

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) is a national association supporting amateur radio operators in the United States and abroad. With a membership of over 160,000 "Hams," the ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the world. Its mission is based on five pillars: Public Service, Advocacy, Education, Technology, and Membership. Founded in 1914 by one of the early radio pioneers, Hiram Percy Maxim, the organization will celebrate its centennial next year at numerous events across the country including a convention in Hartford, Connecticut, where its headquarters are located.

Four Seasons at Beaumont Amateur Radio Club will also mark a milestone in 2014: our third year as a community-sanctioned and FCC-licensed club. The club started up in 2011 with only 5 members, all licensed Amateurs—today we have 24 members, 10 of whom have Amateur Radio licenses! The primary goals of the organization are to advance our knowledge of radio; and organize our radio resources to help Four Seasons residents during an emergency. Over the past two years, we've become an integral part of the community's Emergency Preparedness Program. We've developed protocols and procedures for radio operations during an emergency. Our members participate in a weekly "net" that tests their communication skills using inexpensive, license-free, handheld radios. And we have a lot of fun in the process!

Does this sound interesting to you? Our website is W6FSB.com; come and join us at our next club meeting, held the last Friday every month, usually in the Ballroom, at 10:00AM. Jim Peterson, K6JWP