

# ARKANSAS DIAMOND



PRESIDENT Roger Alaback \_\_\_\_\_ KF5SDE

ARKANSAS DIAMOND RADIO CLUB NEWS LETTER VOLUME NO. 37 DATE April 14, 2022



Thursday ~~Thursday~~ **Thursday** Thursday

Testing

THE CLUB MEETING WILL BE AT

## **DOWNTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST**

100 WEST CHURCH ST.  
MORRILTON

Food by Subway

Remember the club meeting at 6pm on

***Thursday*** the 14 th.

***This the IRS edition. If your taxes  
are not done by tomorrow  
I hope you filed for an extension.***

Jim will have the magic box (testing supplies) in case someone wants to test. He hopes to see a big turnout. This will be our second meeting in the new the year. Club dues paid now due for 2022 only \$10 for one \$15 for family.

Have a great day.

Jim AF5EI

If you are coming or might come email Jim

Testing is about to go to \$50 so if your ready you need to go right now and save \$35. if you can contact AF5EI and he can get 2 more VEs to help.

### *Local Nets*

**Morrilton Monday Night**  
**444.10 14.8 tone 7:00**

**Morrilton Repeaters**  
**146.685 pl 141.3**  
**443.800 pl 79.9**

**146.625 114.8 8:00**

**Tues Perry County**  
**447.150 100 8:00**

**Faulkner County Thur**  
**146.97 114.8 7:30**

**Thursday 8pm 146.510**  
**THE A D A R C 2m**  
**SIMPLEX NET.**  
**RELAYS ARE WELCOME**

## From the desk of Roger Alabach KF5SDE

**Hello everybody.** The weather has been acting like spring is here, and then it turns cold again. This is the time of year when we should be maintaining our antennas. Or installing new antennas. It is also Hamfest season yet there is not much going on in Arkansas. Lucky Jim Taylor and I had the pleasure of attending the Hamfest in Hoxie last month. It was small but fun. We also attended a rather large Hamfest in Claremore Oklahoma. This is a good place to find the stuff we need for spring maintenance on our antennas and radio stations ( *or those parts you can't find or are hard to find. Editor KD5LBE who had them find a mobile antenna for me*).

I reckon the biggest news since our last meeting is that the FCC is going to impose the \$35-dollar fee on licenses both renewals and new ones. I guess they found a way to tax amateur radio.

One aspect of our hobby that I enjoy participating in is special event stations. This is where a group of hams or a club op-

### **The Arkansas Diamond Radio Club (KE5FSY) of Morrilton News Letter**

**This bulletin is published 4 times a year for the promotion of HAM radio. Ham radio is for enjoyment and is the emergency back bone of communication for the communities. When all else fails we will be there, we have in the past and will be in the future.**

Editors are KD5LBE    Stewart Nelson

All HAM related stories are welcome.

erates a station for a certain period to commemorate a historical event or recognize an individual or group of people. They get a special event call sign. You turn into the ARRL dates and time when they are going to be on the air can be found on the ARRL website. Simply search special events in their onsite search. When they are on the air there is usually a pile – up. The challenge is to find these stations either by running up and down the dial or using a spotter website like dxsummit.fi. The bigger challenge is busting through the pile -up. This is good practice and a good way to learn patience. Most of the time you can obtain a nice QSL card or certificate showing that you worked the special event station. They are quite collectable.

Our next meeting is April 14th. I hope to see everyone there. 73.

### **ARKANSAS NETS OF INTEREST for Generals**

Arkansas Razorback Net, 3987.5, 5:25 PM daily, Net Manager, KC5SM Carolyn McKeel from Brookland Ar

Arkansas Phone Net, 3987.5, 6:00 AM, Monday thru Saturday, Net Manager, Doug Robbins, W5DUG

Arkansas Mockingbird Net, 3927, 4:30 PM, Monday thru Friday, Net Manager, Jerry Palmer, W5JEP

