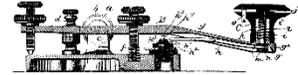




Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2017, No. 10 October 2017

Emergency Amateur Radio Operations in Hurricane Agnes

At the 7:00 p. m. meeting on Thursday, September 14, 2017 at Grady's Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216, the program was by Pete Shavney, WA3OVH. His presentation was on Emergency Amateur Radio Operations in Hurricane Agnes.

Pete Shavney, WA3OVH, explained that he was living in Pennsylvania at the time and active as a ham and as a Boy Scout Explorer leader. Explorer Post 211 had been in the field at the time Hurricane Agnes approached Pennsylvania in 1972. They were called upon to replace other Hams that had been already been activated. They spent several days working during Hurricane Agnes and in its aftermath. Pennsylvania got a lot of rain that, in turn, caused catastrophic flooding in the mountainous areas of eastern Pennsylvania. The disruption of communications was severe. Obviously, Pennsylvania survived. Hurricane Agnes, as Mike Harrison, KB5KST, Vice President and

Program Committee Chairperson, pointed out was just an earlier instance when amateur radio stepped up just as it just has for Hurricane Harvey in Texas and Hurricane Irma in Florida.

Pete, WA3OVH, brought along many articles like photographs, QST magazines, etc., but the most unique one was the old Explorer Post 211 flag.

The presentation was well received. Mike Harrison, KB5KST, Pete Shavney, WA3OVH, for making his presentation and turned the meeting back over to the President. Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, President, who presented Pete Shavney, WA3OVH, with a Program Certificate of Appreciation,

(Continued on Page 5)

Quadrifilar Helix Antenna

Our next club meeting will be at 7:00 p. m. (1900) on Thursday, October 12, 2017, at Grady's Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216. The program will be presented by David Finnell, N7LRY, on his Quadrifilar Helix Antenna.

Photography Problem

It is believed that that photographers did a good job taking pictures at the last meeting as 63 picture files were created. However, all new pictures on the SD Card could not be accessed. Old pictures could be accessed. Any new pictures from the day after the meeting could not be accessed either. Pictures created on a differnet card could be accessed so it does not look like a camera problem. Needless to say the old SD Card has been retired. The Editor regrets not being able to publish pictures from the last meeting.

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
10	R		AE5AS		San Antonio, TX		Oct

TO
W5SC

The work done by Mike Harrison, KB5KST, in setting up the program is much appreciated. Pete Shavney, WA3OVH, is just one of the many program presenters that we have had this year. I hope all presenters feel that their efforts are appreciated by Mike, KB5KST, myself, and the members in general. Over the years, I did not attend meetings for the business part of it. I attended for the programs.

Jamboree On the Air (JOTA) is the next big thing on the agenda. Again, Mike Harrison, KB5KST, has taken the lead on this. What I like most about JOTA right now is that he has enough hams to execute the program. A program like JOTA works not because the leadership wants it to work, although leadership is responsible for facilitating it, but because the members get out and do it. I expect hams doing JOTA will enjoy themselves. I know I did last year which was my first year. I expect to do so this year.

The big thing after JOTA is the elections in November. Lew Archer, W5YVY, Chairperson, Nominating Committee, and his members Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, and JC Smith N5RXS, will be successful. How easy success will come will be determined by willing members who step forward and say it is my turn to help run SARC. Please give careful consideration to running for an office.

Finally, Radio Fiesta 2018. It is the big shark running below the surface for the last half of the year. Right now, JC Smith, N5RXS, Chairperson, Radio Fiesta 2018, is pretty much on his own getting Radio Fiesta 2018 done. Brad Crabtree, W5FRQ, Treasurer, will be checking our Post Office Box and banking the money while scanning and emailing paperwork to JC, N5RXS. In the end, the shark is going to jump out the water and we will all have to pitch in. When JC, N5RXS, issues a call for help, please answer promptly.



Think JOTA!

