

AUGUST 20, 2012 No.368

# THE BARN

## AUGUST MEETING

The Beaumont Amateur Radio Club will hold this month's meeting, at 7:30 PM Monday, August 27, 2012 at Wesley Methodist Church, 3810 N. Major Drive (at the end of Folsom Drive) in Beaumont. This month's meeting's program will be a video tour of the ARRL's Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, W1AW by L. B. Little, WB5YDA.



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## **BARC WEBSITE**

<http://www.qsl.net/w5rin/>

The BARN is a copyrighted publication of the Beaumont Amateur Radio Club as a service to all hams of the Golden Triangle Area

## **New Meeting Place Next Month**

**NORTH END BAPTIST CHURCH**

*CHECK OUT THE NEW "OLD" PICTURES ON THE WEBSITE*

## **"HAM HAPPENINGS"**

Richard ..... KA5IQX



Keep in mind that the balloon from our recently completed launch was eventually found at the top of a 30 foot pine, and was very difficult to locate. I would therefore like to propose an addition to the payroll package for the next launch. His name is "Buster", and mission training has already begun.



During our next balloon search, perhaps Buster can keep us from..... "Barking up the wrong tree".  
( Please do not throw tomatoes at the screen...it does no good )

Richard ..... KA5IQX

## CLUB NEWS:

# HURRICANE SEASON STARTED JUNE 1st !!

**Next Beaumont Club Meeting is Monday, August 27 @ 7:30pm**  
**The digital version of QST Magazine is now available on the ARRL website. Check it out!**

## UPCOMING PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

September 22 WW III.5 Winnie Survive Marathon  
October 19,20&21 BSA Jamboree on the Air  
November 4 Gusher Marathon - Pleasure Island

## OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 6

OCTOBER 19-20

NOVEMBER 3

BELTON HAM EXPO

LUFKIN HAMFEST

TAILGATE SALE JCRC

### Attention Beaumont Amateur Radio Club

*Had a really good program on "Numbers Stations" by L.B. Little.  
LOTS OF NEW STUFF ON THE W5RIN WESITE. CHECK IT OUT!!*

*Balloon launch was an UPLIFTING EXPERIENCE!!!*



Picture from W5RIN-8 at Burst Time

Rich, N5ALE, advises: Payload has been repaired, charged and is ready for next flight!!

**REMINDER: New Meeting Place Next Month**  
**North End Baptist Church**  
**Eastex Freeway**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP ON SATURDAY MORNINGS FROM 7:30**  
**TILL ? at DAIRY QUEEN**  
**ON PHELAN BLVD & 23rd, BEAUMONT**

### From the Big Thicket Club

*The Big Thicket Amateur Radio Club will have their next meeting September 4th at the Kountze Fire Station on E. Deer & S. Beach St. in Kountze at 7:00 pm. Please join us.*

*The new webpage is up and running. Visit us at: <http://www.gsl.net/btarc/> . Look for the "Dancing Bears"*

*Also working on getting our EchoLink back up and running.*

*The Big Thicket Club will be hosting a SkyWarn class on September 4 by Roger Erickson, NWS, Lake Charles.*

*Upcoming Projected Programs: October; Tom Thompson, KF5FIE, on bike ride thru Iowa*

*November; W5RIN-8 Balloon Flight*

*Please plan to attend.*

### From the Orange Club

*The Orange Amateur Radio Club will have their next meeting September 7 at the Red Cross Chapter House in Orange. ARES meeting starts at 6:30 pm and the Club meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Please join us.*

*We have started "CQ at the DQ" our Ham Breakfast meeting at the Dairy Queen on Strickland Dr. in Orange the third Saturday of the month at 8:30AM. Hope to see you there!!*

*The Technician class on Aug 11-12 at Orange Red Cross was a great success with 8 new Techs waiting on their call signs. Listen for them on the air and welcome them to Ham Radio.*

### From the Jefferson County Club

*The Jefferson County Club will have their next meeting September 11 at the JCARC Clubhouse at 216 10th Street in Nederland at 7:00 pm. The next ARES meeting will be September 20, same time, same place. Please join us.*

*Up Next is WWIII.5 in Winnie, Texas on Sept 22. This is a really fun event. Please contact Tootie, KC5HVT if you can help. This is a BIG Event and needs a lot of operators.*

