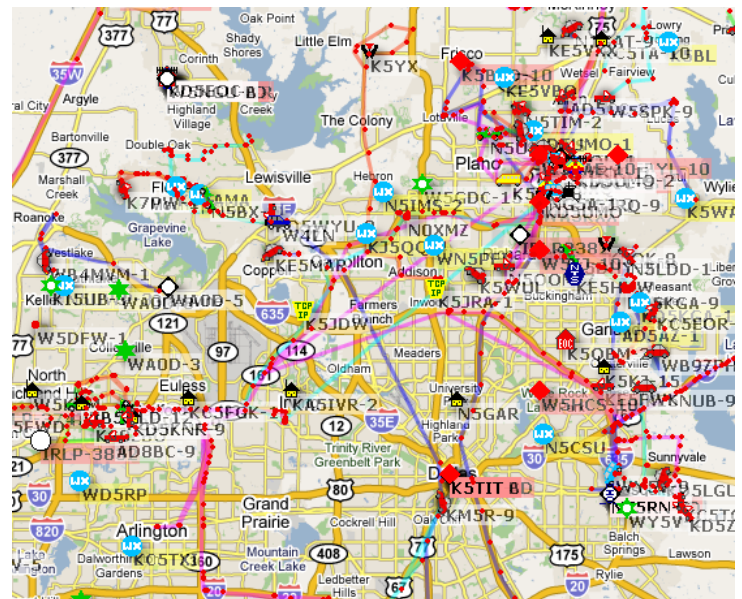
September 2008

APRS in Action

by Rodney Baden, K5YKC & John Chamberlain, AC5CV

Automatic **P**acket **R**eporting **S**ystem. What is it? At the September HOTARC meeting Ed Middlebrook KC5NT and Mark Plough AC5DE will present the fundamentals of APRS and provide a live demo. There are many things that can be done with packet radio, but one particularly fun thing is to track a moving vehicle. If the stars all line up, at about 8:15 PM John Chamberlain AC5CV will be leaving DFW Airport using APRS to periodically transmit his position and speed. We should be able to watch the progress of AC5CV en route to Waco via <http://aprs.fi>—and see if he is staying under the speed limit!

Since we plan to use little APRS trackers during the WWWC Bike Ride on Saturday, September 27, 2008, this is a very timely program. Please come and join us for a great meeting, and a great program. After seeing APRS tracking in action, you might just want to look into APRS a little more!



President's Corner

by Rodney Baden, K5YKC

Ike and Bike

I would like everyone who was involved in Hurricane Ike, in anyway, to stand up and take a bow. We don't always don't get the recognition we deserve—but I don't think we do it for recognition. We do it for our fellow man. We have the equipment and the ability, and we love to work together as a "Team." Even now, efforts are still being made to find people displaced.

Second, everyone that can help during the WWWC Bike Ride needs to contact John AC5CV, and let him know that you can help. His phone number is 855-7731 and his email is AC5CV@arrl.net. All the information you need to know is on the [News page of our web site](#). This event is almost like a fund-raiser for HOTARC, since the WWWC folks make a donation to the Club each year in gratitude for our participation. And to our many new hams: this is a great chance to team up with another ham and enjoy this event. And, we get to demonstrate what ham radio can do. So, let's come on out, represent our Club, and give back to the community!

Rodney Baden, K5YKC
HOTARC President



Rodney, K5YKC

Supported Agencies

by Ed Hynan, KC5KNI
McLennan County Emergency Coordinator

Heart O' Texas Amateur Radio Club (HOTARC): Dual support. A.R.E.S. uses the club trailer, repeaters and provides manpower for club events. HOTARC sponsors the weekly McLennan county A.R.E.S. net and Bakers Dozen Weather Net on it's repeater, and allows the use of the club call sign, W5ZDN, to simplify changes in net controls.

Waco – McLennan County Emergency Management (W-McEM): McLennan County communications support for W-McEM. W-McEM serves as the focal point for all emergency from agencies within McLennan county.

National Weather Service (NWS): Amateur Radio is almost synonymous with the SKYWARN program—the "eyes and ears" of the National Weather Service during severe weather emergencies. Hams comprise the majority of SKYWARN volunteers, who report "ground truths" to local NWS offices, supplementing their sophisticated weather monitoring equipment. ARRL has had an agreement with the National Weather Service, affecting this support, since 1986. The agency consists of a national headquarters in Washington, DC, with regional offices throughout the country, and has undergone considerable reorganization in the last few years. The SKYWARN program is one of the finest examples of hams providing public service. McLennan County A.R.E.S. supports the [Fort Worth Office of the NWS](#).



American Red Cross (ARC): ARRL and the ARC have had cooperative agreements since 1940. The current statement was signed in 2002. Chartered by Congress in 1905, the ARC provides relief to victims displaced by disaster—from the onset of disaster conditions to the recovery phase. Their national headquarters is located in Washington, but most of the action occurs at the state and local chapter levels—where the rubber meets the road. Local ARES Emergency Coordinators work closely with their counterparts in the chapter offices. Look at just about any summary of a disaster event, and you'll find reports of amateurs out on missions with ARC personnel, providing communications for shelter managers.

Salvation Army: The Salvation Army is particularly active in the recovery stage of disasters, and has communications needs, often filled by ARRL volunteers. ARRL staff meets with Salvation Army representatives each year at the annual NVOAD meeting in Washington. NVOAD is the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, of which ARRL is a member-organization. The ARRL and the Salvation Army revised its MOU in 1996.

New ARRL Membership Benefit

From ARRL Letter

With just a mouse click or two, ARRL members can now access the [online QST magazine archive](#).

This new benefit provides PDF copies of all QST articles **from December 1915 through December 2004**, enabling members to view and print their favorite article, project and more. Access to the new online digital QST archive is free for ARRL members, and is for their personal use only—material in the archive may not be freely distributed or copied.

“Having access to every issue of QST through 2004 is absolutely incredible!” said ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI. “The best of the best of QST from every era is now at the fingertips of every ARRL member with a keyboard and an Internet connection.”

The ARRL Periodicals Archive and Search lists every article for QST from 1915 to the present, QEX from 1981 to the present, Ham Radio from 1968 to 1990 and NCJ from 1973 to the present (please note that beginning in 1998, each issue of QEX covers two months). Only ARRL members will be able to download and print copies of the QST articles.

QST magazine is the official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. An interest in Amateur Radio is the only essential qualification of membership. ARRL membership is \$39 per year in the US.

For a complete list of membership benefits and dues, please visit the [ARRL Membership Web page](#).

Editor's Note: HOTARC is an ARRL affiliated Club, giving access to a wide range of materials and services. To maintain that status, we must maintain at least a 50% membership in the ARRL. Please consider joining the ARRL.

The HOTLINE is the monthly newsletter of the Heart O' Texas Amateur Radio Club (HOTARC), Inc., a nonprofit corporation, chartered by the State of Texas and principally located in Waco. It is permissible to use any of the original material contained herein, provided proper credit is given to the source.

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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 October 25, 2008 10:00 AM. **Location:** Baylor's [Rogers Engineering and Computer Science Bldg](#) (#70 on the map), Room 109. **Bring: 1)** testing fee of \$14 (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.

Meeting Notice

The September Meeting of HOTARC will be at 7:00 pm on Thursday September 25, 2008 in the [Kultgen Automotive Center](#) of the TSTC Waco Campus. Visiting hams, family members, and prospective hams are welcomed!

Special Events: WWWC Sept 27

We Need You!!

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Visit our web site at:
hotarc.org