Harold AE5AS

Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:
San Antonio Radio Club

Harold C. Fleischer, III AE5AS
President

Harold C. Fleischer, III AE5AS
Editor
210-497-2532
haroldcf@swbell.net

The due date for articles is the Friday before the first Monday of the month.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p. m. at Grady's BAR-B-Q, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216. There were 23 members and 5 guests in attendance. (Eighteen ate at Grady's BBQ before the meeting.)

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then introduced himself as Harold AE5AS and then in accordance with SARC custom asked everyone else to introduce themselves.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then turned the meeting over at 7:05 p. m. to Mike Harrison, KB5KST, Vice President, who introduced the program. The program was presented by Pete Shavney, WA3OVH, on Emergency Amateur Radio Operations in Hurricane Agnes. Mike Harrison, KB5KST, thanked Pete Shavney, WA3OVH, and turned the meeting at 7:20 p. m. back over to Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, who immediately presented Pete Shavney, WA3OVH, with a Program Certificate of Appreciation.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then reviewed the printed agenda for meeting with the members present and asked if there were any modifications. There being no modifications suggested, Harold Fleischer AE5AS announced the printed agenda as orders for the meeting without objection by unanimous consent.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then stated that whereas the minutes for the last meeting on August 10, 2017 had been distributed in the September 2017 Bexar Wire newsletter that unless there were corrections or objections that we would dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as written without objection by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

President

The following have been appointed to the Nominations Committee:

Lew Archer, W0YVY, Chairperson
Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, Member
JC Smith, N5RXS, Member

Help make the Nominations Committee job easier by seeking them out and volunteering for a position.

I have sorted through files downloaded from the previous website. This was over 700MB. I have also scanned some old newsletters from Richard Elder, WB5ACN. The resulting material has been placed on a disk. I am giving copies of the disk to the Secretary to keep and for the Chairperson, Centennial Committee, to use as that Committee deems fit. I am giving the paper copies of the old newsletters to the Secretary to keep.

Generally, I believe that SARC should keep governance papers, minutes, financial reports, newsletters, and pictures for historical as well as legal reasons.

Need a Newsletter Editor

Someone did volunteer to be Webmaster just before the meeting. We will talk more about it after the meeting.

Vice President – Future Program: The October 12, 2017 meeting will be a presentation on Mega Cheap HF Software Defined Radio by David Finell, N7LRY.

Secretary – The registered agent with the Texas Secretary of State paperwork has been updated. He has spent 6 hours scanning the Secretary's files from his predecessor, which seem to be mostly 1962-1978.

Treasurer – Financial Report was distributed by the Treasurer.

Newsletter Editor - The September 2017 *Bexar Wire* newsletter was sent out by Bill Crabtree, W5FRQ, on September 11, 2017.

The deadline for input, as stated on the bottom of page 2, remains the last Friday of the month.

Webmaster – The planned two monthly updates for News Blast! and the Bexar Wire were made.

In addition to that, an update for the cancellation of the VE test session on Aug 26, 2017 was made.

Finally, the Dealer Letter for Radio Fiesta 2018 was added to a changed Radio Fiesta webpage.

Chairman of the Board Report –Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW – no report.

Committee Reports

Education and Training – Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, is planning a General Class to start in late January 2018 - February 2018 as he cannot get the room needed in November 2017.

Emergency Communications –JC Smith, N5RXS, submitted a pre-meeting report as he has a monthly CERT meeting that for the first time is on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

Emergency Communications –JC Smith, N5RXS, did submit information for this meeting although he is not present.

The date for the ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) in Bexar County will be October 7 and 8, 2017 per Ruth Lewis, KE5MHJ, the Bexar County ARES Emergency Coordinator. JC, N5RXS, has never known of a SET on a Sunday so he recommends planning on Saturday, October 7, 2017, from 8 am to 3 pm.

Further, the Texas Department of Emergency Management often will have an event at the same time and that is always supported by Bexar County ARES. If this is the case, the exercise will probably be Friday evening Oct 6, 2017 and Saturday Oct 7, 2017. Normally, Friday evening activities will be limited to between the County EOC's and the State Operations Center (SOC). Again, normally everything shuts down by 3 pm Saturday.