*Had Mike Langley from WWIII.5 at the last meeting thanking everyone for their help at the WWIIIs and telling group about upcoming events including a Guinness Record event in February in Orange bouncing on those big balls.*

*There are still several public service events coming up this year. Keep Jamboree on the Air and the Gusher Marathon in your sights. The Nederland City Council has approved the weekend campout at the Clubhouse (Cropo) Park for JOTA We will be trying to staff to serve our agencies and the public. Please help when you can.*

*Carey Jolly, WB5VFG, has offered to do a Basic Electronics Course for interested folks. He plans to do it in two hour blocks with labs and hands on projects. First Class will be September 15 at the JCARC Clubhouse from 9-11am.*

### From the Lakes Area Club

*The Lakes Area Club will have their next meeting August 30 at the Jasper Airport, Bell Field Terminal Building at Hwy 190 W & FM 777 in Jasper at 7:00 pm. Please join us.*

*Hunting season is coming up. Please have fun, obey the rules and be very, very careful and pay attention to your surroundings. Stay hydrated when on the lake or in the woods. The heat is fierce.*

*Please check our web page .. W5JAS.org...for the latest info. We are now on our new permanent home for our web page. If you have any questions or ideas please let me know at [dakeller@cmaccess.com](mailto:dakeller@cmaccess.com).*

## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

The W5RIN-8 Balloon Launch will probably be hard to top as far as Great Ham "Events" ("Happenings" already taken) go. From the fellowship of the gathering, to the mechanics of putting things together, to the filling and releasing of the balloon, to the fantastic TV video, to the tracking and data sent, to the media coverage (and watching their interest peak), to the chase, to the recovery, to the payload overhaul.....WOW WEE!

There is now so much information to digest. There was so much learned. There is a lot of data and pictures to sort through and put together. This will be talked about at the DQ for months.....maybe every where else too.

The balloon got a lot of attention from a lot of people and HAM Radio Operators are no longer glorified CB radio operators to a lot of people that did not have a clue of what the hobby is all about. Maybe I don't really know what HAM Radio is all about yet. It is obviously well grounded in its roots of basic radio and has progressed through different technologies and beyond, always evolving. Not only our media friends were surprised, but as we opened doors to the recovery, the folks from Liberty County Sheriff's Office, EMS & Fire were amazed with that. "HAM Radio operators do stuff like that?" "What else do ya'll do?" "What?????" "That's too Cool" Heard lots of good comments and lots of good questions from all, as I am sure many of you did, as well.

Thanks to Roger and the folks at the National Weather Service, Lake Charles for their guidance and information. Hats off to Beaumont Municipal Airport for their interest and support and thanks to the local media for putting our hobby out there to be seen and understood.

WOW, what else can I say. Let's do it again!!

.....  
Another Field Day type of event is coming up in October. It is Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air, where Boy Scouts, using Ham Radio, can make contacts all over the world. The Boys really enjoyed this last year and this year we are going to make it a weekend event in Nederland. The BTARC will also be doing a weekend. OARC is planning a Saturday event but is still working on their plan. Mike Langley, with WWIII.5 and Robert Smith, K5XLR, owner of the property where the WWIII.5 event occurs, have volunteered to try to do a JOTA weekend event in Chambers County. Please come volunteer if you possibly can. If you would like more info, please call me or check out the links on the WWW.

<http://www.scouting.org/jota.aspx>

<http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota>

<http://scout-wire.org/2011/09/30/jamboree-on-the-air-is-right-around-the-corner/>

Couple of other events coming up are the Gusher Half-Marathon in Port Arthur and WWIII.5 in Winnie. There is discussion going on about a Community Camp-Out in Nederland that they have requested assistance with. More info as it become available.

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***If ya'll haven't figured it out yet... Area Amateur Radio is getting a GREAT reputation in the community, thanks to all your hard work!!***

***by: Randy Leftwich, KE5VLY, BARN Editor***

## **ARRL in Action: What Have We Been Up to Lately?**

08/01/2012

Compiled by S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, ARRL News Editor, [k1sfa@arrl.org](mailto:k1sfa@arrl.org)

*This feature -- including convenient Web links to useful information -- is a concise monthly update of some of the things ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment covers the month of July.*

The ARRL Board of Directors met in Connecticut for its 2012 Second Meeting. The Minutes from that meeting are now available. At its 2012 Second Meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors honored four radio amateurs with annual awards and named a former ARRL Director as Director Emeritus.

