

# Lanierland ARC



<http://www.lanierlandarc.org>

May 2009

## President's Corner



Philip Loggins K4PDL

I'd like to take this opportunity to **THANK** everyone for your thoughts and prayers during our several trips to the emergency room and hospital stays. Several between Susan and her mother. We are beginning to be on a first name basis with most of the nurses. Susan and I feel very blessed to know such people like yourselves, especially when it comes to times like these. We are not out of the woods yet, but are coming along pretty well. We love each and every one of you. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

**Mothers Day, Memorial Day.....the month of May is filled with thoughts of those that brought us into this world and those that have fought to keep us safe and secure with the freedoms we so much love and cherish.**

**Mother's Day is a special day for everyone! We use this day to honor our mothers all over the world! Yes, we admit it: *We love Mother's Day.* But motherhood is a 365 day a year job. We should let mom know on a regular basis how much we appreciate her efforts. It's never the wrong time to wash the dishes, make dinner, or let her know just how much you really do care.**

**Take the time to spend with her. In her later years, that's what she will cherish the most.  
Happy Mothers' day to each of you!**

**Memorial Day is a United States Federal Holiday. This will be on May 25. Formerly known as Decoration Day, it commemorates U.S. men and women who died while in military service to their country. We remember with compassion those who have died. Please remember to fly your American Flag (half mast from dawn to noon) on this blessed day of remembrance.**

The upcoming months will have us providing communications support for different organizations. Also upcoming is a chance for public visibility opportunities. If you get the chance to participate in one of these events, take advantage to meet the public, be visible and friendly. If you become aware of a possible event we could help with, let us know...preferably a couple of weeks in advance. We have already started with the 5K Run for Camp Hope. Thanks to all those who participated in this event. Please find a way to participate in at least one of the opportunities, you'll be glad you did.

I believe each of us have similar goals in ham radio. Time flies past quicker than a hummingbird's wings. I realized a few months ago that I have been a ham operator now for 12 years - and I am still learning. That is the part I hope I never loose- the wonder of why "the secret smoke" inside a radio makes it work and why, if the "secret smoke" is somehow let out of the radio it stops working. I appreciate those of you in the club with much more knowledge in many of the intricate realms of electronics, antenna design, and operating skills. Hopefully you will continue to be willing to have people like me ask questions and ask the same question again until it sinks in.

Please come to the Club Meeting. Participate and volunteer! This Club is YOUR club. Thanks for everything you do!

Get out and enjoy this great hobby. **Be RADIO – ACTIVE!**

As always, email [k4pdl@bellsouth.net](mailto:k4pdl@bellsouth.net) me with your thoughts, ideas, and /or criticisms. This is YOU'RE CLUB, be an active part of it.

Help us preserve the good and build for tomorrow. Start today.

Until next time,



## **Ham Radio Repair**

**Ed Cravey KF4HPY**

**This month I am going to do something a little different. Instead of antennas, radios and equipment, I am going to mention a local ham radio repair shop. I have had a couple of ham radios and an AM/FM/SW radio fail on me at one time or another.**

**My recommended repairman, Paul Hanson had moved to South Carolina and so I checked with HRO in Atlanta to see who could help me. They told me about Clairmont Skyland Radio &TV Repair. I knew about where it was, at the junction of Clairmont and Skyland Aves. The address is 4004 Buford Hwy next to the Dairy Queen. They have been radio & TV repair since 1959. Their phone number is (404) 636-5909.**

**The first repair was to my Yaesu FT-90, which served as ARES and general purpose UHF/VHF base station. The repair was well done and the FT-90 has been serving me for several years now. The second radio was my Yaesu FT-817, which lost its ability to do PSK on SSB; that was a poor solder joint on a surface mount component. The third radio was A Grundig Replica 1960 AM/FM/and 2 SW bands, which I had given to Mrs. Cravey as a gift. That one took a little longer to have repaired, as one of the IC chips was hard for them to find. The radio is now back as a radio, and amplifier for CD and VCR players. The repairs were done in a timely manner and at reasonable rates.**

**If you go online and look in [www. eham.net](http://www.eham.net); in product reviews under Amateur Radio Repairs, you will see several reviews with high ratings. Try them; you will enjoy their service. I am happy with their repair work.**

**73 Ed Cravey KF4HPY**

## **HONORING OUR TROOPS WITH ARMAD DAY 2009**

**Amateur Radio News Line**

**Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day or ARMAD will be held this year on May 23rd. Planners hope to encourage all radio clubs and their operators to get on the air and show thanks, support, and appreciation to our troops, military retired, and veterans. More is on-line at [www.armad.net](http://www.armad.net) (ARMAD)**

## **Congratulations on License Upgrades**

**From the VE session of April 5**

**ANTHONY WILBANKS, KJ4HAT upgraded to General**

# Tech Class Scheduled

LARC's training team has a tech class scheduled to begin May 9.

