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June 2004

San Antonio Radio Club

Volume 84, Number 6

P.O. Box 34263 San Antonio, TX 78265-4263

W5SC.ORG

210-490-7080

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## President's Voice

by Charles W5BRC

Well, I now know that you just can't get a Park Pavilion any time you want one. The National Weather Service stated their projections for June 5, 2004 was already showing 20 to 30 % chance of rain.

Thanks goes to Gordon Dial, K5SUZ, for his suggestion about Northridge park. It is new and apparently not too many people know about this one. We were able to reserve it. Some characteristics of the park are: it has a nice pavilion, Also, it has a nice playground for the kids, it is also away from the traffic and safe for the children, and it's in between two churches. I have duplicated a map showing its location.

The picnic will be on June 5th, 2004 at Northridge Park from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Events are being scheduled. Already there will be a tailgate party — so bring your swap gear. Also Bob Hejl, W2IK, will demonstrate a very unique radio antenna, in addition to many more events that will be going on.

A great deal of thanks needs to go to Steve

Cerwin, WA5FRF, for scheduling Scott Weidner, KC5VFN, of the Southwest Research Institute about "Our Mission to Pluto". It was a very impressive presentation. Can you really fathom that kind of technology is being developed right here in San Antonio?

We want to express again our appreciation to Lee Basing, N5NTG, for a great Bexar Wire — put out just in a small amount of forewarning. Lee's ambition is to make it the finest Radio Club Newsletter in the country. Everyone is encouraged to add their input. Let's support Lee and see that the Bexar Wire becomes a great news vehicle. Also you are encouraged to participate in a classified section. If interested, those in business can advertise for a small fee. More details will come on this after the next director's meeting.

Well, Field Day is near. Any help you can give would be greatly appreciated by Paul Guido, N5IUT. Field Day is a great event, but it takes the support of every club member. This year — let's all pitch in and make this event one of the greatest in SARC history.

Well, More to come - Have a Great Day!

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## May Meeting Highlights

- Program for May 13th, 2004 was conducted by Scott Weidner KC5VFN from SW Research Institute. The program was "Our Mission to Pluto".

## Upcoming Events

- June 5th will be the date of our first annual Picnic. Location is 821 Chevy Chase Drive, just north of Eisenhower Rd. More details are posted on the club web site, [www.w5sc.org](http://www.w5sc.org)
- Our June Meeting will be on the 10th
- Ham-Com (Arlington, TX) will be June 18-19th
- Field Day will be June 26th & 27th
- Our July Meeting will be on the 8th

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## May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2004 Meeting Minutes -Draft

Note: These minutes will be voted upon for approval or amendment during the June meeting. To save time during the meeting, we are publishing them in the Bexar Wire in advance of the meeting so all members have time to review them and be ready with any corrections. Send corrections now via email to the Secretary at [secretary@w5sc.org](mailto:secretary@w5sc.org) or bring them to the meeting in person. - Barbara WA5RLF

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Meeting started at 7:30 PM. Membership were introduced by stating their call signs. There were 38 members present and 9 visitors.

Thanks to Diana Taylor, KD5SXI, for doing the Bexar Wire. The job of being editor of the Bexar Wire was handed over the Lee Basing, N5NTG.

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Continued on Page 2

## After Action Reports Swapfest 2004, Part II

Swapfest Chairman Royce KA5OHJ reported that some names were accidentally left off of last month's report in the Bexar Wire regarding volunteers. The following volunteers worked the day of the event, while the previous list was primarily those who helped set up on the Thursday before the event.

A Big Thank You to the people that help during the Swapmeet on Jan. 10th, 2004. San Antonio Radio Club had several people that really did an outstanding job with helping out in the Swapmeet on Jan. 10th, 2004.

