



L.A.R.A. Newsletter May 2017

Newsletter Editor: Ron, KF5OMH,
rfavcon@verizon.net, 972-742-7839
 Membership items: Ron, KF5OMH,
rfavcon@verizon.net, 972-742-7839



IN THIS ISSUE

From the Prez

I would like to give a big thanks to the former club officers. Thanks for the time you put into the club and the times that you will still help out keeping it going.

New officers get ready for all the fun you will have helping us grow. I know each one of you will keep it going on the right path. Let me be the first to say welcome to your new roles as an officer and thanks for stepping up.

The next few months we will have some really cool events KTA, Ham Fest, Field Day, and JOTA. Take the time to come out and bring someone you can show the hobby; who knows, they might even have fun.

The first LARA swap meet went well. A lot of hanging out and telling stories about the past.

It's very important to pass the hobby along to the youth, so reach out to your neighbors, youth groups at church, and Boy Scout groups. Invite them out to club activities like field day!!

May Business Meeting,
 May 20, 0800 at Lewisville
 Central Fire Station, 188 N.
 Valley Pkwy. Come on out;
 let's fill the room.



1093 W Main St, Lewisville, TX 75067
 Phone: (972) 219-7333
**10 percent discount to LARA
 members**

Operations Director's Corner.....2
 Technical Director's Corner3
 Various Tidbits6
 Upcoming Events6
 Crossword7
 Meeting Minutes8
 Area Repeaters9

Reserve the days.
 Field Day, June 24
 & 25. Lewisville
 Central Fire
 Station.

Operations Director's Corner

By: Mike, W5EVT

ARRL Field Day, June 24 & 25

LARA will once again be participating in Field Day. Field Day is ham radio's open house. Every June more than 40,000 hams across North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate science, skills, and services to our communities.

Our Field Day activities will be held at Lewisville Central Fire Station. Set up will begin early Saturday morning with actual operation to begin at 1:00 PM and go continuously to 1:00 PM Sunday.

We will have five stations set up to operate during this 24 hour period. Operators are needed to assist in this effort as one person cannot solely accomplish this. I encourage everyone to come out and participate in this effort.

If you would like to assist a station please contact Steve, W5JK, so he can assign you to a station.

A proclamation has been presented to the Lewisville City Council naming the last week in June as Amateur Radio Week in Lewisville. The signed proclamation will be presented to our club at the city council meeting on June 19th. I encourage all who wish to attend to come out and represent our organization. Personal invitations have been sent to our mayor and other city officials inviting them to attend. Press releases have been sent to the local media and Dallas Morning News. Flyers will be posted in June in local businesses to promote our event. Our hope is to make this one of the best Field Days as possible.

Our committee has done a tremendous job to date in planning for this event. If you have any questions please contact Steve or one of our committee; Jim, WB8YWA, Ron KF5OMH, Marty KM5OI, or myself. We will be glad to help.

Further details will be published at a later date.



Field Day 2016

Technical Director's Corner

By: Jim, WB8YWA

Controlling the receive audio for your station

My station consists of two HF/6 radios, one HF/VHF/UHF radio, VHF 220 MHz FM radio and my VHF/UHF FM radio. Believe it or not when I am in the shack there are times I have most of them on listening. I monitor 50 MHz, 144 MHz and now starting to monitor 432 weak signal SSB on three of my rigs. Then monitor our two repeaters 145.170 and 224.08. That is a total of five rigs on at the same time.

I have my shack in a five foot bi-fold door closet and must keep space under control. I also enjoy simple operating techniques and use my computer with ham radio all the time. It is my logging system, my maps (world, grid, and zones), my digital modes (PSK and RTTY). For these last two modes to connect radio to computer takes an audio interface and two audio cables where mic of radio goes to audio out of computer and mic of computer goes to audio in of radio. That is only one problem with cables and equipment in the shack. Then if you want to switch radios for your digital modes, add the separate speaker for each radio and the separate mic. This all takes a lot of room and gets very confusing. It is also nice to have computer speakers, plus I want to use my iPhone and iPad connecting them to external speakers when watching You Tube ham radio videos. You can see where I am going with this. A lot of cables and reconnecting and time to do all this. Here is one method I have used to solve these problems and at the same time made operating my station a whole lot easier.

