



PARKING TICKET

"Our 26th YEAR!"

November, 1998

2000 METERS AND UP? ARRL PETITIONS FOR LF

The ARRL has petitioned the FCC to create two low-frequency Amateur Radio allocations at 136 kHz and at 160 kHz. "These allocations will permit experimentation with equipment, antennas, and propagation phenomena in a small segment of the radio spectrum that has not been available to the Amateur Service for many years," the League's petition declared. The petition was filed with the FCC October 22.

Specifically, the League has proposed permitting CW, SSB, RTTY/data, and image emissions for amateurs in a 2.1-kHz "sliver band" from 135.7 to 137.8 kHz and in a 30-kHz segment from 160 to 190 kHz. The 135.7 to 137.8 kHz band adheres to the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) band plan.

The ARRL has proposed allowing a transmitter output in both LF segments of 200 W PEP, but in no case greater than 2 W EIRP (effective isotropic radiated power). The League's petition points out that poor antenna efficiencies and ground-loss characteristics likely would keep EIRPs at less than 1 W. The two bands would be available to General and higher licensees.

Unlicensed experimenters—some of them hams—currently operate on LF in the US under the FCC's Part 15 rules. These limit transmitter input power to 1 W and impose substantial restrictions on the size of the antenna. The proposed allocations "will provide the only low-frequency allocation for amateur use and will accommodate more flexible experimentation than is permitted under current Part 15 regulations," the League's filing said.

Hams would be secondary to the

Fixed and Maritime Mobile services in the 136-kHz allocation, and secondary to the Fixed Service in the 160-190 kHz band. The League said its engineering surveys suggest that hams could operate in the two segments without causing problems to power line carrier (PLC) systems already active in that vicinity or to government assignments. Unallocated, Part 15 PLC systems are used by electric utilities to send control signals, data and voice.

Calculations included with the League's filing demonstrate how inefficient even relatively large radiators can be on LF (136 kHz is approximately 2205 meters). For example, at 200 W TPO (transmitter power output) and a 200 foot vertical radiator, efficiency is only in the range of 1%, yielding up to 2 W EIRP. A more practical setup—200 W TPO into a 100-foot vertical radiator (efficiency of 0.2%) would yield an EIRP of between 100 and 400 mW.

Several countries throughout the world already enjoy LF allocations. These include New Zealand, Great Britain, the Republic of Ireland, and several European nations.

The article "Exploring 136 kHz" by Peter Dodd, G3LDO, appears in the November 1998 issue of *QST*. It discusses practical equipment and an antenna system for the allocation. Dodd also is the editor of the *LF Experimenter's Source Book* (2nd ed) published by the RSGB and available from the ARRL for \$14. Order Item 7148. Visit ARRLWeb for details or call, toll-free, 888-277-5289.

A special CW LF operation from the Netherlands is scheduled for November 14 at 0900 UTC at 136.5 kHz using the call sign PA2NJK (see In Brief item,

"Netherlands LF test" below). The operation will run 150 W to a wire antenna, tethered to a kite at about 920 feet in the air.

A copy of the ARRL petition ([lf-pet.pdf](http://pet.pdf), Adobe PDF file, 52,510 bytes) is available on ARRLWeb.

The Plano Zoning Commission approved, without change, the proposed antenna ordinance at their November 2, 1998 meeting. The antenna ordinance is now due to be an action item before the Plano City Council during the November 23, 1998 meeting.

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November Program

"Vintage Amateur Radio Today".

Brian Harris, WA5UEK, will discuss the rising interest in vintage amateur radio and present slides of his 200+ piece collection of tube type equipment from the early 30's through the early 60's.

P.A.R.K.

Meeting Minutes

October 31, 1998
1933 Hours

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Plano Amateur Radio Klub was called to order by Jack Ward, PARK Secretary. The meeting was held at the regular meeting location, Harrington Library.

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited all present to join in The Pledge of Allegiance.

The Secretary noted he had been contacted by Martin Reynolds the week prior to the meeting. Martin indicated he would be unable to attend the meeting and asked if the Secretary would chair the meeting. Since the Vice President could not be contacted, the Secretary filled in for the President.

Nineteen members logged in and two visitors signed the visitors sheet.

The Secretary noted the Minutes as published in the October Newsletter as printed. A motion was made to accept the Minutes as published and corrected, it was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was cited as published in the October Newsletter by the Secretary; the Treasurer was not present. A motion was made to accept the report, it carried unanimously.

