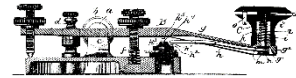




# Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club  
W5SC



2021, No. 02 February 2021

## Finding Old & Lost Ham Computer Software

I've done it many times and I am guessing you have done it also. You find a great free ham radiocomputer program. You use it for a number of years then you change computers, have a harddrive crash or just plain forget where you saved it. No problem I will just use the Internet to download another copy. Fortunately, after a few days of racking your brain, you remember the name of the program or site you downloaded it from. You go to the website and surprise you are greeted by "404 Error- Page not found" or that always friendly "this site is for sale" page! Unlike mainstream software like Microsoft Word, most ham radio software has a limited number of users and is usually produced by an individual or very small companies. So, after a while, the producer may lose interest in the project or even worse become a silent key. Sometimes the software is still there but you want an older version that is no longer available. In either case, you can search the internet for copies of the software. Fortunately, in part, because many hams are packrats, in many cases a fellow club member might have it. But what if you can't find it, where do you look next? Fortunately, there is a place on the Internet that stores copies of old websites and even some old software (unfortunately not much ham software). The site is [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org), also known as the WayBackMachine. Here you might find the original website that housed the software. You can try clicking on the

software link, but unfortunately, not all links are archived so your results will vary. Recently I found a website that had a hoard of old software including a number of Ham Radio programs--HintLink.com. The specific link you want is:

[http://hintlink.com/ham\\_applications\\_body.htm](http://hintlink.com/ham_applications_body.htm).

(Thanks to Bill, Craft, KD2HIQ)

## Next Meeting Preview

The March meeting will feature a presentation and discussion (VIA Zoom) of a new antenna design and the technology behind it by Dr. Jack Nilsson, N8NDL. Dr. Nilsson is an inventor and in his 25 plus years of RF antenna design and development he has been awarded a number of patents for his innovative antenna designs. He has advanced training in the sciences as well as his Medical Doctorate (MD). His antennas are used by several government and private agencies that need highly reliable data communications.

He has invented a series of antenna specifically for amateur radio and some for those constrained by HOA'S .

## Feeling Loopy (by Jim, WJ4M)

This is about my experience with a full-wave loop antenna for HF. It is not a technical piece; no radiation patterns nor charts. You can find those readily on the 'net if that's your thing. One excellent, simple article on loop antennas is here: [Ham Radio Site - <My Favorite 40m> \(dj0ip.de\)](#)

**Zoom meeting Thursday, February 11, at 7 PM. Check Page 7 below or Groups IO for meeting log-in information.**

(Continued on page 5)

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB

# PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

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

Hello SARC Members

I am impressed with our club. In a year that was not quite ideal, we not just stuck together, but we also added members. I think we have a great group of people that share the common interest of Ham Radio. We have a group of Hams with many talents.

I have some great news for 2022 Radio Fiesta. So, please join us on Thursday Meeting via Zoom.

Remember Stay Home, Stay Safe and Get on the RADIO!

Good DX

Rosendo Guzman – N5YBG

## Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:



Rosendo Guzman N5YBG  
President, San Antonio Radio Club  
Jimmie Neff, WJ4M  
Editor  
210-563-2121  
[jineffjr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jineffjr@sbcglobal.net)

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

Meeting Minutes  
7:00 p. m., January 14, 2021  
Zoom Conference Meeting

President called meeting to order at 7:01 pm

Introductions by President Rosendo Guzman N5YBG

Vice President Lloyd Swartz KF5ZHW introduced Dick Scheit KC0ZDB as tonight's presenter. Topic: Weather station connected to internet. Presenter for next month: none yet. Contact Lloyd Swartz KF5ZHW if you would like to present next month.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved without objection by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

President

The primary purpose of the meeting Radio Fiesta and Field Day 2021

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

Secretary – Jack Bannin N5JLB: Minutes from last meeting are published in the most recent newsletter, available at <https://w5sc.org/newsletter/>.

Treasurer – Jeff Boyes, ND8B – January is renewal month. Specific income and expenditures detailed. Transferred money from checking account to savings account to earn better interest. Reported on the current health of the club financial assets.

Newsletter Editor – Jimmie Neff

- December 2020 Bexar Wire newsletter was sent out on December 10th, 2020.
- The January 2021 Bexar Wire newsletter was sent out on January 12th, 2021.
- The deadline for each issue is the Monday before the first Thursday of the month.

