

# Irving Amateur Radio Club Inc.

Ken Hansen N2VIP, President; James Shugart N5BKL, Vice-President; Tom Schuessler N5HYP, Secretary/Treasurer; Bill Byrom N5BB, Director; Dennis Riise K5AVT, Director; Ron Tabb KC5HPO, Director; Dave Dobbins KF5STS, Director

March 2019

### In This Issue

- Great Days of Service
- Hamfest Report
- History of the Car Radio

#### **Events**

General/Business
Meeting Thursday,
March 28 at 7:00PM at the
Garden and Arts Building
906 Senter Rd, Irving, TX
75060.

VE Test Session Saturday Apr 20, 8:30 AM at Betcha Bingo Hall #2, 2420 Irving Blvd., Irving

### Mar./April Birthdays!

KA50ZC Billy Geer

KG5WRS Rock Neihold

W8EP Jim Nordgren

**KE5YCK Collin Parkes** 

N5VUJ Roger Bacak (April)

#### **Contact Us**

http://www.irvingarc.org P.O. Box 153333 Irving, TX 75015-3333

## IARC Gives to Great Days of Service

At the IARC monthly general meeting on February 28, President Ken Hansen N2VIP presented the Irving Amateur Radio Club's donation to Great Days of Service toward their continuing efforts to improve the living conditions of numerous older or infirm homeowners in Irving. Representatives were on site to receive the donation and thank IARC for their partnership.



The IARC is proud to have been involved in this community service effort for many years. For more information about Great Days of Service and their service to Irving and to find out how to further serve our community by volunteering or making a donation, please visit the GDS website at: http://gdsirving.org/

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### **Repeaters**

146.72/224.40/442.675 MHz (all 110.9Hz)

#### **Mission Statement**

To provide radio communications with honor and integrity and

To honor the amateur radio code of ethics and

To provide technical support services to others so interested and

To support citizens of our community in times of need and disaster and

To provide radio communications as needed during local emergency situations.

#### Links

Irving ARC Website http://irvingarc.org/

Great Days of Service http://gdsirving.org/

ARRL - North TX http://www.arrIntx.org/

Dallas Amateur Radio Club DARC http://www.w5fc.org/

Richardson Wireless Klub RWK http://www.k5rwk.org/

Metrocrest Amateur Radio Society MARS http://www.kb5a.org/

UT Dallas Radio Club http://facebook.com/K5UTD

### March 2019 Meeting

\*\*\*\*Note the location change!\*\*\*\*

The March club meeting on 3/28/19 will be at the Garden and Arts Building 906 Senter Rd, Irving, TX 75060.

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### 2019 Hamfest Success

What does it take to make a successful hamfest? Many volunteers, full tables, and good attendance. 2019 Hamfest had it all. We had 27 volunteers from IARC and DARC, sold ALL tables, and hosted hundreds of attendees. Many thanks to the volunteers and to our Hamfest Chair Ken N2VIP.



### Dues are Due, Time to Renew!

IARC Inc. dues were due Sept. 1 and were past due Nov. 1. \$15.00 per year, family member \$7.50 (living in the same household).

Thank you to those who have already paid!

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## **Upcoming Hamfests/ARRL Events**

03/02/2019 Irving Amateur Radio Hamfest, Irving, TX Sponsored by the Irving Amateur Radio Club, Inc. http://irvingarc.org

04/27/2019 ARRL North Texas Mentorfest 2019, Garland, TX, Sponsored by the ARRL NTX Section and Hella Hams Amateur Radio. http://www.arrlntx.org/mentorfest

06/07/2019 West Gulf Division Convention (Ham-Com 2019), Plano, TX, Sponsored by Ham-Com, Inc. http://www.hamcom.org

Source: http://www.arrl.org/hamfests

### IARC Breakfast Bunch

A group of IARC, Inc. members and guests meet for breakfast, coffee, fellowship, tall tales, etc. every Wednesday at 8:30 am at McDonald's, 2410 N Story Rd and 183 (East side of Story, before Rochelle).

