

# NOVEMBER DAYS



# LARA Newsletter

Volume 3 - Issue 11 November 13th, 2018



### Breakfast & Club Members Meetings - November, 2018

#### Breakfast

- 3 - Saturday @ 8AM Site A.
- 10 - Saturday @ 8AM Site A.
- 24 - Saturday @ 8AM Site A.

#### Business

17th - Saturday @ 8AM Site B.

#### Breakfast

Saturday @ 8AM Site A.

#### Key:

**Site A.** - Mill Street Diner, 727 S Mill Street, Lewisville, TX 75057

**Site B.** - Lewisville Central Fire Station Training Room  
188 N. Valley Parkway

#### Association Contact Information:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 292282  
Lewisville, TX. 75029

Email Address:  
W5LVC.Club@gmail.com

#### Check us out:

Facebook: facebook.com/w5lvc/



Minutes for the Monthly Club and Officer's Meetings may be viewed on our website [w5lvc.org](http://w5lvc.org).



Don't forget our LARA Clubs swap meet to be conducted following our formal monthly club meeting on Saturday November 17th

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Visit L.A.R.A. Website: [w5lvc.org](http://w5lvc.org)

Editor: Ron Bath  
KG5VIS  
[aro.kg5vis@gmail.com](mailto:aro.kg5vis@gmail.com)

## What's Your Story?

### Have You Got a Story Idea?

Your entry may be emailed to [arokg5vis@gmail.com](mailto:arokg5vis@gmail.com) NLT 09/09/18 by 5 PM. All entries shall contain the following information:

- Name:
- Call Sign:
- Date:
- Story Idea:
- Picture (optional):

# JOTA



This years JOTA event was a huge success. A big Thank You is offered up to all who participated and made this years JOTA so educational to our Boy and Girl Scouts. (See Pages 6 & 7)

# 2017 - 2018 Officers & Support

**President**

Ron Ford, KF5OMH (972) 742-7839  
rfavcon@verizon.net

**Vice President**

Mike Reitz, W5EVT (214) 535-1368  
w5evt@sbcglobal.net

**Secretary**

Ron Swain, KG5VIV (210) 410-2008  
Ironswain@gmail.com

**Treasurer**

Clark Highsmith, K5LGX (Un-listed)  
alacrity@bennoah.net

**Technical Director**

Jim Horton, WB8YWA (972) 523-8467  
wb8ywa@aarl.net

**Operations Director**

Dale Chatham, WA5WNI (972) 526-3562  
Dale.chatham@gmail.com

**VEC Coordinator**

Steve Kline, W5JK (972) 679-6288  
skline4@verizon.net

**Public Information Officer**

(Vacant)

**Webmister—W5LVC.org****Newsletter Editor**

Ron Bath, KG5VIS (Un-listed)  
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Association membership is open to all persons interested in amateur radio. Join at any meeting, by mail or on-line through our web site. Annual dues are \$25 individual, \$30 family.

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## **From The Presidents Shack**

**If you missed our JOTA event on October 20 you certainly did miss a great time. Please see the follow-up article from Mike, W5EVT elsewhere in the newsletter. Many thanks to Mike for all his hard work in making this event a VERY successful one. We sure did have a lot of youngsters have a fun day.**

**We are still in need of a Public Information Officer to help publicize the association and our various activities. This is an appointed position, not an elected one so there is not a requirement for an election. What does the PIO do, you ask? The position is responsible for keeping the club calendars up-to-date, setting up an information table at our various events and publishing notices of our events through print and social media. There is no need to be a Journalism major to be successful in this position; it just requires a little enthusiasm for our hobby. Surely some one of the membership would like to step up and fill this position. If you are that person, please contact me via phone 972-742-7839 or email [rfavcon@verizon.net](mailto:rfavcon@verizon.net).**

**Don't forget the 4th Quarter Tailgate Swap Meet on November 17 at Rev. Alvin Turner Sr. Park 700 Hembry & Birch in Lewisville. If you have nothing to sell come out and see if there isn't something you would like to spend your money on. You just never know what worldly treasurers one might find.**

**Just a reminder that we will be conducting a Technician class the weekend of December 8 & 9. Dale, WA5WNI will be the instructor for this session and the VE testing session will be held on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 9. This is a date change for the December test session. If you know of someone who is interested in obtaining their license and joining us in this fun hobby give them a copy of the flyer that appears elsewhere in this newsletter and/or direct them to the following link to sign up for the class -- <https://goo.gl/forms/SwzDaTGU8Z92DUQ93>.**

