



# On Your MARC

The Newsletter of the McKinney Amateur Radio Club,  
W5MRC



Volume 43 #09

Visit our Web page @ <http://www.mckinneyarc.org>

September, 2018

## Next Meeting:

Know how to pass traffic via ham radio? In case of emergency, there is a very specific format for traffic handling that ensures messages are sent and received error-free. Robert-NS5P, will present **“Traffic Handling by Amateur Radio - Know How to Send and Receive Critical Traffic”**. Even if you’ve been handling traffic on one of the nets for years, this will be a good refresher.

### MEETING PLACE

MARC holds its regular business meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Meetings are located at:

Spring Creek Barbeque  
1993 North Central Expressway  
McKinney, TX

Exit US-75 at US-380 (University Drive), travel west making a right into the Target complex.

Once in the complex, Spring Creek can be found to your right directly across from the Target Building.

### MARC Mentoring Program

Are you looking for someone to answer Amateur Radio related questions or assist you with getting to that next license class? Contact the MARC Mentor Program Coordinator to be matched up with a volunteer Mentor who will work with you. Send an Email to [mentor@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:mentor@mckinneyarc.org) for more information, to start getting answers, or if YOU would like to become a Mentor!



## President’s Message

If you haven’t heard, the Yaesu Fusion System repeater is in operation on the Melissa tower. The frequency (443.200 MHz), offset (+5MHz) and PL tone (100.0) have not changed but you may notice a significant improvement in the voice quality. There is still some fine tuning to be done and the Wide-Coverage Internet Repeater Enhancement System (WIRES) is not yet available, but we look forward to the new learning experiences that a digital mode may allow. Thanks to Ron WW2CBI and all of the others who helped with the installation and preparation!

We are off to a busy September radio-wise. Lovejoy Leopard Friday will be held this year on September 28. This is a short demonstration period where the MARC will set up an operating radio station at Lovejoy High School and encourage students, parents and teachers to get-on-the-air. It is a lot of fun and runs for a few hours on a Friday evening before a Lovejoy Football Game. It gives exposure for our club and allows the public to participate in and learn about our great hobby.

On the same day (September 28) the McKinney Main Street Oktoberfest celebration will begin on the square in downtown McKinney. We again expect to setup a booth downtown and assist with parking. This is one of the public service events whereby our participation has awarded us the ARRL Special Service Club designation. It will run Friday afternoon through early afternoon on Sunday. As always, we will be asking for volunteers.

And on that same weekend, the Texas QSO party will also be active so there is plenty to do for everyone.

I should also mention that the Plano Balloon Festival will take place on the previous weekend (September 21-23).

(Continued on page 5)

# MARC Officers and Supporting Roles

## 2018 MARC OFFICERS

**President:** ..... Bill Vining, N5YZ  
[president@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:president@mckinneyarc.org)

**Vice President:** ..... Robert DiGioia, N5SP  
[programs@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:programs@mckinneyarc.org)

**Secretary:** ..... Lisa Barnes, KG5OBK  
[secretary@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:secretary@mckinneyarc.org)

**Treasurer:** ..... Dave Piekarski, N5EEN  
[treasurer@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:treasurer@mckinneyarc.org)

**Newsletter Editor:** ..... Bob DeVance, K5CRX  
[newsletter@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:newsletter@mckinneyarc.org)

**Director-at-Large:** ..... Andy Barnes, W5KZJ  
[dirlarge@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:dirlarge@mckinneyarc.org)

**Repeater Trustee:** ..... Ron Carlson, WW2CBI  
[trustee@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:trustee@mckinneyarc.org)

**Communications Director:** Bob DeVance, K5CRX  
[commdirector@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:commdirector@mckinneyarc.org)

### Supporting Roles

**ARRL Awards Manager:** ..... Mike Baker, W8CM

**Club FCC License Trustee:** ..... Brian Belcher, WA5M

**Club Librarian:** ..... Ron Carlson, WW2CBI

**Mentor Coordinator:** ..... Claude Canterbury, KE6EJG  
[mentor@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:mentor@mckinneyarc.org)

**Net Manager:** ..... Kyle Ackerman, KC5VEW

**Public Information Officer:** ..... Lynda Tuma, KF5JUO  
[info@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:info@mckinneyarc.org)

