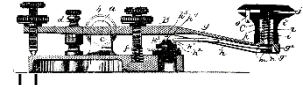




Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2023, No. 12
December 2023

2023 Rundown The Year That Was Jim Neff, WJ4M

January

Meeting Presentation: Richard Elder – Cautioned about fake HT antennas and other common scams in the world of antennas.

Membership 131

The San Antonio Radio Club started the New Year with a new president, Paul Guido, N5IUP.

In Board of Director (BOD) news, Harold Fleischer, AE5AS replaced Rosendo as Chair due to Rosendo's inability to fulfill those duties.

Appointed JC Smith, N5RXS, to take over the remainder of his 2027 director's term until next election.

The BOD will be meeting within the next two weeks to approve the budget when the Executive Committee drafts it.

Bill Craft, KD2HIQ passed the baton to Aubrey Mason, WA6DMI so he can be the 2023 Radio Fiesta Chairman Aubrey, WA6DMI brings years of military and engineering experience to the position. With his guidance, Radio Fiesta 2023 should be very successful.

Travis Few, N9EOD related details for Winter Field Day in January and announced plans to restart fox hunting.

February

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

Membership 143

Harold, AE5AS took gear from the Silent Key warehouse to the Greater Houston hamfest and sold quite a bit. He also took posters for the Robert Rodriguez Scholarship Fund and advertised SARC to the hams there. President Paul Guido also attended and polled the vendors on what they'd like to see at Radio Fiesta.

The Board of Directors approves the year's budget presented by the Executive Committee.

Radio Fiesta and Field Day planning begins.

Some members became involved with amateur high-altitude ballooning, helping to track the balloon using ham radio equipment.

March

Presentation: Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW. Topic: US National Radio Quiet Zone

Membership 150

The club was continuing plans for Radio Fiesta and Field day.

The newsletter featured an article on amateur high-altitude ballooning and recent activities of the ballooning crew.

(Continued on Page)

The next meeting, January 11, 2023, will be at 7 PM at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216, (210) 251-2602

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

| NUMBER | PRECEDENCE | HX | STATION OF ORIGIN | CHECK | PLACE OF ORIGIN | TIME FILED | DATE |
|--------|------------|----|-------------------|-------|-----------------|------------|---------------|
| 12 | R | | N5IUT | | San Antonio, TX | | December 2023 |
| TO | | | | | | | |

Hello South Texas,

This was a great year for the 104-year-old San Antonio Radio Club!

Members participated in eleven regular meetings, four test sessions, a POTA event, Balloon launches, Scholarship fund raising, Field Day, Radio Fiesta, and Fox Hunts with area clubs.

Members went to area clubs, and ham radio events in Belton and Houston to sell SK equipment, promote the Bob Rodriguez Scholarship fundraiser and Radio Fiesta.

This next year should be just as exciting. We are budgeting for two Fox Transmitters and equipment that can be used to find them. There will be four fox hunts. We will be adding in two tailgate events! With all this activity we will be posting a calendar soon!

Lessons learned, Radio Fiesta prices are going back to \$15 at the door (tickets are live now) and we need more BBQ for Field Day!

2023 was fun and 2024 will be even better!

Thank you all for coming to the events, meetings, and activities.

It is truly an honor to be working with such a great group of radio enthusiasts.


Thank you,

Paul Guido, President, San Antonio Radio Club

P.S. Please renew your membership at the club website. Dues are reduced to \$12.00 for a year if paid before January 13, 2024.

Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:



Paul Guido N5IUT
 President, San Antonio Radio Club
 Jimmie Neff, WJ4M
 Editor
 210-563-2121
jineffjr@sbcglobal.net

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

San Antonio Radio Club

Meeting Minutes

7:00 p. m., November 9, 2023

Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd., San Antonio, TX 78216

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM//Pledge of Allegiance//Introductions

Drawing for Robert Rodriguez Scholarship prizes:

- 1st: Yaesu FTDX10 Radio: William Best, N5YER
2nd: Yaesu FT991A Radio: Brian Clark, WB5DRI
3rd: Yaesu FT710 Radio: Diane Crane, KI5IMP
4th: Yaesu FT5DR: JC Smith, N5RXS
5th: Yaesu FT5DR: James Vale, N5ZKQ

Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

Officer Reports:

President - Paul Guido, N5IUT - 2024 slate of club officers presented for the membership to approve. All were elected by unanimous consent of the members present.

