



# Pearl River County Amateur Radio Club

Promoting Amateur Radio and Public Safety in South Mississippi  
Operating the KE5VSU Repeater - 145.210 (-) 136.5 in Poplarville, Ms.

Pearl River County Amateur Radio Club is dedicated to promoting Amateur Radio in south Mississippi.

## Officers

Ron Smith - President  
Larry Wagoner V-President  
Roger Aubert - Treasurer  
Janice Wagoner - Secretary

## Inside

Field Day In  
County Page 2

Special Event  
Station Eyed Page 2

Old Newsletters  
On Website Page 2

Tech Talk Page 3-4

Repeater  
Roundup Page 5

Net Control  
Assignments Page 5

# PRCARC Purchases 145.210 Repeater

POPLARVILLE - By a unanimous vote, the Pearl River County Amateur Radio Club voted Tuesday night to purchase the 145.210 repeater from owner Roger Aubert. The repeater will not move from its current site, but will be switched to operate under the PRCARC callsign - KE5VSU.

The club voted to appoint long-time club member Art Tarver (KB5QBK) the trustee for the repeater because of his proximity to the repeater site and ability to control the machine.

The machine has switched hands a few times in recent years, first operating under the ownership of Jim Searcy(WA5WRE), then Aubert.

Club Vice-President Larry Wagoner (N5WLW) was asked to file the necessary documents with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Southeast Repeater Association (SERA) to document the shift in ownership.

The move comes as Aubert continues to recover from medical problems and will insure that the repeater continues to be available for area amateur radio operators.

The other locally-towned repeater in the county - the K5PRC machine at Millard - is owned and operated by the county.

The club plans one more machine in the Picayune area to offer complete coverage in Pearl River County for amateurs here. Coverage in the southern end of the county is currently weak in some areas.

# Field Day Event Locked Into County

POPLARVILLE - The Pearl River County Amateur Radio Club voted to hold the annual Field Day event inside the county at February's regular monthly meeting.

At the January meeting, a proposal was made to hold the event at the Black Creek Water Park near Lumberton in Lamar County, but the vote Tuesday will keep the event in Pearl River County.

Club members said they do like the idea of holding an event at the Black Creek Water Park, but that the emergency services aspect of the Field Day should reflect the group's connection to Pearl River County.

After checking out several locations, club officers decided to hold Field Day 2009 at Friendship Park in Picayune at the gazebo near the tennis courts. The location offers the cover of the gazebo itself, plus a large play area for kids, bathrooms nearby and good parking.

Come on by and get on air with us, or help us show off Amateur Radio to everyone who comes by. Invite friends, relatives and anyone else to join us too!



**Pearl River County Amateur Radio Club members discuss a vote keeping the Field Day event sponsored by the local group inside the county. (Photo by Janice Wagoner)**

---

---

## Club To Consider Special Event Station At Stennis

The Pearl River County Amateur Radio Club is looking into holding a Special Event Station event station in conjunction with the Stennis Space Center Amateur Radio Club.

Details have not yet been worked out, but the plan would allow members to set up and operate an amateur radio station from the grounds of the Stennis Space Center, located just south of Picayune in north-western Hancock County.

The special event station would be a first-time collaboration between the Pearl River County group and the Stennis amateur radio group.

### Old Newsletters On Website

Ever miss a newsletter, or wonder what was in the ones you did not get?

Old newsletters are available on our website - [www.prcarc.com](http://www.prcarc.com). There you can read them online, download them to print and read at leisure, or

# TECH TALK

Tech Talk, is a creation by WA5WRE, that we hope will help develop some interest in the "hands on" end of Amateur Radio. It will consist of daily happenings in the shack, and in all of the Amateur community in Pearl River County. It will relate to construction projects, and helpful hints pertaining to the hobby.



---

---

## A NEW TWIST...

Due to a time warp, the Tech Notes will be delayed. However, I had one of those 'so-called' brain functions, and thought it would be fun.

Everyone knows that February 14<sup>th</sup> is Valentine's Day, and all the guys rush around buying that XYL or girlfriend candy, flowers, and balloons (all of which is eventually eaten, thrown in the trash, and the kids pop the balloons).

Well, this year, let's do something different. When you buy the balloons, make sure you get a couple of the standard balloons along with the pretty metallic ones.

What I would like everyone to do is spread the word around by telephone, radio, E-Mail, etc., that on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 1300 hours (that's 1:00 p.m. for the newcomers), we will attach one of your QSL cards to the string with a note asking that if it is received, please reply either by one of their QSL cards, or just a note, to let you know how far it went.

For years we have used radio waves, so on the 16<sup>th</sup>, let's use the air waves. Remember, don't fill the balloon to capacity to leave it room to expand more as it climbs higher into the wild blue. Let's say your balloon reaches 30,000 feet and bursts: When the wind currents catch it, it could land four or five states away, or if you are really lucky, maybe even in another country!

