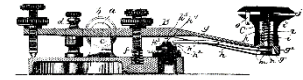




Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2021, No. 08 August 2021

How To Receive Weather Satellites With SDR.

The question was posed after my presentation on SDRs at the last meeting “Can you to receive weather satellites pictures using SDR?”

At the time I didn’t have an answer, but a google search provided the answer. Yes, you can use your own SDR or an online SDR to RX weather satellite images. Doing it on your own requires:

1. An RTL-SDR dongle working with SDRSharp. (Or other more advanced SDRs such as Airspy)
2. An audio piping method (e.g. VBCable, Virtual Audio Cable or Stereo Mix)
3. A right hand circularly polarized antenna tuned to 137 MHz.
4. Software such as WXtoImg for decoding the APT signal.
5. An LNA (Optional).

If you don’t have any of the above equipment, you can use a webSDR station, some FREE software, and lots of patience. So, the answer is yes you can.

<https://meteospace.com/receiving-noaa-satellite-weather-images-with-a-rtl-sdr/>
<https://www.instructables.com/Cheapest-Way-to-Receive-Weather-Satellite-Images/>
<https://www.rtl-sdr.com/rtl-sdr-tutorial-receiving-noaa-weather-satellite-images/>

Perhaps one of our members can try it and give us a report on how it worked.

Bill Craft, KD2HIQ

Meeting, August 12 2021 will be 7 PM at Blanco BBQ 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216, (210) 251-2602

The K7RA Solar Update

08/06/2021

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Solar activity took a deep dive during the July 29 – August 4 reporting week. Sunspots were gone July 28 – August 1, so the average daily sunspot number dropped from 33.1 last week to 6 this week. Average daily solar flux slipped from 83 to 74.8.

Predicted solar flux is 74 and 73 on August 6 – 7; 75 on August 8 – 10; 74 on August 11 – 12; 75 on August 13 – 14; 76 on August 15 – 16; 75 and 74 on August 17 – 18; 72 on August 19 – 31; 74 on September 1, and 75 on September 2 – 10.

Predicted planetary A index is 12, 8, and 8 on August 6 – 8; 5, 10, and 8 on August 9 – 11; 5 on August 12 – 15; 10, 8, and 8 on August 16 – 18; 5 on August 19 – 22; 8, 12, and 8 on August 23 – 25; 5 on August 26 – 31; 12 and 10 on September 1 – 2, and 5 on September 3 – 11.

Here’s the geomagnetic activity forecast for August 6 – 31 from F.K. Janda, OK1HH.

The geomagnetic field will be:

- quiet on August 12 – 13, 20 – 21, 23, 28
- quiet to unsettled on August 7 – 9, 14, 19, 22, 25 – 27, 31
- quiet to active on August 6, 11, 15 – 18, 29 – 30
- unsettled to active August 10, 24
- active to disturbed: Nothing predicted

(Continued on page 6)

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
08	R		N5YBG		San Antonio, TX		August
2021							
TO							

Hello Fellow Hams!

We have less than a month for our Robert A. Rodriguez Scholarship Fundraiser. I will have tickets for sell at our monthly meeting. Open up your check books, bring your Credit Cards, or simply bring Cash. Buy a ticket or tickets and keep the funds flowing and remember it's for a great cause.

Good DX

Rosendo Guzman – N5YBG

Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:



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President, San Antonio Radio Club
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The due date for articles is the **Monday** before the first **Thursday** of the month

Meeting Minutes
7:00 p. m., July 08, 2021
Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd., San Antonio, TX 78216

President called meeting to order at 7:00 PM
Introductions by President Rosendo Guzman N5YBG. 21 attendees.

Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting
There being no changes, additions, or deletions to the minutes, they are approved without objection by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

President Appointments

Newsletter Editor: Jimmie Neff WJ4M Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
Education and Training: David Finell N7LRY
Emergency Communications: Joe Bruno, W5AUQ
Executive: Harold Fleischer AE5AS (By Constitution)
Finance and Review: Paul Guido N5IUT Field Day: Joe Bruno W5AUQ
JOTA: John Douglas W5NZK
Membership: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
Nominating: inactive; no appointments.
Radio Fiesta: Bill Craft, Jeff Boyes, Joe Bruno, and Rosendo Guzman
VEC: Pat Knight AD5BR
Centennial and Scholarship Committee: Tom O'Brien AB5XZ

Vice President Lloyd Swartz KF5ZHW

Bill Craft KD2HIQ presentation on software defined radios. The presentation is available at the club website: <https://w5sc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/SDR-RX-only.pptx>

Secretary – Jack Bannin N5JLB

Minutes from club meetings can be found at w5sc.org website, in the Newsletters section.