- Paul Guido - N5IUT - President
Robert Richter - W5ENG - Vice President
Jack Bannin- N5JLB - Secretary
Jon April - KI5CSK - Treasurer
Harold Fleischer - AE5AS - Chairman of the Board
Bill Craft - KD2HIQ - Director through 2024
Richard Elder - WB5ACN - Director through 2025
Benny Martinez - N5UP - Director through 2026
Rodney Brown - AA5RB - Director through 2027

Vice President - Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW - Presentation: Life as a Radio Interference Engineer.

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

Treasurer - Jon April, KI5CSK - Scholarship raffle has concluded successfully. The cost of prizes was covered, and additional funds collected above that amount will be earmarked to fund the scholarship in the future.

Chairman of the Board Report – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS – Board of Directors has been inactive the past 30 days. 4 Jan 2024 BOD will meet again to review 2023 actuals and 2024 budget proposal.

Education and Training – David Finell, N7LRY – No report.

Emergency Communications – JC Smith N5RXS – No report.

Membership – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ – As of DATE: 11/5/23

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Paid 167 | New Members for 2023 | | |
| Mil 5 | First | Last | Call |
| Family Members 20 | Rex | Field | |
| Radio Fiesta-Free 9 | Dora | Vukmirovic | |
| Free-VE 10 | Grant | Ledet | |
| ARRL Members 116 | Albert | MGehee | |
| Total membership 211 | | | |

Web Site – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ

1. Web Site – Posted newsletter. To improve our email authentication, added SPF, DMARC, and DKIM records to the club’s domain to comply with Google’s requirements. Added December 1995 newsletter (thanks to Don Jones, W5JX). Radio Fiesta 2024 updated.
2. Groups.io – Club’s primary method of mass communication
 - a. Updated membership list
 - b. Updated calendar
3. Mail chimp- Meeting notice, Radio Fiesta news blast.
4. Twitter
5. Facebook - Meeting notice

POTA - Jon April KI5CSK – No report.

Newsletter Editor – Jimmie Neff – Newsletter distributed and posted to website on November 9, 2023. Invited members to contribute information and stories for the newsletter.

Field Day – Jon April: No report

Finance and Review – No report.

JOTA – John Douglas W5NZK – No report.

Centennial Committee – Tom O’Brien AB5XZ – Souvenirs (patches, challenge coins, pins) from the club’s 2019 centennial year are still available.

Radio Fiesta – Aubrey Mason – July 19-20, 2024, and early June 2025 dates set. Friday closing time was extended to 8 PM as a test in response to requests.

VE Team – Benny Martinez, NU5P – No report.

Silent Key Committee – Rodney Brown, AA5RB – No report.

Monthly Activities – Travis Few, N9EOD – Fox Hunt on Sunday, November 12 from 9-noon O.P. Schnabel Park. Also launched a balloon last week successfully, though parachute failed to deploy upon return.

Executive – No report.

Election Committee – Paul Guido, N5IUT – Slate of nominees presented. Harold Fleischer, AE5AS: Motion to close nominations, Jim seconded. Approved by unanimous consent.