**Our annual Christmas Party will be held December 15 at 7:00 PM. This is a dinner affair to be held at the Korner Café at 921 W. Main St. in Lewisville. We'll have a White Elephant gift exchange so if you want to participate please bring a wrapped gift valued at a maximum of \$20.00 for each person who wishes to participate. If you are bringing a child please bring a gift for them clearly marked with their name. In addition, if you are bringing a child please notify Ron Swain, KG5VIV so we can be prepared for them.**

**Individual food orders will be from the regular Korner Cafe menu. Each family is responsible for their own tab. Questions can be directed to Ron Swain, KG5VIV, at 210-410-2008 or [Ironswain@gmail.com](mailto:Ironswain@gmail.com). Please RSVP to the event reminder sent through HamClubOnline so we can give the restaurant an idea of how many of us to expect.**

**If anyone is interested in volunteering as a bell ringer for the Salvation Army, please contact Lee Dryja at 469-222-6771. This is not an association sponsored event but definitely supports a great cause.**

**Christmas is right around the corner; well, almost?**

**Again this year we have engaged the jolly old elf to be on the air taking wish lists from young and old, on December 21 and 22, 6:00 – 8:00 PM utilizing the 145.170 repeater. If you would like to help with this event contact Mike, W5EVT at 214-535-1368.**

**The November meeting is Saturday, November 17 at 8:00 AM at our normal meeting venue of the Lewisville Central Fire Station. Dale, WA5WNI will be serving up all you ever wanted to know about Skywarn. Remember, if you bring a guest you will be entered in a**





## From The Vice Presidents Shack

### B.S.A. Jamboree On The Air

Once again for the third year L.A.R.A. participated in BSA's annual J.O.T.A. event which provides Young scouts the opportunity to communicate with other scouts via amateur radio.

This year we had a great turnout for our event. Sixty youth along with their parents and leaders came out to take part. Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts participated in this year's event.

I would like to thank all members and visiting hams who came out to help set up, operate stations and see to it that all who came had a chance to talk and experience ham radio. I would also like to thank Denton County Radio Association for the use of their Com. Vehicle for the day. Looking forward to next year being an even better event. Thanks again.

Mike W5EVT





# JOTA

## Scouting Jamboree-on-the-Air

61ST ANNUAL BSA JAMBOREE ON THE AIR (JOTA)

Saturday, October 20th, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM



Photographs by:  
Mike Reitz, Vice President  
L.A.R.A.

# Treasurer's Report

## October

October was another relatively slow month. The largest expense was JOTA. Most of the cost was for sign hardware and other items that represent an investment that will benefit future events hosted by the club. Mike Reitz did an excellent job in keeping costs to a minimum and securing good deals all around.

The November meeting will be our last meeting before the Christmas party. This will be your last opportunity to bring a visitor and get your name in the drawing for a \$100 Ham Radio Outlet certificate to be awarded at the Christmas party. There are few tickets currently in the drawing, so your chance of winning could be relatively high.

Clark Highsmith, LARA treasurer

<b>LARA Treasurer's Report – October 31, 2018</b>			
<b><u>Checking Account</u></b>			
Beginning Balance			\$3,402.17
Income			
	Dues	\$0.00	
	Donations	\$0.00	
	ARRL memberships	\$0.00	
	Stickers	\$0.00	
	Shirts	\$0.00	
	Equip. Sales	\$0.00	
	Total Income	\$0.00	
Expenses			
	Fees	\$0.00	
	ARRL	\$0.00	
	JOTA	\$91.26	
	Miscellaneous	\$9.23	
	Total Expenses	\$100.49	
Ending Balance			\$3,301.68
Petty Cash (Included in balance)			\$3.00
<b><u>CLUB ASSETS</u></b>			
	For Sale	\$0.00	
	Stock (Not for Sale)	\$689.95	
	Loaner Equipment	\$1,395.00	
			\$2,084.95
<b>LARA NET VALUE</b>			<b>\$5,386.63</b>