**QSL Manager:** ..... Claude Canterbury, KE6EJG

**Repeater Control Operators:** ..... Brian Belcher, WA5M  
Mike Baker, W8CM  
Dave Piekarski, K5EEN

**VE Team Leader:** ..... Stephen Reinen, N8BP  
[ve-testing@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:ve-testing@mckinneyarc.org)

**Webmaster:** ..... Michael Griego, N5GNU  
[webmaster@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:webmaster@mckinneyarc.org)

**Web Administrator:** ..... Mike Jarvis, N5MAJ

**Youth Coordinator:** ..... Dam McKinley, W5FRT  
[youth@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:youth@mckinneyarc.org)

**Meeting Presentations:** If you or someone you know would like to present a topic at one of our meetings, or if you have questions about a past presentation, please contact our presentation coordinator at [programs@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:programs@mckinneyarc.org)

**Join Us!:** The club is open to all, especially those who want to be or are involved in Amateur Radio. Please contact the club secretary at [secretary@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:secretary@mckinneyarc.org) or by post at the above address for more information or access an application on our website <http://mckinneyarc.org/>.

### **CREDITS & KUDOS**

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## **Distribution and Submission Information**

MARC is an IRS 501c(3) nonprofit organization; *On Your MARC* the official MARC newsletter, is published monthly by the McKinney Amateur Radio Club, Inc.. The full electronic version is Emailed to subscribing members and to selected non-member individuals, organizations and participants in the Newsletter Exchange Program. A digest version is sent as first class mail to members who request postal delivery. The Full version is archived on the MARC website and is available to all. Those who wish to continue receiving the digest version may access the full version once it has been archived.

**ALL** current members including those who are part of family memberships may receive the Emailed version. To switch versions send an Email [newsletter@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:newsletter@mckinneyarc.org) and include the following information: Member Name, Call Sign, Email address and version desired.

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[newsletter@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:newsletter@mckinneyarc.org)

or  
Editor, *On Your MARC*  
P.O. Box 267  
McKinney, TX 75069

**Submissions may be sent at any time.** The Editor reserves the right to determine suitability for inclusion in the newsletter.

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# Minutes of the General Meeting



## Minutes of the General Meeting August 14, 2018

Bill- N5YZ called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions went around the room, there were 3 visitors and 36 members present.

**NEW LICENSEES/CALL SIGNS:** none

**VE TESTING REPORT:** 1 Extra, 2 Generals, 9 Technicians at last testing Heard Museum

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Bill N5YZ reported that the Minutes of the July General Meeting had been published in the July Newsletter, and requested a motion to approve the Minutes as published. Motion by Andy- W5KZJ, second by Robert- NS5P. The motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bill N5YZ presented the Club's Financial report as compiled by our club treasurer, Dave K5EEN.

Beginning Balance: 16,927.19  
+ Revenue : \$ 520.08  
- Expenses : \$ 1,238.09  
= Ending Balance : \$16,209.18

**CLUB NETS:** Bill N5YZ reviewed our Club nets

General Information Net: Every Sunday at 8:00PM – W5MRC repeater, 146.740 MHz, offset -0.600 MHz, tone 110.9 Hz

Ladies Net: Every Monday at 8:00PM – W5MRC repeater, 146.740 MHz, offset -0.600 MHz, tone 110.9 Hz

Simplex Net: Every Monday at 8:30PM – 146.540 MHz. No offset or tone required.

### **BUSINESS:**

Bill- N5YZ announced that the next Board Meeting will be 8/18/18 at 8 AM at Creekwood United Methodist Church, 261 Country Club Road, Allen TX. All are welcome to attend.

Andy- W5KZJ reported that at the Outdoor Weather Siren testing on August 4, 2018 a couple of issues were identified during the testing and that Randall Gurney is always appreciative of our assistance. He advised that one siren was not tested and it will be taken care of the first weekend of September.

Bob- K5CRX reported that he has submitted the Virginia and Custer agreement of the City of McKinney. He advised that we have been given approval to change out the antenna if we fill out a form with the city.

Bill- N5YZ announced that the Plano Balloon Fest is coming up September 21-23, 2018. You can sign up at <https://k5prk.net/plano-balloon-fest-2018-signup/> or email Bill to volunteer to help.