Jack Ward asked for a Communications report. No report was given.

Jack Ward asked for an Activities report. No report was given.

Jack Ward asked for any comments from the Newsletter Editor. Dan Kautz noted he is receiving contributions for the newsletter and will accept more.

Jack Ward asked for a Public Relations report. Bill Fell noted there was no report to be given at this time.

New Business -

* Don Hice (Chairman of the TVI Committee) noted the City of Plano has asked for a Communications Liaison. Anyone that would be interested, please contact Don. He also noted the TVI Committee and the Communications Liaison should be for information assistance and not be directly involved with the hands-on activities. Anyone

interested, please contact Don.

* Jack Ward submitted to the KLUB two applications for membership. David Rygwalski KD5EWT, and Robert Naumann N5NJ. A motion was made to accept the applicants as new members, it was seconded and carried unanimously.

Jack Ward noted that Martin Reynolds was able to secure all the 3rd Tuesdays of each month of 1999 with the exception of 5/27/99, 7/29/99, and 11/18/99. On those months, he secured the following Thursday (two days later). Jack noted that Schimelfig Library is being investigated as an alternate location for the 3 Tuesdays in 1999.

Old Business -

* No old business was presented.

Announcements -

* Bill Fell noted a growing interest in the high school community. No further action was taken.

* It was noted the BoyScout Communications Jamboree went very well. Thanks to all that participated.

* George Bednekoff noted a great location for low cost tools is a company called Harbor Freight Tools Phone # (972-231-1872)

* Bill Swan informed the Klub on the progress of the Antenna Ordinance which is under review by the Plano City Council. Any questions on the information presented to the Klub should be directed to Bill Swan.

* John Fullingham WN5PFI, on behalf of the ARRL, presented Dan Kautz an Award for Outstanding Job in Presenting the PARK to the Community.

Officer Elections -

Jack Ward explained to the new members the outline of the elections. There was a brief discussion about the lack of nominees for the open chairs on the Board. The positions presently open for election are Vice President, Secretary, Public Relations, Communications Director and Activities Director.

Since the Communications Directors position was the only currently with a nominee, Bill Fell KK5PB. A motion was made to elect Bill Fell as the Communications Director. It was seconded and carried unanimously. . Jim Holman

suggested the remaining elections be postponed until the chairs have nominations. * it was noted the Nomination Committee needs to be reviewed to resolve the open chairs. No further action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 1815 hours.

Jack Ward, KC5KOV
Secretary

Treasurer's Report

No report from the treasure submitted this month.

Pure Larsony



"There it is again Frank -- Smith has his ham radio on again!"

Name This Building



DISCOVERY LAUNCHES PANSAT SPREAD SPECTRUM AMATEUR SATELLITE

PANSAT, the Petite Amateur Navy Satellite, was launched over Australia October 30 from the space shuttle *Discovery*. The 150-pound Amateur Radio satellite carries a spread-spectrum communication package fabricated by student officers and faculty members at the Naval Postgraduate School here as an educational project and a means of demonstrating spread-spectrum communication. It was launched from *Discovery* as part of the third International Extreme Ultraviolet Hitchhiker (IEH-3) experiment.

The NPS says the spacecraft will provide store-and-forward digital packet communication using direct-sequence spread-spectrum modulation with a center frequency of 436.5 MHz, a bit rate of 9842 bps and 9 MB of message storage. According to the NPS Web site, "Amateur Radio ground stations will be able to utilize PANSAT via a bulletin-board type user interface." PANSAT's Dan Sakoda, KD6DRA, says the team is doing initial assessments and has heard a reply signal from the spacecraft. But the ground crew has not yet been successful connecting via modems. "We've still got some bugs to shake out of our ground system," Sakoda said this week. He explained that the satellite does not have a beacon and only transmits when commanded to do so from the ground. "The fact that we saw PANSAT's response means that the satellite is working properly," he said. Sakoda does not expect PANSAT to be available to the Amateur Radio community for another couple of months.

PANSAT has 18 body-mounted solar panels and four monopole antennas that

provide omnidirectional coverage, so it does not need an attitude-control system. It was expected to achieve a low-Earth orbit (300 nautical miles) with an orbital plane of 28.45° and have a lifetime of up to six years.

According to the PANSAT Web site, the pseudo-noise (PN) code used for spreading is one of the already approved codes for Amateur Radio spread spectrum, using a 7-bit shift register with taps at 7 and 1; and one sequence length per bit of information.