## Special fun I had this year working the Route 66 Special Event

By Jim Horton WB8YWA

Each year hams radio operators from the Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club sponsors this event. US-66 highway runs (did) from Chicago to Los Angles. Operators along this highway set up using special call signs from W6A through W6U. The event runs for one week. Just prior to this event I purchase a used Drake B-Line which was built in January of 1971. When I started in this hobby I purchase use Drake radios and always had a soft spot in my heart for these rigs. Since route 66 was a celebration of the years back I thought what better than to use these wonderful radios of the past to obtain a full sweep of working all of the stations. It took me some time and a lot of work but completed the task using this rig. Believe it or not, Oklahoma City was my hardest contact. He stayed on 20 meters for most of his time which put him to close to my QTH. But toward the end he moved to 40 and I was able to work him. One of the stations stayed on CW, so I plug my hand key into the Drake Transmitter and work him, not pretty but made the contact. Bob Heil ran W6R out his home near Springfield, MO.

Below is a picture of my sweet Drake B-Line.



## **Remembering Peggy Sue and Buddy Holly**

**Many of us remember Buddy Holly's hit song "Peggy Sue" but, did you know --**

**Peggy Sue Gerron, ex-K5PSG, of Lubbock, Texas, who inspired singer Buddy Holly's 1957 rockabilly hit "Peggy Sue," died on October 1. She was 78. First licensed in 2004 as KE5AKW, she later obtained the vanity call K5PSG. Her license expired in 2014, and K5PSG has since been reissued.**

**Gerron went to high school with Holly and later married The Crickets drummer, Jerry Allison. As rock 'n' roll history has it, Holly originally titled the song "Cindy Lou," but Allison convinced the singer to change the tune's name to "Peggy Sue." In a 2004 interview, Gerron said that story is close to the truth, but not entirely accurate.**

**After Holly's death in 1959, Gerron toured with The Crickets after the band got back together. Over the years, Gerron made public and media appearances all over the country.**

**She said her participation in the 2004 W5B special event in Lubbock commemorating Holly helped inspire her Amateur Radio aspirations. "You can do TV specials, and you can be interviewed by the very best DJs," she said, "but there is nothing like the feeling of putting your finger down, and transmitting your call sign, and having somebody answer back."**

**Reprint from ARRL web site.**

**Submitted by Ron Ford - KF5OMH**

# “Getting to Know You”



## Meet Jim Horton - WB8YWA our clubs Technical Director

A personal note from your editor, Ron Bath

It has been my personal experience that Jim is a very kind and generous “Elmer” to myself and to many other amateur radio operators. He is a “one man good will ambassador” to the mission of Ham radio operators and those that will one day become one. Many of us have benefited from his gifted technical knowledge and almost “magical” repairs to our sick radio equipment. His good character and positive “can do” attitude have been an example to me and those that are fortunate to come in contact with Mr. Horton.

Ron Bath - KG5VIS, Editor of the LARA Monthly Newsletter

*\*The term “Elmer”--means someone who provides personal guidance and assistance to would-be hams*

Jim Horton, WB8YWA, retired from Schneider Electric Building Automation division back in January 2012. He was National Account Manager overseeing national key customers as Verizon Business, Cox Communications, American Airlines and others. Jim’s interest in Ham Radio started one very cold Michigan winter day when his Father sent him outside with a 1 watt CB hand held radio to see if he could talk with a man up in Alaska that his father was talking to on his CB base radio. He did indeed talk with this man. Afterwards when he had finished, he looked up into the sky and told himself; “this is too cool and I need to be able to do this all the time”. He was fourteen. Years later in Viet Nam he had the chance to stand in line at a remote tent where the MARS station was set up with working phone patches via Barry Goldwater’s ham station in Arizona. When he got in front of the Collins S-Line and heard his mother’s voice in the speaker, knowing this was half way around the world, it sealed the thought; “someday I will be able to do this no matter what”. He was 21 years of age. After service he left Michigan and enrolled as a freshmen at Midwestern University in Wichita Falls, Texas. He met the love of his life, Sherry, in English class and in 1968 they were married. He always states that the best thing he got out of Midwestern was Sherry. After school they went back to Michigan and had two children, James and Jodie. In 1975 Jim received his Ham license, 16 years later than that cold winter night in 1959. During this time he owned a CB store where he sold and serviced CBs. He enrolled in Bell & Howell Electronic School and completed all of the Heath/Zenith Digital courses. In 1989 he returned to Texas where he went to work at Control Systems International which later became Schneider Electric. Upon retiring he felt he should get to know more Hams locally and joined LARA where he now serves as the Technical Director. He loves all aspects of the hobby of Ham radio including chatting each morning with his close friends of 40 plus years, new friends he has just met, building his station and best of all helping others with their ham radio stations. Other interests are his four grandchildren, traveling with his wife, taking the RV on extended trips. He is active at First Baptist Church of Lewisville. Most of all is his love for Jesus.