The ARRL launched the integration of its Logbook of the World program with *CQ*'s WPX Award.

The ARRL reassured amateurs that an Executive Order -- streamlining emergency communications at the federal level -- poses no risk to the Amateur Radio Service.

The ARRL hosted a webinar, presenting information about the 2012 hurricane season and the Amateur Radio response.

Additional tools and reports are now available for those radio amateurs seeking to earn the ARRL Diamond DXCC Award.

NASA Astronaut Don Pettit, KD5MDT, sat down with ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, on Thursday, July 12, for a one-on-one interview about ham radio and life on the International Space Station.

The *2011 ARRL DXCC Yearbook* is now available to all ARRL members as a supplement in the digital edition of the August issue of *QST*. A printed copy of the *Yearbook* is also available for purchase in the ARRL Online Store.

Vic Poor, W5SMM, of Melbourne, Florida, was awarded the ARRL President's Award for his involvement with the development of many hardware and software innovations that are used both in Amateur Radio and in industry.

After a brief hiatus, the W1AW EchoLink Conference Server W1AWBDCT and W1AW's IRLP Node 4292 are back in service. The ARRL's Maxim Society -- comprised of radio amateurs who have made financial commitments to the ARRL exceeding \$10,000 in lifetime contributions -- now has 108 members.

*DXCC News:* The DXCC Desk approved three operations for DXCC credit: The 9X0PY (Rwanda) operation (December 24, 2011-January 7, 2012), the S21YD (Bangladesh) operation (1994, 1995, 1998 and 1999) and the 2012 H44UD operation (Solomon Islands).

A new QuickStats poll was made available on the ARRL website.

The winner of the July *QST* Cover Plaque award is Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, for his article "Our Recent Solar Minimum and Sunspot Cycle 24 Progress."

The September print issue of *QST* was released to the printer and the digital edition was released to the digital publisher. The August digital edition of *QST* was made available to members.

*Official Observer Desk:* ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, handled complaints concerning commercial RTTY signals on 20 meters, interference to a 75 meter net in Idaho, continuing interference on 14.313 MHz and a steady carrier on 3.906 MHz.

*Member Contact:* ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, attended the Radio Society of Great Britain's annual meeting. ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, attended the Central States VHF Conference in Cedar Raids, Iowa.

\*\*\*\*\*  
8/20/2012

The ARRL is sad to report that *QST* Managing Editor Joel Kleinman, N1BKE, died in a house fire this past weekend. His wife Jayne is still in the hospital; her condition is unknown at this time. No arrangements have been made at this time. We will post more information as it becomes available.

### **Allen Pitts, W1AGP**

Media & PR Manager

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# Surfin': Falling Meteors and Acorns

08/10/2012

By Stan Horzepa, W1LOU, Contributing Editor

*The sky is falling, but that could be a good thing or a bad thing, according to this week's installment of Surfin'.*

The trees on my antenna farm are getting out of hand. They are encroaching on my antennas, including the log periodic beam at the top of my 55-foot tower.

I trim what I can with a pole tree pruner saw, but there is a lot of wood up there that is out of reach. So it is time to bite the bullet and get a professional tree guy in to do the job. And the sooner, the better, because I want to hang some new wire antennas and do maintenance on the tower before the snow flies.

And it will not be long before the white precipitation is here. I know that summer is winding down when my wife's birthday or the Perseid meteor shower -- whichever comes first -- occurs. This year, the predicted peak of the shower and the birthday girl's big day is the same: August 11.

After the birthday cake candle smoke clears, I plan to observe the shower visually (weather permitting) and listen for pings on 144 MHz (good weather or bad), while monitoring the action on N0UK's Ping Jockey Central website.

I am a little concerned about this coming winter. In addition to meteors falling to Earth, I am already finding acorns on the ground -- not a lot, but more than last year.

Last year, there were few if any grounded acorns and we had the mildest winter in my memory. The year before, there were more grounded acorns than I can ever recall and one of the worst winters in my memory followed.

I'm a believer in the grounded acorns theory for predicting winter weather, that is, the more acorns that fall in summer, the worse the weather that winter.

Last acorn-less year, I could do antenna work all winter long. In fact, I worked on a dipole in February. But this year, the acorns are warning me I better get everything buttoned up antenna-wise before Daylight Saving Time ends.

I hope I'm wrong, but who's going to argue with an oak tree?

Until next time, keep on surfin'!