Treasurer – Jeff Boyes, ND8B

Presented summary of club's financial health: income, expenses, other assets.

Newsletter Editor – Jimmie Neff

The June *Bexar Wire* newsletter was sent out on July 7th, 2021.

Webmaster – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ

Website – Posted newsletter, added Tailgate page. Groups.io – Updated membership list. Updated calendar. July 3rd Estate Sale announcement. Mail chimp – Meeting notice. Field Day

2021, Estate Sale. Twitter: Field Day 2021. Facebook – update page with Field Day 2021 & Lee Besing drone video.

Web Site Statistics - Info Not Valid: Desktop 70%, Tablet 5%, and Mobile 25%

Facebook Statistics – Last 28 days: June 2, 2021 to June 29, 2021 People Reached – 942, Post Engagements - 156

Membership – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ

As of 6/30/2021: 106 Paid members, 3 Free, 21 Family Members, 66 ARRL Members, a total of 131 members

Chairman of the Board Report – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS: No report

Education and Training – David Finell N7LRY: No Report

Executive – Rosendo Guzman N5YBG

Emailed Stuart A Wolfe KF5NIX about putting the Fund Raiser is now on the ARRLSTX.org website. Per Dallas KD4HNX, the Robert A. Rodriguez scholarship fundraiser is now published at the ARRL South Texas Section's website.

Silent Keys:

Carter Ramirez KI5ERW: Our condolences to Alice KI5ERV and his family. Gilbert Anthony Santana N5CDA: Our condolences go out to his family.

Raul M Cruz KB5HTB: Our condolences go out his family.

Silent Key last call:

KI5ERW, KI5ERW, KI5ERW, is a SK, his last transmission was right after FD2021. 73's Carter de W5SC.

N5CDA, N5CDA, N5CDA, is a SK, his last transmission was Wednesday June 30, 2021,

The club observed a 30 second of silence. 73's Gilbert de N5YBG RIP

KB5HTB, KB5HTB, KB5HTB, is a SK, his last transmission was Tuesday July 6, 2021 at 1455. Please observe a 30 second of silence. 73's Raul RIP my friend.

Emergency Communications – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ: No Report

Field Day – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ

We need to schedule a date and time to change oil on generators.

Finance and Review – Paul Guido N5IUT: No Report

JOTA – John Douglas, W5NZK

Will be participating on Saturday October 16th, 2021, at McGimsey Scout Park for the 2021 Jamboree On the Air. Our participation will be on Saturday only. The Boy Scouts' Youth Protection certification is mandatory for any participant. Certification is good for two years, so, if took it in 2019, will have to take again for the upcoming JOTA.

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>

Silent Key Committee – Bill Craft KD2HIQ

Kelly Randel, WB5MZT helped daughter of Sk Bob Grove, WB5FGD (Texas City, TX) setup an estate sale at her garage in Helotes, July 3rd. The silent key committee provided guidance on how to do it.

Radio Fiesta

Tailgate had some traffic on June 5th at Encino Library. The club donated around \$171.00 to the library.

VE Team – Pat Knight AD5BR

Thanks again to American Legion Post 300, we were able to hold a VE session outdoors under their covered pavilion. Three candidates earned Technician licenses, one earned a general upgrade, and one earned an Extra upgrade. Congratulations!

Thank you to all the Volunteer Examiners and one assistant who helped.

We have not yet scheduled our next exam session. Contact the VE team at hamtest@gmail.com to be on our waiting list for future sessions or with any questions.

Centennial Commemoration (Temporary) - Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ

Centennial: \$100 sales at last meeting. Centennial banner displayed at Field Day

Scholarship Committee – Tom O'Brien AB5XZ

Club's paperwork for creating the scholarships will be heading to the ARRL Foundation for approval. ARRL will administer the scholarship program, including selecting winners and distributing the funds we provide. We will be offering two \$1,000 per year scholarships.

Nominating Committee - inactive

Old Business (Motions carried over from previous meetings) - None

New Business (Must be presented as a motion): None

Announcements for The Good of Amateur Radio

- T-shirts available for sale
- Scholarship fundraiser raffle tickets still available

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:01 PM



Volunteer Examiners at Work

This is the August 2021 Bexar Wire report for the VE team.

We have not yet scheduled our next exam session. Contact the VE team at hamtest@gmail.com to be on our waiting list for future sessions or with any questions.

73,
Pat Knight AD5BR
[210-273-5927](tel:210-273-5927) iPhone

The K7RA Solar Update (Continued from Page 1)

I (K7RA) spent 8 days in the hospital for neurosurgery last week, so I brought my laptop along and was able to compile this week's report, thanks to help from many readers.