Many Thanks goes to the follow people:

- Royce Taylor, KA5OHJ — Chairman
- Diana Taylor, KD5SXI — Money-Front Door
- Erik Smith, W5ETS — Co-Chairman
- Christina Smith, KD5YIM — Front Door - Money
- Larry McNeely, KC5NOD — Front Door
- James Smith, KC5AON — Security
- Dick Spies, WA5FOE — Front Door
- Lee Besing, N5NTG — REACT / Talk-in
- Pat Knight, AD5BR — REACT / Talk-in
- Shane O'Neal, AD5PO — REACT / Talk-in
- Melanie O'Neal, KD5ZSL — REACT / Talk-in
- Gil Mathis, AA5XH — Front Door

## Dayton Hamvention

Some of our members drove all the way to Ohio last month to attend this annual event. It has grown to become the premier Ham Fest event of the USA, getting larger every year. We haven't heard back from Ed KS5V and the gang who went up there, but we did hear from another ham who posted a bunch of photos on his personal web site at QSL.Net. If you don't have a high-speed connection to the Internet, plan on taking quite a while to download the entire site (all one page) since it has many, many photos with comments included. The site address is found at

<<http://www.qsl.net/wd5bjq/hamvent04.htm>>

## Karnes Sequentenial Special Events

See full story on Page 4 with photos provided by Bob W2IK on this event which was held May 15th in Hobson, Texas.

## Special Olympics Texas Special Events

See full story on Page 5 with photos provided by Bob W2IK and Lee N5NTG. The local event on May 1st was rained out, but the State games were held on schedule May 21-22nd in San Marcos, Texas.

## Minutes (Continued from Page 1)

### Old Business:

Larry Higgins, W5EX, reported that the Hogar generator is well. Many thanks goes to Richard Elder, WB5ACN.

Charles Manley, W5BRC, showed the banner.

The minutes were published in the Bexarwire.

Larry Higgins, W5EX, motioned to have the minutes approved and Frank Coop, W5TTK, seconded it. The minutes were approved.

The treasurer report was read. There was a motioned to have the treasurer report approved and it was seconded. The treasurer report was approved.

### Discussion on the picnic:

Richard Spies, WA5FOE, reported on the location on the picnic. The site that was given was Olmos Park. President asked for any other recommendation from the club members. Gordan Dial, K5SUZ, recommended Northridge park and Royce Taylor, KA5OHJ, recommended Leon Valley park. A motion to approved for "the fees for the park reservation to be disbursed" was made and it was seconded. The fees for the park reservation was approved by the membership.

Paul Guido, N5IUT, discussed Field Day.

Location is Shavano Park. Date is June 26th and 27th.

Larry Higgins, W5EX, read the Budget for 2004 and the audit results for the books on year 2002 and 2003.

### New Business:

A recommendation of using computers for logging during Field Day was made.

Bruce Gould, KA5SSB, donated a laptop for the SARC bookkeeping. Joe, W5KTX, donated Quicken. Larry Higgins, W5EX, gave the laptop to the treasurer, Diana Taylor, KD5SXI.

Pat Knight, AD5BR, reported that the newsletter is now on the Web.

Frank Coop, W5TTK, recommended a committee to go into high schools to put on an Amateur Radio program for classes. A motion to approved was made and a seconded was made. Motion was carried.

Larry Higgins, W5EX, showed the inventory of SARC that is still kept at the Red Cross Building.

Program for May 13th, 2004 was conducted by Scott Weidner, KC5VFN, from SW Research Institute. The program was "Our Mission to Pluto".

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by  
Barbara Manley, Secretary KA5RLF

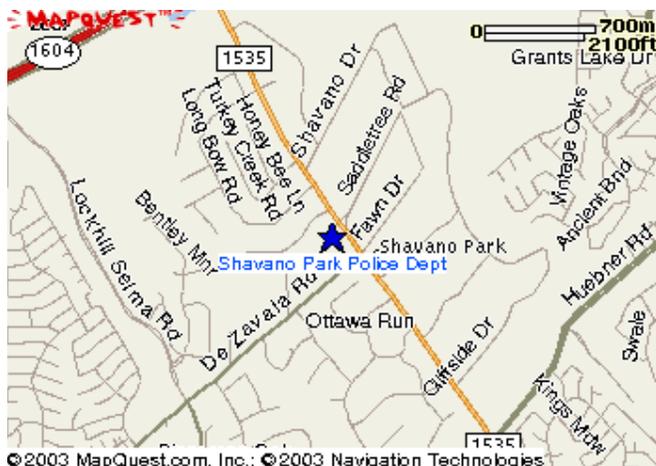
## Ham Activities!

