



## WEEKLY 2-METER NETS

*All nets listed are 8:00 PM local time*

Monday: W5YM University WeatherNet (147.135+, 110.9)

Tuesday: Washington County ARES Net (146.955-, 110.9)

Wednesday: ARCUA Traffic Net (147.135+, 110.9)

Thursday: ARKAN Talk and Traffic Net (146.955-, 110.9)

*Check in and participate in local nets -- keep amateur radio active on the repeaters*

# ARKAN

Serving  
the  
Amateur  
Service

Newsletter of the Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest

June 2005

## ARKAN MEETING

June 27, 2005

### AGENDA

Club members sign in for drawing  
Call meeting to order  
Acknowledge and welcome visitors

### Program

Field Day 2005 Critique

### Business Meeting

Reading of March meeting minutes  
Summary of April Board Meeting

### Old Business

None

### New Business

None planned  
Drawing for Door Prize  
Meeting Adjournment

Announcements (if any)

### VE Testing

To follow meeting

## NEXT MEETING

Monday July 25, 2005

Join the club for our next meeting.  
ARKAN meets at the Arkansas Air Museum at  
Fayetteville Municipal Field each fourth  
Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

## Field Day 2005

This month's program will be discussion and critique of the ARKAN 2005 Field Day event. We will be sharing pictures, talking about our scores, and anything else concerning the event.

## President's Note

Hello Everyone,

Field day is upon us and excitement is high for this years ARKAN field day at the Arkansas Air Museum. Steve, N9NS0 has once again done a great job this year getting everything together for our Field Day and it promises to be a lot of fun for everyone involved. Last year we had a great turnout and made a lot of contacts on the various HF bands. We hope to beat that record this year. Anyone is welcome to stop by and visit with us, sit down and operate the HF radios, or just come by to see what Field Day is all about. Field Day is a great opportunity for new and old hams alike to share ideas and find out what works and what doesn't in the way of portable field equipment and operations. This is also an terrific opportunity for us to demonstrate our hobby to the general public. Please try to attend a Field Day event this year even if only for an hour or two.

ARKAN will hold our second annual Parkfest on August 13<sup>th</sup>, the flyer is attached in the rear of this newsletter for more info. We had a great time last year and there were many good bargains to be had. I'm hoping everyone will start gathering things to bring out to swap and sale and plan to attend.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Field Day June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> and the ARKAN meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup>!

73,  
John Robinson KD5NFX

**ARKAN on the web at: [www.arkan.us](http://www.arkan.us)**

### **Second Saturdays**

ARKAN holds a hands-on event each month for amateur radio operators. This event is held on the Second Saturday of each month and is open to everyone. The workshop starts at 10:00am at the Arkansas Air Museum and typically lasts between two to three hours depending on the subject or activity.

#### **July 9**

Foxhunt (meet at Air Museum)

#### **August 13**

Parkfest 2005 (McClure Park in Lowell, AR)

#### **September 10**

How to install co-ax connectors, use a SWR meter, and a tuner

#### **October 8**

Go Kits - Everyone should bring theirs and do a show and tell so we can all learn and get ideas

#### **November 12**

Bench Test Equipment

#### **December**

No Second Saturday due to holiday season

## **ARKAN Operates Special Event Station W5F at Airfest 2005**



Charlie Winn, KE5AEA, Charles Aldridge, KE5DRF, and Mose Howard, KB5BV (taking the photo) operated a special event station W5F on June 18, 2005 at Airfest 2005 at the Arkansas Air Museum. Several stations worked by W5F expressed a desire to visit the Arkansas Air Museum and even attend Airfest in the future.

## **ARKAN address**

The club has a post office box to serve as the official address of the organization:

ARKAN  
P.O. Box 9701  
Fayetteville, AR 72703

**Upcoming ARKAN Meeting Programs**

**July 25**  
TBD

**August 22**  
TBD

**September 26**  
TBD

**Public Service Events Calendar**

**October**  
Tour deCure  
October 8  
This is a 25, 50, 100 mile bicycle ride sponsored by the American Diabetes Association that starts and ends at the Bentonville Town Square. If you can assist with radio communications please contact the individual listed below.  
CONTACT: Buster Morrow  
AD5AM 479-631-9231  
ad5am@mc2k.com

**PRODUCT REVIEW**

**West Mountain PWRGate products for emergency power applications**

by Bill Smith, K1ARK

Headed to the Dayton Hamfest, one of the top items on my list to check out were a pair of new products from West Mountain Radio. The PWRgate line extends the moves by West Mountain into power accessories. Known originally for PSK-friendly interface products – the RigBlaster line – WMR has added a group of power distribution strips built around the now ARES/RACES standard Anderson PowerPole connectors.