One thing I did every day to keep myself busy and make propagation observations was to use free public receivers on the internet via resources such as <http://ki-wisdr.com/public/> to search for 10-meter propagation beacons. Then, I would document and send signal reports to the beacon operators. In July, I put up an IARU-coordinated CW beacon, K7RA/b on 28.2833 MHz, and enjoy receiving reports from listeners.

Note: Whole report may be seen at: [The K7RA Solar Update \(arrl.org\)](http://www.arrl.org)

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Robert A. Rodriguez Scholarship Fund- raiser

Here is your chance to get in on our annual scholarship raffle. You get 3 chances to win the best selling Yaesu FT-991A Radio and 1 chance to win a Yaesu FT-891.

Only 400 raffle tickets will be sold!

Tickets are \$25 each. Proceeds from the raffle support our annual scholarship recipients. Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to winning candidates who meet the ARRL Scholarship guidelines.

All ticket holders are invited to the drawing party on September 9th, 2021 at 7 p.m. It will be at our regular meeting and the drawing will be before the presentation. The drawing will be recorded and posted on our youtube channel.

Winners need not be present – you will be contacted and Radio can be shipped to winner.

To purchase a ticket: Mail check to Rosendo M Guzman, N5YBG Club President .
11614 Persuasion Dr
San Antonio, TX 78216
210-446-8875
rosendo.guzman@w5sc.org



8-Meter Experimental Station on the Air from the US

07/29/2021

WL2XUP is an FCC Part 5 Experimental station operated by Lin Holcomb, NI4Y, in Georgia. It's licensed to operate with up to 400 W effective radiated power (ERP) between 40.660 MHz to 40.700 MHz.

John Desmond, EI7GL, reports that as of mid-July, WL2XUP was intermittently transmitting on Weak-Signal Propagation Reporter (WSPR) on 40.662 MHz (1500 Hz) for 2 minutes out of every 10, with an output power of 20 W ERP into an omnidirectional antenna. For FT8 check-ins and

tests, an ERP of 100 W may be used. The band is affected by several propagation modes, including tropospheric ducting, sporadic E, transequatorial propagation (TEP), and F2 propagation. As Desmond notes, the 40 MHz band will open a lot earlier than 50 MHz and could be a useful resource for stations monitoring the transatlantic path.

A 2019 *Petition for Rulemaking (RM-11843)* asked the FCC to create a new 8-meter amateur radio allocation on a secondary basis. The *Petition* suggests the new band could be centered on an industrial-scientific-medical (ISM) segment somewhere between 40.51 and 40.70 MHz. The spectrum between 40 and 41 MHz is currently allocated to the federal government and, as such, within the purview of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (**NTIA**).

ARRL member Michelle Bradley, KU3N, of Maryland, filed the petition on behalf of REC Networks, which she founded and described in the *Petition* as “a leading advocate for a citizen’s access to spectrum,” including amateur radio spectrum.

Source: ARRL

Trading Post

Did you know we have a TRADING POST classified section on our website? <https://w5sc.org/classifieds/> Yes, and it's FREE for members to use. Items are listed for 30 days by default, but can be extended by request to webmaster.

Does it work? Yes most have sold everything posted. However, remember your audience...Hams. So, will your car or boat sell here? Maybe not, but your antenna or tower will. Since we are not having Radio Fiesta in January, you can post and sell your stuff for FREE. Recommendations, add picture, manufacturer, model number in description and of course contact info and price.

SARC Tweets



Reminder: there are two active 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.

When work again commences the @ARadioFiesta will be used.

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.

Emergency Communications

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

Amateur Radio License Classes

For more information, contact:
David Finell, N7LRY
Instructor

SARC Meeting Dates for 2020

- January 14, 2021
- February 11, 2021
- March 11, 2021
- April 8, 2021
- May 13, 2021
- June 10, 2021
- July 8, 2021
- August 12, 2021
- September 9, 2021
- October 14, 2021
- November 11, 2021
- December – No meeting

Meetings are normally held at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216 at 7:00 p. m. Room is available at 6:00 p. m. for supper

License Testing Dates for 2021

Due to Covid restrictions the normal testing site is not available. The VE Team will schedule tests as sites become available. Go to Hamtest@gmail.com if you want to schedule a test.

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.

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
Billc851@gmail.com
210-233-8863

Field Day 2022

FD 2021 was great, FD 2022 is coming sooner than you'd think!

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

Radio Fiesta 2022

January, 2022
Sadly Radio Fiesta 2021 was cancelled due to Covid-19. Be watching for news about Radio Fiesta 2022.

JOTA

Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air

Pending Covid restrictions for 2021 SARC will participate, but on a limited basis.