For a full list of what activities are scheduled in upcoming months, visit the club's web site at [www.W5SC.org](http://www.W5SC.org), or [SanAntonioHams.org](http://SanAntonioHams.org). There are lots of opportunities to use your radio skills in the month of June, including the W5SC Picnic to be held on Saturday, June 5th.



## Field Day 2004

Planning for the 2004 Field Day is well under way. Chairman Paul N5IUT has reported that we have secured the same site as last year, out at Shavano Park in front of the police and fire department. Lots of trees to tie off those lines to string up antennas everywhere and lots of room to spread out under the trees. Paul



reported that he is setting up schedules for operators to volunteer their time for both radio operation and the dreaded, but important, setup and knockdown times. Paul will have the sign-up sheet available at the June meeting or you can contact him direct via email by using [N5IUT@W5SC.ORG](mailto:N5IUT@W5SC.ORG).

There are some other area clubs putting on their own Field Day Events, and while of course we expect our members to volunteer and attend our club's event first, we do encourage you to visit some of these other locations just to help spread the Amateur Radio spirit.

A full listing of event locations will be kept updated online at [SanAntonioHams.org](http://SanAntonioHams.org), but here is what we knew at the time this article went to print.

**Alamo Area Radio Organization** (callsign AA5RO) will be holding their event at the pavilion along side the running track behind University Hospital, 4502 Medical Drive, near corner of Louis Pasteur. While you can see the site from Babcock Road, you need to drive around behind the hospital and enter guard gate off Floyd Curl & Medical (same as used for their meetings). Tell the guard where you need to go and they can help you, but basically you make a sharp immediate left turn once you are past the gate, and follow the perimeter road around until you see the track, volley ball courts and of course the Pavilion with all the antennas. Call Teri KC5BJI at 210-680-6841 for more directions or to RSVP for their scrumptious BBQ they will be holding around sunset.

**Radio Operators of South Texas** (Callsign W5ROS) will be holding their event in their usual place, behind Harmony VFD 11125 Foster Rd. off Hwy 181 South. They also are planning on a BBQ in the evening and visitors are welcomed. Bring a side dish and your own drinks if you want them. Meat furnished by the club, and cooked by the award winning Chris Koehler, K5VCR. For more info, contact Chris K5VCR at 210-635-8790 or by email at [k5vcr@stic.net](mailto:k5vcr@stic.net)

**Kendall County Amateur Radio** (Callsign KB5TX) will be holding their event up in Boerne at the Kendall County Fair Grounds. This site is on the edge of the East side of Boerne. The club has provided directions to their new site as follows: From the Main Street Bridge (River-Road/HWY 46 East) head East on HWY 46 for about 1 mile going past Hurf Road on your right, then about another 1/4 mile on your right is the entrance to the Fair Grounds. For more info, please contact Richard W. McDaniel KC5OEG, at 830-755-9103 or via email at [bdmcdan@gvtc.com](mailto:bdmcdan@gvtc.com).

**Comal County REACT** (using callsign NB5R) will be operating from the picnic area on FM3159 just south of Startzville (Canyon Lake). This high overlook area is about 1300 feet above sea level. This is the first year for this group to participate in FD with their own location, so we wish the lots of luck and hope they have a porta-potty handy since it's a long way back to civilization out there.

No word yet on if the clubs in Castroville or Seguin are holding their own events. All of the above groups, plus SARC, will welcome visitors to their operations and a few will have food in at some point in the schedule for their members.