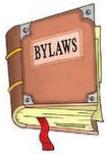
Bill- N5YZ reported that Oktoberfest and Texas QSO Party are September 28-30, 2018 and that more information is to come.

Ron- WW2CBI reported that the Fusion Repeater is up and running. HE advised that the control operator channel didn't work. New control operator procedures are being drafted. He announced that Dave- KS5SK is the new control operator. He will be calling for volunteers to help care for repeaters. Send him an email if you are interested. He also thanked Sid- K5DKW for his help.

**PROGRAM:** Bob DeVance- K5CRX gave a very informative presentation, Introduction to Yae-

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# Minutes of the Board Meeting



## Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting 8/18/18

**ATTENDEES:** Bill Vining - N5YZ, Robert DiGioia - N5SP, Dave Piekarski - K5EEN, Andy Barnes W5KZJ, Ron Carlson - WW2CBI, Lisa Barnes - KG5OBK

**GUESTS:** none

Bill- N5YZ called the meeting to order at 8:00AM and Andy-W5KZJ opened with prayer

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lisa - KG5OBK reported that the minutes of the July Board Meeting had been published in the July Newsletter, and made a motion to approve the minutes as published. Second by Ron- WW2CBI. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Dave - K5EEN, provided the Club's Financial Report.

Beginning Balance: \$16,209.18

+ Total Revenue : \$105.96

- Total Expenses : \$ 0.00

= Ending Balance : \$16,315.14

## OLD BUSINESS:

HamClubOnline.com: Dave- K5EEN reported that renewal notices will be sent to club members 60 days before expiration. He will write an article in the newsletter about it so that members know what to expect with the transition to HamClubOnline. He states Bob used HamClubOnline to distribute the most recent newsletter but that the newsletter didn't go out to those whose membership had expired. He has given Bob instructions for how to get the newsletter out to inactive members.

Repeaters update:

City of McKinney: Bill- N5YZ gave an update for Bob- K5CRX. We will be submitting a request for access to the antenna at 75 and Hwy 380 to the City

of McKinney. We will either do the replacement on October 5 or October 12 depending on when the climbers will be able to do the work. Climbers need to be identified and Bill- N5YZ will certify the climbers. The MOU is still in process and one has also been submitted for the Custer location.

Melissa: Ron- WW2CBI reported that the Fusion Repeater in Melissa is now operational as of August 16, 2018. He provided an installation update and a "to do" list. He also outlined developing/ mentoring- repeater support plans. He outlined presentations, classes and workshops that he is developing.

September General Meeting: Robert-NS5P is planning to do a presentation on traffic handling.

Andy- W5KZJ advised that he has turned in the report from the August OWS testing to Randall Gurney. There is still one more siren to do that he will test in September.

Bill-N5YZ passed out the guidelines written by Bob- K5CRX for use of the Go Kits. This was tabled to discuss at the next Board Meeting.

Andy-W5KJZ discussed changing the linear supply in the Go Kits with switchers at a cost of \$124.95 each. Robert- NS5P made a mo-

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**NOTICE**  
**The next MARC Board meeting will be held on September 15, 2018**  
**at**  
**Creekwood United Methodist Church**  
**261 Country Club Road**  
**Allen, TX 75002**

**Visitors are always welcome!**

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tion and Ron- WW2CBI seconded that we purchase the switchers. During discussion it was found on a photo of one of the Go Kits that it is already equipped with a switcher. Robert NS5P then withdrew the motion and Ron- WW2CBI withdrew his second. The weight of the Go Kits was discussed and it was determined that the major weight of the Go Kits was contributed by the case and the radio.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**WEBSITE:** Bill- N5YZ discussed problems that are occurring with the website, that our website has been deprecated. Robert- NS5P advised that Rich Wilson has said he would help with updating the Joomla. Andy- W5KZJ stated that he and Bob- K5CRX discussed changing the website to general static content. Robert- NS5P recommended that we appoint Michael-N5MAJ to redo the website. Robert- NS5P said he would volunteer to help Michael.

