



**March Newsletter**  
**2020**

KCARC Meeting  
Monday, March 9, 2020, 7 PM  
Cobb Rec Center  
2302 State St.

WEEKLY NET TIME  
Thursday, 8 PM on 146.76 repeater  
(146.2 Hz tone)  
Club Website:  
<https://keycityarc.org/>

**2020 Officers:**

Allen Brooks, KF5SPQ, President,  
Lynn Bailey, K5AVJ, Vice President,  
Jacob Bachmeyer, KE5WHG, Secretary,  
Peg Richard, KA4UPA Treasurer

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**The Prez Sez ...CQ CQ CQ...**

**Field Day Is Coming! ... Field Day Is Coming!** Get ready everyone for Field Day. June seems like a long way off but it will be here before we know it. There are a lot of preparations that need to be made for Field Day, so everyone will have ample opportunity to participate to insure that we have a fun and successful Field Day.

There are some very important Planning Committees that need to be formed at our next month's meeting. We need help in finding a good location to hold our Field Day that is easily accessible by the public and offers an insight as to what we do as communicators. In the past we have used the Hamby Volunteer Fire Dept. It is easily accessible and heavily trafficked so it is visible to the community. If anyone has a contact for the Hamby Fire Department please let someone know. If you know of other great possible locations for Field Day please share that as well.

Another important committee is the Food Committee. Last year we didn't have a committee but individuals still brought items and it was greatly appreciated. In past Field Days we had a dinner and a breakfast. The cost for the meal was paid for by the members providing extra donations for the cost of the food items, thus the club did not have the expense taken from the budget. We should plan on helping with the cost of the food items again this year. Family members have also participated by coming to the dinner. It is a great way to meet others and pictures were taken and posted to the websites.

I have copies of the media reports that were sent out last year and will plan on doing that again this year.

Lastly, and the most important group activity is helping to set up antennas, etc. for Field Day. We also need support in taking everything down and getting the facility squared away so it can be returned better than we received it. Also, there is a need for radio operators for the entire time

that Field Day is taking place. Ideally, we should have enough operators for a 2 hour shift at the radio and then the operator can take a break. We have had a shortfall of operators to operate during the night time hours. We have plenty of operators during the day but not enough to cover the night time hours. Let see if we can devise a plan to have to have enough radio operators to cover a 24 hour period. Would a sign up list with operational periods be helpful? Let me know your thoughts. We need to insure also that we are in complete compliance with FCC and ARRL rules about having licensed operators at the radio at all times.

As you can see, there is a lot of planning that needs to take place! I hope to see everyone at the next meeting. Until then, “73’s everyone!”.

Thanks,  
Allen Brooks, KF5SPQ

**ADDENDUM: Steam N Wheels Bike Race 2020**

I was putting on my Steam N Wheels T-Shirt and the thought occurred to me, “I wonder when the next race will be?” After checking, I found out that it will be March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. That means that assistance will be needed and points for the different parts of the race will need to be decided at our next meeting.

I have maps from previous years with the different locations. Hopefully nothing will have changed. Everyone can sign up for their “favorite” location at the next meeting.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our meeting!

**Allen Brooks, KF5SPQ**

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**Pegged by Peg ...**

Reminder that 2020 dues are payable at \$20.00 per family, all living at one address, or \$15.00 per individual for the year.

Peg Richard, KA4UPA

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**UpcomingHamfests:**

**03/07/2020 - Irving Amateur Radio Hamfest**

**Location:** Irving, TX  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Irving amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
**Website:** <http://irvingarc.org/>

**03/14/2020 - HamEXPO Spring 2020**

**Location:** Belton, TX  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Temple Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <https://www.tarc.org/>

**03/21/2020 - St Patrick’s Day Hamfest, ARRL West Texas Section Convention**

**Location:** Midland, TX  
**Type:** ARRL Convention  
**Sponsor:** Midland Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://hamfest.w5qgg.org>

05/17/2020 - 05/19/2020

**Dayton Hamvention**

**Location:** Xenia, OH

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Sponsor:** Dayton Amateur Radio Association