## Karnes County Special Event Station

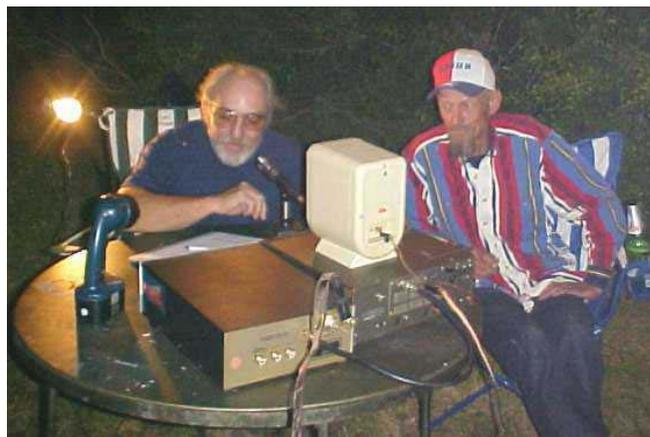
SARC was represented down in Hobson, Texas by Andy Meyer, KD5TNI, Bob Hejl, W2IK, Krissy Scarboro, KD5YTN, Charlie W5BRC, Barbara KA5RLF and Charles KD5EXS. There wasn't room to hang the new club banner, and it would have taken away from the other sponsoring club's presence if we had done so. Radio Operators Of South Texas (ROOST) was the sponsor of this event held May 15th at the home of Andy Meyer KD5TNI. Check out the ROOST web site at <[www.w5ros.org](http://www.w5ros.org)> for more details.

### Bob Heil, W2IK, reports...

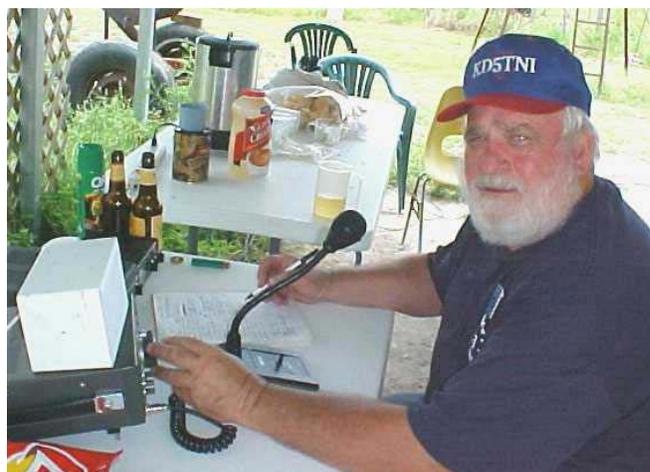
The special events for the Karnes County deal went very smoothly with only one hitch. I guess walking to and from the guys operating the 40 meter station in the brush I got bit by chiggers. Only about 100 bites on my feet and legs!! OUCH they itch. Never saw it coming as we don't have them on Long Island. We could have had a better turn out. Andy and his wife were the perfect hosts and Krissy said she never enjoyed herself more with radio folk. She's developing a good ear to pick out callsigns and she did a great job as my logger. Dieter seemed "upset" that whenever I was operating I'd have people answering me right and left, but when he got on... silence. Technique, my friend. Krissy was getting a little frustrated with logging when others tried their turn at the mike because we don't all operate the same. Can I help it if I have a big mouth?? All of the equipment worked great. ROOST folk were impressed with the IK-STIC 2, especially when we worked Australia at night on 20 meters



Bob W2IK calling "CQ, CQ, CQ, Anyone, Anywhere, This is a special event station. CQ, CQ, CQ..." Krissy KD5YTN is logging for Bob.



Chris K5VCR and Jon AD5HR operate throughout the darker hours, seeking those elusive contacts. Chris is Treasurer of ROOST and Jon is the President.



Andy Meyers KD5TNI takes a turn at the mike. Where did everyone else go?



Dieter NS5A operating (center), Bill KD5PFX logging, and it looks like Andy KD5TNI resting in the background having a conversation with Melanie KD5ZSL. Shane AD5PO is the one in the blue shirt in the very back of the photo.

More photos found online at the W5ROS.ORG web site. <[http://www.w5ros.org/karnes\\_sesq.html](http://www.w5ros.org/karnes_sesq.html)>

# Special Olympics Texas 2004 Summer Games

## Special Event Station - May 21-22nd by Lee N5NTG

Even though this event was not sponsored by SARC, many of the operators were members of SARC so we felt it worthy of including in the Bexar Wire.