To solve the radio mic problem, I purchased a Heil ICM boom mic with foot switch. I wanted hands free so I could use the computer for logging, QRZ and other things while transmitting. Once I had the boom mic, I wanted to be able to use it for all my radios. So I built a mic switch that allowed me to throw one switch to use the boom mic on three of my radios. See Oct 2016 Newsletter for that article.

To solve the other side of the audio (receive of the radios) I purchased a Behringer Q802USB Audio Mixer for around \$59 from Amazon. This device gives you a lot of things in one small box.

- 1) USB interface to computer. Sound card interface at punch of one button.
- 2) Connection of audio out to BOSE WAVE radio I already owned. Can be any audio amp and speakers.
 - a. Radios (4)
 - b. iPhone / iPad
 - c. Computer speakers – no switching or hooking up and anything. Just adjust a knob or push a button switch.
 - d. Connection to Rig Blaster receive audio for digital modes
- 3) Headset connected to all devices, radios, computer, iPhone, and iPad without switching anything.
- 4) Push of a button and flip of a switch and you have all digital modes to all radios. That simple.

Below is a picture of my station where you can see the mixer and stereo. The mixer is very easy to operate and needs to be placed so you can get to the controls. You will find that you will be adjusting the mixer and not the radio receive audio. Each radio has its own equalizer and volume control, plus you have a master volume control for output to the amplifier and one for your headset. One more benefit, with the equalizer you can adjust audio tone on HF to help in pulling out weak SSB/CW signals when band has high noise floor.