**Website:** <https://hamvention.org/>

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**CONTESTS:**

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

**January 2020**

1 **Straight Key Night**

4 **Kids Day**

4-5 **RTTY Roundup**

18-20 **January VHF**

**February 2020**

10-14 **School Club Roundup**

15-16 **International DX – CW**

**March 2020**

7-8 **International DX– Phone**

**April 2020**

19 **Rookie Roundup – Phone**

**June 2020**

13-15 **June VHF**

20 **Kids Day**

27-28 **Field Day**

**July 2020**

11-12 **IARU HF World Championship**

**August 2020**

1-2 **222 MHz and Up Distance Contest**

15-16 **10 GHz & Up – Round 1**

16 **Rookie Roundup – RTTY**

**September 2020**

12-14 **September VHF**

19-20 **10 GHz & Up - Round 2**

12-13 **EME - 2.3 GHz & Up**

**October 2020**

19-23 **School Club Roundup**

10-11 **EME - 50 to 1296 Mhz**

**November 2020**

7-9 **Nov. Sweepstakes – CW**

21-23 **Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone**

28-29 **EME - 50 to 1296 MHz**

**December 2020**

4-6 **160 Meter**

12-13 **10 Meter**

20 **Rookie Roundup–CW**

For a more extensive Ham Radio Contest Calendar, check this website:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

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**Good Luck in the Contest:**

My friend Mike-K5NZ recently operated during the International DX-CW contest on February 15-16.

Here are his comments - “Condx were amazing! I made 403 QSO's with 5 watts! Worked 50 countries on 80 meters, 63 on 40 meters, and 84 on 20 meters....”

I asked Mike how many hours he operated, and he responded, “19 hours.” (from K5AVJ)

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**EXAM SESSION**

**Sponsor:** Key City ARC

**Date:** March 7, 2020 (Saturday)

**Time:** 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** Peggy Richard  
(325) 672-8889

**Email:** [ka4upa@suddenlink.net](mailto:ka4upa@suddenlink.net)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)

**Location:** Berry Lane Baptist Church  
1515 Lakeside Drive  
Abilene TX 79602-4123

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**From ARRL:** Coronavirus Fears Postpone  
Another DXpedition

02/26/2020

Alex Gromme, 5B4ALX, has postponed his March 18 – April 2 T30ET DXpedition to Tarawa (West Kiribati) because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The Kiribati Ministry of Health told Gromme that he would need to be quarantined for 14 days in Honiara, Solomon Islands, before getting medical approval to continue on to Kiribati. “T30ET is currently postponed, *not deleted*,” Gromme said on his [website](#). He’s now looking at October 2020, assuming the COVID-19 situation is resolved by then.

Last week, travel restrictions imposed on individuals entering American Samoa as a result of the coronavirus outbreak caused Swains Island W8S DXpedition organizers to postpone that DXpedition until later in the year. The team members were unable to comply with a 14-day mandatory quarantine in Hawaii. The DXpedition announced tentative dates of September 23 – October 6.

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Would you like to put your communication skills to use for public service or disaster? **Amateur Radio Emergency Services** wants and needs you! It doesn’t matter whether you are a Technician, General, or Extra. There is a place for you.

The ARES Net is on Tuesday night at 8 pm on the 146.76 MHz repeater.

There is a group that meets the first Saturday of each month (March 7) from 10:00 – 12:00 noon at the Abilene Public Library conference room in the Mall.

For more information contact Allen Brooks, KF5SPQ, Taylor County Emergency Coordinator at (325) 701-4683.

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From QRZ.com

KA5AZK

JO ANN KEITH  
9110 FM 1972  
GILMER, TX 75645  
USA

I received my Novice License in 1979 in Garland Tx and upgraded to General shortly after. Back in those days you had to go to the FCC Office for testing and pass a code test. I stumbled across the **7290 Traffic Net** about 1980 and have been with them ever since, serving as Treasurer, Assist Manager and Manager. Currently I am Manager and a NCS on that net. I have served as Region 5 Transmit for the Central Area Net and NCS on the Region 5 Net for the National Traffic System. I also have the honor of being appointed West Gulf Division Assit Director for NTS.

I have been married to my OM, John W5BWC (exWB5DJE) since 1967 and we have lived in the woods of NE Texas since 1985 on 35 acres near the little community of Diana (official address is Gilmer). I currently use a Kenwood TS 570D with battery back up power, an Palstar LA-1K amp, a TH3 tri-band beam at 60 feet and an inverted vee for an antenna.



### SKYWARN Training Schedule for 2020

(Did you miss the local training? Other options.)

Saturday Feb 22	Brown	Brownwood	Howard Payne University- Newman Hall	9 AM to 1130 AM
Tuesday Feb 25	McCulloch	Brady	VFW At Richards Park	6:30 PM
Thursday Feb 27	Runnels	Ballinger	Fire Dept.	7:00 PM
Saturday Feb 29	Taylor	Abilene	Abilene Christian University- Onstead-Packer Biblical Studies Building (Hart Auditorium)	9 AM to 1130 AM
Saturday Mar 14	Tom Green	San Angelo	Trinity Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall	9 AM to 1130 AM
Monday Mar 23	Nolan	Sweetwater	Texas State Technical College	6:00 PM

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