



## **April Newsletter** **2021**

KCARC Meeting  
Monday, April 12, 2020, 7:00 PM  
Public Library @ Abilene Mall  
&/or  
ZOOM – Meeting  
(Watch your email for ZOOM Link)

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

### **2021 Officers:**

Allen Brooks, KF5SPQ, President  
Ron Harden , WT5X, Vice President  
Jacob Bachmeyer, KE5WHG, Secretary  
Peg Richard, KA4UPA Treasurer

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

It has been a full year since the COVID Pandemic and since we have had to resort to using Zoom for our monthly meetings. Well good news! We will now be able to have our meetings and will be able to come together for our meetings!! I met with the individual who schedules the conference room at the Mall Public Library and she has scheduled us for the large conference room at the back of the library through December. If you enter from the parking lot side, at the back of the Mall, the conference room will be on the left side. We will have the room from 7 pm – 8:30 pm. We may have to arrange the tables and chairs for the meeting so it may take a few minutes for that.

You will need to wear a mask because it will be hard to sit socially distance from one another due to the number of persons attending the meeting. Two persons will be seated together at a table. If you are opposed to wearing a mask then you can continue to view the meeting via Zoom.

Some time ago, probably well over a year ago, Elmer Delgado, W5SLG, donated several items that can be purchased by members and the proceeds will go to the club. I will bring them to the meeting. Those items include the following: KT7900D Mini color screen mobile radio, a Baofengtech UV-5X3 Tri-Band FM Transceiver, Koss SB45 headset with microphone, a QYT mic, and a Ham Radio for Dummies book. One or more of these items will great to add to your Ham Shack so bring cash or a check payable to Key City Amateur Radio Club.

I am looking forward to finally being together for our meetings. Bring your own coffee!

“73’s everyone!”.

Thanks!

Allen Brooks, KF5SPQ

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**Pegged by Peg ...**

Reminder that 2021 dues are payable at \$20.00 per family, all living at one address, or \$15.00 per individual for the year. You can mail to:

Peg Richard, KA4UPA, KCARC Treasurer  
1442 Lakeside Dr  
Abilene, TX 79602

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**Upcoming Hamfests:**

04/24/2021 - [East Side Amateur Service](#)

**Location:** Baytown, TX  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** East Side Amateur Service  
**Website:** <http://earstx.org>

04/24/2021 - [Emory Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Emory, TX  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Rains Amateur Radio Association  
**Website:** <http://w5ent.org>

05/29/2021 - [Eastern New Mexico ARC Tailgate](#)

**Location:** Clovis, NM  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Eastern NM Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://ka5b.org/>

07/10/2021 - [Swapmeet](#)

**Location:** Texas City, TX  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Tidelands Amateur Radio Society  
**Website:** <http://www.tidelands.org>

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**CONTESTS:**

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

**March 2021**

6-7 [International DX- Phone](#)

**April 2021**

18 [Rookie Roundup - Phone](#)

**June 2021**

12-14 [June VHF](#)

19 [Kids Day](#)

26-27 [Field Day](#)

**July 2021**

10-11 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

**August 2021**

7-8 [222 MHz and Up Distance Contest](#)

21-22 [10 GHz & Up - Round 1](#)

22 [Rookie Roundup - RTTY](#)

**September 2021**

11-13 [September VHF](#)

18-19 [10 GHz & Up - Round 2](#)

**October 2021**

18-22 [School Club Roundup](#)

23-24 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)

**November 2021**

6-8 [Nov. Sweepstakes - CW](#)

20-22 [Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone](#)  
20-21 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

**December 2021**

3-5 [160 Meter](#)

11-12 [10 Meter](#)

19 [Rookie Roundup–CW](#)

18-19 [EME - 50 to 1296 Mhz](#)

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

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

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**HAM EXAM SESSION**

Berry Lane Baptist Church  
1515 Lakeside Dr  
Abilene, TX at 1 p.m.  
Saturday, \*\*\*Pending\*\*\*

Ron Harden Jr., WT5X is the VE Liaison. His email is: [wt5x@wt5x.org](mailto:wt5x@wt5x.org)  
Phone: 325-513-3184

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**Reminder!**

I wanted to let everyone know that we now have the conference room at the Mall Library reserved for our KCARC meeting every second Monday from April to December. It is reserved from 7 pm - 8:30 pm. For those who are unable to attend we can still do the Zoom teleconference at the same time as the meeting.