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## The History of the Car Radio

From K5ZPC, submitted by Dennis Riise K5AVT

Seems like cars have always had radios. But they didn't. Here's the story: One evening, in 1929, two young men named William Lear and Elmer Wavering drove their girlfriends to a lookout point high above the Mississippi River town of Quincy, Illinois, to watch the sunset. It was a romantic night to be sure. But one of the women observed that it would be even nicer if they could listen to music in the car. Lear and Wavering liked the idea. Both men had tinkered with radios. Lear served as a radio operator in the U.S. Navy during World War I and it wasn't long before they were taking apart a home radio and trying to get it to work in a car. But it wasn't easy. Automobiles have ignition switches, generators, spark plugs, and other electrical equipment that generates noisy static interference, making it nearly impossible to listen to the radio when the engine was running. One by one Lear and Wavering identified and eliminated each source of electrical interference. When they finally got their radio to work, they took it to a radio convention in Chicago. There they met Paul Galvin, owner of Galvin Manufacturing Corporation. He made a product called a "battery eliminator", a device that allowed battery-powered radios to run on household AC current. But, as more homes were wired for electricity, more radio manufacturers made AC-powered radios. Galvin needed a new product to manufacture. When he met

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Lear and Wavering at the radio convention, he found it. He believed that massproduced, affordable car radios had the potential to become a huge business. Lear and Wavering set up shop in Galvin's factory, and when they perfected their first radio, they installed it in his Studebaker. Then Galvin went to a local banker to apply for a loan. Thinking it might sweeten the deal, he had his men install a radio in the banker's Packard. Good idea, but it didn't work. Half an hour after the installation, the banker's Packard caught on fire. (They didn't get the loan.) Galvin didn't give up. He drove his Studebaker nearly 800 miles to Atlantic City to show off the radio at the 1930 Radio Manufacturers Association convention. Too broke to afford a booth, he parked the car outside the convention hall and cranked up the radio so that passing conventioneers could hear it. That idea worked; he got enough orders to put the radio into production. That first production model was called the 5T71. Galvin decided he needed to come up with something a little catchier. In those days many companies in the phonograph and radio businesses used the suffix "ola" for their names - Radiola, Columbiola, and Victrola were three of the biggest. Galvin decided to do the same thing, and since his radio was intended for use in a motor vehicle, he decided to call it the Motorola. But even with the name change, the radio still had problems. When Motorola went on sale in 1930, it cost about \$110 uninstalled, at a time when you could buy a brand-new car for \$650, and the country was sliding into the Great Depression. By that measure, a radio for a new car would cost about \$3,000 today. In 1930, it took two men several days to put in a car radio. The dashboard had to be taken apart so that the receiver and a single speaker could be installed, and the ceiling had to be cut open to install the antenna. These early radios ran on their own batteries, not on the car battery, so holes had to be cut into the floorboard to accommodate them. The installation manual had eight complete diagrams and 28 pages of instructions. Selling complicated car radios that cost 20 percent of the price of a brand-new car wouldn't have been easy in the best of times, let alone during the Great Depression. Galvin lost money in 1930 and struggled for a couple of years after that. But things picked up in 1933 when Ford began offering Motorola's pre-installed at the factory. In 1934 they got another boost when Galvin struck a deal with B.F. Goodrich tire company to sell and install them in its chain of tire stores. By then the price of the radio, with installation included, had dropped to \$55. The Motorola car radio was off and running. The name of the company would be officially changed from Galvin Manufacturing to "Motorola" in 1947. In the meantime, Galvin continued to develop new uses for car radios. In 1936, the same year that it introduced push-button tuning, it also introduced the Motorola Police Cruiser, a standard car radio that was factory pre-set to a single frequency to pick up police broadcasts. In 1940 he developed the first handheld two-way radio-- The Handy-Talkie for the U. S. Army. A lot of the communications technologies that we take for granted today were born in Motorola labs in the years that followed World War II. In 1947 they came out with the first television for under \$200. In 1956 the company introduced the world's first pager; in 1969 came the radio and television equipment that was used to televise first steps on the Moon with Neil Armstrong. In 1973 it invented the world's first handheld cellular phone. Today Motorola is one of the largest cell phone manufacturers in the world. And it all started with the car radio! Whatever happened to the two men who installed the first radio in Paul Galvin's car? Elmer Wavering and William Lear ended up taking very different paths in life. Wavering stayed with Motorola. In the 1950's he helped change the automobile experience again when he developed the first automotive alternator, replacing inefficient and unreliable generators. The invention lead to such luxuries as power windows, power seats, and, eventually, air-conditioning. Lear also continued inventing. He holds more than 150 patents. Remember eight track tape players? Lear invented that. But what he's really famous for are his contributions to the field of aviation. He invented radio direction finders for planes, aided in the invention of the autopilot, designed the first fully automatic aircraft landing system, and in 1963 introduced his most famous invention of all...the Lear Jet...the world's first massproduced, affordable business jet. Not bad for a guy who dropped out of school after the eighth grade!