Webmaster – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ, Website – Our best month was January with 1,378 visitors!

- Total Visitors - 7,907 Total Sessions - 9,545 Demographics Your 7,907 visitors came from 94 different countries.

- Groups.io – Updated membership list, Dues reminder
- Mail chimp – Meeting notice, Zoom, Dues Notice

- Twitter:

Facebook Statistics Pages Views from December 2 – December 29 137 73% People Reached down 5%, Website Statistics - Sessions 768 -Up 51% vs. Previous 30 days. Page Views 1810 Up 45% vs Previous 30 days. New vs. Returning visitors – New 62% Returning 38% Device Breakdown Desktop 57%, Tablet 5%, and Mobile 38%.

Membership – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ as December 31, 2020: 67 Paid members, 0 Free, 15 Family Members, 40 ARRL Members

Chairman of the Board Report – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS

- The next meeting of the Board will be at 7:00 p. m. on Thursday, Feb 4th, 2021. The primary purpose will be to get a recommended budget from the Executive Committee Chairperson, Rosendo Guzman, N5YBG, for the 2021 budget year. The Board will expect to look at the actuals for the current year, which will be almost done, in reviewing the Executive Committee recommendation. An agenda will be issued to Board members ahead of time.

Education and Training – David Finell N7LRY, No Report

Emergency Communications – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ No Report

Field Day – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ was not present, but provided information:

- New pavilion in Shavano Park for Field Day 2021 planning.
- Winter Field Day on January 30/31 2021: winterfieldday.com

Executive – Rosendo Guzman N5YBG – City of Shavano Park has a new City Secretary Trish Nichols.

Finance and Review – Paul Guido N5IUT No Report

JOTA – John Douglas, W5NZK No Report

Silent Key Committee – Bill Craft KD2HIQ No Report

Radio Fiesta – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ – Canceled

VE Team – Pat Knight AD5BR - This is the January 2021 Bexar Wire report for the VE team.

- Next test session - We do not plan to have a VE session in January. We will try to arrange VE sessions for 2021, but anticipate that our usual library location will still not be available for a while due to COVID-19 policies.
- Contact the VE team at hamtest@gmail.com to get on our waiting list for testing or with any questions.
- Cray Lester K5MUG reported that ROOST is still doing testing.

- Harold Fleischer AE5AS informed the members that Pat Knight AD5BR is actively consulting and seeking alternative solutions for testing.

Centennial Commemoration (Temporary) - Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ – Commemorative swag still available for purchase.

Scholarship Committee – Tom O'Brien AB5XZ - No Report

Nominating Committee- Inactive

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

New Business - None

Announcements for the good of amateur radio: None

Meeting adjourned @ 7:55 PM



## Volunteer Examiners at Work



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

### Next license exam session

We do not plan to have a VE session in February. We will try to arrange VE sessions for 2021, but anticipate that our usual library location will still not be available for a while due to COVID-19 policies. Contact the VE team at hamtest@gmail.com to get on our waiting list for testing or with any questions.

You can look for other test sessions by doing a zip code search at

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

### FRN now required before exam session

That ARRL web page talks about an FRN number being required. If you know someone who is not a ham yet who wants to take a license exam, let them know that they should follow that page's instructions to obtain an FRN before going to an exam session. Hams have an FRN on their ham licenses.

73,  
Pat Knight AD5BR  
210-273-5927 iPhone

### Feeling Loopy (from Page 1)

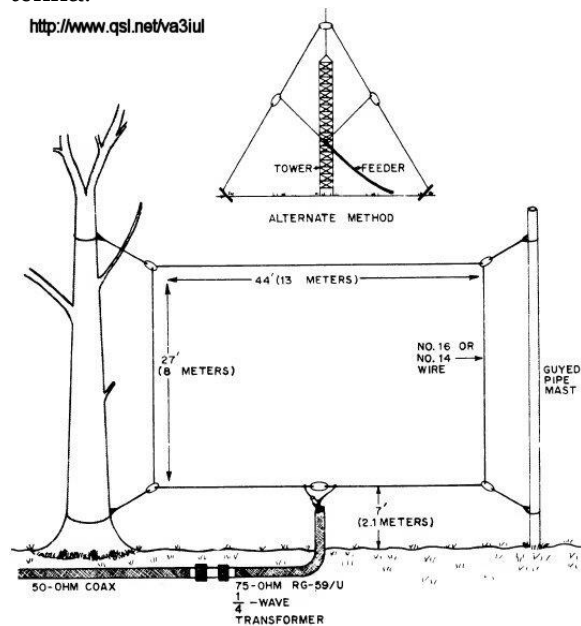
My first antenna as a novice in 1979 was a Taylor 4-band trapped vertical. I still have it up in my back yard. Back then I lived in Lakeridge, Virginia which was distinguished