Lew Archer, W5YVY, added that ARES in Bexar County was not called out because no communication links were lost. The Emergency Operations Centers for Bexar County were focused on supporting efforts in Houston.

There are opportunities for ARES volunteers to go to Florida. This is done by going through their website. If you are accepted, you have to be self-supporting.

Executive – No meetings since last month.

Field Day – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, Acting Chairperson, recognized selected participants in Field Day 2017 with the following certificates:

Field Day Star: Bill Craft, KD2HIQ, Joe Bruno, W5AUQ

Rich Roudebush, N4DCA, held a generator party on Wednesday, Sep 13, 2017. Three generators were run for 15 minutes with the work light. The fourth generator will still need work to get it back up. In addition, RF Cable 15 was identified and labelled.

Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, Chairperson, reported that his study of options for getting wires and ropes for antennas up in trees resulting in him asking Jeff Boyes, AK6B, to bring his air launcher for everyone to see. Jeff Boyes, AK6B, did a show and tell of his air launcher. It will fire a handball with string 125' with 40 PSI done with a bicycle pump. It cost about \$35 in parts to make. Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, will put together a parts list and cost one out. The President said the money could go in the next budget and the air launcher be a spring project for Field Day next June.

Finance and Review – Inactive until next January.

JOTA – Mike Harrison, KB5KST, covered the general information concerning JOTA at the Texas Transportation Museum, on Saturday, October 21, 2017. He currently has two radio sets identified. He has space for a third. Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, Pete Shavney, WA3OVH, Eric Harris, KG5SZV, and Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, have committed to help.

Membership – Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, reported that so far we have 139 members for 2017 with 86 paid and 53 free.

Nothing more has been done on the identification of new hams per the FCC data base, but he would like to work on it and asked for some Excel and Access expertise. Bill Craft, KD2HIQ, volunteered to help with this.

Nominating – Lew Archer, W0YVY, encouraged members to run for office. They are asked to contact any member of the committee.

Radio Fiesta – JC Smith, N5RXS, got the dealer letters out this month. He also got out invitations.

The dealer letter is available on the website.

He registered our hamfest with ARRL.

He is also working on programs for Radio Fiesta.

VEC – The test session scheduled for 10:00 a. m. on August 26, 2017, at the Great Northwest Library was cancelled because the Great Northwest Library decided to close due to the nearness of Hurricane Harvey.

Centennial Commemoration (Temporary) - Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, is looking at hosting a special event where the certificate is generated from a computer log as part of the Centennial Commemoration.

He has worked with Jeff Boyes, AK6B, and established a channel on Slack called 100Years for messages related to the Centennial Commemoration.

CW Training (Temporary) – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, has bought CW disc based learning package by Dr. Jerry Wheeler. He selected it based on internet research. He also circulated some CW keys during the meeting.

Cray Lester, K5MUG, also said that he had three kits for CW kits that are ready to go.

Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, passed around a sheet for members to indicate their interest in learning or teaching. He will use this to determine interest and try to pick a reasonable location.

Tailgate Swap Meet Committee (Temporary) – Richard Elder, WB5ACN, has set up a tailgate swap meet for September 17, 2017 from 7-10 a. m. at Hangar 18 Surplus. He also did a show and tell on ALICE packs that can be used to carry radios (normally \$49.95, but \$25 for members on Saturday), heavy insulated single conductor wire that would be good for radials at \$5 for 100 feet, and hats sample hats for SARC members which are free when \$25 or more of store products is purchased. Otherwise, they are \$8.

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Announcements For The Good of Amateur Radio

Richard Elder, WB5ACN, had the following giveaways: RCA plugs for video, general BNC connectors for RG-58A cable, amateur radio magazines, and crimp connectors.

Cray Lester, K5MUG, had a MD-100X Microphone in new condition, a radio, and other equipment with him for sale.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p. m.