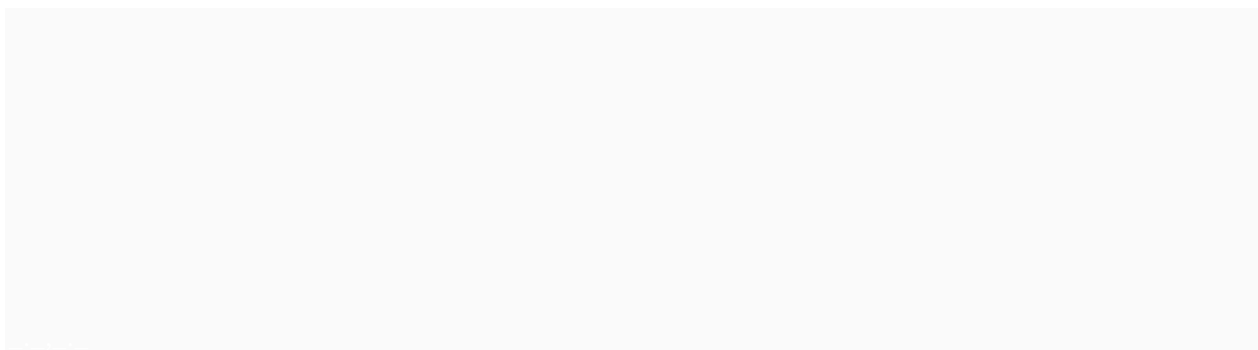
Scholarship Committee: Tom O’Brien – No report

Old Business (Motions carried over from previous meetings) – None.

New Business – For the BOD: proposal to become an ARRL Special Service Club (SSC) member.

Announcements: The joint ham radio holiday party will be on 7 Dec 23 at Blanco BBQ beginning at 7 PM. No club meeting in December.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:27 PM



Volunteer Examiners at Work



No report for December.

2023 Rundown The Year That Was (Continued)

April

Presentation: Steve Cerwin, WA5FRF: WWV/WWVH modulation/propagation experiences

Membership: 156

April newsletter featured an article memorializing SK Cray Lester K5MUG who was a long time SARC member, mover and shaker in the club.

Club members participated in a Parks On The Air event at Government Canyon State Park.

At the meeting the club voted to have the SK chair inventory all the equipment donated by Cray Lester's family and report the total sales of that equipment. The proceeds to be used to purchase radio equipment to carry on Cray's project to support Technician training and licensing, donate a radio to a new ham who passed their exam. The club will continue the project in memory of Cray, rounding the fund to the next highest dollar figure sufficient to purchase an entry level handheld until the fund is expended. At time the practice will stop.

May

Presentation: Kelley Randall, WB5MZT - Crimping & Soldering - Materials were published to the club's Groups.io website

Membership: 162

Final preparations for Radio and Fiesta and Field day

Fox Hunt at OP Schnabel Park on May 20..

June

June was a very busy month.

Presentation: Lloyd Schwartz - None - Discussion about Field Day and Radio Fiesta instead

Membership: 167

Radio Fiesta, June 16-17. Although attendance was down somewhat and there were few vendors, it was successful.

Field Day June 24-25. FD saw a new generator setup using smaller units. They worked fine, were quieter. The club scored very well and the event was well attended.

Newsletter featured articles on Radio Fiesta, Field Day, ballooning and how to build a tape measure antenna for fox hunting.

July

Presentation: Harold Fleischer, AE5AS: SWR & Antenna Tuners. The presentation will be posted to the club's website.

Membership: 185

The Newsletter featured reports on June activities, Radio Fiesta and Field Day. It also featured the first award of a new handheld to a new ham who passed the VE exam. This is part of the new Cray Lester K5MUG memorial program supporting new technicians.

Bennie Martinez, NU5P reported the Radio Fiesta VE session saw 2 technician, 10 General and 2 Extra tests passed.

August

Presentation: Harold Fleischer, AE5AS: Anderson Power Pole Connectors for amateur radio

Membership:192

The Newsletter featured articles on what to do when you receive your first license as a ham, and an extensive report from the Board of Directors, meeting which dealt with a number of issue. Also included were two opinion pieces on the recent decision by the American Radio Relay League to increase dues and drop the subscription to the printed form of QST as part of the fee. One report out of the BOD is that SARC is now a 501c3 non-profit organization. The impact is that donations to SARC are tax-deductible.

September

Presentation: "It's about time" - The history of measuring time and using time services in amateur radio, by Bill Craft, KD2HIQ. The slideshow will be available at the club's web-site, w5sc.org.

