



MARS hams work the Texas QSO Party
Tom Yenny, K5LOL, Ron Reeves, NN5R, and Kevin Grantham, N5KRG, had a successful expedition to Fort Richardson State Park in Jacksboro during the Texas QSO Party, September 17–18. Working under the club call sign **KB5A**, they racked up a respectable score for the event as well as making contacts in other QSO parties. Head over to the MARS website to check out the whole story.
<https://www.kb5a.org/2022-tx-qso>



Courtesy K5LOL
Kevin Grantham, N5KRG, and Ron Reeves, NN5R (foreground), on the air from Fort Richardson.

QRM from the President's Shack

My buddy **Al Sutherland, KG5MSD**, works for a cellular infrastructure company in Plano. In 2017 he donated a lot of surplus RF jumpers and connectors that we sold at Ham-Com, adding over \$400 to the MARS bank account. During the pandemic, Al saved more stuff for us. He donated another batch that we sold at the DFW Ham Radio Expo in June.

Recently Al's bosses wanted him to "clean out the warehouse." he had two pallets of some custom-built duplexers and attenuators that were left over from several projects from the past 10 years. Al asked me to try to find homes for them. I took pictures of an example unit and sent emails to a few MARS members that are well-connected in the NTX Amateur community.

Tom Yenny, K5LOL, forwarded my email to several of his contacts. Once word got to the [North Texas Microwave Society](#), requests started pouring in.

All 30 of these surplus units have found their way to amateurs in North Texas and elsewhere! The components will be used in ham projects instead of ending up in the recycle bin. MARS has made a *lot* of friends by sharing our bounty with other hams. Special thanks to Tom for making the contact.

And this brings up another bit of QRM. I hope this story is an example where *getting involved* pays dividends! Apathy and inaction drags down groups. MARS is *your* ham radio

club, so we need *you!*

We have lots of different ways for you to be involved. Make a suggestion for a future topic; consider making a presentation *or* helping **Andy Parcel, KE5KOF**, find a program. We'll have a future "show and tell" meeting, so when we do, bring your recent ham project and show it off! Consider running for a MARS officer or director position. Help Andy on NeWAIN, or Winter Field Day, or TSPOTA, or Summer Field Day. This will help keep MARS the place for Amateur Radio Fun in North Texas.

—73 **David Gilpin, K5GIL** President@KB5A.org

Festival Returns November 5

MARS plans to activate a *special event* station for this year's *Festival at the Switchyard* in downtown Carrollton. Working under the Club call, **KB5A**, we will have voice, digital, and Winlink stations on the air. The event will be listed in the November issue of *QST*.

Back again will be the popular "Kid Code Key." Youngsters will try their fists with a straight key (no, it's not on the air).

This is the best opportunity we've had in the past few years for MARS to showcase Amateur Radio. We need your help making this another great event. We need volunteers to set up, work the rigs, greet guests, and encourage potential hams. All equipment will be provided so just bring yourself.

Two-hour shifts are available from 8 AM to 10 PM. We usually wrap before 10 PM. Please go now to the sign-up sheet to reserve your time.

<https://forms.gle/HKcrYwdSTAjvoxoH77>



Contesting with Tom

Wow! September was a **busy** month for contesting; especially the weekend of September 17–18. There were multiple state QSO parties going on in parallel including the Texas QSO Party. That was a **fun** weekend.

But don't take your seat belts off just yet. October has **7** state QSO parties plus some specialty contests! Hopefully, the weather will break a little bit in October and allow all of us to get outside and enjoy contesting from our favorite park, lake, hillside or even our own back yards.

For a more complete list of **all** the October contests, please visit:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>.

October 01	California QSO Party	CW, PH	https://www.cqp.org/Rules.html
October 08	Nevada QSO Party	CW, PH, DIG	http://www.nvqso.com/
	Arizona QSO Party	CW, PH	https://www.azqp.org/
	Pennsylvania QSO Party	CW, PH	https://www.paqso.org/
	South Dakota QSO Party	CW, PH, DIG	https://sdqsoparty.com/
October 10	Ten Ten International Sprint	CW, PH, DIG	https://www.ten-ten.org/

October 15	ARRL EME Contest	CW, PH, DIG	https://www.arrl.org/eme-contest
	Ten Ten CW Fall Contest	CW	https://www.ten-ten.org/
	New York QSO Party	CW, PH, DIG	https://nyqp.org/wordpress/
October 16	Illinois QSO Party	CW, PH, DIG	https://w9awe.org/ilqp/
October 23	North American SSB Sprint	PH	https://ssbsprint.com/rules
October 29	CQ Worldwide DX Contest	PH	https://www.cqww.com/

Happy Contesting & 73, Tom Yenny, K5LOL K5LOL@ARRL.net

Next Regular Meeting

Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 13, 2022, 7:00 PM CT

[Carrollton Fire Rescue Administration \(Gravley Center\), 1111 W. Belt Line Rd suite #100, \(SW corner of Belt Line Rd and S. Broadway\)](#)

This will be a “hybrid” in-person and remote meeting. As a subscriber to this *Newsletter*, you will receive your *Zoom* invitation by email.