For more information, visit the official [PANSAT Web site](http://131.120.25.103/pansat/danspans/dspansat.html), or see <http://131.120.25.103/pansat/danspans/dspansat.html>.



The PANSAT satellite package after initial integration. [NPS Photo]

SEDSAT-1 TEAM TO RENEW UPLINK EFFORTS

Efforts to establish an uplink to the troubled SEDSAT-1 Amateur Radio satellite so far have been unsuccessful. But, Chris Lewicki, KC7NYV, of the University of Arizona Student Satellite Project, reports that he and three other volunteer uplink stations will renew their

efforts this week. The other stations include Stan Wood, WA4NFY, and Lou McFadin, W5DID, at the Phase 3D Integration Lab in Orlando; Jim White, WD0E, in Denver; and Tim Cunningham, N8DEU, in Huntsville, Alabama.

Lewicki says he's been the only one attempting to uplink since SEDSAT-1, boosted into space October 24, began to experience power system problems. After fewer than two dozen orbits around Earth, problems arose with the spacecraft's batteries and solar panels. Lewicki said uplinking to SEDSAT-1 "is the last step needed to put SEDSAT in a more stable operational profile."

SEDSAT-1 was built by students at the University of Alabama-Huntsville. The ground station for SEDSAT-1 is at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Ground controllers will be Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (SEDS) and the Amateur Radio Club at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

As it stands now, Lewicki said, the satellite has been "cycling" through 25-hour periods of "uptime," when it is broadcasting telemetry, followed by 13-hour periods of silence, when the spacecraft is attempting to recharge its batteries.

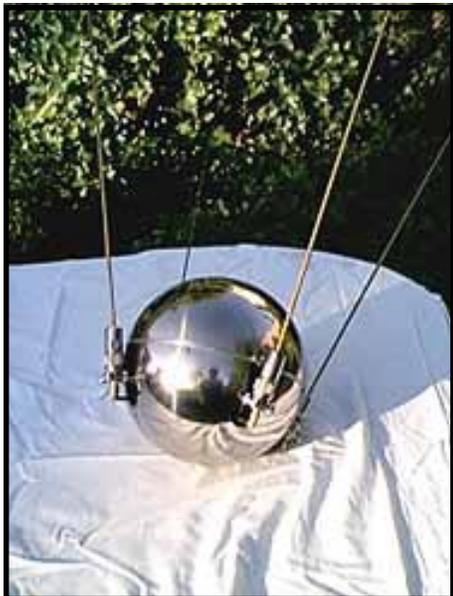
Lewicki said most ground stations have resolved the center downlink frequency to be between 437.913 and 437.914 MHz—a bit higher than originally advertised. He encouraged stations sending telemetry reports to continue doing so. "We certainly appreciate your data!" he said.

The SEDSAT-1 package contains a Mode L digital store-and-forward transponder and a Mode A analog transponder. Also aboard are a multispectral telephoto camera and a 678x44 pixel panoramic camera to photograph views of Earth and its atmosphere.

Project Coordinator Mark Maier, KF4YGR, at UAH, has said that any hope of useful recovery depends on establishing uplink communication "the sooner the better." The uplink frequency is 1268.2125 MHz. Maier said Mode A cannot be turned on until the Mode-L uplink works and new code has been uploaded.

For more information, visit the [SEDSAT Web site](http://www.sedsat.org).

BIP-BIP-BIP! NEW MINI-SPUTNIK TO LAUNCH FROM MIR



The Sputnik 40 satellite. Sputnik 41 transmitter will be nearly identical in appearance.

Another mini-Sputnik satellite will be launched by hand this month from the Russian *Mir* space station. The announcement of the so-called *Sputnik 41* comes almost one year to the day after the launch of *Sputnik 40*, which commemorated the launch of the first artificial Earth satellite by the USSR in 1957.

The newest Sputnik arrived on *Mir* aboard a Progress supply rocket late last month. It's due to be launched by hand during a spacewalk by the *Mir* crew in the November 10-11 timeframe. *Sputnik 41*, which is variously being called RS-18, was financed by the *Aeroclub de France* to mark its centennial. It's part of a program of satellites made in collaboration with Russian and French students. AMSAT-France is cooperating with the education department of the Russian Aeronautic Federation to bring about this latest Sputnik encore.