Membership: 198

The newsletter featured an article about a recent fox hunt and another on using WSPERNET to try to locate the missing Malaysian Airlines flight 370 triple 7 airliner that disappeared over the ocean on a flight to China.

Aubrey Mason reported that the venue contract for the 2024 Radio Fiesta had been signed for July 19-20, 2024.

October

Presentation: Travis Few - Fox Hunting

Membership: 199

The Newsletter featured an article on how to view the upcoming "fiery ring" eclipse of the sun. Also featured was an article on a free, on-line general course.

Members participated in the Boy Scout JOTA 2023 event held at McGimsey Scout Park Cub Pavilion.

November

No Presentation. The November meeting was the occasion of the Robert A. Rodriguez K5AUW scholarship fund drawing.

Membership: 211 (new record)

New officers were elected by acclaim. They are:

- Paul Guido - N5IUT - President
- Robert Richter - W5ENG - Vice President
- Jack Bannin- N5JLB - Secretary
- Jon April - KI5CSK - Treasurer
- Harold Fleischer - AE5AS - Chairman of the Board

- Bill Craft - KD2HIQ - Director through 2024
- Richard Elder - WB5ACN - Director through 2025
- Benny Martinez - N5UP - Director through 2026
- Rodney Brown - AA5RB - Director through 2027

The newsletter featured the winners of the 2023 Robert A. Rodrigues, K5AUW, scholarships, Omar Abioye, KI5KDF and Michael Gilbert Cbaciera, KI5TXS. It also featured a report on JOTA, an article on operating from a hotel room and sadly, Travis Few's, N9EOD, announcement that the November Fox Hunt would be the last one he will sponsor as his job is requiring a move to a new location.

December



No meeting in December. The main event was the club Christmas party at Blanco Barbeque on the first Thursday of the month. It was well-attended. There were no organized events, it was a meet and greet affair where members ate barbeque and talked about radio stuff.

All in all it was a pretty eventful year for the San Antonio Radio Club. The Executive Committee and Board of Directors are planning for a 2024 just as filled with great activities and support of Amateur Radio in San Antonio and South Texas. Wishing all a happy holiday whatever your flavor and a great new year.



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

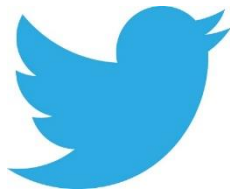
If you haven't signed up for group.io, you should. Groups.io is our primary email messaging method to all club members. It is FREE for all members.

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.



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.

JOTA

Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is the largest Scouting event in the world. It is held annually on the third full weekend in October.

JOTA uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. JOTA 2023 was held at McGimsey Scout Park Cub Pavilion 10810 Wedgewood Dr, Castle Hills, TX 78213.

. Anyone wanting to operate a station next year need to do the BSA Youth protection Training (YPT) and complete BSA Health forms.

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

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

SARC Meeting Dates for 2024

January 11, 2024

February 8, 2024

March 14, 2024

April 11, 2024

May 8, 2024

June 13, 2024

July 11, 2024

August 8, 2024

September 12, 2024

October 10, 2024

November 14, 2024

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

Radio Fiesta 2024

Radio Fiesta 2024 will be at Schertz Civic Center on July 19/20. Hours are 1-8PM Friday, 8AM to 2 PM Saturday with 0700 setup for vendors and tailgaters. Tickets are \$13 for 2 days pre-event, \$15 at the door. Children, scouts, Military and first responders in uniform free. Students with ID, \$10. Tables are \$25. The 2-day event features seminars and license testing on Saturday., See details at: <https://w5sc.org/radio-fiesta-2024-information>

License Testing Dates for 2024

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.

Register at HamTest@w5sc.org

Other info at W5SC.org click "Getting Started" then "Testing."

Field Day 2024

Field Day exercise, June 27 – 28 at the City of Shavano Park city hall for the twenty first year. *Where SARC proves they are an eating group with a radio problem.* Start thinking about Field Day 2024!.

Emergency Communications

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