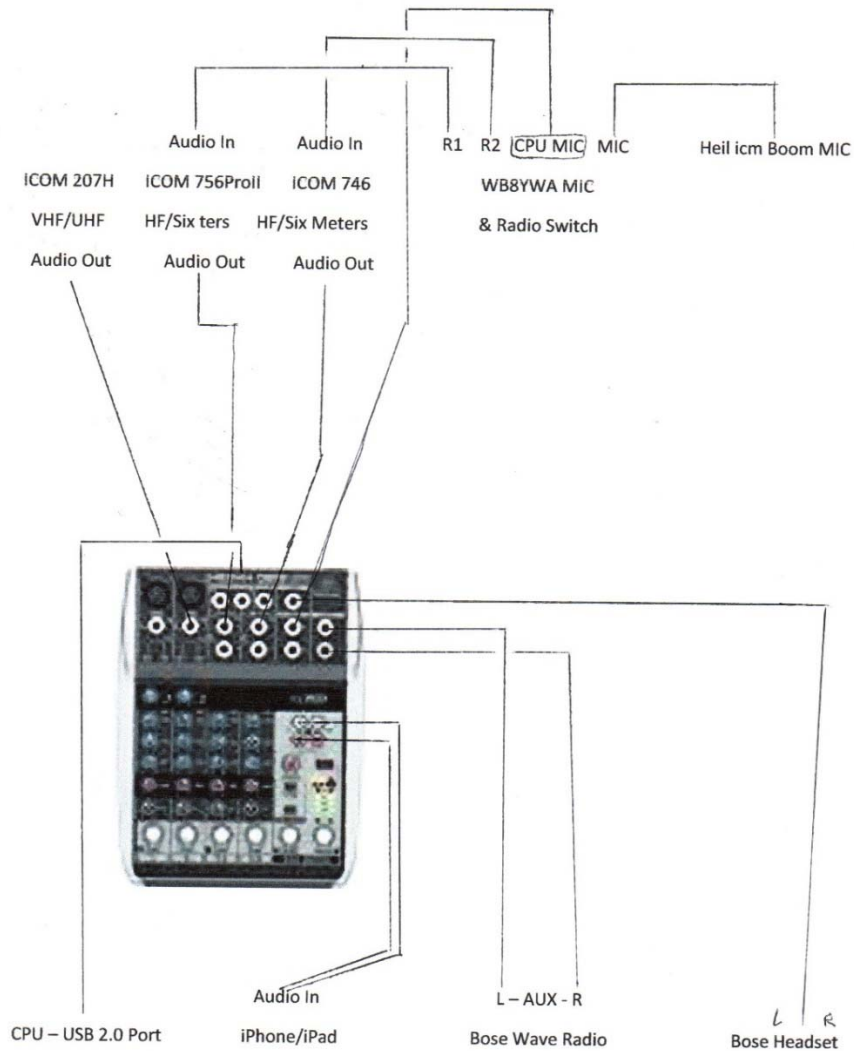


Just in front of mixer is a homebrew mic switch. Need to look close but Bose Wave is between rotor control and my homebrew Amp Standby Switch. Speaker on top of scope is not used. Can switch it into the mixer but never do, sound from Bose is outstanding so I use it for everything.

The only cables I now have to swap is my CW Bencher, which on the ICOM's is front mounted jack. I can connect loose cable from mixer to either my iPhone or iPad if I want to use them with my amp.

Below is a hand drawing of connection to the Behringer Q802USB. It does not have to be a Behringer or a BOSE. It can be any mixer and any stereo amp. With the Bose, I have left and right speaker control from mixer so one radio can be fed to left speaker and another to right. Or I can mix to both.

Continued on following page



I now have my Rigblaster connected between the output of the Behringer and Bose right speaker. This gives me the ability to use this device with all the radios also. This set up has proven to be well worth the effort of obtaining the equipment and time spent setting it up.

L.A.R.A. Officers

Position	Name	Email
President	Len Shipp	kc5mpx@gmail.com
Vice President	Jim Lavin	jlavin@jimlavin.net
Secretary	Tim Monk	timmonk@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ron Ford	rfavcon@verizon.net
Technical Director	Jim Horton	wb8ywa@arrl.net
Operations Director	Mike Reitz	w5evt@sbcglobal.net



First LARA Swap Meet – April 29

Various Tidbits

Amateur Radio Week – The Lewisville City Council will present a proclamation to LARA recognizing the week of June 19-25 as Amateur Radio Week in Lewisville. The presentation will be made at the council meeting on June 19 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 151 W. Church St. All members are urged to attend the meeting to represent LARA at the presentation. See Field Day article in the Operations Director's Corner.

New Officers – The election of new association officers for the club year 2017-2018 was announced by Election Committee Chair Steve, W5JK. The elected positions are as follows:

President – Len Shipp

Vice President – Jim Lavin

Secretary – Tim Monk

Treasurer – Ron Ford

Technical Director – Jim Horton

Operations Director – Mike Reitz

Contact information for these individuals is found elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Corporate Donors – Many corporations make donations to non-profit organizations, such as LARA, that their employees/customers support. Does your company make contributions of this nature? Check it out; maybe there is an opportunity for you and your employer to further support LARA. Here are a few known companies that support non-profit organizations -- Microsoft Matching Funds, Yahoo, Verizon, Network for Good, HP Your Cause, Amazon Smile, Dell, and AT&T. Contact Ron Ford, Treasurer if your employer is willing to make a donation to LARA.