**LADIES NET:** Bill- N5YZ advised that Patty KG5AEL has resigned as net manager for the ladies' net. Lisa- KG5OBK advised that there are typically only 2 or 3 ladies who participate on a regular basis. Bill- N5YZ advised that MARC is not responsible for the ladies' net and if the ladies don't want to have their net at this time, it would be the ladies' decision. Lisa recommended that we may want to revisit this again in 6 months to see if any ladies are interested in starting the net back up.

**OKTOBERFEST & TEXAS QSO PARTY:** Bill-N5YZ announced that they are both September 28-30. Bill will find out from Main Street McKinney what they need from us this year regarding communication. It was discussed that we can try to make contacts for the Texas QSO during Oktoberfest but that we not have a specific event for the Texas QSO.

**BALLOONFEST:** Bill- N5YZ reported that the Plano Balloonfest is September 21-23. Bob-K5CRX has not heard anything from Stan regarding anything they need from MARC for this event.

**LEOPARD FRIDAY:** Bill- N5YZ reported that Leopard Friday is coming up at Lovejoy during a football game but doesn't have the date yet. He reports that we set up a HAM radio station to get kids on the air, teach them about HAM radio.

**BOY SCOUT GOTA JAMBOREE:** Bill – N5YZ reported that this is the third Saturday in October. Andy-W5KZJ had volunteered to help Michael N5MAJ with his Boy Scout Troop. In the past we have also helped BoKG5BTJ with his Troop.

**ADJOURNMENT-** Lisa- KG5OBK made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Robert-NS5P. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:19 AM.

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The Plano Amateur Radio Klub is looking for volunteers. For additional information go to:

<https://k5prk.net/plano-balloon-fest-2018-signup/>

I hope everyone will be experiencing some cooler weather soon!

73,

Bill N5YZ

MARC President

### Special Event Station - W9G

WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WISCONSIN – The Wood and Portage County ARES, will air special event station, W9G, from 1300 UTC to 2000 UTC, Sunday, September 9, celebrating the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Heart of Wisconsin Downtown Grand Affair and the Creepers Car Club Car Show.

Frequencies include 14.280 14.242; 146.790 pl 114.8; 146.520 simplex.

Send SASE for QSL to Paul Giannoni, 976 Falk Ct, Nekoosa, WI 54457.

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## Upcoming Events that MARC Members will want to Check Out

There are activities galore this fall for MARC members.

### McKinney Oktoberfest – Sept. 21 – Sept 30 (Fri – Sun)

Marc will be supporting this event again this year, helping with parking, bus monitoring, and generally being good-will ambassadors for the City of McKinney. Please contact Bill, N5YZ, if you can help out. [president@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:president@mckinneyarc.org) A sign-up site will be set up shortly to make this even easier.

### Plano Balloon Festival – Sept. 21 – Sept 23 (Fri – Sun)

Amateur operators support a variety of operations for this event from refueling to ground launch to recovery. Amateur operators keep the flow going while keeping safety paramount. Check the PARK website for sign up details. [www.K5PRK.com](http://www.K5PRK.com)

### Plano Balloon Festival Special Event Station W5P – Sept. 21 – Sept 23 (Fri – Sun)

The special event activities will be conducted in the Lucas Fire Training Room. Contact Stan, NW5Q, via the [W5P Signup](#) Signup Genius web site.

### Lovejoy Leopard Friday—Sept. 28 (Fri)

This has become an annual event for MARC, providing exposure to amateur radio to students, teachers, and faculty in the Lovejoy ISD. The participation period is only a couple of hours with a brief time for setup and take down. This one is a fun event. Contact Bill, N5YZ, at [president@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:president@mckinneyarc.org).

### Texas QSO Party – Sept. 29 – Sept. 30

### (Sat – Sun)

Visit the Texas QSO Party website for more details: <http://www.w5nc.club/txqp/>

### Boy Scouts JOTA – Oct. 19 – Oct. 20 (Sat – Sun)

Marc supports the Boy Scouts by providing communications gear and expertise to get scouts on the air. Actual location(s) to be announced.

### USO Special Event Station – Nov. 11 (Sun)

This has become an annual tradition for MARC. Led by Patty, KG5AEL and Dave, AK5SP, this event honors the many years that USO volunteers have provided support to out troops around the world. Concurrently, the special event station will honor fallen Collin County veterans. Location to be announced.

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heeding number 3 above. Pause and give someone else a chance to talk.

