

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
3	R		N5IUT		San Antonio, TX		March 2023
TO							

Hello South Texas,

This past weekend was the Greater Houston HamFest (ARRL sanctioned Texas State Convention). The Hamfest sent out an offer of a free table for other clubs, so SARC showed up with posters that displayed our Bob Rodriguez Scholarship Fundraiser, 2023 Radio Fiesta data and SK gear for sale.

Harold, AE5AS hauled the gear from the SK warehouse to Houston. The tall pile of gear was much shorter by the time we left. While Harold was at the table selling the gear and promoting SARC, I was talking to the vendors on what they would like to see at Radio Fiesta, talking to Stuart Wolfe, KF5NIX, our South Texas ARRL Section Manager on what SARC was up to, or I was discussing radio interference with the great Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, FCC retired.

I saw Riley Hollingsworth speak at Arlington HamCom around 2003. I remember one thing from that presentation to this day. "Never say anything on the air that you would be embarrassed to say in front of a young child or your elders."

I really took that to heart and used that adage in all of my public interactions and when posting on the Internet.

The best part of an event like the Greater Houston Hamfest was seeing old friends. Walter Holmes, K5WH was one such friend. I first met Walter 36 years ago when we were both exploring Packet Radio.

See you at the meeting

!
73

Paul Guido, N5IUT

-...-

Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:



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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., Feb 9th 2023
Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd., San Antonio, TX 78216

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM//Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

Presentation

Derek Moyes, K1DMM: Getting Started: Pi-Star, YSF with the Yaesu FT-70DR

Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting

There being no changes, additions, or deletions, minutes were approved without objection by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

President – Paul Guido, N5IUT: Working get a list of radios together for Radio Fiesta prizes and the club’s scholarship fund. March 3 & 4 Houston Hamfest has provided the club with a table at no cost.

Vice President – Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW: Managing club meeting presentations. If you want to present, contact him.

Secretary – Jack Bannin N5JLB – Minutes from club meetings can be found at w5sc.org website, in the Newsletters section.

Treasurer – Jon April KI5CSK – Received letter of appreciation from ARRL for club’s funding the Robert A. Rodriguez scholarship fund.

Chairman of the Board Report – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS

The Board of Directors had a Zoom meeting about the budget since the last General Membership Meeting in January. Paul N5IUT presented a budget on behalf of the Executive Committee. The Board made various changes and approved it. The budget shows a small surplus. Left out was various improvements to the website and media. Paul N5IUT is to get back to the Board with a plan and budget. The Board wants to support both the website and media. Key items: 1) Success depends on improving Radio Fiesta attendance and making the Scholarship Raffle revenue goal. 2) We are updating our computer technology for field day. Our long-term computer logging solution was probably state of the art when adopted, but that was then and this is now. We are going to relatively inexpensive laptops and a wireless LAN. This reduces power and, hence, generator needs. Therefore, the 20-year-old small generator that performed poorly at field day will not be replaced. 3) we did project continued SK sales, but for an amount less than what we had last year. The Chair’s personal opinion is that the Board has adopted a reasonable budget for 2023 although

Scholarship Committee: Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ – Eligibility starts in Bexar County, expands to S. Texas and beyond, if needed. Each scholarship is worth \$1,000 for college. The ARRL administers the scholarship on our behalf.

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

New Business – None

Announcements:

- Look for a club-sponsored a Parks on the Air activation this Spring.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:41 PM

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Volunteer Examiners at Work

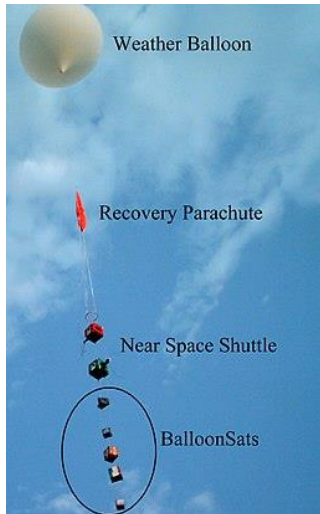


No report as of publishing time.

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Hams and high-altitude ballooning (Continued from Page 1)

Often referred to as "The Poorman's Space Program", ARHAB allows amateurs to design functioning models of spacecraft and launch them into a space-like environment.



Bill Brown (amateur radio callsign WB8ELK) is considered to have begun the modern ARHAB movement with his first launch of a balloon carrying an amateur radio transmitter on 15 August 1987.