Sputnik 41 is the same size as its predecessor—20 centimeters (just under 8 inches) in diameter—approximately one-third the size of the original Sputnik.

It weighs 4 kg (almost 9 pounds). The latest version will carry a 150-200 mW transmitter that will transmit on or about 145.812 MHz (5 kHz and Doppler shift). The spacecraft will not carry solar cells, and it has an expected operational lifetime of up to 30 days. The last mini-Sputnik outlasted its expected one-month life by some 20 days, however.

AMSAT-France's Gerard Auvray, F6FAO, reports that, like *Sputnik 40*, the new spacecraft will transmit its "bip-bip" beacon plus audio-frequency telemetry that indicates the satellite's internal temperature (see table, below). But, *Sputnik 41* also will broadcast pre-recorded voice greetings in three languages, French, English, and Russian. One, read by 14-year-old Constantin Sambourov, declares in Russian-accented English: "1998 was the International Year of Air and Space." Sambourov is the son of Sergei Sambourov, RV3DR, who manages Amateur Radio activity aboard *Mir*. A second English message read by Project Chief Victor Kourilov of the Russian Aeronautic Federation states "International Space School Sputnik Program." The French and Russian messages convey the same greetings. Auvray himself reads one of the French greetings.

Visit the 1998 [International Year of Air and Space page](#).

Telemetry of Internal Temperature

- 179 Hz = 38
- 273 Hz = 30
- 440 Hz = 20
- 634 Hz = 10
- 830 Hz = 0
- 1025 Hz = +10
- 1200 Hz = +20
- 1308 Hz = +30
- 1405 Hz = +40
- 1447 Hz = +45
- 1483 Hz = +50

The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

HAMS HANG TOUGH DURING TEXAS FLOODING

After nearly two weeks of flood duty, hams in Texas are battered but not beaten. Some individual stories of dedication and heroism also have begun to emerge from within the Amateur Radio ranks.

Many residents displaced by the flooding remain in Red Cross shelters this week. More than two dozen people died. South Texas Section Manager Ray Taylor, N5NAV, reports that at one point, hundreds of hams were active in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Arkansas handling various flood-related duties ranging from net control to shelter communication.

"We've had awful good cooperation," Taylor said. Some hams from as far away as Nacogdoches, near the Louisiana border, volunteered. Hams manning shelters got some relief when the Red Cross was able to get cell phones. "We are beginning to secure the Red Cross net here in San Antonio," Bexar County EC Neil Martin, WA5FSR, said earlier this week. "There are still shelters open, but the Red Cross will handle everything by cell phone unless we have more problems."

Martin said the net control station at the Red Cross still was being staffed around the clock "because we are using a VHF/UHF linked system to communicate with shelters in Cuero, Victoria, and other areas toward the coast."

Martin singled out three San Antonio-area hams for special recognition—Shelter Communications Manager Bobby Rodriguez, K5AUW, Red Cross Liaison Stan Stanukinos, KA5IID, and Teri Thomas, KC5BJI. "Bobby and Stan have been at the Red Cross communications center almost continuously since Saturday afternoon with only snatches of rest," he said. "Teri has done yeoman service in finding and scheduling operators."

Taylor said prompt response by a ham couple in his area, Comal County, made the difference between life and death for some residents of a flooded mobile home park there. Taylor said

husband-and-wife team, Susan and Leo Manor, NF0T and NOERI, went down to the trailer park to check out the situation. "Nobody had warned these people," Taylor said of the residents. Using their vehicle, the Manors were able to pull several trailers to higher ground before the water got too deep. "At least we saved some lives there," he said.

Taylor also credited Comal County EC Todd Covington, N5IJR, with taking time away from his own flood-damaged home to roll out the PrimeCo communications van and pressing it into flood duty. Two repeaters in the van have been aiding Red Cross communication.

Taylor said linked repeaters have ensured wide coverage. In addition, hams in Texas made use of HF nets on 40 and 75 meters for regional coordination. A voluntary communications emergency affecting net frequencies on the two bands has been rescinded, however. In addition to helping the Red Cross, Taylor said, ham radio operators have been providing communication and other support for the Salvation Army, the Dallas-based Baptist Men's Kitchen feeding program, and other outside relief agencies.

Taylor himself has been deeply involved in coordinating much of the flood emergency traffic throughout the affected region. He said this week that he expected hams to be active in the flood emergency "for another three weeks."