**Club News - If you've received good news to share with us in the event you've received your new license, gotten married or won the lottery, etc., please share it with our club members. Email your Good News to [aro.kg5vis@gmail.com](mailto:aro.kg5vis@gmail.com).**

Our club secretary Ron Swain and his wife have been hard at work planning for our Christmas party event.

### LARA Christmas Party

Date: December 15th

Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Korner Cafe

Address: 921 W Main St, Lewisville, TX 75067

The annual fire station open house scheduled for Saturday October 13th was cancelled due to the Monsoon season. As always, we are ever mindful of these heroes that go out and face danger to help keep us all safe. Our gratitude is abundant. Please remember to thank a Fire Fighter whenever you pass one.

J.O.T.A. - What can we say? JOTA (Scouting Jamboree-on-the-Air) was a huge success this year. We thank all those who participated in this great sharing of technology and friendship that we shared with our LARA club members and the Boy and Girl Scouts of America. I think we may have visited with some fine future amateur radio operators. We would be remiss if we didn't thank our Vice President Mike Reitz - W5EVT, and Operations Director Dale Chatham - WA5WNI for all of their hard work in planning, promoting and operating such a successful and important national event. The many operators and support personnel were key to our success.

PIO (Public Information Officer) - The search continues for a new PIO. Having had the privilege of serving as PIO this past year, I can share with you that the position requires little time investment and pays big dividends in getting to know our amateur radio club members better, and to meet the public in a pleasant and positive manner. If you would consider serving in this capacity as PIO please contact Ron Ford at [rfavcon@verizon.net](mailto:rfavcon@verizon.net) for consideration.

### **Second Appeal - Please Respond**

(Note: There are 25 blank faces on our website at [w5lvc.org](http://w5lvc.org))

Picture I.D. for Website - We would like to have your photograph listed on our website members page. Please view this page and if you do not have your picture there please consider adding it. You may email a .jpg photo file as an email attachment to [aro.kg5vis@gmail.com](mailto:aro.kg5vis@gmail.com). If you prefer, we will take your picture at any club meeting for you. Just make your request known to Ron Bath - KG5VIS.

# Special Recognition

A word of thanks goes out to our Vice President Mike Reitz - W5EVT for his hard work in the area of public relations, advertising and production for the 61ST ANNUAL BSA JAMBOREE ON THE AIR (JOTA). Through his efforts and those of his team they provided a very interesting, educational and safe amateur radio experience for all the Boy and Girl Scouts who participated in this unique experience.



Congratulations to Roger Carver - AE5EZ for being the lucky winner of the LARA Club Newsletters "Cool DX'ing Contest". During the hottest period of the summer, Roger successfully found and DX'ed the coolest station of all entrants to win the coveted Cool DX'ing suitable for framing certificate.

Winning Contact: Tom Spoljaric - VK3NX, Berwick Victoria, AUS, Grid QF21qx

Outside Temperature: 15 C

# New Club Members

Where Are You???

Sorry gang, but there are no new club members to report this month. We are seeking new members for our club folks. Please know that we welcome all those interested in amateur radio. Our organization will become enriched by new members from the ranks of ladies and young people as well as more good men..



When you find someone in our club deserving of congratulations or special recognition please send your email recommendation to: [aro.kg5VIS@gmail.com](mailto:aro.kg5VIS@gmail.com) for publication in our next newsletter.



## HAM RADIO TECHNICIAN CLASS

THE LEWISVILLE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION  
(LARA)

WILL BE HOSTING A HAM RADIO TECHNICIAN CLASS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 8 & 9, 2018

8:00 AM—5:00 PM

AT THE LEWISVILLE CENTRAL FIRE STATION TRAINING ROOM

**Get your first (Technician) ham radio license. All students who successfully complete the class and testing will receive their first ham radio compliments of LARA.**

Entrance to the training room is at the rear of the building adjacent to the fuel pumps. Test session will be conducted on Sunday December 9 following the class. Fee for the test is \$14.00. The fee is payable in cash, check, or money order. Applicants will need to provide a form of identification, preferably photo ID, if one is available.