*Editor's note: Stan Horzepa, W1LOU, seeks the unusual in radio. To contact Stan, send [e-mail](#) or add comments to the [W1LOU blog](#).*

## Texas COMMEX Exercise Supported

The Texas Department of Public Safety in cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security Office of Emergency Communications conducted a COMMEX (Communications Exercise) on August 8 and 9, 2012, at the Harris County Fire and Sheriffs Academy in Humble, Texas. The COMMEX is a simulated emergency event exercise to assist Communication Leaders (COML) and Communication Technicians

(COMT) become qualified through their respective agencies to fulfill those roles in emergency deployments under the Incident Command System (ICS). Paul Gilbert, KE5ZW, ARRL West Gulf Division Assistant Director for Public Safety, assisted Michael Wassell, Technology Manager for the City of Atascocita, Texas Fire Department with "Tech Room" activities. The training stations included one that gave familiarization with Amateur Radio technology and abilities to the students who came from various public safety agencies from across the State of Texas. - Paul Gilbert, KE5ZW, ARRL West Gulf Division Assistant Director for Public Safety

At right, Michael Wassell, Technology Manager for the City of Atascocita, Texas Fire Department is assisted by ARRL Assistant Director Paul Gilbert, KE5ZW, as Wassell makes a RG-58 jumper cable at one of the nine training stations in the tech room portion of the COMMEX. (photo courtesy KE5ZW)



## Weather News from Roger

**Roger Erickson, KD5BUI, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service**

*Here's the new update is to the 2012 Atlantic Hurricane Season Forecast.  
Roger*

While El Nino is still expected to kick in this fall, it will be too late to significantly reduce the number of tropical storms and hurricanes across the tropical Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico this hurricane season.

The updated forecast from the National Weather Service calls for 12-17 tropical storms, of which 5-8 become hurricanes, and of those, 2-3 become a major (category 3 or stronger) hurricane.

We have already had 9 tropical storms, two of which have become hurricanes (Ernesto & Gordon).

The peak of hurricane season is typically late August into early October, so the next 6-7 weeks should be the busiest period of watching for storms.

## News from Beaumont Emergency Management

By: Tim Ocnaschek, EMC, City of Beaumont, Office of Emergency Management

### Summary of Hurricane Exercise in Beaumont

Posted :06-08-2011 at 01:35 PM

Subject: Hurricane Exercise today in Beaumont

Beaumont Emergency Management is participating in a citywide hurricane functional exercise today from 8 AM to 5PM. The Beaumont Emergency Operations Center (EOC), located on the 2nd floor at 700 Orleans, has been activated with the schedule listed below. This afternoon there will be operational briefings to cover all operational sections of the incident command structure and a brief exercise within the EOC.

**0800-1000: WebEOC Training** (Focusing on Liaison agencies, Command and General Staff, ICP assigned staff, and Branch Directors). This will be a basic functional practice on each board and show the integration of OUR process flow using forms, radio requests, phone calls, or WebEOC for an all-hazard plan. For those assigned to work with or at the Beaumont EOC, I will provide WebEOC user name information at the training.

**1000-1130: Carry-over from WebEOC training and communication plan Briefing/Review (All)**- This will review citywide and regional interoperability, situational awareness, alternate communication procedures, and process flow.

**1300-1430: Mayor Becky Ames** will address all personnel during the briefing. Hurrex operational briefing and overview; contract updates; section-specific hurricane plan and checklist assessment and internal communication procedural exercise; sheltering coordination (breakout) and update. This will include a seasonal weather review by the National Weather Service (Lake Charles Office)

**1430-1600: Operational briefing** followed by breakout sessions at section nodes, review of section specifics (such as timeline responsibilities, pushpack needs, contracts, liaison contact updates, employee sheltering update, reentry issues, standard needs and requests updated,

**1600-1700: Reconvene in MEETING/TRAINING room** for a recap from each section (should address progress, shortfalls, additional coordination needs, training needs, supplies, etc)

**Hurrex Scenario:** Exercise will begin with pre hurricane coordination (such as setting up an evacuation point), sheltering issues, assessment phase, and then initial response and emergency clearing, including reentry issues.

Thanks for your service to our community.