ARRL BOARD REAFFIRMS, MODIFIES ITS RESTRUCTURING PLAN

In a special meeting October 24, the ARRL Board of Directors reaffirmed the bulk of its July 1998 Amateur Radio License Restructuring plan with some modifications. Among other things, the Board's July plan would eliminate the Novice and Tech Plus license classes. To provide a logical entry path to HF for Technicians, the Board now has suggested offering CW privileges to Technicians in the current General CW allocations on 80

through 10 meters. Technicians would be permitted up to 200 W PEP.

"The July plan eliminated the HF door by eliminating the Novice license," observed ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. "This is, in effect, a replacement for the Novice, but without an additional license class."

The Board also agreed to replace its originally proposed A, B, C, and D license class designations with Extra, Advanced, General, and Technician.

Under the July plan—and under the FCC's proposed streamlining—the entry-level HF license would be the General. Board members at the October 24 meeting near St Louis expressed concern that the leap to HF privileges under the July plan could prove too daunting, especially for younger newcomers. Under the ARRL plan, it would require passing two written examinations plus a 5 WPM code test to become a General. Some also were troubled about the growing gulf between the "traditional" HF operator and the newer VHF-only amateurs.

Addressing the Morse code requirement in the International Radio Regulations, Sumner summed up the Board's position by saying that the new privileges would amount to self-testing. "By their very nature, you can't use the privileges until you know the code," he said.

The special ARRL Board meeting was called to consider the League's comments on the FCC's amateur licensing "streamlining" proposals in WT Docket 98-143, released in August. Comments are due December 1. During the daylong session, the Board also proposed that the FCC rules ban multiple-choice Morse code tests and establish that a passing grade for a code test be either 70% correct answers to 10 fill-in-the-blank questions or one minute out of five of solid copy.

The Board affirmed its proposals in RM-9196 to improve the procedures for granting Morse code exam credit on the basis of a physician's certification of a disability. It also affirmed "its strong desire" that written exams be modified as necessary "to demonstrate better the depth of the applicant's current radio technical knowledge and operating skill."

The Board supported retention of the topic definitions to be included in written

exams, as contained in §97.503(c) of the FCC rules, with some modification to accommodate the new four-class structure.

The Board also reaffirmed its desire that Advanced class volunteer examiners be permitted to administer General class exams, and it renewed its request in RM-9115 for several rules changes involving RACES stations.

The Board noted that it had "heard and considered the views of thousands of ARRL members" on the amateur licensing issues raised in both the ARRL and FCC proposals.

PLANO PROPOSED ANTENNA ORDINANCES

Section I.

Section 1-600, Definitions, of Article 1 of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 86-3-14, as heretofore amended, is hereby amended by the addition of the following definitions:

“Amateur Radio Antenna - Any antenna which is used for the purpose of transmitting and receiving radio signals in conjunction with an amateur radio station licensed by the Federal Communications Commission.”

“Climbing Guard - “Equipment or shields specifically designed to prevent a person from climbing an antenna support structure.”

“Commercial Antenna - “Any antenna system that provides, directly or indirectly for a fee, telecommunications services to the public or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used.”

“Ground Mounted - “An antenna or antenna support structures fixed directly into the ground.”

“Mast - A pole of wood or metal, or a tower fabricated of metal, used to support an amateur radio antenna and maintain it at the proper elevation.”

“Monopole - “A self-supporting tubular shaped antenna support structure which consists of a single vertical pole fixed into the ground and/or attached to a foundation.”

“Telescopic or Crank Up Tower - “An antenna support structure designed to be lowered and raised either manually or mechanically.”

“Whip Antenna - An antenna consisting of a single, slender, rod-like element which is supported only at or near its base.”

“Wire Antenna - “A flexible filament, cable or wire designed to function as an antenna.”

Section II.

Subsection 3, Antennas Exempt from Regulation, of Section 3-107, Radio, Television, and Microwave Communications, Amateur and Commercial, of

Article 3 of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance of the City of Plano, Ordinance No. 86-3-14, as heretofore amended, is hereby revised to read in its entirety as follows:

“3. Antennas Exempt from Regulation

a. Unless mounted on a pole or mast that is 20 feet or more in height, direct broadcast satellite, multi-channel multi-point distribution, television reception antennas, and amateur radio antennas meeting the following requirements do not require a permit: (Height is measured as defined in Section 1-600.)