C	Q	S	S		O	L	D	E	N		H	A	L	L	
A	S	A	P		N	U	E	V	O		E	L	U	L	
Y	L	R	L		A	B	L	E	R		T	A	R	O	
		D	U	C	I	E	I	N	T	H	E	S	K	Y	
E	D	I	T	O	R					H	A	R	K	E	D
W	A	N	T	S		F	E	T		R	O	A	R	S	
E	R	I	E		R	E	A	R	M	S					
S	C	A	R	B	O	R	O	U	G	H	F	A	R	E	
				L	E	A	N	E	R		O	R	E	O	
M	A	T	T	E		L	E	D		L	O	R	A	N	
A	C	R	O	S	S					M	E	T	E	R	S
R	A	I	N	S	O	N	S	W	A	I	N	S			
T	R	O	N		L	A	T	I	N		O	T	I	S	
T	I	D	E		A	N	O	D	E		T	O	N	S	
I	D	E	S		R	O	P	E	S		E	R	S	E	

Upcoming Events

Go to the L.A.R.A. web site – [click here](#)

Scroll down on the home page to reach the Upcoming Events Calendar

Cross Word Puzzle of the Month

All puzzles are published with the permission of the author.

Answers on another page.

DXpedition Ditties

Across

1. Call heard during November
5. Bygone
10. CQ DX ____ of fame
14. "Hurry!"
15. Deleted HK0 last name
16. Hebrew month
17. Org. not for OMs
18. Less inept
19. KH6 root
20. VP6 air space?
23. News manager
25. Listened attentively
26. The missing ones for your DXCC #1, say
27. Suffix with MOS or J
30. Engine sounds
31. W8 - VE3 separator

34. What it costs to get to BS7?
40. Less fat
41. Three-ply cookie
42. Kind of finish, on a front panel, say
46. Modern alternative to a #47, e.g.
47. Navigation radio
48. "We got ____!" - early ham radio headline
50. S, SWR and others
51. Bad WX on KH8?
55. Suffix with posi-
56. "E pluribus unum," e.g.
57. Elevator guy
60. Lunar effect
61. Plate

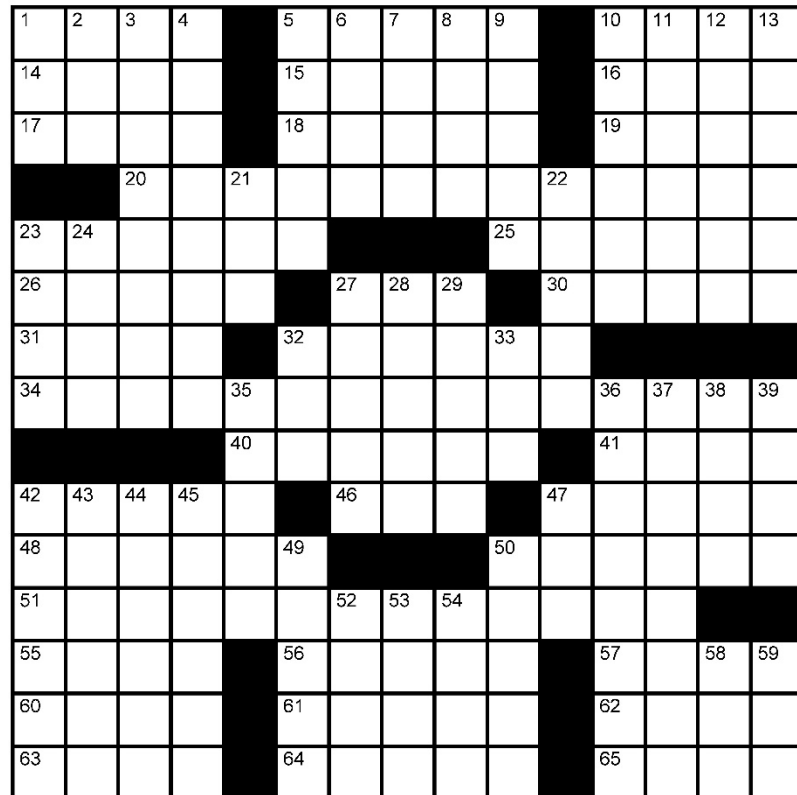
62. Plenty
63. Midmonth time
64. Temporary guys
65. FI language, e.g.

