



AUG. 19, 2010 No.343/344



The

# BARN



## AUGUST MEETING

The Beaumont Amateur Radio Club will hold this month's meeting, at 7:30 PM Monday, August 30, 2010 at Wesley Methodist Church, 3810 N. Major Drive (at the end of Folsom Drive) in Beaumont. This month's meeting will feature a talk about Ham Radio APRS in general as well as how it will be used for the club upcoming balloon launce. Also expected, is an update by John, W5EME on the clubs balloon project.

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# SHEILA POWELL

## N5HL, SK

For those of you who have not heard, it is with great sadness I report the passing of a dearly loved member of the Beaumont ARC as well as most other Amateur Radio Clubs in the Golden Triangle area.

Sheila had been a mainstay of hardworking and dedication to the Beaumont ARC, The Jefferson County ARC and the Orange ARC. She was active in almost all projects in which area clubs were involved. If you wanted to know when and where a Ham activity was taking place, Sheila was the one who kept the calendar of activities up to date. It is extremely difficult to say or know how deeply Sheila will be missed.

## Editorially Speaking

First of all let me apologize for my failure to get a BARN issue out for July. My head, heart and mind were just not in the right place to produce an issue last month. This issue of the BARN is without a doubt one of the hardest I have ever had to present. I only hope I can get it to all of you in a proper fashion as Sheila always seemed to do, no matter how late I got it to her. She never complained about my tardiness. She would occasionally email me to remind me it was time to hit the keyboard and get her something to mail out to the membership. Sometimes I had let it completely slip my mind and on other occasions I was simply slow with my editorial endeavors. She always produced the calendar which usually appears on page 5 of each issue of the BARN. I have not mastered the program she used, but I'm working on it. I don't know if I'll ever be able to make one as full of events, birthdays and announcements she was able to keep track of. She was able to tell you at any time when this or that was happening. When this Hamfest was scheduled, when a particular public service event was scheduled or when a social get together was going to happen. I don't know if anybody can take her place in that aspect of our ham community.

So let's keep Sheila in our hearts and thoughts.

*Earl, K5UJC, Editor*

## Local Repeater Frequencies and Access Codes...

52.525 6 Meter FM National Calling Frequency	146.980 H.A.M.S. (Devers, N5FJX, pl 103.5)*# Down
145.010 BPT (W5SSV) Packet	147.060 DuPont (AA5P, pl 103.5)
145.050 Packet	147.180 Orange A.R.C. (W5ND, pl 103.5)*
145.070 Packet	147.300 Mobil Oil (W5XOM) (pl 103.5)*
145.210 S.W.L.A.R.C. (W5BII, pl 103.5)*	147.340 B.A.R.C. (W5RIN, no Patch, no PL) Down
145.230 B.T.A.R.C. (N5BTC, pl 103.5)*	147.420 Simplex
145.470 J.C.A.R.C. (Open Patch, pl 103.5)* Down	224.920 Devers (KA5QDG) Down
145.350 Sulphur A.R.C. (KC5PNH, pl 103.5)*	442.575 Devers (KA5QDG, pl 103.5) Down
146.450 Mid County Simplex	444.500 Beaumont-(WB5ITT, pl 100.0) Down
146.520 National Simplex	444.700 B.A.R.C. (W5RIN, (Salt Grass) pl 107.2)
146.700 B.A.R.C. (W5RIN, pl 107.2)*	444.900 Mobil Oil (W5XOM, pl 103.5)
146.730 S.W.L.A.R.C. (W5BII, pl 173.8)#	
146.760 B.A.R.C. (SW Lynx Link) pl 107.2* <i>Temporarily Down</i>	<i>* Denotes transmitted PL tone. # Denotes echo link.</i>
146.860 Port Arthur (WD5GJP) pl 103.5	<i>from J.C.A.R.C. Mic &amp; Key</i>

(There is no longer a phone patch on the 147.340 repeater.)

### Surfin': Send APRS Messages via HF PSK and GMSK 08/20/2010

By Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU  
Contributing Editor

This week, Surfin' looks at new HF APRS applications originating from the UK. In the [APRS](#) realm, there is something new afoot on the other side of [the pond](#): the Cross Country Wireless APRS Messenger. This software that provides the means of originating an APRS message on VHF and have it transmitted on HF using PSK ([Phase Shift Keying](#)) or GMSK ([Gaussian Minimum Shift Keying](#)), specifically PSK-63 and GMSK-250 modes of those two modulation types.

This Windows application is [freeware](#) and you can download it from the [APRS Messenger Web page](#), which is just one page of the extensive [Cross Country Wireless Web site](#).

Cross Country Wireless also has another APRS freeware Windows application: Cross Country Wireless HF APRS SDR (Software Defined Radio). This allows an SDR receiver to receive HF APRS transmissions on the 30-meter ham band. For more information, as well as a link for downloading, visit the [HF APRS SDR Web page](#).