Respectfully,

Tim

# Local Happenings

## SEPTEMBER 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 8am BARC Breakfast
2	3 Labor Day	4 7:00pm BTARC Mtg 8pm LAARC Net	5 8pm JCARC Net	6 7pm BTARC Net 8pm BARC Net	7 7:30PM OARC Mtg	8 8am BARC Breakfast
9	10	11 7pm JCARC Mtg 8pm LAARC Net	12 8pm JCARC Net	13 7pm BTARC Net 8pm BARC Net	14	15 8am BARC Breakfast
16	17	18 8pm LAARC Net	19 8pm JCARC Net	20 7pm JCARC ARES Mtg 7pm BTARC Net 8pm BARC Net	21	22 6am WWIII.5 8am BARC Breakfast
23	24 7:30pm BARC Mtg	25 8pm LAARC Net	26 8pm JCARC Net	27 7pm LAARC Mtg 7pm BTARC Net 8pm BARC Net	28	29 8am BARC Breakfast
30						

## Local Frequencies, Access Codes and Nets

52.525 6 Meter FM National Calling Frequency  
 144.390 APRS  
 145.010 BPT (W5SSV) Packet  
 145.030 W5SSV-10 RMS Packet  
 145.050 KC5YSM-10 RMS Packet  
 145.210 S.W.L.A.R.C. (W5BII, pl 103.5)\*  
 145.230 B.T.A.R.C. (N5BTC, pl 103.5)\*#  
 145.330 Anahuac (KK5XQ, pl 123.0)  
 145.470 J.C.A.R.C. pl 103.5\*  
 145.350 Sulphur A.R.C. (KC5PNH, pl 103.5)\*  
 145.560 Simplex-Jeff Co ARES Secondary  
 146.450 Mid County Simplex  
 146.520 National Simplex  
 146.580 Simplex Jeff Co ARES Prim & Special Event  
 146.700 B.A.R.C. (W5RIN, pl 107.2)\*#  
 146.730 S.W.L.A.R.C. (W5BII, pl 173.8)#  
 146.760 B.A.R.C. (SW Lynx Link) pl 107.2  
 146.860 Port Arthur (WD5GJP) pl 103.5  
 \* Denotes transmitted PL tone. # Denotes echo link.

146.980 H.A.M.S. (Devers, N5FJX, pl 103.5)\*#  
 147.000 Jasper (W5JAS, pl 118.8)\*#  
 147.060 DuPont (AA5P, pl 103.5)  
 147.180 Orange A.R.C. (W5ND, pl 103.5)\*  
 147.200 Port Arthur (KC5YSM) (pl 118.8)\*#  
 147.300 Mobil Oil (W5XOM) (pl 103.5)\*  
 147.420 Simplex-Orange ARES Primary  
 147.460 Simplex-Orange ARES Secondary  
 147.570 Simplex-Hardin Co ARES Primary  
 223.800 Beaumont (KA5QDG) (pl 123.0)  
 224.920 Devers (KA5QDG) (pl 123.0)  
 442.575 Devers (KA5QDG, pl 103.5)  
 444.500 Beaumont-(WB5ITT, pl 100.0) **DOWN**  
 444.700 B.A.R.C. (W5RIN, Salt-Grass, pl 107.2)  
 444.900 Mobil Oil (W5XOM, pl 103.5)

### NETS

BARC Net Thurs Night 8:00pm 146.700  
 JCARC Net Wed Night 8:00pm 145.470  
 BTARC Net Thurs Night 7:00pm 145.230  
 Org ARC Net Nightly 6:30pm 147.180  
 LAARC (Jasper) Tues Night 8:00pm 147.000  
 2M SSB Net Tues Night 8:30pm 144.270  
 2M CW Net Wed Night 7:30pm 144.160  
 10M CW Net Fri Night 7:45pm 28.970  
 10M LAARC Ph Net Wed 8:45pm 28.325 USB

Daytime Texas Traffic Net Daily 8:30am 7.285  
 7290 Traffic Net M-Sat 10am-12N, 1-2pm 7.290  
 Texas Traffic Net Daily 6:30pm 3.873  
 Gulf Coast SSB Net Daily 6:30pm 3.925  
 Delta SSB Net M-Sat 7:00pm 3.905  
 Ctn Gulf Cst Hurricane Net Daily 8:00pm 3.935  
 Southwest Traffic Net Daily 9:30pm 3.935  
 Central Tx Emerg Net Sunday 8:00am 3.910  
 Louisiana ARES HF Net Sunday 7:30pm 3.873  
 Texas ARES HF Net Monday 7:30pm 3.873

# BARN YARD:

## For Sale:

From: Doug Thomas, N5BST ([n5bst@arrl.net](mailto:n5bst@arrl.net)), Secretary-Treasurer, W5SSV

I am adding a new page to our website. I have had a couple of members asking me to list some items that they have for sale.