Play Day

Saturday, October 15, 2022 • 10:00 AM ≈ 3:00 PM CT

[Carrollton Josey Ranch Lake Library, 1700 Keller Springs Road](#)

We'll meet in the Environmental Room in the back.

- Festival planning continues.
- Bring your radios and play.

—Steve Darrah, KD5YPB@ARRL.net

Amateur Testing

Saturday, October 15, 2022 • 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM CT

Allan Batteiger, WB5QNG, will have **IN-PERSON** testing at the [Carrollton Josey Ranch Lake Library, 1700 Keller Springs Road](#), in the **Conference Room in the back** (right side).

Allan continues to host *online* test sessions as well. Go to

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/wb5qng> to find a session. Visit <https://wb5qng.org/> for

information about how to sign up and prepare for a session. Send Allan an email

arb@rtsi.com if you have any questions.

Hams & Eggs

Every Saturday morning at the [Whataburger at Old Denton and PGBT](#). Hams from all over get together from 7:00 AM to 10-ish or whenever. There's talk about amateur radio and sometimes Show 'n' Tell. Ya'll come!

Trivia Question:

These are **current radio brands** historically linked to amateur radio. Which is the *oldest by its founding date*?

Alinco, EF Johnson, Icom, Kenwood, or Yaesu?

ARES® , RACES & Sirens

Serving Carrollton, Farmers Branch & Addison

Next ARES Training Net

9 October 2022, 8:00 PM CT • 145.210 Tone 110.9

Next RACES Training Net

16 October 2022, 7:45 PM CT • 145.210 Tone 110.9

Siren Tests in Carrollton and Farmers Branch • First Wednesday of the month at 1300 Hours, CT, *weather permitting*. Contact **Steve Darrah** KD5YPB@ARRL.net if you wish to volunteer to monitor a siren.

MARS Regular Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President Andy Parcel, KE5KOF, called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM CT at the Carrollton Fire Rescue Administration Building. We had 22 attendees: 16 in person and 6 attended remotely. A quorum of voting members was established. One visitor attended in person and one visitor attended remotely. The attendees said the *Pledge of Allegiance*. Kevin Grantham, N5KRG, gave the invocation. All introduced themselves.

PRESENTATION

Andy introduced **Kevin Grantham, N5KRG**, who presented “Antenna Analyzers.”

MINUTES/SECRETARY’S REPORT

Ken Wendel, W5RPS, moved and **Allan Batteiger, WB5QNG**, seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2022, meeting as published in the September *Newsletter*. The motion passed.

TREASURER’S REPORT

J.J. Henry, N5IMS, read the August 2022 financial statement and it was approved.

REPEATERS/WINLINK

Allan Batteiger, WB5QNG, reported all club repeaters are on the air, but work is needed on the controller(s). **Dave Lane, N5GDL**, said his DMR machine is working, and Kevin Grantham said his 900 MHz repeater was on the air. The Winlink gateway is running normally.

TESTING

Allan Batteiger said we will have in-person testing at the Josey Ranch Lake Library during Play Day on September 17 in the Conference Room.

ARES®/RACES/SIRENS

Steve Darrah, KD5YPB, said the September siren tests were conducted. Steve said the ARES net will be on September 11 and the RACES net is scheduled for September 18.

PLAY DAY

Steve said Play Day will be September 17 at the Josey Ranch Lake Library in the large room and will feature planning for Festival at the Switchyard on November 5. We will have a special event using the Club call. We need volunteers to set up, operate and work the booth throughout the day.

NET WITHOUT AN INTERESTING NAME

Andy said *NeWAIN* continues on Thursdays at 7:00 PM, except on Club meeting nights. We would like to hear more check-ins.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Andy mentioned the Texas QSO Party, September 17–18.

OTHER ITEMS

Andy reminded the group to support MARS through Amazon, Kroger, and Tom Thumb, and reminded us to pay our dues.

ADJOURN

Allan Batteiger moved and **Steve Darrah** seconded that the meeting adjourn. Andy adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM CT.

—Respectfully submitted, **Mike Brown, W5MDB**, Secretary@KB5A.org

How to benefit MARS at no cost to you!

MARS works with various businesses that have programs that donate to 501(c)(3) organizations based on member's purchases. We are associated with Amazon Smile, Tom Thumb's Good Neighbor Program and Kroger Community Awards. If you're aware of other businesses that have similar programs, please let us know how to contact them to get us added. Please note that the donations will not affect your costs.

To learn how to join these programs head over to the [SUPPORT page](#) on the MARS website.

—**JJ Henry, N5IMS**, Treasurer@KB5A.org

Chat Room

Have something to sell, want to ask for tech help, or just want to rag chew? Create a login and post it on our [FORUM Page](#). It's free and you don't have to be a member to post.



“A.M.—I am your father.”

That's all for now. **73** *from all the Hams at MARS!*

Copyright © 2022 MARS Metrocrest Amateur Radio Society, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