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### Irving Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Combined Meeting Agenda, January 24th, 2019

Called to order at 7:15 by Ken Hansen, N2VIP.

- 1. Concerns mentioned for members, family, friends
- 2. Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Introductions
- 4. Birthdays

### **Business Meeting**

- 5. Minutes for November and December meetings read by Secretary Tom Schuessler. Motion to approve both given by Bill Byrom, N5BB, seconded and approved by membership present.
- 6. Treasurer Report Read by Tom Schuessler, Treasurer, Motion to accept was approved by members.
- 7. Old Business:
  - a. AREDN i. Need to schedule follow-up work party to complete project. Several of us had met with Andrew Koenig at Cowtown Hamfest and discussed his concerns for the tower guying. Ken says that now it seems it needs to warm up some.
    - b. Website Committee
  - i. The Club Calendar needs to be updated once we decide on future meeting locations (Library or regular Park Locations).
    - c. Recent Donations
      - i. Micro-Grant completion reports expected soon
        - 1. MARS detailed results in newsletter
        - 2. DARC has communicated with me informally
        - 3. Plano & Richardson are awaiting tower availability
      - ii. Scholarship proposal update; Discussion in November indicated a desire to table the idea for now.
    - d. Betcha Bingo Shack Renovation
      - i. Network hardline from Betcha Bingo office to club shack found
      - ii. Echolink needs to be moved to a new computer
      - iii. Carpet has been cleaned, new desks installed, new computers setup
      - iv. One shack UPS has a failed battery pack will defer replacing battery until needed
        - v. Antennas
          - 1. Antennas assessed, report?

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- 2. Fan Dipole end anchors appear to be disconnected
- 3. Add second VHF/UHF antenna 2m/1.25m/70cm?

#### 8. New Business

- a. Donated computers; Ken Hansen told that the club has ben given 4 older one piece computers from member Fr. Mark Rippinger, . Will retain one and give three away as door prizes. One will be given this evening.
- b. Winter Field Day; Tom Schuessler, N5HYP, urged members to make it a point to spend at least some time at the Joint Winter Field Day event in Flower Mound on Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. IARC club equipment will be used for one of 4 stations.
- 9. New Member applications; There were no new member applications for January.
  - vi. AREDN Node needs to be purchased, configured and installed (simple point-to-point connecting shack & repeater site)
  - b. Repeater Committee i. UPS for repeater site purchased, needs to be moved to site
  - ii. Repeater Hang Time
  - iii. Cold Weather "fade"
  - c. Boy Scouts i. Upcoming Events
- 2. Program TV Channel Repack overview
- 3. Hamfest; a. Marketing Facebook? Email? Other
- b. Door Prize selection
- c. Ticket Order
  - d. Website Update i. Hamfest Notice
  - ii. Ticket, Table, Raffle Tix sales "buttons" or shopping cart?
  - 5. Door Prize, 50/50 Drawing
- 6. Close



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