The PWRgate integrates automatic battery backup for a single radio, or a power strip. Rated at 40 amps continuous, the PG40 uses a pair of 80 amp Schottky diodes to provide uninterrupted power.

Connected in series between your regular power supply and the radio or strip, whenever the power supply fails – loss of commercial power being the primary reason – the diodes switch to the battery input automatically.

The follow-on product, the PG40S, adds a four-state battery charger circuit. Adjustable to 1, 4, 7 or 10 amp rates, it also senses float and bulk recharge states automatically from the battery. With the PG40S, your existing power supply becomes a “smart” battery charger.

I went with the more expensive PG40S for this reason, and have been tremendously pleased with its performance. I regularly switch off the power supply in the middle of the nets I work to test the emergency power, and no one can tell when I’m on commercial power or batteries.

It also allows for cleaner use of battery only during times of risk – lightning storms to get off the mains to protect equipment – or emergencies – or emergency drills like Field Day and the October SET.

PWRgates are available direct from West Mountain and its suppliers

**Contacting Your Club Board Members**

President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary
John Robinson	Steve Barrington	Mose Howard	Benny Jamerson
KD5NFX	N9NSO	KB5BV	KD5OHP
11201 Doyle Road	P.O. Box 1604	1775 N. Hunters Ridge	1441 Oak Manor
Winslow, AR 72959	Rogers, AR 72757	Fayetteville, AR 72701	Fayetteville, AR
H-479-839-8112	H-479-636-0221	H-479-571-8470	Hm. (479)442-9430
johnr83@alltel.net	n9nso@mail.com	kb5bv@yahoo.com	kd5ohp@arrl.net

Charles Winn, KE5AEA - Elected Board Member ke5aea@arrl.net  
Bill Smith, K1ARK - At Large Board Member k1ark@arrl.net

**ARKAN ARRL Special Services Club (SSC) Appointments**

Technical Liaison	Charles Tillotson, W5NX	w5nx@cox.net
Public Information Officer	Joe Dunn, KD5TLH	bjoedunn@hotmail.com
Public Service Liaison	Bill Smith, K1ARK	k1ark@arrl.net

**Upcoming Area Hamfests**

ARKAN Parkfest (Lowell, AR)  
August 13

**Field Day 2005**

June 24 - 25  
ARKAN will hold our third annual field day event at the AR Air Museum. Please make plans to attend all or part of Field Day this year and have fun with ARKAN! We will set up Saturday morning June 25 and will be at the museum all 24 hours of the event.

If you have articles or ham radio related submissions for the monthly ARKAN newsletter please submit them to John Robinson, KD5NFX.  
johnr@cavalry.com

**ARKAN Meeting Minutes - May 23, 2005**

The May meeting of ARKAN was called to order at 7PM on May 28, 2005 by VP Steve Barrington, N9NSO.

The minutes of the April meeting were read and a motion to approve was made by Craig Culver, AB5OK and seconded by Charles Aldrich, KE5DRF. The motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the Treasure's Report as printed in the newsletter by Bill Smith, K1ARK and seconded by Joe Dunn, KD5TLH. The motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The Airfest committee this year does not require our services because they will use commercial radios according to Bill Smith, K1ARK. It was decided to operate a special event station W5F on Saturday, June 18, 10 AM to 2 PM during Air Fest. Several volunteered to help.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Bill Smith, K1ARK suggested that ARKAN create a certificate in conjunction with the Worked All Arkansas Net for those who activate new counties. It will be called the Arkansas Traveler Award. Motion was made by K1ARK and seconded by Paul Dixon, KK5II. The motion passed.

Bill Smith, K1ARK gave an interesting report on the Dayton Hamfest.

Chares Tilliston, W5NX won the Door Prize.