Arkansas Razorback Emergency Training Net, 3987.5, Sunday, 7:00 AM,

### **Our +favorite HAM radio Internet Web Sites**

Three good ones are  
[www.ARRL.org](http://www.ARRL.org)  
[www.ARR.org/QST](http://www.ARR.org/QST)  
[www.eHam.com](http://www.eHam.com)  
[www.QRZ.com](http://www.QRZ.com)  
[www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com)



Join or Renew Today! Eligible US-based members can elect to receive QST or On the Air magazine in print when they join ARRL or when they renew their membership. All members can access digital editions of all four ARRL magazines: QST, On the Air, QEX, and NCJ. QST is the monthly membership journal of ARRL. Each issue is your source for equipment reviews, technical tips, projects, and news. NCJ is published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO Parties. On the Air is for delivering introductory techniques and stories to help anyone with a beginner-to-intermediate-level of experience.,QEX is published bimonthly, it features technical articles, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals. (This information is copied from the ARRL web site)

## Jim AF5EI

Thanks to Charlie Tudor, N5EH, our meeting on April 14th will be at the Downtown Church of Christ, 100 West Main Street, Morrilton. The meeting will start at 6pm. Fellowship will start about 5pm. Still looking into a menu. Subway is catering our dinner.

Have a several of things to bring up at the meeting.

- 1) Emergency Communications Response Team
  - 3) Donation to church
  - 4) Summer Field Day, if and where
  - 5) Getting new HAMs on the air
  - 6) Anything else members wish to discuss
- If there is something you would like to add to the agenda, let me know.

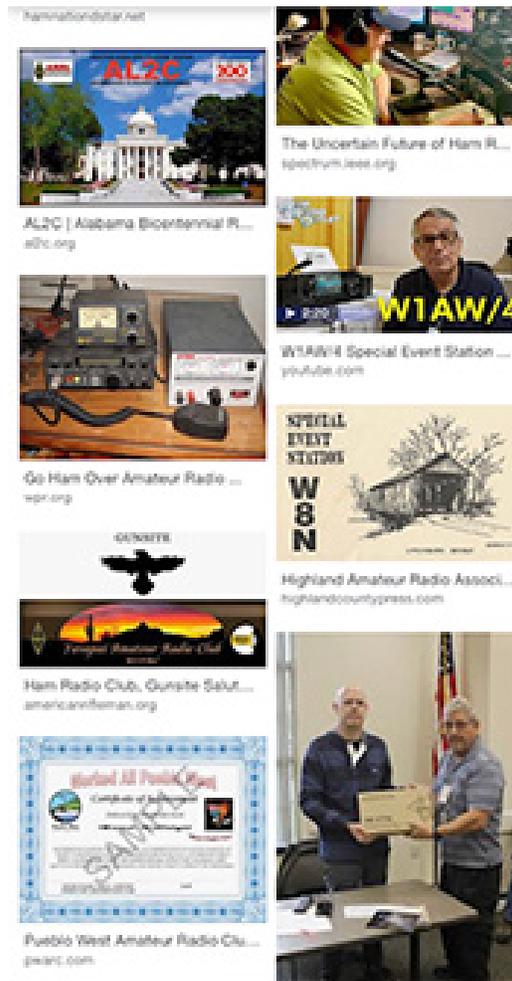
Have a great day.

### **Follow Up to the Club President**

From Kd5lbe:

Ham radio is as many different things as you think of from slow scan TV to Digital to plain old talk around. Below are some of the Special event stations cards with their own unique call signs or they might use the club call sign or their own personal call sign. I can't list all of the different stations types there are for special events there are too many. In addition there are special sites for things like Light Houses, Parks on the Air, Battle Ships, Summits on the Air and

parks on the air. There are also US county hunters, state hunters, and grid zone hunters and on and on. On top of that there are people who collect foreign countries DX and islands. For us “Barefoot” operators that are using only 100 watts with small simple antennas and there are people who operate with 10 watts or less called QRP or Reduced Power. If you want to be a part of these groups, you can either scan the bands usually on the weekends or there about or you can search events look for events on the internet for posted logs for where the programs are going to be. This is a great place to get started because there is usually nothing more than exchange of call signs and a simple exchange like when were you were first licensed or your location or a signal report. A signal report for voice is I understood and your strength. 1 to 5 you were understood and 1 to 10 how strong was your signal. You were “4 9 KD5LBE QSL”. You were a little weak and I understood you, and I am signing off QSL, did you copy my information? Always end a transmission with your call sign and there are electronic ways of posting the contact electronically or you can send a QSL card of your own acknowledging the contact. One column over are some the special event station cards.