Eric Harris, KG5SZV
Secretary

Emergency Amateur Radio Operations in Hurricane Agnes

(Continued from Page 1)

The meeting went on with reports by the officers and committees. The president announced the appointment of the Nominating Committee and later in the meeting the Chairperson, Lew Archer, W5YVY, gave a rousing recruiting speech to kick off the nominations. The president also gave CD disks to Eric Harris, KG5SZV, Secretary, and Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, Chairperson, Centennial Commemoration Committee, with pictures and other files recovered from a purge of old files on the website server. These files go back to the late 1990s.

Another significant highlight from the meeting was the presentation of the last two Field Day Star certificates to Bill Craft, KD2HIQ, and Joe Bruno, W5AUQ. Joe, W5AUQ, followed this up by introducing Jeff Boyes, AK6B, who did a show-and-tell on his air launcher for putting up antennas in trees. This was the number one problem from the Field Day 2017 After Action Report. The air launcher was favorably received. Joe, W5AUQ, is going to follow up on constructing one for SARC.

The rest of the reports were generally routine and are covered in the minutes starting on Page 3.

Next License Test on Saturday, October 28, 2017



Pat Knight, AD5BR, Chairperson, Volunteer Examination Committee, and several members of that committee will be conducting amateur radio license examines on Saturday, October 28, 2017. The test session will start at 10:00 a. m. at the Great Northwest Library. This test session is open to the public although pre-registration is encouraged. There is a \$15 FCC authorized fee.

JOTA



Mike Harrison, KB5KST, has been coordinaiting with the Alamo Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Our JOTA session will be publicized internally within the Boy Scout Organization. He has the current Amateur Radio Meril Badge booklet and has identified three operators with radio equipment. He is looking to run three stations.

JOTA will be on Saturday, October 21, 2017, at the Texas Transportation Museum (TTM). Setup will start at 8:30 a. m., The hours for the Scouts will be 9:30 a. m. to 3:00 p. m. Tear down and cleanj-up will take 30-45 minutes such that JOTA staff will be done for the day before 4:00 p. m.

Anyone interested in helping Mike, KB5KST, should contact him. The final briefing for JOTA will be at the next general membership meeting of SARC on October 12, 2017. JOTA at TTM was quite successful there last year, and it is anticipated that it will be again.

Ham Tailgate Swap Meet



Sponsored by Hangar 18 Surplus

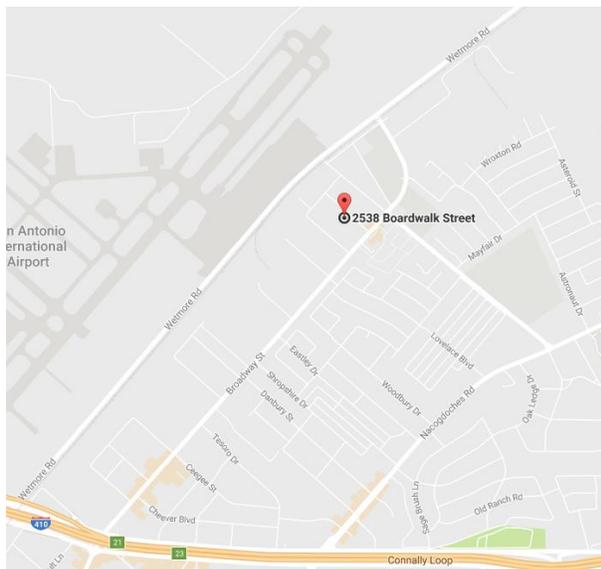
**Saturday, October 21, 2017, from 7 a. m. until 10:00 a. m.
Coffee and Donuts**



Location: Hangar 18 Surplus
2538 Boardwalk
San Antonio, TX 28217

Hangar 18 Surplus carries a wide selection of coax adapters, cables, and the \$1.00/pound electronic chassis/things to be repaired. For the Ham Tailgate Sway Meet, Hanger 18 Surplus will also have a trailer with a selection of used, empty transit cases suitable for use by Hams as GO-KITS and outdoor cabinets suitable for use by Hams for antenna tuners. The cases will be priced at \$1.00/pound.

