



Theodore Roosevelt Amateur Radio Club

Serving Southwestern North Dakota

Website– <http://www.qsl.net/k0alv>

OFFICE HOLDERS OF TRARC

President.....Melissa Sheppard/KDØAAK
Vice President.....Mike Schaper/KBØOXY
Secretary/Treasurer.....Dave Sheppard/NØCI
Emergency Coordinator.....Gerry Krebs/NØJE
Newsletter Editor.....Mick Lewton/KCØRLF
Public Information Officer.....Melissa Sheppard/KDØAAK

TEST SESSIONS

If you are in need of a test session, contact either Jim Fahy NØJS or Emil Wieglanda/NØDK. Jim is associated with ARRL VEC and Emil is with W5YI VEC. They will let you know when the next test session will be held.

Jim: 701-483-6548

Emil: 701-483-4953

- ◆ May 3: TRARC meeting, 7 pm @ LEC.
- ◆ Remember that everyone is welcome to join fellow hams for morning coffee at Arby's 10:00 am, Monday thru Friday; Friday at 5:30 pm pizza at Happy Joes; Saturday morning breakfast at the Dairy Barn 9:00 am.
- ◆ Western North Dakota ARES Net: 8:30 pm every Tuesday.

The President's Thoughts

Dear TRARC Hams and Friends,

Spring 2010 is really here it seems! Now,.... I can be fooled as I *am* a short-time resident!

That being said, we North Dakotans did prove we were *a lot* better prepared and organized for this year's spring thaw. We learned and prepared and planned! We did indeed all dodge a major bullet!

I had the privilege of being in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) as a Red Cross Government Liaison as we waited through the week before for the crest of the Red River in Fargo. I learned a lot! I learned about all the multiple agency interactions both volunteer (as I was) and governmental. How the State wants to bring us all together to help in a disaster. When glitches occurred, how they were solved. I attended the daily command briefings and gave my Red Cross report.

For any technology nerds, it was surely impressive to see how aerial imagery and mapping overlaid with demographics. How the hydrological and weather modeling worked with on the ground observers. How everyone brought the multiple sources of data together and sought to plan and prepare together. I met many good served partners from FEMA to State Agencies to VOAD (Volunteers Active Disaster) people. General

The ND QSO Party has been held! The contest ran for 24 hours and we needed an Extra Class present during our operational hours so especially thank Dave NØCI who sat in the chair to represent the club. He made 34 contacts. I think some TRARC members chose to contest from their home station which is certainly understandable.

The SKYWARN presentation was held April 5th and there was a large public attendance as well as many hams. I must thank Margaret Wieglanda, KB7ITR, for her great support in hospitality for the meeting. The club supplied all the refreshments. I also must note that Mike Schaper, KBØOXY was there as club Vice President. I have been away on Red Cross duties at least twice earlier this year and Mike has been awesome in stepping up to the plate in my absence!

As spring and summer weather prevails, it's time to think of FIELD DAY in June and in August about our Annual Picnic! Also SKYWARN activities! I thank everyone who checks into the Tuesday ARES net. Mick Lewton KCØRLF and Jason Mahto KDØHCR have been doing a super job running the ARES net of late. Let us all be more observant and ready to help!

Lastly, welcome back Snowbirds! I ran into Betty Kittleson, KBØNVT. My, what a healthy tan! We all look forward to seeing you all at the May 3 meeting!

Fraternally, 73,
Melissa Sheppard KDØAAK

No Meeting Minutes— Skywarn Training in April

Remember the Radio Parts Dealers in your Hometown? What Ever Happened?

By Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU

April 23, 2010

(reprinted from arrl.org)

When I was getting into ham radio in the late 1960s, there were two electronic parts stores in my hometown: Bond Radio and [Lafayette Radio](#). Bond had its one store in town, while Lafayette was a national chain with stores across the land and a big mail-order catalog business.

I was such a novice back then! I recall copiously copying a parts list from a build-it-yourself VHF pre-amplifier article in *QST* and taking my list to Bond Radio to buy the parts. The article instructed you how to modify a trimmer capacitor and the parts list in *QST* listed that part as a “modified trimmer capacitor.”

When I asked the man behind the counter at Bond Radio for a “modified trimmer capacitor,” he looked at me as if I had lobsters crawling out of my ears, as K2ORS was bound to say.

Eventually, I caught on, but by then Lafayette and Bond had folded their tents and [Radio Shack](#) had taken their place. Whereas, Bond and Lafayette always had some old-timers on their staffs who knew the difference between a diode and a triode, Radio Shack seemed to staff a younger crew who often knew less about electronics than I did!

Typically, I would find the part I needed in the Radio Shack catalog, go to the store and the sales person would ask me what I needed. Half the time, the sales person had no idea what I was talking about and I had to show him what I wanted in the catalog sitting on the store counter.

On the other hand, Radio Shack also had some excellent sales people, often holders of ham radio licenses, who were very helpful and able to steer me in the right direction when I was lost in their racks.

Sadly, Radio Shacks stuffed with parts are rare these days. “[The Lost Tribes of RadioShack: Tinkerers Search for New Spiritual Home](#),” in the May issue of *Wired*, tells the story of the Shack’s demise as a parts store and its reincarnation as RadioShack, a phone store.

If you pine for the Radio Shacks of old, you can peruse their catalogs at the [Radio Shack Catalogs Web site](#). For you Lafayette Radio fans, [Phantom’s Vintage Catalog Collection](#) has their catalogs online going back to 1939.