If you need an SDR receiver to mate with the HF APRS SDR software, Cross Country Wireless can fulfill your needs with their [Wireless SDR Receiver](#). A review of a pre-production receiver appears in the August issue of the Radio Society of Great Britain's [RadCom](#); the RSGB is Great Britain's IARU Member-Society. Cross Country Wireless has corrected the problems cited in the review (external oscillator input, 40 meter sensitivity, 30 meter sideband rejection) in the production versions of the receiver.

Until next time, keep on surfin'.

*Editor note: Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, runs an APRS digipeater atop Compounce Mountain. To contact Stan, send him [e-mail](#) ([wa1lou@arrl.net](mailto:wa1lou@arrl.net)) or add comments to his [blog](#). (<http://horzepa.blogspot.com>)*

# From the Internet

## First Half of 2010 Sees Upswing in New Amateur Radio Licenses

**TAGS:** [amateur radio](#), [amateur radio community](#), [amateur radio license](#), [amateur radio operators](#), [arrrl vec](#), [license class](#), [new hams](#), [radio amateurs](#)

07/13/2010

With more than 18,000 new Amateur Radio licenses issued in the first half of this year -- 18,270 to be exact -- 2010 is shaping up to be a banner year for Amateur Radio. So far, the number of new licenses issued by the FCC in 2010 is outpacing the January-June 2009 totals by almost 8.5 percent; at this time last year, the FCC had issued 16,844 new licenses.

In 2009, a total of 30,144 new licenses were granted, an increase of almost 7.5 percent from 2008. In 2005, 16,368 new hams joined Amateur Radio's ranks -- just five years later, that number had increased by almost 14,000, a whopping 84 percent! The ARRL VEC is one of 14 VECs who administer Amateur Radio license exams.

Comparing 2010 to 2009, the only month that had higher license totals in 2009 was January: 1960 licenses were issued in January 2009, compared with 1726 in January 2010. Beginning in February, 2010 showed higher new license numbers: 2263 in February 2010 versus 2749 in February 2009; 3463 in March 2009 compared with 3734 in March 2010; 3430 in April 2009 compared with 3508 in April 2010; 2717 in May 2009 compared with 3136 in May 2010, and 3011 in June 2009 versus 3417 in June 2010.

As of June 30, 2010, there are 694,346 licensed Amateur Radio operators in the US, an almost 1 percent rise over all of 2009. In 2009, there were 682,500 licensed Amateur Radio operators in the US, an almost 3 percent rise over 2008. In 2008, there were 663,500 licensed amateurs; there were 655,800 in 2007. Broken down by license class at the end of June 2010, there were 16,299 Novices, 342,064 Technicians, 154,284 Generals, 60,059 Advanced and 121,640 Amateur Extra licensees.

"The ARRL VEC has been busy meeting the needs of the Amateur Radio community by helping people to become radio amateurs or upgrade their existing licenses," said [ARRL VEC](#) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. "So far in 2010, ARRL VEs have administered 20,929 exam elements at 3600 [ARRL VEC-sponsored exam sessions](#). The number of amateurs who want to be Volunteer Examiners and who want to teach Amateur Radio classes is also going up -- we've seen a spike in the number of applications from General and Extra class radio amateurs who want to give back to their community by [serving as ARRL examiners](#) and instructors."

Of special note is our own VEC specialist Mike Fauchaux, N5KBW who is on the list of the top 25 Volunteer Examiners in the country. Mike is certainly part of why the figures presented here and what they are. A special thanks to Mike and all the local VEs and class instructors who help in our local exam sessions. Well Done!

NEW FCC LICENSES ISSUED 2006 THROUGH JUNE 2010					
Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Jan	1,274	1,647	1,755	1,960	1,726
Feb	1,605	2,435	2,998	2,263	2,749
Mar	2,531	3,478	2,816	3,463	3,734
Apr	1,728	2,673	3,090	3,430	3,508
May	2,283	2,607	2,562	2,717	3,136
Jun	1,967	2,281	2,402	3,011	3,417
<b>subtotal</b>	<b>11,388</b>	<b>15,121</b>	<b>15,623</b>	<b>16,844</b>	<b>18,270</b>
Jul	1,401	1,786	2,077	2,220	0
Aug	1,623	2,183	2,084	2,102	0
Sep	1,357	1,462	1,763	2,116	0
Oct	1,781	2,109	2,303	2,404	0
Nov	1,993	2,132	2,197	2,344	0
Dec	1,569	1,935	2,019	2,114	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21,112</b>	<b>26,728</b>	<b>28,066</b>	<b>30,144</b>	<b>18,270</b>



# The BARN

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



## Club Directory...

### BEAUMONT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

### DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT	WALT LOMBARD	W5CPH	892-5663	CRAIG HARDER	KE5PIQ	347-2265
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### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

- FULL MEMBERSHIP..... \$20.00
  - ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER.... 5.00
  - BARN SUBSCRIPTION ONLY..... 7.50
- (ANNUAL RATES)

NAME	CALL	LICENSE CLASS	ARRL (Y/N)	PHONE
<hr/>				
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.**