See <http://www.lanierlandarc.org/licensing.html>

for complete details.

## San Luis Obispo County-Bans-Ham-Radio "Hoax Alert"

A bogus story about San Luis Obispo County banning Amateur Radio operations that started as an April Fool's Day hoax has continued to circulate as unsuspecting hams spread it on the Internet. Please help squash this item by advising anyone sending it to you that is completely untrue. We don't want any overzealous hams sending inappropriate letters or making angry calls to county officials who, in fact, are very appreciative and supportive of Amateur Radio.

This also should serve to remind us all that outrageous-sounding stories promulgated over the Internet - whether on April 1st or not - should be viewed with skepticism until and unless the source and story are verified.

## In The Spotlight



### Mike Hall N4HGO

Radio has always been my love. When I was a kid, my favorite toys had to do with radios, tape recorders or just about anything that talked or made music.

In the mid 1960's, I was attending church with Bill Cox, WA4FNY. Bill started showing me his radios, teaching me Morse Code and he gave me an old National receiver so that I could listen to the ham bands and practice the code. Back then, you needed to copy Morse Code at 13 words per minute to get a ham license.

It wasn't until I was in college that I truly got serious about ham radio and got my novice license. It was about that same time in 1975 that I joined LARC.

Since the mid 1980's, I have served as net control for LARC's Wednesday night net. In 1996 I was elected club president and I am now serving as club secretary and Public Information Officer.

Over the years, I have helped with communications and disaster relief events and I've had the opportunity to attend quite a few ham related activities. It has been the kind assistance of so many friends and club members that has made these activities possible.

For over 20 years, I worked with WFOX as Public Service Director and I am currently employed with the Georgia Forestry Commission as a fire dispatcher.

When I'm not doing something radio related (or radio active), I enjoy reading, some writing and keeping up with friends through the telephone or email. I'm also involved in a number of community organizations. But when I think of radio, it has always been so much fun!

**CLUB LOGO ITEMS**  
**"SHOW YOUR TRUE CLUB COLORS"**  
(See John Brandon KE4PCF, supplies are limited)

Ball Caps with Embroidered Logo



\$10.00

Embroidered Patches



\$3.50

Special order golf and/or button up shirts are also available.  
Club logo, name and call sign are embroidered.  
See any club officer for more information.

## Upcoming HAMFEST

June 6  
Georgia State Convention Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC), Marietta GA  
Jim Miller Park  
[www.atlantahamfest.com](http://www.atlantahamfest.com)



## OSCAR STATUS

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/satellites/status.php>

## OSCAR FREQUENCIES :

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/satellites/frequencies.php>

## Satellite Prediction Software

(various platforms) <http://www.satobs.org/orbsoft.html>

### May Club Meeting

May 28

### Holiday Inn / Lanier Center

400 EE Butler Parkway Gainesville, Georgia-----Dinner @18:00 with meeting following @  
19:00

**Lunch Bunch** Every Friday at 11:30 there is a lunch get-together at a local restaurant. The location is announced on the Wednesday night net, our web site under the activities tab and under the calendar icon as well as announced on the 146.67 repeater. ALL are welcome

Hall County Nets W4ABP repeater 146.67 (-) 131.8 Hz PL

Hall County ARES Net, Wednesday @ 20:00 & LARC Net, Wednesday @ 20:30  
"Everyone is welcome to check in"

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### Quote of the Month

"If a man does his best, what else is there?"

- General George S. Patton -

### Proverb of the Month

If you stand straight, do not fear a crooked shadow.

**"LID"** a term used in amateur radio to denote a poor operator; one who is inept at the practice of the art. No one really can say where the term originated but to be called a lid is generally the ultimate insult.

## How To Sound Like A Lid Part 1

Neil Foster, N4FN

**Step One:** Use as many "Q" signals as possible. Yes, I know they were invented solely for CW and are totally inappropriate for 2 meter FM, but they are fun and entertaining. They keep people guessing as to what you really meant. I.E. "I'm going to QSY to the phone." Can you really change frequencies to the phone? QSL used to mean, "I am acknowledging receipt", but now it appears to mean "yes" or "OK". I guess I missed it when the ARRL changed the meaning. It is also best to use "OK" and "QSL" together.

Redundancy is the better part of Lid-dom.

**Step Two:** Never laugh when you can say "HI HI". No one will ever know you aren't a long time CW rag-chewer if you don't tell them. They'll think you've been on since the days of Marconi.