There is no age limit for individuals to take this class and test for the Technician license.

The class will be taught using the ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 3rd Edition. Having the manual for the class is not mandatory but strongly suggested. It is also suggested that students review the manual prior to the class sessions. Manuals can be purchased at ARRL.org, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble and other local book stores.

Complete the registration form at <https://goo.gl/forms/SwzDaTGU8Z92DUQ93> to register for the class.

**Questions? Contact Dale Chatham, 682-597-5217 or [dale.chatham@gmail.com](mailto:dale.chatham@gmail.com).**



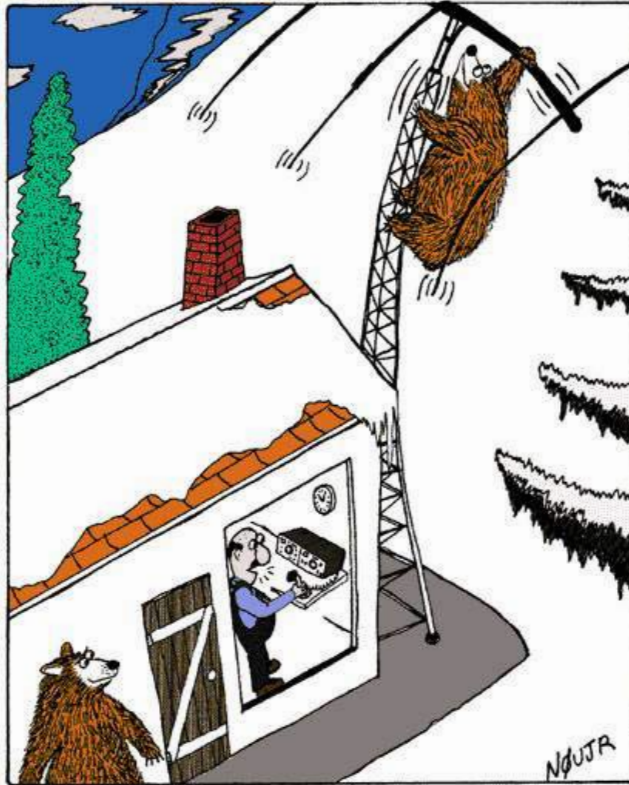




# Ham Humour

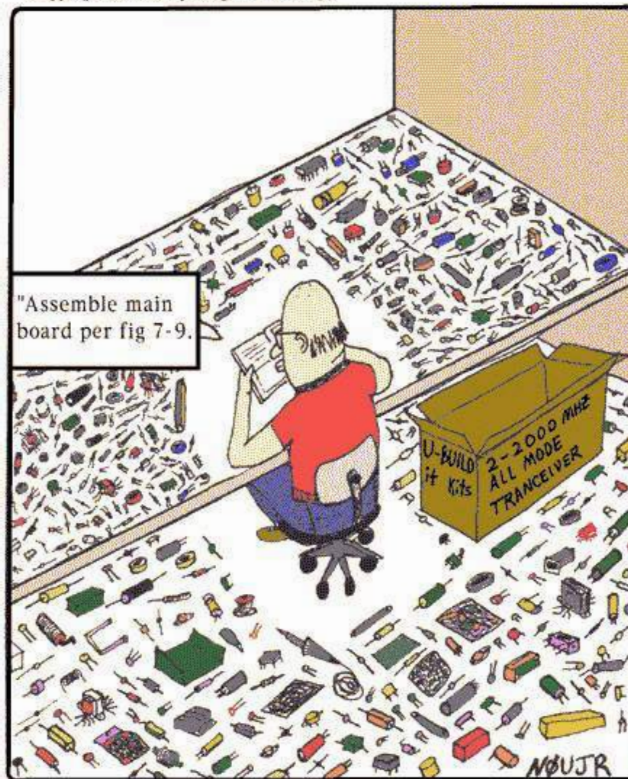


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"Hang on a minute Larry...my SWR is jumping...I'm going outside and see what the problem is..."

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Kit fun.



You may address any comments or suggestions to the editor at:  
[aro.kg5vis@gmail.com](mailto:aro.kg5vis@gmail.com)

