

West Gulf Division March, 2015, Issue 1 Newsletter

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News from David Woolweaver, K5RAV, West Gulf Division Director

- From the Directors Chair

Greetings from South Texas! Another great hamfest season has begun and Vice Director Stratton and I look forward to seeing all of you at your nearby ARRL hamfest or convention. HamCom 2015 will again be hosting the Division Convention; this year at the Irving Convention Center. We congratulate them on their growth and look forward to seeing you there when we welcome Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, ARRL Chief Executive Officer as our special guest.

Time has come to submit your nominees for the 2015 West Gulf Division Annual awards. Please be sure to complete the application and send it in prior to May 1st for consideration. By nomination in the categories of Ham of the Year, Young Ham of the Year and Excellence Award (covering a variety of potential ham radio accomplishments) is a great way to recognize your fellow ham for outstanding accomplishments. See our news story below for full details.

Lastly, I remind you that the ARRL is a volunteer based organization. If you have time to spare and are willing to volunteer, myself and your Section Manager are always looking for people to help out. Please feel free to contact us and volunteer to share your skill set. While there are always a variety of tasks to accomplish, folks with web building/management experience are needed on both a Section and Division level. Also, contributing editors for newsletter and web content would be amazing. Please consider volunteering today!

73, K5RAV

- Special Service and Affiliated Club Notice

All Special Service and Affiliated Club Presidents are encouraged to review their organizations public information on the ARRL website (<http://www.arrl.org/find-a-club>). Individuals use the Find-A-Club link to gain insight to local clubs in their area and the ARRL uses this information to disseminate information to your organization. Be sure to click on the "Go Now" option to review all of your pertinent club information. It is imperative that your organization is clearly represented and updated annually. If you need help correcting your organizational information, please contact K5RAV for assistance.

- ARRL Teachers Institute Now Accepting Applications for 2015 Sessions

The ARRL Education Services Department has announced the 2015 schedule for the [Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology](#) workshop. Offered through the ARRL's Education & Technology Program (ETP), the Teachers Institute is a four-day, expenses paid in-residence learning opportunity designed for motivated

teachers and other school staff who want to learn more about wireless technology and bring that knowledge to their students. A variety of topics are covered during the TI, including basic wireless technology literacy, electronics, the science of radio, radio astronomy, how to bring space into the classroom, ham radio operation, introduction to micro controllers and basic robotics. While participants do not need to have an Amateur Radio license to attend the basic TI sessions, one is required for the TI-2 session.

There are four ARRL Teachers Institute sessions scheduled for 2015: June 13-16 in Albuquerque, New Mexico; June 22-25 at Parallax Inc. in Rocklin, California; July 7-10 at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut and July 13-16 in Dayton, Ohio. The deadline to apply all sessions is May 1, 2015.

All information about the Teachers Institutes -- including the application and a downloadable brochure -- is [available online](#). There you can also find links to read more about what other ETP schools are doing with Amateur Radio and wireless technology topics.

If you'd like to support ARRL's outreach efforts to bring wireless technology literacy to American teachers and students, you can [donate online](#).

--- WGD Annual Award Nominations

It is time to start working on your submissions for the WG 2015 Divisional Awards which will be presented at the ARRL Regional Centennial Convention at HamCom in June. Nominations for 2015 Award Winners will be accepted until May 1, 2015. [Nomination forms](#) for each nominee (by category) must be supported by at least three ARRL members on the award nomination form, a minimum 150-word statement and any available supporting documentation. Other rules do apply and can be found on the nomination forms.

The Division Awards judging panel consists of four (4) ARRL members, selected by each of the Section Managers in North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas and West Texas Sections. The Section Manager may opt to appoint his/herself to the committee. The fifth judge is selected by the Division Director and may reside anywhere within the West Gulf Division. Neither the Division Director nor the Vice Director will participate in the vote.

--- The Radio Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is;

CONSIDERATE...and never operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL... offers loyalty, courage and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which amateur radio is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE... with knowledge abreast of science, a well built efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED... radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC... station and skills always ready for service to country and community.

1928 by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA

--- The ARRL and Frequency Coordination

[Note: The following, in parts is excerpted from the *ARRL Repeater Directory*.]

