



Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2016, No. 5

May 2016



Richard Elder, WB5ACN, presenting his program on How to Build a VHF Antenna at SARC's General Membership Meeting on April 14, 2016 at Grady's BBQ near the intersection of US281 and Nakoma in San Antonio, Texas

How to Build a VHF Antenna Program Highlight of Meeting

SARC conducted its monthly General Membership meeting at Grady's BBQ, where SARC has been meeting for some time now, at 7:00 p. m. on April 14, 2016.

After President Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, opened the meeting with a brief welcome and led introductions, the meeting was passed to Rodney Brown, AA5RB, Vice President, whose core responsibility is Programs. Rodney, AA5RB, then introduced Richard Elder, WB5ACN, who was scheduled to give a program on How to Build a VHF Antenna.



Richard Elder, WB5ACN, being presented a Program Certificate of Appreciation by Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, President, SARC, for his How to Build a VHF Antenna Program

Richard, WB5ACN, demonstrated how to build a three element Yagi antenna out of PVC pipe and steel tape literally from a tape measure. He discussed how to connect it to a VHF radio and how it could also be collapsed and carried in the field. Ricard, WB5ACN, also stepped through the potential gain in transmission power that the antenna could give for a hand transceiver. At the conclusion of the presentation, Rodney, AA5RB, thanked Richard, WB5ACN, for giving the program. Harold, AE5AS, then gave Richard, WB5ACN, a Program Certificate of Appreciation.

Alinco DX-SR9 Transceiver Demonstration at Next Meeting

Our next meeting is at Grady's Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216 at 7:00 p. m. on Thursday, May 12, 2016. Cray Lester, K5MUG, will demonstrate SARC's new Alinco DX-SR9 Transceiver, power supply, and antenna tuner.

Harold, AE5AS, then lead the business part of the meeting.

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB
PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

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

TO
W5SC

Good things are happening in SARC.

Field Day 2016 is approaching. Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, worked with Richard Elder, WB5ACN, and filed the permit to use the park belonging to the City of Shavano Park. The City Manager told me on April 25, 2016 that the permit was approved and a proclamation will be made at the May 16, 2016 City Council meeting. Successfully nailing down this detail was a major item on which the rest of Field Day 2016 is dependent. Joe, W6AUQ, is actively working on equipment like a 5KW generator for Field Day 2016. As discussed elsewhere in this newsletter, our Field Day computer network has been upgraded for use during Field Day 2016. There is more work, but we are about where we need to be at this time for Field Day 2016. By the end of this month (May), we will need to be a lot further along. Make plans to participate on June 24, 2016 (set up start) and June 25-26, 2016 operations.

Radio Fiesta 2017 work has started. At the prompting of Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ, I filed our Radio Fiesta 2016 with ARRL so it is now an event on their calendar. I also learned how much notice they need to generate an address label file for us when we get ready to do our flyer mailing late this year. It is a start with more to follow. If someone has a desire to chair this let me know, otherwise I will press forward with mentoring from Rowena, KF5JCZ.

As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, license classes and license testing by SARC is still going on and those contributions to Amateur Radio are important. In fact, our Volunteer Examiners conducted two testing sessions this month. We should all be grateful to those SARC members working on these tasks.



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.

San Antonio Radio Club Meeting Minutes April 14, 2016

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, President, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p. m. at Grady's BAR-B-Q, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216. There were 17 members and 2 guest present.

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 Rodney Brown, AA5RB, Vice President, who introduced the program. The program was presented by Richard Elder, WB5ACN, and it was How to Build a VHF Antenna. This antenna used PVC pipe and metal tape measures as a basis for construction. At the conclusion of the program, Rodney Brown, AA5RB, thanked Richard Elder, WB5ACN, and turned the meeting at 7:25 p. m. back over to Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, who immediately presented Richard Elder, WB5ACN, 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 by unanimous consent.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then stated that whereas the minutes for the last meeting on March 10, 2016 had been distributed in the April 2016 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 by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

President

Appointments

Need a new Radio Fiesta chairperson – written a job description is in the newsletter. This month is when activities start.

Need a Newsletter Editor

Vice President – Future Program: Rodney Brown, AA5RB, announced that the next program is a demonstration of the Alinco DX-SR9 Hybrid SDR Transceiver 10-160M 100W SSB, CW, and FM, 40W AM with new power supply and antenna tuner by Lester Cray, K5MUG

Secretary – Absent

Treasurer – Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ, submitted a written financial report and stated that membership renewals were underway. The report was accepted.

Newsletter Editor - April 2016 newsletter was sent out by Rowena Archer on April 12, 2016.

Webmaster – Priority to posting meeting announcement and newsletter

Chairman of the Board Report – No report this month per Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW.

Committee Reports

Education and Training –Technician Course starting in 23 Apr 2016 with 30 Apr 2016 at Christus Rosa Medical Center on Babcock

This is the first of 3 Tech Course. Planning to do one General Course in late September this year and one Extra Course this year.

Emergency Communications –ARES will be doing a National Weather Service event for school children in May that involves setting up a display of HAM radios.

Executive – No meetings since last month and none planned for immediate future.

Finance and Review – Inactive until next January.

Field Day – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, Chairperson was not present.

- Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, reported that Richard Elder and Joe Bruno have filed the permit with the City of Shavano Park.
Richard Elder, WB5ACN, reported that he had submitted an additional letter to the City of Shavano Park in support of the filing with the City Secretary, Zina Tedford. He recommended

that Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, attend the City Council meeting on April 23, 2016 where the permit will be presented. Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, said that he would.