Down

1. IOTA item
2. "Got it"
3. IS-land island
4. Talk incoherently
5. Hamshack sign, when transmitting
6. Grease
7. Where to find a hero
8. Fifty-fifty
9. 0 or 360
10. Prefix with -dyne
11. KL7

12. Listener to a QSO, say
13. Belonging to dx-peditioner Colvin
21. Sin minus 90
22. Severe
23. She sheep
24. DL org.
27. Wild
28. Spanish PX
29. Aligned
32. Future fish
33. Buro alt., sometimes
35. Grace word
36. A little number?
37. Word with lightning, for hams especially
38. Kind of admiral

39. Geologic periods
42. DX-peditioner Laine
43. Tick or mite cousin
44. 3-500Z, for example
45. Metric 62-across
47. KH6 garland
49. Winds of propagation
50. Long tresses
52. Billionth: Prefix
53. Last bit, in RTTY, say
54. Like a splattering SSB signal
58. PC key
59. VP6 heading from KH6



April Meeting Minutes

Recorded by Allyssa, KG5DAS

LARA Meeting Minutes 4/15/17

President Len Shipp, KC5MPX, called the meeting to order at 0805

Officers in Attendance:

President: Len Shipp KC5MPX

Vice President: Jim Lavin K5VZ

Secretary: Allyssa Shipp KG5DAS

Treasurer: Sharon Howard KE5JUI

Attendance:

Members:

Walter Logan AG5CF

Marty Wells KM5OI

Jim Horton WB8YWA

Mike Reitz W5EVT

Joseph Grove KG5JFP

Ron Ford KF5OMH

Steve Kline W5JK

Michael Beck WX5MAB

Tim Monk WZ5TM

Dan Howard KE5CIR

Scott Boutwell KG5RJR

John Cross CF5CIA

Clark Highsmith K5LGX

Guests:

Ralph Beck

Joe Magnusson N5PHY

Meeting Minutes from last meeting: Past meeting minutes were approved as posted on the website.

Motioned by: Ron Ford KF5OMH

Seconded by: Jim Horton WB8YWA

Approved by the Members

Treasurer's Report was given by Sharon Howard KE5JUI:

Beginning Balance \$2237.44 withdrawal of \$75 Kenwood Repair.

Ending Balance \$2162.44

Motioned by: Dan Howard KE5CIR

Seconded by: Jim Lavin K5VZ

Approved by the Members

Technical Report as given by Len Shipp KC5MPX: 145.17 working good. W5LVC 220 is working well.

Buy antennas for Repeater site

Motioned by: Allyssa Shipp KG5DAS

Seconded by: Scott Boutwell KG5RJR

Approved by the Members

New Business:

Swap meet and Day in the Park: Come see what rigs look like installed and see how someone else did it.

April 29. 2950 Lake Vista Drive. Vista Ridge Athletic Complex at 10:00

Motion to Sell the Amplifier - Jim Horton WB8YWA

Second - Mike Reitz W5EVT

Junk Box Pass-Off -

Event T-shirts

Scott Boutwell KG5RJR is taking the Kenwood on Loan

Mike Reitz W5EVT - Get a Proclamation Recognizing the Week of Field Day as Amateur Radio Week in the City of Lewisville

Weekend Classes for Licensing.

Need Field Day Decisions from the Committee

Motion to Make Operations Director Mike Reitz Head of the Field Day Committee - Jim Horton WB8YWA

Second - Jim Lavin K5VZ

Raffle for a New HF Radio

Motion - Jim Lavin K5VZ

Second - Steve Kline W5JK

Motion for the Raffle to be for Yasue 991 - Mike Reitz W5EVT

Second - Scott Boutwell KG5RJR

Become an ARRL Club?