The ARRL is not a Frequency Coordinator, nor does the ARRL "certify" coordinators. Frequency Coordinators are volunteers normally appointed by a coordinating body. The ARRL reports only the fact of coordination or non-coordination as instructed by the coordinating body. Publication of coordinator information by the ARRL does not constitute nor imply endorsement or recognition of the authority of such coordinators, as coordinators derive their authority from the voluntary participation of the entire amateur community in the areas they serve. Frequency Coordinators keep extensive records of repeater input, output and control frequencies, including those not published in directories (at the owner's request). The coordinator will recommend frequencies for a proposed repeater in order to minimize interference with other repeaters and simplex operations. Therefore, anyone considering the installation of a repeater should check with the local frequency coordinator prior to such installation.

The National Frequency Coordinator's Council (NFCC) is an organization comprised of and representing amateur radio frequency coordinators of the United States. The ARRL works with the NFCC to collect the information found in the ARRL Repeater Directory and will be reviewing the ARRL policy at the upcoming Executive Meeting next weekend in St. Louis. Visit <http://www.arrl.org/nfcc> to learn more on frequency coordination and see the listing of groups or individuals for the United States who are active in Frequency Coordination and are acknowledged, by virtue of the recognition accorded them by the entire amateur community they serve, as the sole Frequency Coordinator in their respective jurisdictions.

--- Something to Share?

Is your club or special interest group doing something that you would like to brag about? Celebrating a milestone? Or do you have a relevant idea that you would like to share on a specific topic with your fellow Division members? The WGD Leadership encourages you to submit your information to Director Woolweaver for publishing consideration in the monthly newsletters.

We attempt to publish the West Gulf newsletter is every month and also use its content to supplement the Division website and we would be happy to consider your contributions. Please email Director Woolweaver at K5RAV@arrl.org with your submissions.

--- Planned ARRL Events for K5RAV and N5AUS

Director Woolweaver, K5RAV and Vice Director Stratton, N5AUS plan to attend the following upcoming events:

K5RAV

- Irving Hamfest, March 7th, Irving, TX
- Green Country Hamfest, March 13th, Claremore, OK
- Washington Lobby Efforts, March 19th and 20th - Washington, DC
- ARRL Executive Committee Meeting, March 21st, Washington, DC
- Texas State Convention, Greater Houston Hamfest, March 28th, Rosenberg, Texas

N5AUS

- Orange Hamfest, February 28th, Orange, TX
- West Texas Section Convention, St. Patrick's Hamfest, March 14th, Midland, TX
- Texas State Convention, Greater Houston Hamfest, March 28th, Rosenberg, Texas

ARRL Convention and Hamfest events are a great place to visit with the Division and Section Leadership! Each event will also include an ARRL forum where you can receive additional insight into Division and Section matters.

At anytime that you have a concern or just want to say hello, contact Director Woolweaver at K5RAV@arrl.org.

-- Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

02/28/2015 | Orange Hamfest 2015

Location: Orange, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Orange ARC & Jefferson County ARC

Website: <http://www.qsl.net/w5nd/>

03/07/2015 | Irving ARC Hamfest 2015

Location: Irving, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Irving Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.irvingarc.org>

03/07/2015 | Elk City Hamfest

Location: Elk City, OK

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: West Central Oklahoma Amateur Radio Club

03/13/2015 | Green Country Hamfest

Location: Claremore, OK

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Green Country Hamfest Committee

Website: <http://greencountryhamfest.org>

03/14/2015 | Williamson County ARC Hamfest

Location: Georgetown, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Williamson County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://wcarc.com>

03/14/2015 | West Texas Section Convention (60th Annual St. Patrick's Day Hamfest)

Location: Midland, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Midland Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://hamfest.w5qgg.org>

03/21/2015 | Weatherford Hamfest

Location: Weatherford, Texas

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: ARC of Parker County

Website: <http://w5pc.org>

03/28/2014 | Texas State Convention (Greater Houston Hamfest)

Location: Rosenberg, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC)
Website: <http://houstonhamfest.org>

06/12/2015 | WGD Convention (HamCom)

Location: Irving, Texas

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: HamCom

Website: <http://hamcom.org>