- Richard Elder, WB5ACN, said that the permit will probably be approved at the May 16, 2016 meeting of the City Council,
- Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, reported that Paul Guido will train up Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, and others on the computer network for field day since he will not be there this year.
- Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, will write a letter to the Mayor of the City of Shavano Park formally inviting the Mayor and City Council to visit SARC at Field Day.

JOTA – nothing to report at this time

Membership – Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, nothing to report at this time on the identification of new licenses, but it remains a work in progress.

The number of 2016 members is: 87

Nominating (Inactive-no appointments)

Radio Fiesta –

- The job description was distributed at the last meeting and included in the Bexar Wire sent out. Harold Fleischer has for suggestions, but the members asked have not proffered anybody.
- Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ, former Chairperson spoke on the amount of key help that the Chairperson gets from club members, especially Pat Knight, AD5BR, on testing and JC Smith, N5RXS, on programs. Also, she has a lot of files pertaining to Radio Fiesta that simply need new dates. She is quite willing to coach the new Chairperson.

VEC - The next regularly scheduled session is 10:00 a. m. on April 23, 2016 at the Great Northwest Library.

Special session at 3:00 p. m. on April 30, 2016 to support Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, Tech class.

Old Business - None

New Business

Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, made a motion, seconded by Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, that SARC establish a committee to plan activities to commemorate the 100th anniversary of SARC in three years time during 2019. After some discussion, to include Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, stating that one item could be an over the air event from Alamo Plaza, the motion was passed unanimously by voice vote.

Announcements For The Good of Amateur Radio

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, announced that he by default will be the Chairperson for Radio Fiesta 2017 with the objective of matching the good performance of Radio Fiesta 2016.

Richard Elder, WB5ACN, announced that the swap meet in Belton at the Bell County Exposition Center this Saturday, April 17, 2016. It starts at 7:00 a. m. and will end by noon.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p. m. because the approved agenda of the meeting had been completed.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS
for Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW
Secretary

Computer Upgrade for Field Day 2016



Paul Guido, N5IUT, busy upgrading SARC's computers for Field Day 2016

SARC is blessed to have a computer professional like Paul Guido, N5IUT, in its membership. His day job involves computer security for a well known bank in San Antonio. It has made him slightly paranoid, which is a good thing when it comes to security. He has been the guiding light behind SARC's computers used during Field Day for quite some time.

Paul, N5IUT, has a conflict this year that will keep him from participating in Field Day 2016, but he committed to testing and updating our computer network for Field Day. Experience has shown that computer logging of contacts *as they happen* is the only way to go. Trying to use paper logs or computer logging them after the fact is a proven unworkable approach. SARC enters Field Day as a 4A, which means 4 each HF transceivers operating off of temporary antennas and emergency power. The first implication is that we need four computers for logging. The second is that we need an AC generator putting out power to Uninterruptible Power Sources (UPS) to which we plug in our computers, monitors, and wired network switch.

Under Paul, N5IUT, tutelage, SARC has built itself a small 4 computer wired LAN where one computer acts as a logging server such that all contacts wind up in one file. These 4 computers and their monitors are refurbished equipment bought for modest amounts of money. The keyboards and mice are wired so as to avoid battery problems associated with wireless and stay low cost. SARC does try to keep them up to date when it comes to operating system, but we are currently spread across three versions at this time. The logging software, which SARC licenses, is updated yearly so that is another thing that gets done in the yearly update. During Field Day, SARC does not currently connect to the internet, but SARC does during the upgrade work session as the internet is the source of the updates. Paul, N5IUT, is exploring using a *hot spot* in a future Field Day for access to the internet from SARC's small LAN. Among other things, it will give us experience in connecting to the internet during emergencies just as we get experience in using antennas and generators in emergencies as a part of Field Day.

Training and Testing by SARC



Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, teaching Technician Class at Christus Santa Rosa Medical Center on April 30, 2016

Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, with help from Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, and Jason Rochester, KG5HPS, conducted a Technician Class at Christus Santa Rosa Medical Center on April 23 and 30, 2016. They had 26 students in the Technician Class. Pat Knight, AD5BR, and the SARC Volunteer Examiner Committee that she chairs conducted testing at the conclusion of the class. A total of 26 students from the Technician Class took the examine for that license. There were 14 passing students. They were all invited to join SARC at no cost for the rest of the calendar year. In addition to that Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, conducted a drawing for all those that passed the exam for a Baofeng UV-5R V2+hand transceiver donated by Cray Leste, K5MUG.



Technician License Candidates taking exam with Volunteer Examiners in the background



Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, presenting the Baofeng UV-5R-V2+ hand transceiver to the lucky New Technician who won the drawing.

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: David Espinoza W5QS
W5qs@att.net
210-287-5036

Amateur Radio License Classes

For 2016, two more Technician Courses, a Genral Course, and an Amateur Extra Course are planned.

For more information, contact:
Bob Rodriquez K5AUW
Instructor

SARC Meeting Dates for next 12 Months

- May 12, 2016
- June 9, 2016
- July 14, 2016
- August 11, 2016
- September 8, 2016
- October 12, 2016
- November 10, 2016
- December (None)
- January 5, 2017
- February 9, 2017
- March 9, 2017
- April 13, 2017

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 2016 and early 2017

- June 25, 2016
- August 27, 2016
- October 22, 2016
- January 14, 2017
- February 25, 2017
- April 22, 2017

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

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

Field Day 2016

Setup: Friday, June 24, 2016
Operations: Saturday, June 25, 2016 & Sunday, June 26, 2016

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 15, 2016.

For more information, contact:
Bob Rodriguez K5AUW

Radio Fiesta 2017

January 14, 2017
Schertz Civic Center
More information to follow

Emergency Communications

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