by having one of the most restrictive homeowner's associations in the nation. Nonetheless, I had a better antenna system for HF there than in any house since. The house backed up to a wooded area with trees at least 80 feet high. Those trees just cried to

have wire antennas strung on them. Soon I had several wire antennas stretched into the woods. My first HF radio was a Yaesu FT101EE, upgraded to E-status and modified with all the Fox Tango mods I could install. As I advanced and my CW skills improved I got into QRP, buying a little, used HW8 by Heathkit.

Enter the loop antenna. I'm not sure where I got the idea, maybe it was the Antenna Handbook. I had a couple of rolls of coated, nondescript stranded wire I'd picked up at a hamfest. The design was as simple as a dipole. You just measure out a full wave loop of wire and feed it with a quarter-wave length of RG59. Using the equation  $L=1005/f$  (in MHz) I cut the wire to a full-wave on 40 meters. I then figured a  $\frac{1}{4}$  wave length of RG59 TV cable, remembering to multiply by the velocity factor of about 0.66. The feed point was halfway along the bottom leg of the antenna.

<http://www.qsl.net/va3iul>



I used my antenna/tree system to hang the antenna. It is a small fiberglass bow, an arrow with a weighted tip and fishing line. The weighted arrow will fly almost straight up and down. With a number of trees available it was an easy task to get the antenna top up about 50 feet or so. The bottom was about 8 feet up as I recall. Dimensions are very approximate. I used a barrel to attach 52-ohm coax back to the shack in the basement of the house. I tweaked the antenna using a simple SWR meter.

The result was amazing. A closed-loop antenna will resonate on harmonics at higher frequencies than the one it is cut for. So my 40-meter loop also resonated on 20, 15 and 10 meters. Using that antenna and my little Heath HW-8 QRP rig I worked SV1AA in Athens on 15 meter CW using  $\frac{3}{4}$  watt! Not bad for a cheap antenna. The sunspot cycle was wild in those days.

The homeowners' association would allow a TV antenna on the roof. I applied for and received permission to put up an HQ-1 Mini Quad antenna saying it was also a TV antenna. The HQ-1 would work on 6 meters and technically could receive VHF TV signals. I mounted it on the roof on a tripod with a rotator and topped it with a J-pole on 2 meters. The director on the Mini-Quad is a variation of a loop antenna.

About a year after getting my license I moved to the Pentagon for a new job and joined the Pentagon Amateur Radio Club. That year I participated in the PARC field day. A young officer brought a box of wire to the location at a picnic area on Ft. Belvoir. He and a couple of other guys started stringing wires in the tall trees. He stood on the ground giving orders to tug this way and that. What he wound up with is a 40m loop with a 40m loop reflector behind, a cubical quad on 40 meters! Stations to the west accused us of using a linear amplifier.

Loop antennas apparently are not fussy about the layout whether square, rectangular, round or triangle. Feed point impedance is affected as is the radiation angle. The basic loop is the building block for cubical quad directional antennas. The loop gives a slight dB gain over a dipole. They are supposed to be more resistant to noise.

These days you see several loop variations including smaller "magnetic" loops you can use if you don't have much space. The delta loop is a popular design for back yard setups. Loops can be hung vertically or may be horizontal to the ground. That may be the case for us in South Texas where trees don't grow tall. Some call horizontal loops "cloud heaters" because the upward radiation lobe. However the loops may let a person get on

the air with an antenna that can be woven around the property line where there isn't room for a dipole. With the high cost of copper, loop antennas are more expensive than an equivalent dipole, but not necessarily as any "junk" wire will do.