Vice President, Steve Barrington, N9NSO presented a special plaque to Ted Flynn, AD5ON, for his excellent and dedicated service to ARKAN and the ARES Net. Ted and his family are moving to Mexico. We wish Ted well on his new QTH and look forward to many QSO's from XE land.

Bill Smith, K1ARK made a motion to adjourn. The motion carried.

**Board Meeting Minutes - June 13, 2005**

The June board meeting was canceled due to most of the board not being available for the meeting.

**Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas  
Northwest Treasurer's Report**

June 2005 Treasure's Report

	<u>DEBIT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
4/26/05 Balance			\$932.12
5/23/05 Ck#720 to ARRL VEC	\$28.00		
6/14/05 Deposit		\$28.00	
6/15/05 Balance			\$932.12

To change your e-mail or mailing address  
Send To:  
johnr@cavalry.com

**Reminder - It's not too late to pay your 2005 ARKAN dues.**

### **New Tickets and Upgrades**

The people below tested with ARKAN at the May 2005 meeting. If you hear them on the air please congratulate each of them.

KD5WXA, Bill Wynne -  
Upgraded to Extra Class

### **Member Classifieds:**

#### **For Sale**

Collins 516E-1 DC Power Supply  
Collins 351D-2 Mobile Mount  
Collins 52 Ohm Filter

John, KD5NFX 479-839-8112  
johnr@cavalry.com

#### **For Sale**

MFJ-989C 3KW tuner. \$175.00

Charles, W5NX 479-575-9034  
w5nx@arrl.net

### **The Weather Report**

#### **Bill Smith, K1ARK**

The system depends on you

Not again – yes, another call for participation in the weather net. Our geography does not lend itself to mobile activity, and the system is predicated on wide-area participation. And it does seem that the storms are scared of our spotters in the last month, going into the parts of the county where we are not during the active nets.

That said, we've had some interesting situations that one well-placed spotter made – or more importantly could have – the difference. The chance check-in of a spotter with a high wind report from the Siloam Springs area facilitated the upgrade from a Severe Weather Statement to a warning for our county. As the storm took down some power and trees, it was well worth it.

However, we've had a couple of nights where the warnings were issued based on radar indication and much higher winds than what was generally experienced – but without a trained spotter in the hot spot, we cannot help with the revision up or down of a forecast.

Invite a friend and get on a roll

If there's a fellow ham in your part of the county, encourage them to participate in the area nets. Starting in July, we're switching back to the geographic check-in module in the weekly training script to see which persons and towns can stay on the list.

Work with your neighbors to keep your town's streak going. Charlie Winn, KE5AEA, had the longest strings of check-ins both for himself and for Westville during the late winter and early spring – 10 weeks each. Can you beat that, or your town?

Auditions still open for Tuesday net

Much thanks to James, AD5SW, for stepping in for a couple of turns with the Tuesday Washington County ARES net. Summer is a tough time for NCS ops with family or vacation, so we need your volunteering.

Everyone starts somewhere, and if you are serious about emergency communications you need to have the experience of running a net. I do not expect perfection; in fact, I'm encouraging folks to experiment by taking turns with the net control for the weekly training net.

The script is written. All you need to do is ask for a copy and key the microphone. Even if you never think you will be called upon to manage a net in an emergency, taking a turn as the weekly net control operator will make you a better net participant.

Mysterious outages on WeatherUnderground

One of the best values for on-line weather is the Weather Underground web site at [www.wunderground.com](http://www.wunderground.com). The free side has "expert" control NEXRAD data, and the pay side – to make the ads go away – is only \$5.00 a year.

However, several folks have reported lock-ups in the radar feed the past couple of weeks, and for one active net night, the DNS went blank. No one has a good explanation for what is going on.

Activation, one more time

Remember, when there is a WARNING for Washington County, that is your key to jump on for the active net. Any watch is a good time to monitor the situation. Often, in advance of a warning, there will be a monitoring net rolling on the frequency,

## The Weather Report (continued)

and this is especially true when there is a special weather statement.

Also, expect pre-active monitoring nets when warnings are issued for the neighboring counties of Adair (Oklahoma) or Benton.

## The ARKANSAS Traveler Award

In recognition of those amateur operators who have gone above and beyond to activate counties for the Worked All Arkansas Net, Bill Smith, K1ARK, proposed the ARKANSAS Traveler Award. The club approved the award at the May meeting, and we're looking forward to the first applicants.