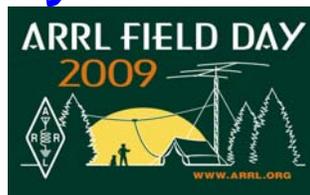
**Step Three:** Utilize an alternative vocabulary. Use words like "destinated" and "negatory". It's OK to make up your own words here. I.E. "Yeah Tom, I "pheelbart zaphonix" occasionally myself."

**Step Four:** Always say "XX4XXX" (Insert your own call) "for I. D." As mentioned in Step One, anything that creates redundancy is always encouraged. That's why we have the Department of Redundancy Department. (Please note that you can follow your call with "for identification purposes" instead of "for I. D." While taking longer to say, it is worth more "LID points".

**Step Five:** The better the copy on two meter FM, the more you should use phonetics. Names should be especially used if they are short or common ones. I.E. "My name is Al... Alpha Lima" or "Jack.. Juliet Alpha Charlie Kilo." If at all possible use the less common HF phonetics "A4SM... America, Number Four, Sugar Mexico." And for maximum "LID points", make up unintelligible phonetics. "My name is Bob... Billibong Oregono Bumperpool."

**Step Six:** Always give the calls of yourself and everyone who is (or has been) in the group, whether they are still there or not. While this has been unnecessary for years, it is still a great memory test. You may also use "and the group" if you are an "old timer" or just have a bad memory. You'll get extra points for saying everyone's call and then clearing in a silly way "K2PKK, Chow, Chow."

## Fast Forward Field Day June 27 and 28



Plans are in the works for this years "Field Day"  
Make your plans now to attend and share the fun !!!!!!!

Recently, we have been authorized to use "Special Event" call **W4E**  
for Field Day.

If you have an idea for our field day activities, contact Chuck Leming W4EDT at  
w4edt@watchingwolf.com or any club officer

More information on Field Day plans coming soon.....

# Proposal to amend The LARC By-Laws:

Proposed 4-27-09

First newsletter posting (May 09) (this issue)

From time to time, individual members of Lanierland Amateur Radio Club may find the need to withdraw from membership for a variety of reasons such as moving from the area, etc. etc. There may also be times when an individual may not conduct themselves in the best interest of the club. Therefore, the 2009 Executive Committee makes to the membership of the Lanierland Amateur Radio Club, our proposal to amend our By-Laws under Section II (Membership) to add and include Paragraphs 2.26 and 2.27 that would read:

**2.26 Any member may withdraw from membership in the Club by letting any club officer know. Membership dues and any repeater donations are not refundable.**

**2.27 Members who conduct themselves in such a manner as to bring disrepute to the hobby or conduct not in the best interest of the overall club and its functions may be subject to a verbal warning, a written warning or termination of membership. The membership of any member may be terminated by a vote of two thirds of the members present at any monthly meeting of the members. No membership dues or repeater donations will be refunded in the event of membership termination. For this purpose, notification of termination of membership shall be by written notification.**

We feel these changes would best outline how the above situations would be handled in a consistent and fair manner to all.

## **We also propose the following By-Law additions:**

Change paragraph 4.90 by adding the word "personal".

**4.90 The Property Control Officer(s) shall maintain a current inventory of all Club property; shall have personal possession of all Club equipment not issued to another member; shall insure that all Club property is maintained in proper working order at all times; shall account for all property at all times; shall maintain accountability records and cause any member receiving Club equipment to proper receipt the same; shall issue Club equipment to authorized members for **personal**, emergency or designated club activities; shall make recommendations to the Club on repairs, replacements, disposals and purchases of equipment and be responsible for these property matters; shall make recommendations on the control of Club equipment; shall request the President to designate individual members to assist in carrying out specific PCO responsibilities; shall report to the President any damage or loss of Club equipment.**

Add Paragraph 4.91 that would read as follows

#### 4.91

Club equipment may be signed out by any club member with approval of the Executive Committee. The proper form must be filled out and presented to one of the property control officers or his designate (Executive Committee Member).

Anyone signing out club equipment will be responsible for proper use and care of said equipment. Property Control Officer(s) will maintain a sign-out log for any and all club equipment. The time period for use of any/all equipment will be specified on the sign-out form issued by the Property Control Officer(s).

We feel the above additions to our By-Laws is a positive step in providing LARC members the opportunity to use club equipment and see the addition as an exclusive benefit for our members.

Respectfully submitted: Phil Loggins K4PDL, Mac Payne WD4MP, John Brandon KE4PCF, Mike Hall N4HGO, and Perry Roper KO4RD.