I consider antenna design to be a black art, presided over by men with long beards wearing black robes and pointed hats bent over drafting tables while muttering strange incantations. For non-tech people like me, playing with wire antennas is doable. Any vertical structure, or tree, can support a wire antenna. You can make do with a simple

SWR meter, but an antenna analyzer is better for tuning. Whether loop or dipole, a simple wire antenna will get you on the air. I've heard of hams achieving DXCC status with a simple dipole out an apartment window. The loop I think is a cut above the dipole if you can make room for one. Because of its non-fussy nature, a loop may be fit in a surprisingly small space. So live a little, experiment, cut-and-paste and maybe something nice will happen. You may earn your pointy hat and black robe!

WJ4M

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**Rosendo Guzman N5YBG is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.**

Topic: SARC Monthly Meeting

Time: Jan 14, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Every month on the Second Thu, until Nov 11, 2021, 11 occurrence(s)

Jan 14, 2021 07:00 PM

Feb 11, 2021 07:00 PM

Mar 11, 2021 07:00 PM

Apr 8, 2021 07:00 PM

May 13, 2021 07:00 PM

Jun 10, 2021 07:00 PM

Jul 8, 2021 07:00 PM

Aug 12, 2021 07:00 PM

Sep 9, 2021 07:00 PM

Oct 14, 2021 07:00 PM

Nov 11, 2021 07:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZUoceGprTMoH9ZrHuLdydCDK1MIEh2iYodE/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGpqz0iG9edshyFRpwcGY\\_oWevztlxBgvpnijfwLyRKZiDSHbNvPpd3QvHp](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZUoceGprTMoH9ZrHuLdydCDK1MIEh2iYodE/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGpqz0iG9edshyFRpwcGY_oWevztlxBgvpnijfwLyRKZiDSHbNvPpd3QvHp)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81568138252?pwd=SDIGbGROZzAvdXI3L1FucVVNSWNLUT09>

Meeting ID: 815 6813 8252

Passcode: 6XvfXL

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,81568138252#,,,,\*858029# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,81568138252#,,,,\*858029# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 815 6813 8252

**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.

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**Silent Key Committee** (From web master, Bill Craft, KD2HIQ)

The web site now has a silent key page [ <https://w5sc.org/silent-key/> ] that provides information about thinking ahead and providing forms to document what you have.

SARC does not directly buy any SK equipment, we provide a service to help loved ones dispose of equipment. The service consists of information, consulting and possibly disposal of equipment by donation.

We encourage you to plan ahead and make those hard decisions ahead of time so those who are left don't end up dumping your equipment in the trash. Not everyone plans ahead, most us try to ignore the fact that at some point our health may fail or we may be called to meet our maker.

The goal is to help fellow hams and their families deal with this in their time of need. They do not have to be members of SARC for us to help. We offer our services to the ham community to benefit other hams and their families.

The committee can be reached by emailing [SilentKey@w5sc.org](mailto:SilentKey@w5sc.org)



SARC has had a Groups.io. Its name is saradioclub.

If you haven't signed up for group.io, you should. Groups.io is our primary email messaging method to all club members. It is FREE for all members.

Several members have asked where are the notices, schedules and codes for Zoom meetings?

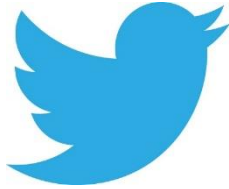
1. The groups.io calendar has a schedule of Zoom meetings and access codes.
2. The calendar can be accessed directly from the club web site <https://w5sc.org/events-calendar/> NOTE: it is the same groups.io calendar.

The saradioclub Group.io 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 saradioclub Group.io can and have asked each other technical questions or sought assistance.

The saradioclub Group.io is a closed group. To become a member, go to [saradioclub.groups.io](https://saradioclub.groups.io). (You may need to have a Groups.io account.) You will then need to select *Apply for membership in this group*. This generates a message. SARC members can expect approval to join the saradioclub Group.io in probably less than 24 hours.



### 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](mailto: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. **In-person meetings have been suspended pending the virus. Meetings will be on-line via ZOOM.**

## 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](mailto: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 2021

(Pending)

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

## Radio Fiesta 2021

January, 2021  
Sadly Radio Fiesta 2021 has been cancelled due to Covid-19

## JOTA

Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air  
Pending Covid restrictions for 2021