(1) In any zoning district, antennas that are one meter (39 inches) or less in diameter;

(2) In the O-1, O-2, R, BG, LC, TE, TC, CE, CB-1, LI-1, and LI-2 zoning districts, antennas that are two meters or less in diameter;

(3) In any zoning district, antennas designed to receive television broadcasts;

(4) In any zoning district, amateur radio antennas concealed behind, on, or within attics, eaves, gutters, or roofing; and

(5) In any zoning district, amateur radio ground-mounted whips and wire antennas, unless mounted on a pole or mast over 20 feet in height.”

Section III.

Subsection 4, Other Regulations, of Section 3-107, Radio, Television, and Microwave Communications, Amateur and Commercial, of Article 3 of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 86-3-14, as heretofore amended, is hereby revised to read in its entirety as follows:

“4. Other Regulations.

a. No commercial antenna, antenna support structure, microwave reflector/ antenna, or associated base, foundation, or support wires may be located within any required front, side, or rear yard setbacks.

b. All commercial signs, flags, lights and attachments other than those required for communications operations, structural stability, or as required for flight visibility by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) shall be prohibited on any antenna or antenna support structure.

c. All publicly owned antennas or communication structures shall be

permitted in any district.

d. All antennas and support structures must be located outside of visibility easements as defined in Article 3, Section 3-508 and Section 1001-4 of this Ordinance, as amended, even if a permit is not required.

e. Safeguards shall be utilized to prevent unauthorized access to an antenna support structure. Safeguards include those devices identified by the manufacturer of the antenna support structure utilized, a fence, climbing guard, or other commercially available safety device.”

Section IV.

Section 3-107, Radio, Television, and Microwave Communications, Amateur and Commercial, of Article 3 of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 86-3-14, as heretofore amended, is hereby amended by the addition of new Subsections 5, 6, and 7, such Subsections to read in their entirety as follows:

“5. Amateur Radio Antennas and Support Structures

a. Amateur radio antennas that are owned and operated by a federally licensed amateur radio station operator are allowed in any district. A building permit is required for antenna support structures of 20 feet or more in height. (See Section 3 for exemptions.)

b. No amateur antenna support structure or antenna may be greater than 50 feet in height. However, the height of such antenna support structure or antenna may be increased to 75 feet with the installation of a telescopic or crank-up tower. Upon the issuance of a Specific Use Permit, an amateur antenna support structure or antenna may be constructed to exceed these height limits.

c. Amateur antenna support structure, antenna, or support wires must be located behind the face of the main building. No amateur antenna support structure, antenna, or support wires may be located in the required rear or side yard setback. For an amateur antenna support structure or antenna in excess of 35 feet, the setback from side setback lines must be increased one foot for every foot the height exceeds 35 feet.

d. The bottom section of an amateur radio antenna support structure may not exceed a dimension of five (5) feet in width.

e. Only one (1) amateur radio support structure may be erected on a residential lot. Additional antenna support structures may be allowed with the approval of a Specific Use Permit. Excluded from this provision are monopoles four (4) inches or less in diameter used exclusively to support wire antennas as referenced in Section 3.a.5 of this ordinance.

6. Nonconforming Use

Amateur radio antennas, antenna support structures, bases, masts, and poles in existence or for which a permit was issued prior to the effective date of this Ordinance shall be considered a legal nonconforming use subject to the provisions specified in Section 2-700 of this Ordinance, as amended.

7. Specific Use Permit

a. All Specific Use Permits issued for amateur radio antennas or antenna support structures shall be conditioned that the permittee or his assigns be in compliance with the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 86-3-14, as amended, and all other applicable City ordinances. The City may also provide other conditions and restrictions which the City Council determines, at the time of granting the Specific Use Permit, are necessary to protect and provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of the community. After a hearing and an opportunity for the permittee or his assigns to be heard, the City Council may cancel, revoke, or suspend a Specific Use Permit granted hereunder if it finds that any of the conditions imposed at the time of the granting of the permit are not met, or thereafter cease to exist.”

Visit the club web site for most current information

http://www.holman.net/park/html/cop_ordinance1.html

Easily Heard Signals

de W8EHS



This is the month I am moving to Frisco. That means I have little time to play computers or radios. But I set some time to get this news letter out. I have just successfully loaded StarOffice 5.0 (SO5) onto my Linux OS. I am using the text editor in SO5 to write this column. Any other Linux hackers out there should investigate this package. It is a full office system and the personal edition is FREE download off the internet.