**This proposal was presented at the April 09 club meeting. The proposal will be included within two (2) club newsletters and will be voted on at our club meeting in June 09  
Ref: By-Laws Section VII, paragraph 7.10**

## ***Are you Cheering for the Home Team?***

Philip K4PDL

In the game of baseball there are nine positions to be played. Each one is of vital importance and has certain responsibilities. The pitcher needs to pitch the ball to the batter, who hits it to one of the nine players. This player must then throw the ball to one of the basemen who will catch it and get an out for the team.

If a player is running for home base, the catcher needs to be there to catch the ball and prevent a run from scoring. What happens when one day the first basemen fails to show up or do his part? The players will go crazy trying to cover his position, along with their own, especially if they only have a limited number of players available.

Webster's Dictionary defines a Team as "...a number of persons associated together in work or activity." It then defines Teamwork as "Work done by several associates with each doing a part but all subordinating personal prominence to the efficiency of the whole."

Teamwork is one way we provide service to each other, and are just as important as when we're serving our community. Here in LARC we may not be playing baseball, but we are all on the LARC team. And we want to be a winning team. Following are some characteristics of effective teams which, when implemented, can make us a more effective team:

1. Goals and values are clear and understood and accepted by everyone.  
Members are goals and results oriented.
2. Members understand their assignments and how their role contributes to the work of the whole.
3. There is a climate of trust and support among members.
4. Communication is open. Members are willing and have the opportunity to share all information relevant to goals of the team and organization.
5. Members are allowed to participate in making decisions. They make free informed decisions, not decisions they think the power people want.
6. Everyone implements decisions with commitment.
7. Leaders are supportive of others and have high personal performance standards.
8. Differences are recognized and handled, not ignored or brushed over lightly. The team structure and procedures are consistent with the tasks, goals and members involved.

By maintaining effective teams and working together we create an inviting atmosphere for our members. This commitment to serve each other is witnessed by members, who automatically feel they are being served also.

*So...**THREE CHEERS FOR THE LARC TEAM***

*Thanks for your support!  
I can be reached at [k4pdl@bellsouth.net](mailto:k4pdl@bellsouth.net)*

## **.... CHECKED OUT THE WEBSITE LATELY ? ....**

Have you seen the club's website lately ? The Site Maintenance Team has been very busy updating and has been adding lots of new and interesting information to the Home Page and thru-out. Let's keep up the good work. The LARC Repeater frequencies, details of the club Meeting", Skywarn, National Weather Service, Doppler Radar, Solar Activity, Lunar Phase, License Class information, Pictures, and lots & lots more info can be found. Whew !, All this on the site's home page. Not Web Active yet ? Now is a good time to start. New information is being added weekly and we are always looking for good club pictures to post.

**Check it out.**  
Philip K4PDL



I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG,  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ,  
AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS,  
ONE NATION UNDER GOD,  
INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL!  
It is said that 86% of Americans believe in God.

Therefore I have a very hard time understanding  
why there is such a problem in having  
'In God! We Trust' on our money and having  
'God' in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**I believe it's time we stand up for what we believe!**

## **A Good Synopsis**

“What ARE Amateur Radio operators” has been contained in every ARRL Radio Amateur’s Handbook from the early days on, just before page 1. It is “The Amateur’s Code,” and is summarized in six brief, short paragraphs. It contains not only the “spirit” of ham radio, but is there to let all first-time hams know what to expect from their fellow hams and what their fellow hams can expect of them upon entering this select group. Since the entrance into ham radio in these times has not always begun with the Radio Amateur’s Handbook, not everyone has had this thoughtful indoctrination as one of their first lessons. These have been printed very recently in the newsletter so I will not bore you with it again. But I would like bring attention to Code #TWO.

*TWO. The Amateur is Loyal. Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to fellow radio amateurs, the local club and to the ARRL through which amateur radio is represented.*

**This is the standard of conduct in Amateur Radio. It hasn’t changed. After all, “right” is still right, and “wrong” is still wrong..... they haven’t changed, either. It’s time that us newcomers and old timers alike get acquainted or reacquainted with these standards**

and “expect” them, “see” them in action, “appreciate” them, and “express” them in all our amateur activities. They are still there, alive and well! Don’t forget, WE are all in this together...WE really are a FAMILY, you know....let’s enjoy every minute of it.... our whole colorful “patch-work quilt” of abilities, personalities and functions..... all for the common good.

**Many thanks** go to those who submitted news, information and articles for this edition. Send you newsletter contributions to [W4DJG@bellsouth.net](mailto:W4DJG@bellsouth.net)

As a reminder, our newsletters are archived within our web-site. Each issue is listed with the most recent edition first.

<http://www.lanierlandarc.org/newsletters.html>



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