To qualify for the award, a ham must activate at least five counties on the Worked All-Arkansas Net conducted each Saturday evening on 80 meters at 3.9875. County lines qualify as two counties.

Endorsements would be available for each five counties after the initial award. QSL cards from stations who worked the applicant mobile or portable in the counties would serve as proof for the award.



## Tower Party

ARKAN members Mose Howard KB5BV, Steve Barrington N9NSO, and John Robinson KD5NFX, ascend on Rogers, AR early one Saturday morning in May to take down a tower to be relocated to Mose's QTH. John's wife Kim KD5TVX, and kids were also present to take pictures and laugh at us as needed. The 40' tower was completely disassembled and ready to load in about an hour. These parties and get togethers are a lot of fun and always make for good story telling later on. Get out and help your fellow hams and have some fun!

*You are cordially invited to attend . . .*

THE SECOND ANNUAL

# ARKAN PARKFEST

*Sponsored by the Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest*

**AN AMATEUR RADIO  
TAILGATE PARTY**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 13, 2005**

**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**(Set up at 9:00 a.m.)**



**!!! FREE – FREE – FREE – FREE !!!**  
**(NO ADMISSION CHARGE)**

**Lowell Park  
Lowell, Arkansas**

• **BUY / SELL / TRADE**

• **MEET OLD HAM FRIENDS**

• **MEET NEW HAM FRIENDS**



For more information contact:

**John Robinson, KD5NFX**

479-839-8112 e-mail: johnr83@alltel.net

**Steve Barrington, N9NSO**

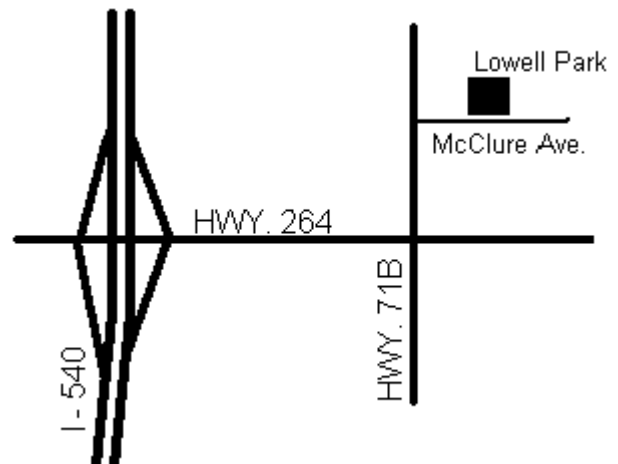
479-696-9104 e-mail: n9nso@mail.com

• **PUT FACES TO CALL SIGNS**

• **BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY**  
**(2 GREAT PLAYGROUNDS FOR THE KIDS!)**

Talk-in Frequency: 146.955 (-) PL Tone 110.9

**DIRECTIONS:** From I-540, take the Lowell / Cave Springs exit. Go east on Highway 264 into Lowell to Highway 71B. Turn north onto Highway 71B and go approximately 0.6 miles to McClure Avenue. Turn east and go approximately 0.1 of a mile to Lowell Park.



Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest Membership Application

Personal Information: \_\_\_\_\_ New Application \_\_\_\_\_ Yearly Membership Renewal Application

Applicants Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member: YES NO ARES Member: YES NO

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Other household members holding licenses:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Personal Web Site: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership in other organiza-

tions: \_\_\_\_\_

Interests: VHF/UHF Y/N APRS Y/N Packet Y/N Satellite Y/N ATV Y/N Spe. Events Y/N ARES Y/N SKYWARN Y/N HF Y/N Phone Y/N CW Y/N Digital Modes: RTTY Y/N PSK31 Y/N Contesting Y/N

Other Non-Amateur Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a copy of amateur radio license(s) for all those applying for membership.

Dues are \$20.00 for first club member and \$5.00 for each additional family member.

I acknowledge that I will follow all FCC rules and regulations as well as the by-laws of the Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest. Any infraction will result in immediate termination of membership in the club.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored by (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Directors Approval

License attached: Y/N

Dues Payment Attached: Y/N

Amount of Payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIPT FOR ARKAN DUES

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# ARKAN

Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas North-  
west

Post Office Box 9701

Fayetteville, Ark. 72703