Hangar 18 Surplus has many embroidered hats and shirts available from an additional product line in which they also do business.



Yahoo Groups

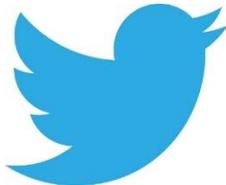


SARC has had a Yahoo Group for a number of years now. Its name is W5SC.

W5SC is being used to publicize SARC business meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes. Members of the W5SC Yahoo Group can and have asked each other technical questions or sought assistance.

W5SC is a closed group. To become a member, go to groups.yahoo.com. (You may need to have a Yahoo account.) This will take you to a website where your groups, if any, are shown with a Search Group box at the top. Enter W5SC. This will take you to the search results page with W5SC on it. Select W5SC to go to the W5SC Yahoo Group. You will then need to select + *Join Group*. This generates a message. SARC members can expect approval to join the W5SC in probably less than 24 hours.

SARC Tweets



Reminder: there are two Twitter accounts for the San Antonio Radio Club. They are @SARadioClub and @ARadioFiesta.

The @SARadioClub is being used to publicize SARC meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes.

As Radio Fiesta 2018 work has not yet commenced, the @ARadioFiesta is currently in standby mode for the January 13, 2018 Radio Fiesta.

SARC members are encouraged to follow both Twitter accounts.

SARC Facebook



There is a San Antonio Radio Club – SARC (@saradioclub) Facebook Page.

The newsletter editor is making posts about SARC meetings and other activities. Any Officer, Committee Chairperson, or member who believes that they have information that should be posted to this page should contact the newsletter editor using the contact information for the newsletter editor on page 2 of this newsletter.

SARC members are encouraged to follow this Facebook Page.

SARC SLACK



There is a San Antonio Radio Club Slack team – w5sc.slack.com.

Slack teams are meant to foster communication between team members. Paul Guido, N5IUT, has established the w5sc.slack.com team for SARC. He has also established some channels. Think of the channels as topical areas.

To join send an email to Paul Guido, N5IUT, at radioteacher@gmail.com. In actuality, any team member already a part of the w5sc.slack.com can invite you, but Paul is **known to be on it.**

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: webmaster@w5sc.org

Amateur Radio License Classes

A General Course is currently being planned with a start date in late January 2018 – early February 2018.

As this class’s plans firm up, they will be summarized here.

SARC Meeting Dates for next 12 Months

- October 12, 2017
- November 9, 2017
- December (None)
- January 11, 2018
- February 8, 2018
- March 8, 2018
- April 12, 2018
- May 10, 2018
- June 14, 2018
- July 12, 2018
- August 9, 2018
- September 13, 2018

Meetings are held at Grady’s Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216 at 7:00 p. m.

Come early and eat with other members coming early.

License Testing Dates for 2017 and early 2018

- October 28, 2017
- December 23, 2017
- January 13, 2018
- February 24, 2018
- April 28, 2018
- June 23, 2018
- August 25, 2018

Times and locations along with required document information can be found on SARC’s website.

SARC does all its licensing testing as a part of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) organization so all the Volunteer Examiners in SARC are duly authorized Volunteer Examiners of ARRL’s VEC.

Field Day 2018

Setup: Friday, June 22, 2018
Operations: Saturday, June 23, 2018
& Sunday, June 24, 2018

Where SARC proves they are an eating group with a radio problem.

More information to follow, but hold these dates.

JOTA

Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air

This year’s date is Oct 21, 2017. The plan is to again hold it at the Texas Transportation Museum.

For more information, contact:
Gary (Mike) Harrison, KB5KST

Radio Fiesta 2018

January 13, 2018
Schertz Civic Center

Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency communications, contact:
JC Smith N5RXS