The object is to let as many people know as you can. I know this is short notice, but if enough people get involved, it will be a lot of fun. As an added attraction, when you have released your balloon, check in on 40-meters (7.240 Mhz), and let me (net control) know, and we will keep a record.

If you receive a QSL card, check in again, and let net control know, and possibly the amateur it belongs to will be monitoring. When 40-meters starts going south (usually around 1700 CST), then I would ask everyone to move to 80-meters (3.980 Mhz).

This frequency could be monitored the rest of the evening, and then move back to 40-meters the next day.

You might ask, "How did he come up with this idea?" Well, when you are old like me, retired, and you're at that stage in life where your brain (what's left of it) wanders, simple things in life, take more meaning.

**(Continued Next Page)**

# Ballooning For QSL Cards ...

Several years ago (I believe it was in 1987), our previous club released a balloon from here in Poplarville with a beacon on it. We asked fellow hams to monitor the frequency of the beacon - 7.255 Mhz - and we got reports from all over the United States. As best we can figure, the balloon went down over the Rocky Mountains.

This was a three-foot balloon, so we estimated that it reached an altitude of some 90,000 feet before bursting. It had a parachute on the package, and from Poplarville, you tell when it had burst.

At its peak, the signal here was 20 over nine, then it started dropping in strength, and finally went to noise. We left a note and returning address, but it was either lost, or if found, kept or destroyed.

I don't remember anyone reporting a UFO at that time, so I guess we didn't scare anyone. It was a blast, and I have been wanting to do it again, but our club is so involved in so many things at present, it will have to sit on the back burner for a while.

So, there you have it. I hope people will participate, and see just how many lives we can touch. If you really would like to know where it went, you might even include an SASE.

The Tech Notes will be coming soon, so don't give up, and if you have something in mind that you would like me to cover, just send me an E-Mail at [world@datasync.com](mailto:world@datasync.com).

Or, if you haven't got a computer, and someone is mailing you the Tech Notes, then just drop me a line at:

James W. Searcy WA5WRE  
10 Wesley Drive  
Poplarville, Ms 39470-7170

And that's it, so be good, support ham radio and your club, find those young minds that haven't experienced the hobby yet, and give them a push in the right direction.  
73's Jim WA5WRE



## Repeater Roundup

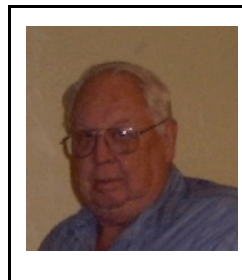
Location	Frequency	Offset	Tone
Poplarville	145.210	-	136.5
Millard	145.150	-	136.5
Hillsdale	145.410	-	136.5
McHenry	147.165	+	136.5
McHenry	147.375	+	136.5
Wiggins	145.270	-	136.5
Kiln	145.330	-	open
Bay St. Louis	29.640	-	136.6
Bay St. Louis	53.650	-	136.5
Biloxi	146.730	-	136.5
Biloxi	146.790	-	136.5
Hattiesburg	146.775	-	136.5
Hattiesburg	147.315	+	136.5
Hattiesburg	145.370	-	136.5
Hattiesburg	145.190	-	136.5
Hattiesburg	442.725	+	open
Hattiesburg	444.775	+	136.5
Hattiesburg	443.700	+	136.5
Collins	146.985	-	136.5
McComb	146.940	-	103.5
McComb	444.875	+	100.0
Pine, La.	145.430	-	107.2
Slidell, La.	147.270	+	114.8
Slidell, La.	444.425	+	114.8
Slidell, La.	443.950	+	114.8
N.O., La.	146.860	-	114.8
Covington, La.	146.715	-	open
Hammond, La.	147.000	-	open
Hammond, La.	145.130	-	107.2
Hammond, La.	145.010	HMU	Digi
Hammond, La.	444.250	+	107.2

## Net Assignments

February 5	Ron Smith
February 12	Bobby Graves
February 19	Jim Searcy
February 26	Dan Beavers

## President's Corner

As a new ham, new to the club, and new club president, I am learning new things and meeting new people everyday.



The entire trip has been interesting, educational, and informative.

I was very pleased at the attendance of our meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of this month. I hope more members will make an effort to attend meetings as that is the only way we can hope to get everyone's input on things the club needs or wants to do.

Since becoming a ham, I have attended three hamfests: PRCARC's in Poplarville, SELARC's in Hammond, and the Mississippi State Convention in Jackson.

I probably am prejudiced, but of the three, I think the PRCARC's hamfest was the best - because of organization and attendance of both vendors and attendees.

One other thing. Back in December, Jim Searcy gave an antenna class. Jim has to be one of the best instructors I have ever had the privilege to take a class from.

Jim is one of the few that not only knows his subject but, also knows how to present it.

We will need everyone's help for the Street Fair in Picayune on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of April. We will also need help for Field Day on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of June.

If anyone needs to get in contact with me email is [vawheelr@bellsouth.net](mailto:vawheelr@bellsouth.net) or cell 601-590-2079.