Keep the conversation clean and honorable. As hams, we police ourselves so that we do not descend to the language level heard on CB Channel 19 today. “Clean and honorable” includes avoiding racial, ethnic, or religious slurs and conversation that tends to cause heated rhetoric exchanges (i.e., politics, religious arguments, political philosophies, etc.) that are not appropriate over the repeater airwaves.

Finally, if you tend to talk on for a while, be sure to give your call sign every ten minutes during the communication. This is simply an FCC requirement.

That sounds like a lot but really – it’s just common sense plus a small dose of FCC regulation. Let’s all enjoy talking on the local repeaters and supporting the various nets. Legal and cordial radio communications are a hallmark of Amateur Radio. Bob—K5CRX

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su Fusion. The presentation will be made available on the website.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Johnny Newton applied to be an associate member and Michael Reeves applied for general membership. Robert-N5SP made motion to accept their memberships, seconded by Wayne- KG5MGN. Motion carried.

**50/50 DRAWING:** Tessa DeVance won the 50/50 drawing, winning \$38 of the \$76 taken in.

**DOOR PRIZES:** Van WC5D won a Baofang hand held UHF radio. Sid- K5DKW and Johnny Newton won homemade jam donated by Carol -KG5VCQ. Rob- KE5VTW won a mystery prize.

**SPRING CREEK BBQ STAFF:** Bill- N5YZ thanked the restaurant staff for their excellent service. \$11 in tips was presented to the manager.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Andy- W5KZJ made a motion to adjourn, second by Eric-AI9O. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Lisa Barnes KG5OBK, secretary



## From the Editor



I hope you enjoy this issue of “On Your MARC”. As always, we need your articles and input to create a great newsletter.

You may notice that this issue is shorter than recent issues. We have a shortage of articles plus I've just had major surgery and am having to do a little at a time to get this out. Hopefully, I'll see an influx of articles written by you—the members—about your experiences and ventures.

Until next month—

Bob, K5CRX, Editor

### Help for “Meet the Members” Articles

To help you submit your “Meet the Members” article, just fill in the following questionnaire and send it to [newsletter@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:newsletter@mckinneyarc.org).

Name:

Call sign:

Operator Class:

Where did you grow up?

When were you first licensed as a HAM?

Where did you take your exam(s)?

What interested you most about HAM radio?

What is your favorite part of HAM radio (local communications, “rag-chewing”, DX chasing, emergency communications, special events, public service, etc.)?

What types of HAM operating do you like (local thru the repeater, digital operations, HF rag-chewing, HF contesting, award qualification, etc.)?

What are your goals for your future in HAM radio?

# Buy, Sell, Trade, Give Away

Have items to buy, sell, trade, or give away in the radio/computer world? MARC members may post these items here by e-mailing a brief description of their items and contact information to [newsletter@mckinneyarc.org](mailto:newsletter@mckinneyarc.org).

MARC also hosts a monthly Sidewalk Sale where many more great deals can be found! The Sidewalk Sale is held on the last Weekend of each month in the Southwest parking lot of Collin College's McKinney Campus located at the corner of US 380 (University) and Community.

## Good Practice and Repeater Etiquette

Repeaters are a great asset to ham radio operators. They allow us to reach out far beyond the capabilities of our average hand held or mobile radios. And they're very useful! Most of us enjoy a bit of rag-chewing from time to time with friends and acquaintances via the repeater. When severe weather threatens or emergency conditions arise, they provide that essential link to help preserve life and property.

The protocol for using a repeater is near universal. Here are some guidelines that will serve each of us well wherever we may be.

Always give your call sign at the beginning of a communication. This officially establishes your legal presence on the repeater. It may be a simple announcing of your call sign and listening for a response or giving someone else's call sign followed by your own to establish communications.

At the end of the communication, give your call sign again. This lets everyone know that you've finished. This is especially true for nets. After an exchange with the con-

trol operator, adding your callsign lets him or her know you're finished.

While enjoying a conversation on the repeater, pause occasionally to allow others to enter the conversation or use the repeater. This is just common courtesy. If we leave no breaks or pauses between operators, others can't get in.