Submitted by Melissa KD0AAK

May Birthdays

Arlon	Nelson	W0TUP	5/11
Carl	Strum	AB0KS	5/15
Connie	Williams	KB0RXG	5/26
April	Redetzke	KC0KBN	5/30

Following is a partial section reprinted from aprs.org that I found interesting on other uses for APRS. I have used APRS a little myself, but never realized all the potential applications that exist for this technology. If you would like more information, this website would be a good place to start.

Mick KC0RLF

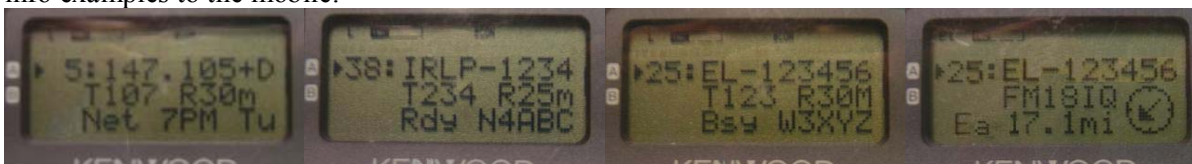
APRS Tactical Real-Time Operations
Bob Bruninga, WB4APR

. Ev Tupis noted on the **APRSSIG**:

. APRS is billed as a situational awareness service, yet the map is largely barren of situational awareness information. I ask myself "why?"

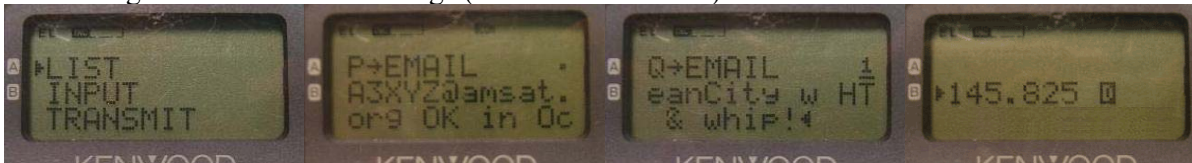
Good question!... In the middle years as APRS grew in user size, it seemed to diminish every year from its original intent as a tactical real time information resource and fast 2-way communications system to nothing but a vehicle tracking system in many people's eyes. Its time to re-open their eyes! This page suggests some ideas why users have this misconception:

APRS is not about *vehicle tracking*. It is a single **information resource** channel where everything that is going on in ham radio in the surrounding area can be announced and updated in real time. It presents to the viewer on his APRS radio front panel *all that is happening* right now, where it is, and all the info he needs to participate whether it is an event, happening, net, activity, announcement, future activity, or situation. The APRS channel is his one-stop look at everything that could be going on in the local area, and his one-stop place to post what he might be doing that might be of interest to others. APRS is not about GPS positions, it is about a situational map display of everything that is happening, and most of that is OBJECTS containing INFO on the activity and how to contact other operators. Here are some local info examples to the mobile:



These objects inform visitors or travelers (from left to right), the locally recommended voice repeater (and tone) and the local Echolink and IRLP nodes and other info of local interest to help the traveler join in on local operations. In the D710, these nearby objects can be sorted by distance, type, alphabetically, and time. See the [APRS Local Info](#) web page for details.

APRS is not about dumb-one-way-trackers. APRS was designed for the manual and automatic entry and management of large numbers of on-screen objects that would be a major function of the display of local information. . Further, Bulletins and Announcements would keep everyone informed of the SAME information at the SAME time. . Operator Messages would communicate important information in the background without encumbering voice nets. [See Messaging](#). And finally, that all mobiles would have simple displays to keep them in communications and aware of their surroundings. These images show an APRS message (in this case an email):



No one in your area is running any of the APRS Satellite engines such as APRSdata or DIGI_NED that send out minute-by-minute location info on any AMSATs that are in view. These satellite objects show up on the front panel of the radio by name, with the present uplink and downlink frequencies and present doppler so all you need do is press a button and your radio can tune to the satellite in real time. See [Satellite Bulletins and Objects](#) about 60% down the ASTARS page. You don't need any satellite tracking program. The info comes in on your APRS radio display. (but we do need someone to update this 10 year old program to run under Windows).

TRARC Newsletter Editor
 Mick Lewton / KCØRLF
 11121 31P St SW
 Dickinson, ND 58601

TRARC Membership / Renewal Application


<u>Name</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>License Class</u>	<u>B-Day</u>	<u>ARRL</u>	<u>VE</u>
1 _____	_____	_____	Mo() Day()	Y N	Y N
2 _____	_____	_____	Mo() Day()	Y N	Y N
3 _____	_____	_____	Mo() Day()	Y N	Y N
4 _____	_____	_____	Mo() Day()	Y N	Y N
5 _____	_____	_____	Mo() Day()	Y N	Y N

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

- Membership Type**
- Family \$30
 - Regular \$25
 - Digital User \$10
 - Under 16 \$10
 - Over 65 \$10
 - Newsletter Only \$8

Home Phone Number () _____ - _____

E-mail Address _____

<p>Mail this form to:</p> 	<p>TRARC PO Box 1854 Dickinson, ND 58602-1854</p>
--	---

*Note: The information on this form will not be given out. It is only used to maintain a database of information for all club members. If you do not feel comfortable giving out this information, you are **not** required to do so.*