An ARHAB flight consists of a balloon, a recovery parachute, and a

payload of one or more packages. The payload normally contains an amateur radio transmitter that permits tracking of the flight to its landing for recovery. Most flights use an Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) tracker which gets its position from a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver and converts it to a digital radio transmission. Other flights may use an analog beacon and are tracked using radio direction finding techniques. Long duration flights frequently must use high frequency custom-built transmitters and slow data protocols such as



Photo taken from an ARHAB mission

radioteletype (RTTY), [Hellschreiber](#), [Morse code](#) and [PSK31](#), to transmit data over great distances using little battery power. The use of amateur radio transmitters on an ARHAB flight requires an amateur radio license, but non-amateur radio transmitters are possible to use without a license.



1Payload of an amateur high-altitude balloon for scientific purposes. Embedded computer Arietta G25, custom pcb and different sensors (temperature, pressure, passive radiation detector). Photo taken after the flight

In addition to the tracking equipment, other payload components may include sensors, data

loggers, cameras, [amateur television](#) (ATV) transmitters or other scientific instruments. Some ARHAB flights carry a simplified payload package called [BalloonSat](#).

A typical ARHAB flight uses a standard latex weather balloon, lasts around 2–3 hours, and reaches 25–35 km (16–22 mi) in

altitude. Experiments with zero-pressure balloons, superpressure balloons, and valved latex balloons have extended flight times to more than 24 hours. A zero-pressure flight by the [Spirit of Knoxville Balloon Program](#) in March 2008 lasted over 40 hours and landed off the coast of Ireland, over 5,400 km (3,400 mi) from its launch point. On December 11, 2011, the California Near Space Project flight number CNSP-11 with the call sign K6RPT-11 launched a record-breaking flight traveling 6,236 mi (10,036 km) from [San Jose, California](#), to a splashdown in the [Mediterranean Sea](#). The flight lasted 57 hours and 2 minutes. It became the first successful U.S. transcontinental and the first successful transatlantic amateur radio high-altitude balloon.^{[19][20][21][22]} Since that time, a number of flights have circumnavigated the Earth using superpressure plastic film balloons.^{[23][24]}

Each year in the United States, the Great Plains Super Launch (GPSL) hosts a large gathering of ARHAB groups.

More information is available at:

[Amateur Radio High Altitude Ballooning | "The poor man's space program" \(arhab.org\)](#)

I Hate Lard Vernon Greeson

· A pastor asked an older farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace for the morning breakfast.



"Lord, I hate buttermilk", the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened one eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going. The farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was growing concerned. Without missing a beat, the farmer continued, "And Lord, you know I don't much care for raw white flour". The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw that he wasn't the only one to feel uncomfortable.

Then the farmer added, "But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm fresh biscuits. So Lord, when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what you're saying to us, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits. Amen."

Within that prayer there is great wisdom for all when it comes to complicated situations like we are experiencing in the world today.

Stay strong, my friends, because our LORD is mixing several things that we don't really care for, but something even better is going to come when HE is done with it. AMEN!

(Vernon is a musician who specializes in Gospel themed music and stories) --...-

Note: The above is not exactly an Amateur Radio piece and is from your editor alone, not an official SARC message. I found it on Facebook and just thought it was good advice.... **WJ4M** -.-. .-..



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.

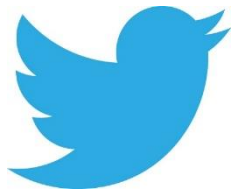
Several members have asked where are the notices, schedules and codes for Zoom meetings?

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. (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 Pa

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 Meeting Dates for 2023

- January 12, 2023
- February 9, 2023
- March 9, 2023
- April 13, 2023
- May 11, 2023
- June 8, 2023
- July 13, 2023
- August 10, 2023
- September 14, 2023
- October 12, 2023
- November 9, 2022
- 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

Amateur Radio License Classes

For more information, contact:
David Finell, N7LRY
Instructor

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

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

Radio Fiesta 2023

Radio Fiesta is scheduled for June 16 – 17, 2023 at the Convention Center in Schertz, Texas. It is an ARRL sanctioned Hamfest. Make a date to attend!

JOTA
Club members participated in JOTA and JOTI the largest Scouting event in the world at McGimsey Scout Park with the Alamo Area BSA on Saturday October 16, 2022. Volunteers set up several stations including mobile installations and allowed scouts to contact stations as far away as England.

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

License Testing Dates for 2022
License Testing Dates pending for 2023

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 2023
FD 2022 was great, FD 2023 is coming sooner than you'd think!

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