

# Trinity Valley Amateur Radio Club

Winter 2008



## Talk to Santa



December 12, 2008, we held our annual Talk to Santa event. We had trouble with the radio at first - it sounded like that cell phone commercial, "Can you hear me now?" "Can you hear me now." Finally, after a call to Rusty (and probably some Divine Intervention), we got on the air. Santa and his brother transmitted from Santa's brother's SUV.

## TRINITY VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB WB5HGI OFFICERS

President ..... Carl Sherman, W5SBH  
Vice President ..... Katy O'Mary, KE5CGL  
Treasurer ..... Marline Ballard, N5VVM  
Secretary ..... Linda Sherman, KC5QKN

## MONDAY NIGHT NET

Don't forget to check in to the Club Net  
at 7:30 on Monday nights!  
145.270Mhz, PI 136.5

## VE TESTING

Call Rusty Mott (WK5R) (972) 921-6685

## CLUB WEB PAGE

<http://www.trinityvalleyarc.org>

I still need Ham Shack pictures from  
members for the web site!

Email them to me at :  
[ke5cgl@arrl.net](mailto:ke5cgl@arrl.net)

## NEWSLETTER

Thanks to e. l. marsden, inc. for donating  
the printing of our newsletter!

## MEETING NOTICE

LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH  
AT Cici's PIZZA  
EAT AT 6:00 AND  
MEET AT 7:00

## Aubrey Interference

As most of you know, the Aubrey repeater, K5RNB, is overpowering our repeater. Carl has been trying to work with Patrick Parks, K5RNB, to resolve the interference.

Patrick Parks, K5RNB, has reduced his ERP from 100 Watts to 50 Watts, but that alone has not solved the interference problem. Patrick's antenna is at 940 feet AGL and his footprint covers a lot of territory. He has said that he plans to move the antenna from the southeast side of his tower (the side toward our repeater) to the southwest side of his tower. It would also help for the antenna to be lowered to reduce the footprint and, hence, the interference with our repeater.

The content of the transmissions from Patrick's repeater consists primarily of conversations linked from California. Carl has not heard any 5's on this repeater.

## Possum Kingdom

By Linda Sherman

You wouldn't think folks in the city would have critter problems, but Carl and Linda, who live in Rockwall, have created a habitat sanctuary for birds, squirrels, rabbits and opossums, it would seem. They noticed a very heavy-bellied opossum digging around under their bird feeder recently and immediately called the City's Animal Control Department. The lady brought out a cage and some bait, which netted a male opossum that night. Bait was put out the second night, and a male cat was caught. On the third night, no bait was used, but a female opossum was captured—not the pregnant one. Then, when the trapped animal was placed just outside the fenced backyard for pickup by Animal Control the next morning, a very large opossum was observed keeping the caged opossum company. When Connie (we're on a first-name basis now) came for the pickup, she used a looped instrument to capture the female inside the cage and showed Carl and Linda the pouch where these marsupials (kangaroo family of mammals) carry and nurse their babies. The big male tried to hide in some hedges, but Connie eventually caught him, too. She said the two were "courting." They will be taken to a wooded area and released. We are wondering how many more will find shelter under the storage building in what has been dubbed "Sherman's Possum Kingdom."

# Talk to Santa





15731 Nike Drive  
TERRELL TX 75160

## Gibson Ridge Windows Viewer

Thanks to Eric Wolf for a really interesting presentation on the Gibson Ridge GR Level 3 software. GRLevel3 is a Windows viewer for live NEXRAD Level III data from the NWS Radar Product Central Collection Dissemination Service. Eric, N5EBW, is a member of the Rockwall Amateur Radio Club (RARC).