So, just "click" on the sign at [www.w5ssv.com](http://www.w5ssv.com) and it will take you to the listing.

If any of you have items that you might want to list, just drop me an e-mail and let me know.

\*\*\*\*\*  
From: Buddy Greig, K5TXS ([buddy@greig.org](mailto:buddy@greig.org) or [greigcl@swbell.net](mailto:greigcl@swbell.net)) 409-350-0005 or 409-866-5655

(These have been in here for sale for a while. Give Him a Holler and Make Reasonable Offer)

Icom IC 746

HF+6M+2M Multi-mode transceiver

Icom IC 2350

2M/440 FM mobile transceiver – Xband repeat

Power supplies (2)

\*\*\*\*\*  
From: Larry Perkins, W5LDP ([papaperk@gt.rr.com](mailto:papaperk@gt.rr.com)) 409-860-1925

Beam: Mosley TA34 XL WARC 5 Element Tri-band plus 17M WARC

Rotor: Hygain Ham IV

I will sell both with the mast for \$1000. I am not interested in selling them separately. The antenna is assembled and on my tower at about 10 ft. elevation.

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The Beaumont Amateur Radio Club has some equipment for sale that was donated by Richard Medlin, W5RBP

### EQUIPMENT LIST

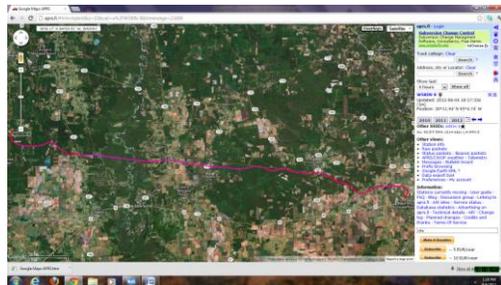
Manufacturer	Model Number	New Price	Description	Asking Price
MFJ	MFJ-931	\$109.95	Artificial Ground	Asking Price is Half of New Price
Radio Wavz	FTD-45	\$275.00	Folded Terminated Dipole	Asking Price is Half of New Price
Polyphaser	IS-PLDO	\$199.95	AC/DC Power Protection	Asking Price is Half of New Price

Please send anything you want to buy, sell or trade to me so I can post it. Randy, KE5YLV, [rwleftwich@aol.com](mailto:rwleftwich@aol.com) or 409-466-5828

# W5RIN BALLOON NEWS

## BALLOON GROUP NEWS

The Balloon Group had a very successful launch on, August 4, 2012. The W5RIN-8 Balloon departed the Beaumont Municipal Airport after the National Weather Service made their positive prediction for launch. W5RIN-8 lifted off at 09:53am CDT. The balloon reached a maximum altitude of 93,772 ft at 11:27am and burst a few seconds later starting it's descent. The TV camera performed great sending many GBs of video. Approximately 20 radio operators participated in the flight in some way or another. The W5RIN-8 Balloon descended gently into a 67,000 acre hunting lease in Plum Grove, Liberty County, Texas and landed at 12:12pm CDT.



Recovery was attempted by Bennie, KE5RTI; Joey, KE5JPS with Holly and Richard, KA5IQX. After encountering persons that advised the property was posted and access was not possible at this point, the crew headed home and Plan B was initiated. The next day the Liberty County Sheriff's Deputies attempted to recover without much success, but was able to come up with a contact. Mr Lloyd Wells (pictured above right) and his buddy, Joe Chapman located the Balloon about 30 ft up in a pine tree. They managed to shoot enough tree limbs to allow it to fall to the ground and recovered the payload. Richard, KA5IQX, made the trek to take the payload into custody and turn it over to Rich, N5ALE, who has it ready to go again already. Thanks to All that helped out and especially to Mr Wells and Mr Chapman for their Bravery and Perseverance in taking good care of our package. Also thanks goes out to Liberty County SO, EMS & Tarkington Fire Department.

The group is asking each member for a \$20.00 donation and looking for corporate sponsors.