When do you use the words (pro-sign) "break-break"? These words are reserved for emergencies. If you have an emergency need for communications through the repeater, calling "Break-break" will get you immediate access. Other operators will simply back off and let you have priority. If you use "break-break", be sure it's an emergency. Occasionally, you will hear the work "break" used alone. If you hear this, it probably means you were not

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## McKinney Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

### Sunday Night Net Control Operator Schedule

Date	Name/Call sign	Info	Back ups
Sep. 2, 18	Bill, N5YZ		Bob, K5CRX
Sep. 9, 18	Bob, K5CRX		Danny, W5FRT
Sep. 16, 18	Danny, W5FRT	MARC ARES	Dave, AK5SP
Sep. 23, 18	Dave, AK5SP		David, KS5SK
Sep. 30, 18	David, KS5SK		James, KG5UIK
Oct. 7, 18	James, KG5UIK		Jay, W5GM
Oct. 14, 18	Jay, W5GM	MARC ARES	Jeff, W5JLT
Oct. 21, 18	Jeff, W5JLT		Joshua, K5GHS
Oct. 28, 18	Joshua, K5GHS		Lisa, KG5OBK
Nov. 4, 18	Lisa, KG5OBK		Michael, N5MAJ
Nov. 11, 18	Michael, N5MAJ		Patty, KG5AEL
Nov. 18, 18	Patty, KG5AEL	MARC ARES	Paul, KI4MMH
Nov. 25, 18	Paul, KI4MMH		Ricky, NI2C

If you are unable to make your scheduled date and time, please contact your backup operator and also Kyle (972-979-7095, [kyle.ackermano2@gmail.com](mailto:kyle.ackermano2@gmail.com)), as soon as possible. **Please be aware if your week falls on the week marked "MARC ARES". The MARC Repeater is scheduled for the ARES Net at 9:00 PM.**

**REMEMBER THAT YOU CAN HELP OTHERS IN AN EMERGENCY.**  
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COLLIN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE  
PLEASE VISIT THEIR WEB-SITE: [HTTP://WWW.COLLINARES.NET](http://www.collinares.net) (Note: site not currently functional.)

**MARC operates open repeaters on 146.740 and 443.200 MHz**

EchoLink is provided on 146.740 by connecting through W5MRC-R. Regular/frequent users of the repeater are encouraged to join the club and be an active part of the local Ham community, as well as helping to support the repeaters continued operation.

The MARC information net is held every Sunday at 8:00PM CT, on 146.740 MHz.

Collin County ARES holds a training net on the third Sunday of each month at 9:00 PM CT on 146.740 MHz.

The MARC Ladies net is held the first and third Monday at 8:00PM CT, on 146.740 MHz.

**MARC E-Mail Reflector—groups.io**

MARC maintains a chat group on groups.io to facilitate club communication between meetings and newsletters. Sign up for this service by visiting <https://groups.io/g/McKinneyARC>. Your application will be approved quickly.

*The purposes of the MARC email reflector are: 1) Facilitate the timely distribution of MARC information and news to club members. 2) Allow for the sharing of amateur radio related topics among club members. 3) Provide a forum for the discussion of amateur related information among club members. 4) Act as a marketplace for the buying and selling of amateur radio and computer equipment and services. Club members should utilize good judgment with regard to topics or content that are posted on the MARC reflector. To that end it is recommended that political and religious topics or content be avoided unless directly related to amateur radio. In addition, personal attacks in any form will not be tolerated.*

**VE SESSIONS ARRL EXAMS \$15**

**McKinney testing** is held at the Heard Natural Museum, 1 Nature Place, in McKinney, on the first Sunday of each month except holiday weekends. Starting time is 2:30pm and ends no later than 4:45pm (they close at 5:00pm). For more information check our website at [www.mckinneyve.org](http://www.mckinneyve.org) or contact Stephen Reinen, N8BP at (214) 937-9982 or by email at [info@mckinneyve.org](mailto:info@mckinneyve.org).

**Richardson testing** is held on the third Thursday of each month at St. Barnabas Church, located at 1220 West Beltline Rd. Sessions start at 7 PM. Walk-Ins are ok. For more information, contact Bill Owens, AD5EW at (972) 380-2859 or [wtowens3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wtowens3@sbcglobal.net).