Thanks,

Allen Brooks, KF5SPQ

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The 25 countries that formed the IARU in

## **\*Celebrate World Amateur Radio Day 2021 on April 18**

04/01/2021

Sunday, April 18, is World Amateur Radio Day (**WARD**). This year marks the 96th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union (**IARU**), founded at the 1925 International Radiotelegraph Conference in Paris. ARRL cofounder and first president, Hiram Percy Maxim, 1AW, was there, and today, ARRL is the International Secretariat of the IARU. ARRL has [resources](#) that members can use to celebrate WARD, including graphics for social media posts and radio club websites, as well as a printable flyer.

IARU has chosen “Amateur Radio: Home but Never Alone” as the theme for WARD 2021. The theme acknowledges that during our physical distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19, amateur radio stands out as a welcome respite for its variety of activities and opportunities.

Amateur radio experimenters were the first to discover that the HF spectrum was not the wasteland experts of that time considered it to be, but a resource that could support worldwide communication. In the rush to use these shorter wavelengths, amateur radio was “in grave danger of being pushed aside,” IARU history has noted, prompting the founding of the IARU. At the 1927 International Radiotelegraph Convention, amateur radio gained allocations still recognized today — 160, 80, 40, 20, and 10 meters. Over the years, the IARU has worked to give all radio amateurs new bands at 136 kHz, 472 kHz, 5 MHz, 10 MHz, 18 MHz, 24 MHz, and 50 MHz, and a regional European allocation at 70 MHz, and IARU defends those allocations.

The 25 countries that formed the IARU in

1925 have grown to include more than 160 member-societies in three regions. IARU Region 1 includes Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and North Asia. Region 2 covers the Americas, and Region 3 is comprised of Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific island nations, and most of Asia. The International Telecommunication Union ([ITU](#)) has recognized the IARU as representing the interests of amateur radio.

On World Amateur Radio Day, all radio amateurs are invited to take to the airwaves to share global goodwill with other amateurs. ARRL encourages members to promote the value of amateur radio to family and friends, and in their communities. Many volunteer ARRL Public Information Officers and Public Information Coordinators throughout the US use the time leading up to WARD as an opportunity to reach out to the media to share information about amateur radio.

“The amateur radio community has a great story to tell on the occasion of World Amateur Radio Day,” ARRL Product Development Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, said. “While the pandemic has kept many of us at home, radio amateurs have still been able to get on the air.” In June 2020, ARRL Field Day, held annually as amateur radio’s largest on-the-air operating event and demonstration, included nearly 19,000 participants making more than 1.8 million radio contacts in a single weekend.

“Over the last year, many ARRL-affiliated radio clubs and in-person ham radio events have moved their group activities online. This has helped to keep radio amateurs active and involved in the common pursuit of skill, service, and discovery in radio communication and radio technology,” Inderbitzen added.

Coincidentally, the SSB running of the [ARRL Rookie Roundup](#) falls on WARD (1800 – 2359 UTC). The event is aimed at hams licensed for 3 years or less. Take the

opportunity to wish participants “Happy World Amateur Radio Day 2021” on the air.

