

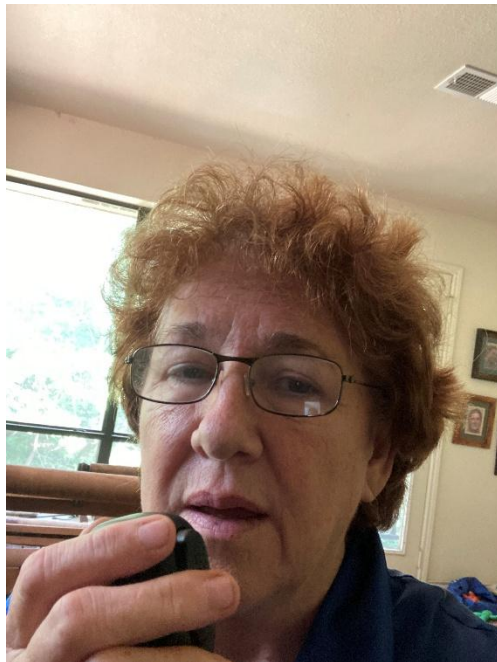
## FOCUS OF THE MONTH - CYNTHIA VANSLOGTEREN – K5EKA



This month's Member focus is — Ta-DA! ME! --  
Cynthia VanSlogteren K5EKA

I was never really interested in ham radio even though my brother-in-law has been active for decades until I decided I should find another way of communication in case our trusted ways “go down.” I thought I would just get a few items and have them on hand in case I need them. Well, that was a fantasy! Once I visited the Club meeting, I was drawn into getting to know other hams and found the camaraderie pleasing. So you might say I came into the Radio world “kicking and screaming” against it. But now I’m hooked and am enjoying the hobby immensely. And now I’m learning CW. I’m finding it frustrating since I’m not getting faster very fast. Haha. (old brain and all that)

My “few items” have turned into quite a collection of radio things. My first radio was a Baofeng which I find very handy (pun intended). Then I won the door prize at my first GCARC club meeting — a TYT TH 6800 — which is now in my car. Not satisfied with not being able to go beyond 2 meters, I got a Base Station



covering  
10, 11  
and 12  
meters so  
I can

contact CB'ers (not to leave any means of communication out of my plan). But that didn't get me very far. So I bought a Yaesu FT 991A and it is set up in my home station. I have also put up several antennas — a Yagi 5 element with rotor, a Solarcon Omnidirectional for CB, a Diamond X510 omnidirectional for UHF and VHF, and a Chameleon Emcomm III Base sloper for HF. I also have a Diamond NR 770 HB antenna mounted on my car.

Our club means a lot to me. Everyone is so helpful, knowledgeable and friendly. We're like a family and I am learning so much. I am glad to be the Secretary and am having fun working with the website and Hamclubonline. I really hope we can reach out to more and more people. I, personally, think every person (or household) in the county should have a ham radio. What a goal!

Let's “stick it to” the powers that be and overcome!! To quote an old movie, “We will not go quietly into the night!”