**Sherman testing** is held on the first Thursday of each EVEN--numbered month (Feb, Apr, Jun, etc.) at the Grayson County College, Center for Workplace Learning Seminar Room C, 6101 Grayson Drive, Denison TX 75020 at 7:00pm. For more information contact: Ron Witherington, K5NKD, [rwitherington@verizon.net](mailto:rwitherington@verizon.net) or at (214.394.7950) Call first!

**Garland testing** is held on the fourth Thursday of each month and begins at 7:00pm. Location is : Freeman Heights Baptist Church, 1120 Garland Ave., Garland, TX 75040. Janet Crenshaw, WB9ZPH, at (972) 302-9992 for details or [wb9zph@gmail.com](mailto:wb9zph@gmail.com).

**Plano testing** is on the third Monday of each month at 6:00pm-. Testing sessions are located at 3160 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, TX. If you have questions send e-mail to [ae5sg@arrl.net](mailto:ae5sg@arrl.net).

**Carrollton testing** sessions are sponsored by the Metrocrest Amateur Radio Society (MARS). Testing is held at the Carrollton Public Library, 4420 Josey Lane, 75010. Please contact Allan Batteiger at (972) 672-0278. (See [www.kb5a.org](http://www.kb5a.org) for details.)

**Sachse, Wylie, Murphy testing** sessions are sponsored by the Sachse ARA. Testing is held at 9:00am the second Saturday of the month at the East Fork Masonic Lodge, 508 Parker Rd., Wylie, TX, 75098. For more information call (214) 500-3472.

**St. Paul testing** sessions are sponsored by the PARK. Testing is held at 9:00am the third Saturday of the month at the St. Paul City Hall, 2505 Butcher's Block, St. Paul, TX, 75098. Please contact Kerry A. Weeks at (972) 442-1125.

**Other testing session** can be located online at: [www.dfwlist.org](http://www.dfwlist.org).

**Local Repeaters—See <http://www.mckinneyarc.org> for additional repeaters.**

**Voice**

Dallas ARC (W5FC) 146.880 PL 110.9  
Denton (W5NGU) 146.920 PL 110.9  
Denton (W5NGU) 444.050 PL 110.9  
Fannin Cty (K5FRC) 145.470 PL 88.5  
Fannin Cty (K5FRC) 443.750 PL 100.0  
Garland (K5QHD) 146.660 PL 110.9  
Garland (K5QHD) 442.700 PL 110.9  
Grayson Cty (K5GCC) 147.000 PL 100.0  
Grayson Cty (K5GCC) 147.280 PL 107.2  
Grayson Cty (K5GCC) 444.750 PL 100.0  
McKny ARC (W5MRC) 146.740 PL 110.9  
Melissa (W5MRC) 443.200 PL 100.0  
NTXRA 145.350 PL 100.0  
NTXRA IRLP 442.575 PL 127.3  
Plano (K5PRK) 147.180 PL 107.2  
Plano (K5PRK) 444.250 PL 79.7

Richardson (K5RWK) 147.120 PL 110.9  
Rockwell (W5ROK) 441.875 PL 131.8  
Rockwall (KK5PP) 441.525 PL 141.3  
Rosston (WD5U) 145.490 PL 85.4  
Van Alstyne (W5VAL) 443.800 PL 103.5  
Wylie (W5GM) 442.100 PL 110.9

**Digital Modes**

**APRS**

National Freq 144.39 Simplex  
National Alt Freq 144.34 Simplex

**Winlink**

SW Collin Co 145.03 K5BAD-10  
SW Collin Co 145.03 W5RAE-10  
NE Collin Co 145.07 AE5IT-10  
NW Collin Co 145.07 KD5CTQ-10  
SE Collin Co 145.09 N5BYL-10  
SE Collin Co 145.09 KI5FU-10

SE Collin Co 145.09 K5PRK-10  
SE Collin Co 145.09 K5EEN-10

**(Plano)\* D-Star**

Voice 441.575 (+5)  
Voice 1295.00 (-20)  
Data 1255.00

\*D-Star access is available through the WWW.K5PRK.Net website.

**W5NGU (Denton) D-Star**

Voice 147.450 (-1)  
Voice 442.925 (+5)  
Voice 1293.400 (-20)  
Data 1253.600

**K5TIT (Dallas) D-Star**

Voice 147.360 (+0.6)  
Voice 442.000 (+5)  
Voice 1293.000 (-20)