### **Some WARD 2021 Activities around the Globe**

- **Bahrain:** The Amateur Radio Society of Bahrain will operate A91WARD during April 14–18, 2021, using SSB, FT8, and DMR modes.
- **Canada:** Radio Amateurs of Canada are sponsoring a “[Get on the Air on World Amateur Radio Day](#)” special event.
- **Germany:** The Deutscher Amateur Radio Club is operating DA21WARD for WARD, from April 18 through June 30. QSL to DK5ON.
- **New Jersey:** The Fair Lawn (New Jersey) Amateur Radio Club will operate club station W2NPT on CW and phone throughout the day on April 18. In support of the theme of this year’s event, the operators will share information about the Health & Welfare Net that the club is running during the pandemic.
- **Alabama:** The Disaster Communication Action Team will operate club station KD1CAT on April 18, in support of WARD. Operation will be on all HF bands.
- **VOIP/ECHOLINK** \*ROC-HAM\* Conference node #531091 April 18–19, 13:00 – 05:00 UTC (9 AM EDT – 1 AM EDT) via VOIP/ECHOLINK \*ROC-HAM\* Conference node #531091/Allstar #2585. W2JLD, VO1UKZ, GW8SZL, and 2W0KYH will be net controllers. All stations from around the world are encouraged to check in. A QSL card will be available via SASE.

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## **\*Cooperative Effort Under Way to Resolve Potential 70-Centimeter Interference Issue**

03/23/2021

ARRL, the FCC, and the US Department of Defense are cooperating in an effort to eliminate the possibility of amateur radio interference on 70 centimeters to a future missile control system at White Sands Missile Range ([WSMR](#)) in New Mexico. The Defense Department’s Regional Spectrum Coordinator contacted the FCC in March, seeking information on whom to contact regarding amateur transmissions operational on 70-centimeter frequencies slotted for use on the new control system. The FCC, in turn, asked ARRL to oversee the coordination efforts. It is to be noted that the Amateur Radio Service is a secondary service on the band.

Investigation revealed that the potential problem was not with individual operators or repeaters, but with RF control links at 420 – 430 MHz used to establish a linked repeater system within New Mexico. “Based on the investigation, and with the support of the FCC, the owners of the RF control links being used in the 420 – 430 MHz portion of the amateur allocation within a certain proximity to WSMR are being asked to re-coordinate the link frequency to a new one above 430 MHz,” explained ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND.

ARRL enlisted the assistance of the state’s designated repeater frequency coordinator for information on specific links in that part of the band. New Mexico Repeater Frequency Coordinator Bill Kauffman, W5YEJ, agreed to

work with the control link operators to find new frequencies that will meet the needs of the link operators.

“Time is a factor in this request,” Henderson said. “The new WSMR systems are in advanced testing and will become fully operational by early summer 2021.” The negotiated deadline for the affected control links to change frequencies is set for May 31, 2021.

“It appears a total of 32 control links will have to be addressed,” Henderson said. ARRL has mailed letters to each of the RF control link operators, based on the recordkeeping of the frequency coordinator, to advise them of the DoD’s request. “Any links with the potential to affect the identified control systems at WSMR still in operation after May 31, 2021 will be subject to action by the FCC.”

Henderson said the changes should have no direct impact on the use of any local repeater, but until all the affected RF control links are transitioned to new frequencies, certain links may be temporarily inoperative. Links unable to be relocated by May 31 will have to be shut down until the situation can be resolved. ARRL will maintain contact with the FCC to advise it of the status of the coordination efforts.

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## **\*FCC Not Yet Collecting \$35 Application Fee**

03/22/2021

The majority of the FCC’s revised Part 97 rules (adopted in December 2020) establishing new license application fees become effective April 19, but the new amateur radio license application fees will NOT become effective on April 19, 2021. The FCC announced on March 19, 2021 that the amateur radio license fees, including those associated with Form 605

filings, would not become effective until the “requisite notice has been provided to Congress, the FCC’s information technology systems and internal procedures have been updated, and the Commission publishes notice(s) in the *Federal Register* announcing the effective date of such rules.”

The \$35 license application fee, when it becomes effective, would apply to new, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications, as well as applications for a special temporary authority (STA) or a rule waiver. All fees will be per application. Administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address, are exempt.

It is expected that such fees will not become effective before summer 2021. The FCC has stated that amateurs will have advance warning of the actual effective date, because it will publish such date in the Federal Register.

**\* From ARRL.ORG**