The event was sponsored by the Texas State REACT Council and organized by Bexar County REACT members with help from some other hams as well.

A special thanks is due to Bob W2IK and Krissy KD5YTN for manning the station both days, from setup to knock down. We used Bob's IK-STIC2 antenna which covered 10-160 meters (with tuner) but required no guywires and a very small footprint in a very crowded area.

Special Events Radio Operators this year included Bob W2IK, Krissy KD5YTN, Lee N5NTG, Pat AD5BR, David KB5FNK, and Brian NB5R.

David Behrend KB5FNK (Special Olympics Communications Coordinator) was the one who coordinated our being an official station on the published program guide for this year's Special Olympics. David wasn't able to spend much time on the air as his primary "job" as a volunteer was to coordinate the commercial radios being used by various officials at the different venues spread across much of San Marcos. He used two repeaters and about 150 hand held radios.

While we only made 60 contacts during the two days of operating (10am-4pm each day) due to band conditions being rather unfavorable, we were able to talk to hams

from around the USA and even British Columbia in Canada. We offered a special commemorative QSL certificate / card to all operators if they sent us their QSL



card with a SASE. As of a week later, we have received nearly a dozen requests. Any SO Athlete or family

member who got on the air, even if all they did was give their name to the remote operator, received a special certificate to certify that they had operated an Amateur Radio Station during the Special Olympics.

By imposing on the remote operators, we often put as many as 4-6 athletes on the air with the same contact.

A couple of the contacts we made were with school Amateur Radio Clubs, one was an elementary school in Pennsylvania holding their last ham club meeting of the school year.

Another contact was with the Battleship New Jersey Special Events Station, what a small

world. A bicyclist ham W3FF in California was able to reach us using his "bicycle mobile" station. We did wonder what he was using for an antenna on his bicycle.

Below W2IK, NB5R, and N5NTG pose with HEBuddy (who didn't actually make any contacts). HEB was one of the many commercial sponsors of this year's Summer Games. (The

Ham station did NOT receive anything from HEB.)





**San Antonio Radio Club**  
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The Bexar Wire is published as of the first of each month. The deadline for submitting copy or advertising is the twentieth of the month preceding publication. "Want" and "for Sale" ads of up to 25 words are free to members of the San Antonio Radio Club for one insertion. Commercial advertising rates are available by sending an inquiry via email to [board@w5sc.org](mailto:board@w5sc.org). – '73 de Lee N5NTG, Editor 210-771-7075

The Club maintains one VHF repeater at 145.39 with negative offset, and one UHF at 442.075 with a negative offset. Both repeaters require a 100 Hz tone and are located near the San Antonio International Airport. Radio nets are held on the club's 145.39 repeater. On Saturday nights at 8:15pm we conduct the "Elmer on the Air" Info Net. We invite questions relating the hobby so that our panel of experts can provide solutions, or come back next week with possible solutions to try. On the third Tuesday night each month at 8:30pm, we conduct a Cabinet Info Net where we brief the members on the progress of our various committees (cabinets) and accept input from the members. SARC sponsors the nightly Rainfall Net on the 146.94 SARO repeater.

Club Meetings are generally held the second Thursday of every month at K-COMM (10815 Gulfdale) at 7:30pm. The club publishes "The Bexar Wire" newsletter monthly. We have an email list server available. To find out more about this free service, visit the following link and subscribe. <<http://gerf.org/mailman/listinfo/sarc>>. Visit the Club web site at <[www.w5sc.org](http://www.w5sc.org)> for updated information more frequent than this monthly newsletter.

Our special thanks to Craig @ KComm <[kcomm.biz](http://kcomm.biz)> for allowing us the free use of his facilities to hold our monthly meetings, plus hosting the club station that we have there, and to Digital Fortress <[digitalfortress.biz](http://digitalfortress.biz)> for donating the web site and email services to the club. Without donations and other support received from companies and individuals, we could not continue to operate the way we have been.

Club Officer contacts are available on the club website, <[w5sc.org](http://w5sc.org)> or by calling the Secretary, Barbara K5RLF, at 210-490-7080 during normal business hours.