**WE HAVE TALKED ABOUT GETTING ON  
 THE AIR HERE IS YOU  
 CHANCE MONDAY**

**From the ARRL Website**

**2022 World Amateur Radio Day  
 is April 18**

**What:** 2022 World Amateur Radio Day

**Who:** All amateur radio operators worldwide

**When:** Monday, April 18, 2022 at 0000 UTC until Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 0000 UTC

**Where:** A global event covering all

regions of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU)

**Why:** World Amateur Radio Day, held on April 18 each year, is celebrated worldwide by radio amateurs and their national associations which are organized as member-societies of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). It was on this day in 1925 that the IARU was formed in Paris. American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Co-Founder Hiram Percy Maxim was its first president.

Radio Day, all radio amateurs are invited to take to the airwaves to enjoy our global friendship with other amateurs, and to show our skills and capabilities to the public.

**How:** World Amateur Radio Day is not a contest but rather an opportunity to “talk” about the value of amateur radio to the public and our fellow amateur colleagues. It is also a great opportunity to talk about your radio club and amateur radio in local media as a lead-up to ARRL Field Day (held each year during the fourth full weekend in June) and another ham radio related activity in your community – such as volunteers who serve in local emergency communication readiness including the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service®.

**Here are just a few ways to participate in, and promote, World Amateur Radio Day:**

- Get a station on the air! Create your own personal “event” to talk about amateur radio to others, including family and friends.
- Find out more about World Amateur Radio Day by checking the IARU website and other Resources listed below.
- Create and hold a special net or on-

air event on World Amateur Radio Day to raise the level of attention for the celebration, and to encourage other hams to talk about our hobby. Consider creating and offering a commemorative certificate for contacting your special activation. It can be an electronic one as these are cost effective



### **Bad Weather Suggestion**

**We are currently entering into Tornado time and Heavy Rains Times.**

Because of potential lightening strikes we need to keep our in house Ham radios disconnected from outside antennas if the weather is threatening or they are not in use because they are an invitation for lightening. So how do you listen for local emergencies? Get a HT for \$35 and program it just for 2 meter emergencies in my case 146.94, 146.97, and 145.33. That is Conway, Little Rock Caren, and the State Net. It would be good if you also had local Police and Fire if it is not digital. Just a thought.



### **I am the Winner!!**

Since I started this news letter I have received 13, no 14 sales calls on my house phone. I can get myself buried, have my interest rate reduced, get solar panels for free, get medicare supplements, and new windows. The rest I didn't even answer.

If someone wanted to run for President and promised to end sales calls, they would almost guaranteed a win.

## **From the ARRL news letter on the changes to the testing fees and renewals**

4/2022

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff has clarified in response to an ARRL request that the new \$35 application fee will not apply to most license modifications, including those to upgrade an amateur radio licensee's operator class and changes to club station trustees. The FCC staff explained that the new fees will apply only to applications for a new license, renewal, rule waiver, or a new vanity call sign. As previously announced, the new fees take effect on April 19, 2022.

"We are pleased that the FCC will not charge licensees the FCC application fee for license upgrade applications," said ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. "While applicants for a new license will need to pay the \$35 FCC application fee, there will be no FCC charge for future upgrades and administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address. Most current licensees, therefore, will not be charged the new FCC application fee until they renew their license or apply for a new vanity call sign."

From Editor: You will pay \$15 for your first test to the VE (Volunteer Examiner) giving the test. The FCC will bill you for \$35 to get your license separately. If you getting an up grade it won't have to pay the FCC only ARRL \$15.

In the past, if you subscribed to the ARRL publications, they renewed your license automatically and it looks like that won't happen in the future.

If you want to renew or take your first test you better get with it.