New Officers

- President: Len Shipp KC5MPX (former, Len Shipp KC5MPX)
- Vice President: Jim Lavin K5VZ (former, Jim Lavin K5VZ)
- Secretary: Tim Monk WZ5TM (former, Allyssa Shipp KG5DAS)
- Treasurer: Ron Ford KF5OMH (former, Sharon Howard KE5JUI)
- Technical Director: Jim Horton WB8YWA (former, Erick Guzowsky KO0M)
- Operations Director: Mike Reitz W5EVT (formerly vacant)

Motion to Accept - Jim Horton WB8YWA

Second - Clark Highsmith K5LGX

Old Business:

Officers Elections

Meeting and HF Day in the Park

Junk Box Pass-Off

Presentation on Building a 47 AMP Power Supply by Jim Horton WB8YWA

Motion to Close Meeting Made by: Allyssa Shipp KG5DAS

Seconded by: Jim Lavin K5VZ

All Members Approved

Meeting Closed at: 9:33

Area Repeaters

Courtesy: DCARA *EXCITER* Newsletter

Freq.	Shift	PL	Call	Name
145.1700	-.600	110.9	W5FKN	DCARA-Denton County EOC
145.2100	-.600	110.9	N5MJQ	Metrocrest ARA-Carrollton
145.4000	-.600	110.9	NETARC	Grapevine
145.4900	-.600	85.4	WD5U	Rosston Tower
146.9200	-.600	110.9	W5NGU	DCARA - Denton
147.300	+.600	114.8	N5ERS	Flower Mound
147.3800	+.600	110.9	K5LRK	LAARK - The Colony
224.000	-1.6	110.9	K5LRK	LAARK - The Colony
224.080	-1.6	110.9	W5LVC	LARA
224.920	-1.6	110.9	AF5RS	AF5RS
441.3250	+5.0	88.5	W5NGU	Portable DCARA repeater
442.7500	+5.0	110.9	KA5R	Trophy Club
444.5125	+5.0	123	KE5UT	Celina
442.1750	+5.0	110.9	NETARC	Southlake
442.6500	+5.0	110.9	N5MJQ	Metrocrest ARA-Carrollton
443.3000	+5.0	110.9	K5LRK	LAARK-C4FM only
443.5250	+5.0	118.8	WA5LIE	DCARA - Denton
443.7375	+5.0	141.3	N6LXX	Rosston Tower
443.8750	+5.0	110.9	NETARC	DFW Airport
444.0500	+5.0	110.9	W5NGU	DCARA-Denton County EOC
444.2250	+5.0	110.9	K5CFD	Coppell
444.7000	+5.0	110.9	NETARC	Southlake
444.8500	+5.0	110.9	N5ERS	Flower Mound
927.025	-25.0	D532	N5ERS	Flower Mound
927.4125	-25.0	432	N5LS	Denton
927.6125	-25.0	110.9	W5NGU	DCARA-Denton County EOC
927.1375	-25.0	131.8	W5FKN	Decatur
1253.6000	none	none	W5NGU-G	DCARA - EOC - D*Star "G"
1293.4000	-20.0	none	W5NGU-A	DCARA - EOC - D*Star "A"
442.9250	+5.0	none	W5NGU-B	DCARA - EOC - D*Star "B"
147.4500	-1.0	none	W5NGU-C	DCARA - EOC - D*Star "C"
1259.2000	none	none	KE5YAP-G	DCARA-Rosston- D*Star "G"
1293.2000	-20.0	none	KE5YAP-A	DCARA-Rosston- D*Star "A"
440.7125	+5.0	none	KE5YAP-B	DCARA-Rosston- D*Star "B"
147.4900	-1.0	none	KE5YAP-C	DCARA-Rosston- D*Star "C"
DIGITAL	====	====	=====	=====
144.9100	none	none	W5NGU-4	DCARA Digipeater-Denton
147.970	none	none	K5YX-10	WinLink Gateway
144.990	none	none	KC5GOI	DCARA Digipeater-Rosston
144.990	none	none	KD5EOC-10	DCARA WL Gateway