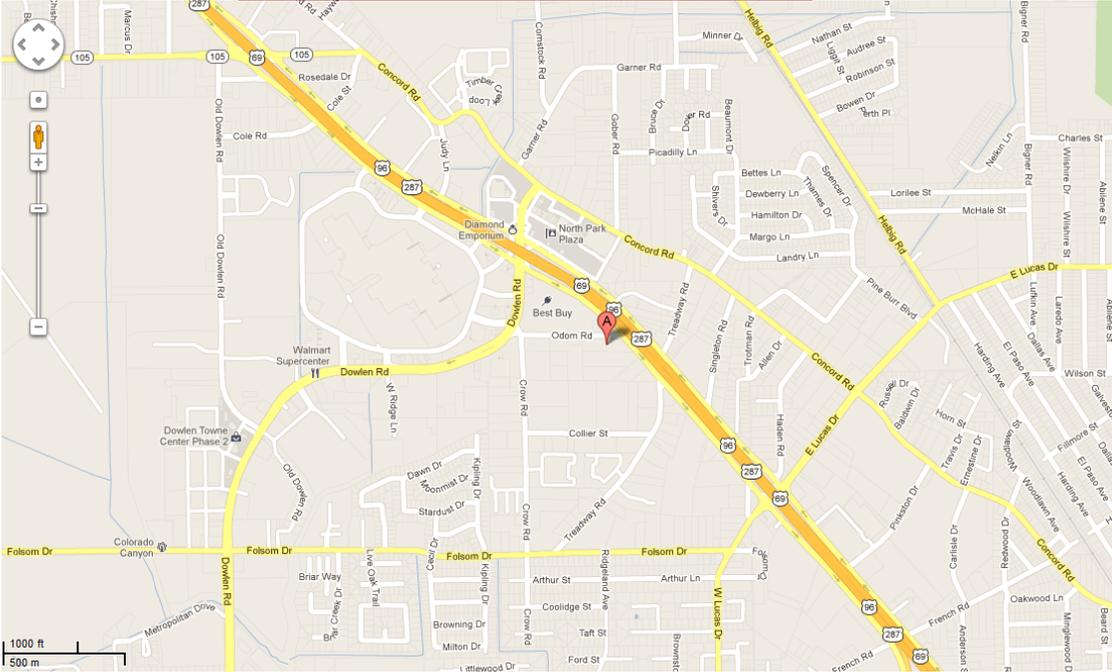
### *LB's Tips and Techniques.*

Keep a pad and pencil in the glove compartment and use them to record your gas fill-ups and mileage. If you notice that your gas mileage worsens, mention it to your service man. It may be an early warning sign that something is wrong with your car.

# The BARN

A Publication of the  
**BEAUMONT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
 P.O. Box 7073 Beaumont, TX 77726

**MAP TO NEW LOCATION AT NORTH END BAPTIST CHURCH**



## Club Directory...

### BEAUMONT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	WALT LOMBARD	W5CPH	892-5663
VICE-PRES.	MIKE FAUCHEAUX	N5KBW	727-1071
SECRETARY	VIVID PEEVEY	KF5CEF	
TREASURER	L.B. LITTLE	WB5YDA	782-3115
BARN EDITOR	RANDY LEFTWICH	KE5YLY	466-5828
CLUB WEBSITE	RICH HUDGINS	N5ALE	201-4238

### DIRECTORS

CRAIG HARDER	KE5PIQ	347-2265
TOOTIE HEINTSCHEL	KC5HVT	962-1435
DAVID FOURNERAT	KF5CAE	860-4494
JOHN HARRINGTON	W5EME	665-6311

<http://www.qsl.net/w5rin/>

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

FULL MEMBERSHIP.....\$20.00

ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER....5.00 (ANNUAL RATES)

BARN SUBSCRIPTION ONLY.....7.50

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CALL:** \_\_\_\_\_ **LICENSE CLASS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ARRL (Y/N)** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY/STATE ZIP CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW MEMBERS: DUES ARE PRORATED MONTHLY THROUGH DECEMBER. SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE BARN ARE GOOD FOR ONE YEAR (12 ISSUES) STARTING WITH THE FIRST ISSUE AFTER RECEIPT OF THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT. MARK THE CORRESPONDING BOX ABOVE AND MAIL WITH YOUR REMITTANCE TO "TREASURER" AT THE ADDRESS ABOVE.**