## **From KD5LBE**

### **Mobile Antenna hook up 2 meters**

Had a new Ham ask me one time when could they expect to learn everything about what they needed to know about Ham Radio and I told them never. Ham radio is about learning new things and how to do old things new ways. I would almost guarantee that maybe with the exception of very old hams, even they probably don't know of all the ways to hook up an antenna to your radio, HT or base.

Here goes a simple explanation of regular antenna hookups for base and mobile 2 meter antennas. The standard antenna hook up for a base station on a radio of above a low powered transmitter is a SO-239 and fitting into it is a PL-259 . The lead coax between the antenna and the radio coming in is PL-259 on both ends.

On a mobile radio it is a little more complicated. On a mobile radio of standard 50 watts plus, also has a female SO-239 on the radio. On old 2 meter radios they typically had a magnetic base for the antenna and a coax from the antenna with a PL-259 to connect to the radio. If the antenna unscrewed from the magnet on the base, it was a NMO connector off of the antenna. An NMO would not easily connect to the PL-259 without an adapter. A given in HAM radio is that everything has adapter or at least most everything.

Since steel roofs are almost gone all antennas for cars will probably be PL-259 and SO-239 connectors on the car radio. If you are going to put antenna of a car for the first time walk through

the steps of how you are going to connect the antenna to the roof and what kind of coax are you going to connect to the radio. Instead of magnetic connector there are lip connectors that will connect to just about anything with an edge that is metal or plastic. Inspect everything and do a dry hook up before you start so you don't get surprised after you start. The good news is that new mobile 2 meter antennas have a combination PL-259 and NMO connector. If you have an old antenna there are adapters. I just learned that this week.

**PL-259**

**NMO**



**Arkansas Diamond Club Members maybe  
WE ARE WORKING ON THE  
MEMBERSHIP LIST**

**Roger Alabach KF5SDE  
Walter Barfield W5WRB  
Kelly Boswell KA5MGL  
Will Cody KG5MMH  
Billy Collins III K8BBC (6/22)  
George Cossey K5GOC**

**Charles Drinkwater KG5AUV (6/22)  
Dave Huett WB5RUH  
Jeffery Johnson WB5QWN  
Timothy King K5BXM  
Matthew King KG5QNY  
Jeremy Landon N5JKL  
Robert Lanning K5ZZB  
John Lawrence KI5DBS (2023)  
D'Ann Lindstrom KI5APK  
Greg Lindstrom K5GSL  
Lynda Milligan KG5UFT  
Bill Mooney Jr, W5WMM  
Kathleen Moorman KI5QJS  
Michael Moorman KC5MM  
Richard Neal KF5IHY  
Stewart Nelson KD5LBE  
James Scott K5NWS (6/21)  
Adam Sullivan W2SUL  
Jim Taylor AF5EI  
Joe Taylor KF5DIH  
Jim Wiedower AC5RT  
Daniel Weatherly N5DD  
George Carrol N5GC  
Clyde Armstrong SR KE5YPZ  
Rachel Beavers KF5MAD  
Steve Beavers KF5DIF  
Richard Cate KI5GUJ  
Sharon Clarkson KG5DAD  
Bruce Curtis W5ATC  
Don Dacus K5SEC  
Hugh Donnell KF5EST  
Joe Dube KF5ESP  
Eichenberger KF5IJA  
Clifford Evans KI5ITD  
Karolczak KF5UDD  
Carlos Lott KI5GWB  
Mike Martin KC5YWN  
Terry Martin K5TGZ  
Mc Dearmon KC5EIK  
Bobby Moses AC5RM  
George Peters KI5HOV  
James Ridling WB5RZR  
Jeffery Ridling KE5UAN  
Sean Rikard W5RKD  
Kirk Rose KF5ITM  
Eric Stricklin AG5EI  
Lenny Stroud KF5DIB  
Anita Tienken AA3AT  
Louis Tienken AA9BT  
ShellyTienken KF5SBG  
Charles Tudor N5EH  
Wayne Van De Pol N2WV  
Jimmy Wiedower KD5YZD  
Mike Karolczak KF5UDD**

If you are missing OR CAN'T READ  
contact <AF5EI@AF5EI.COM>