

Citation to Accompany Award

Jo Ann Keith

Amateur Radio Call sign KA5AZK

is here by awarded

The ARRL North Texas Section Manager's Certificate of Merit

Jo Ann Keith has always proudly distinguished herself as an outstanding amateur radio operator, Mentor and contributing citizen to not only the Ham Radio community, but her community at large.

- She was licensed in NTX section (Garland) in 1979, 41 years ago and has lived in NTX section all 41 years
- She currently is Manager of 7290 Traffic Net and has been for past 14 years. The net is independent, but has as one of it's charters "supporting ARRL and NTS" as well as ARES, RACES and most recently Texas SOC (State Operating Center)
- She received a personal medallion from SOC for her participation in hurricane Harvey as did the net
- 7290 is operated as the "place to get help" even though primarily a traffic net. For instance most SOC traffic was digital, but when they needed help finding a station with which contact was lost, they came to 7290. The net, in extended session, had stations all over the Texas area and surrounding states making it possible to find some station able to hear a station or stations to get into almost any area. The net stayed on the air as long as SOC needed them.
- She has presented Traffic Handling Training at HamCom for 13 years and plans to do so again this year.
- She does on-the-air traffic handling training the 1st Wed and following Sat of each month. Her training material, that she wrote, is in use in many clubs, ARES groups and as far away as Yellowknife, Canada. The training material is on the 7290 Traffic Net website, which she also maintains <https://www.7290trafficnet.org>
- She was interviewed by Texas Country Reporter which was subsequently aired as Segment #1534

- Jo Ann was honored by being the 9th person to receive the 7290 Traffic Net award in 1984. This very prestigious award which was presented May 11, 2019 for the 50th time.
- Jo Ann was also inducted into the ARRL's A1 Operator Club
- She has been active in Ham Radio for 40 years and has served as NTS 5th region rep on RN5, Transmit on TCC (Trans Continental Corps), with the Hella Hams, in Garland RACES, as an officer of Garland Amateur Radio club, founding officer of Longview East Texas Amateur Radio Club, as District Eight ARES DEC, and West Gulf Division Assistant Director for NTS
- Jo Ann received one of her finest complements from someone trying to insult her; "she's trying to run a professional net", like she says "you never know who is listening"
- Jo Ann served as a hospital volunteer while stationed at Keesler AFB during The Vietnam war, she has always turned her efforts to helping others

Steven Lott Smith
ARRL North Texas Section Manager