The klub is still struggling with a lack of officers. I know there must be a few of you out there willing to serve. I hope you get asked real soon. Heck... ask yourself if you can serve in any capacity.

The officer’s meeting got quite interesting last month. Some topics on how to rekindle klub activity were discussed. It seems there are more general communicators than contesters, traffic handlers and construction advocates in the klub. So what do communicators enjoy most? Communicating!

There is a strong case for the PARK to work hard at developing a stronger relationship with the Red Cross. They are one group that does not have its own communications infrastructure and in my experience, are usually quite receptive to amateur radio help. Read article about Texas floods in this issue.

Do we really know our county and surrounding areas? There is a need to thoroughly map the communication “black holes” in our radio coverage (of all types) and make plans and take action on how to overcome any problem areas. It will take “teams” to do this by running tests and taking measurements.

How many hams are truly emergency prepared? I don’t mean just have a handy talkie and a charged battery. How many hams have stations that are assembled and ready to go at a moments notice? With power supplies and emergency generators? This includes HF as well as VHF and UHF. Can we provide reliable high angle HF coverage into the “black holes”

mentioned above after a tornado rips through? How many hams know how to set up what I am talking about?

Digital communications are highly desirable when documented (printed) messages are required in emergency conditions. Police dispatches, military communications, ships at sea all use digital communications today. We amateurs need to be up to speed with modern technology. What can and should we do to keep pace? Voice is NOT the best medium in most modern communication networks when accuracy counts. Neither is CW...

So here are a few things to think about. Some ideas to take action on. Put some purpose into your hamming activities again. The internet and the cell phone have not depleted our mandate to serve. We simply need to develop a few new skills to keep pace. Get into modern communications and keep up with technology. Notice I have included a lot of articles about space communications in the Parking Ticket to whet your appetite.

Don’t think I have abandon the old ways. I love to operate CW. I even enjoy SSB when I get the chance. My favorite mode of communication is still the rag chew. But I help pioneer digital when I was the second ham in my area to build and operate the original TAPER-1 TNC on packet radio. I even got into Linux because it has built-in ham radio communication abilities. Pick a new interest and attack it!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Office	Name	Home	Work
President	Martin Reynolds, N6LIF	972-727-6746	
Vice President			
Secretary	Jack Ward, KC5KOV	972-527-8344	972-497-6098
Treasurer	Bonnie Swartzendruber, WB5KTC	972-423-6768	
Activities Director			
Communications	Bill Fell, KK5PB	972-424-0496	972-705-3611
Editor	Daniel Kautz, W8EHS	972-394-6995	972-323-4814
Public Relations			
2M Trustee	Fred Varian, WD5ERD	972-398-0407	214-464-6084
220 Trustee	Steve Jones, WB5SGN	972-241-6311	214-265-3243
440 Trustee	Tom Gentry, K5VOU	972-442-3502	972-423-3421
Former President	Charles Cashion, W5ISZ	972-881-0952	972-519-2583
Tech. Comm. Chr.	Charlie Stone, KG5XX	972-517-1575	972-684-5364

LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chairman	Name	Home	Work
	Jim Holman, KC5JGT	972-424-4282	
	John Creel, N5OON	972-517-7551	972-484-3620
	Bruce Dingman, N5BYL	972-442-4542	972-995-5774
	Tom Gentry, K5VOU	972-442-3502	972-423-3421
	Patsy Jones, WA5MYD	972-423-0202	
	Jim Popelarski, W5WN	972-618-5096	972-308-1419
	Bill Swan, K5MWC	972-596-9307	972-705-3441
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The **PARKING TICKET** is the monthly publication of the Plano Amateur Radio Klub (PARK) and is intended to present news, issues and opinions of interest to the PARK and the Amateur Radio Community. We encourage contribution of articles, letters to the editor, etc. and welcome newsletter exchanges with other clubs around the country. Permission is granted to reprint material as long as proper credit is given. Ideas for and contributions to the **PARKING TICKET** should be sent to:

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Submissions must be received no later than the first day of the month to be included in that month's issue. Material received after the deadline will be included in the following month's issue if it is still current.

The Plano Amateur Radio Klub meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the Harrington Library, 18th and Avenue P. Dues are \$15 per year, \$21 for family membership, and \$7 for the Repeater Association, prorated biannually. The PARK operates three repeaters: WD5ERD on 147.18+, WB5SGN on 224.22- and K5VOU on 444.25+. Look for PARK on the Internet at: <http://www.holman.net/park/>.



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