# NEWS SPECIAL:

*This is a series of emails I received from my Army MARS Zone Coordinator, Patricia Allen, K5HER, from Lufkin. Many of you have met her at the Orange HamFest. She responded to the Fire Call with the Texas Baptist Disaster Team. Had a pretty interesting time. Once again, another mark in the column for Ham Radio.*

*Randy, KE5LYL*

## Subject: Ruidoso New Mexico Fire Communications Call out

An update on the communications need:

The fire damaged regular communication infrastructure in an area that already "enjoyed" spotty cell service. Land lines are either out or home owners are not available to make them handy in an emergency. The rainy season has started, and with all the vegetation burned, flash flooding and land slides are a very real hazard. It would not be prudent to send teams into areas with no means of communication. Ham radio is now the best and only choice. The area is covered by a linked repeater system on 2 meters and 70 cm. We are expanding our request to include, 6 UHF/VHF 50 watts capable communicators, 3 for the week of July 9-16 and 3 for the following week. If equipment is a problem it can be supplied, I only ask that you be able to use it, maintain it, or figure out how. I am going to need a blue hat communicator for the second week, by that I mean an experienced ham who can take care of the other two. Travel will be on Sunday and Saturday with work Mon - Fri. If you can help in this important mission please contact me.

George Yarger  
Task Force Director Communications  
W5BRG



Picture of the Little Bear Fire, Ruidoso NM taken by NMDR volunteer Cathy Pennington

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**SUBJECT: I WILL BE OUT OF STATE**

**RUIDOSA, NM, IS HAVING PROBLEMS WITH THEIR PHONES DUE TO THE FIRES AND FLASH FLOODING AND HAS ASKED THE TX BAPTIST DISASTER RELIEF FOR HAM RADIO OPERATORS TO ASSIST THEM.**

**THREE OF US WILL BE DRIVING UP AND STAYING FOR PROBABLY ONE WEEK. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF TWO WEEKS, BUT THAT IS NOT LIKELY.**

**STARTING THIS THURS., 6 JUL, ZONE 3 WILL BE IN JOE/AAR6GJ AZC3's CAPABLE HANDS.**

**I WILL CONTACT YOU WHEN I RETURN.**

**HAVE A GOOD WEEK!**

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In case you are interested:

This is quite an operation.

Teams are made up of chaplains, chain saw teams, clean up teams and ash removal teams (they sift through ash looking for valuables such as jewelry to return to home owners, put ash in dumpsters and stack metal,) and a ham radio communicator. Plus there is the ICS and his administrative personnel, and the very, very important, kitchen crew!

Many areas have no cell phone coverage. Today, of the 6 teams we are tracking, 4 have no cell phone coverage. Flash floods and mud slides are a real danger due to the huge burned areas which do not absorb the rain. They depend on ham radio to learn of "Red Flag Alert." The EOC issues it, then the comms center confirms their awareness. We also have comms at least every hour to confirm that their radios continue to be operational. Other needs arise and are dealt with over the radio.

I am NCS in the comm trailer. Yesterday there were 182 comms logged. It is an excellent experience.



Dinner Monday night

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I HAVE RETURNED FROM RUIDOSO, NM, AND THE GREAT NEWS IS THERE WAS NO "RED ALERT" THE TWO WEEKS I WAS THERE. THAT WOULD HAVE MEANT THAT A WALL OF WATER WAS COMING DOWN A WATER SHED WHICH WOULD HAVE PUT TEAMS WORKING DOWNSTREAM IN SERIOUS DANGER.

THE TEAMS WERE CLEANING UP THE MESS FROM THE FIRE FOR PROPERTY OWNERS, USING HEAVING EQUIPMENT, AND ALSO WORKING BY HAND TO STACK THE METAL AND WOOD INTO SEPARATE PILES, SIFTING THROUGH THE ASH LOOKING FOR VALUABLES TO RETURN TO THE OWNERS AND PUTTING THE ASH INTO DUMPSTERS, AND CUTTING DOWN DEAD TREES THAT NEEDED TO BE REMOVED.

HAM RADIO WAS GENERALLY THE ONLY WAY TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE TEAMS SINCE CELL PHONE COVERAGE WAS NOT AVAILABLE IN THE DANGEROUS AREAS.

WE WERE ALL GRATEFUL FOR NO RED ALERTS AND FOR THE PROTECTION.



5 STAR ACCOMMODATIONS ON THE FLOOR OF THE CHURCH GYM!



My station with bed right there.