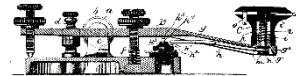




# Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club  
W5SC



2023, No. 07 July 2024

**Radio Fiesta 2024**  
Schertz Civic Center  
1400 Schertz Pkwy, Schertz, TX 78154  
July 19-20, 2024



It's the next big thing for the San Antonio Radio Club. Radio Fiesta is a great place to sell and buy ham gear or stuff you need. Deals abound and we have some great events on the program. You won't want to miss the CPS Energy high voltage demonstration from 9 AM to 1 PM in the parking lot. We've extended the hours on Friday so you can come over after work. **Check the club website, W5SC.org, for more Radio Fiesta information.**

**Friday , July 19, 2024**  
⇒ 7:00 am to 12:00 – Setup for Flea Market, Vendor.  
☐ 1:00 -8:00 pm Open Vendor -Flea Market area.

**The next meeting, July 11, 2024, will be at 7 PM at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216, (210) 251-2602 . Program: Radio Fiesta**

**Saturday, July 20, 2024**  
⇒ 7 am to 8:00 am – Setup for Flea Market, Vendor, and Tailgate Areas  
☐ 8:00 am – Open Flea Market, Vendor , and Tailgate Areas  
⇒ 9:00 am – Programs begin  
☐ 9:00 am – DX and WAS Card Checking (until noon)  
⇒ **CPS Energy high voltage demonstration all day outside in parking lot.**  
☐ 1:30 pm – ARRL VE Testing Sign Up & Testing at COMMUNITY CENTER – GYM:  
⇒ ⇒ Please PRE-REGISTER for the test session at [hamtest@w5sc.org](mailto:hamtest@w5sc.org)  
☐ **1 pm – Raffle Grand Prize Drawing**  
☐ **2 pm – Close**

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE:** July 20, 2024

**COMMUNITY CENTER – GYM:**  
09:00 – 9:50 am Greg Lewis, N5XO *VHF Simplex Operating/ Station building*  
10:00 – 10:50 am **ARES Forum**  
11:00 – 11:50 am **ARRL Forum**  
12:00 – 1 pm Jeff Schmidt, N5MNW *Amateur Radio Digital Modes Overview*  
**COMMUNITY CENTER – Side Room**  
09:00 – 10:00 am  
11:30 – 1:00 pm  
**PARKING LOT**  
09:00- 1:00 pm **CPS Energy high voltage demo and training.**

1:30 pm ARRL VE Testing in the **COMMUNITY CENTER – GYM:**  
Please PRE-REGISTER for the test session at [hamtest@gmail.com](mailto:hamtest@gmail.com).

(Continued on Page 5)

PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM							
NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
07	R		N5IUT		San Antonio, TX		July 2024
TO							

Hello South Texas

Field Day 2024 was a success in every measure. Everyone stayed safe, people participated from many area clubs, over three hundred contacts were made, new equipment was tested, tasty meals were served, and everyone had a great time!

I would like to thank the members of the Alamo Area Radio Organization for their participation and assistance.

Radio Fiesta


Radio Fiesta is coming together very well, and I am looking forward to seeing you there! On Saturday, the 6000-volt CPS Energy safety demonstration system will be on site and energized!

We are looking for volunteers for Radio Fiesta July 19 – 20, 2024. Please sign up online!

73 Paul, N5IUT, President

**Bexar Wire**

Published monthly by:



Paul Guido N5IUT  
 President, San Antonio Radio Club  
 Jimmie Neff, WJ4M  
 Editor  
 210-563-2121  
[jneffjr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jneffjr@sbcglobal.net)

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



1. Web Site – Posted newsletters, new Radio Fiesta volunteer page (thanks to Derik), revised flyer with presenters
2. Groups.io: Updated membership list; Updated calendar
3. Mail chimp- Meeting notice
4. Twitter
5. Facebook - Meeting notice

**POTA -**

**Newsletter Editor** – Jimmie Neff – Newsletter distributed and posted to website on June 12, 2024. Invited members to contribute information, photos, and stories for the newsletter. Deadline is Monday prior to the meeting.

**Field Day** – Jon April: Provided extensive briefing.

**Finance and Review** – No Report

**JOTA** – 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. Ticket/table sales low, compared to this time last year. Clarified that equipment vendors are unable to compete with online sales, and we have been unable to attract companies to sell their new radios in person at the event. Volunteers needed to help at Radio Fiesta. Volunteer sign-up at the [w5sc.org](http://w5sc.org) website (events/radio fiesta/RF-VOL). New demonstrations scheduled: T-Mobile and CPS (high voltage demonstration). Volunteer form needed so we can order an appropriately sized volunteer t-shirt.

**VE Team** – Benny Martinez, NU5P – Not present. Next testing session: June 22, 2024, at Field Day.

**Silent Key Committee** – Rodney Brown, AA5RB – Contacted by four people in the last week and received donations of about 50 boxes. Still going through the boxes to identify the items. Lots of linear amp parts will be available.

**Monthly Activities** – Field Day.

**Executive** – No report.

**Election Committee** – Paul Guido, N5IUT – No report.

**Scholarship Committee** – Raffle tickets still on sale and will be sold at Field Day, too.

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

New Business – None

Announcements – Richard Elder urged people to go to the FCC website to set up their ULS account for renewals well in advance, if not already done. Process is cumbersome.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:40 PM

Radio Fiesta (Continued)

Prizes (You do not need to be present at drawing to win Grand, 2nd, 3rd or 4th Prizes) Grand Prize Drawing on Saturday 1pm

- Grand Prize: Icom IC-718
2nd Prize: YAESU FT5DR
3rd Prize: YAESU FTM-6000R
4th Prize: Baofeng Handheld

Many hourly door prizes (Must be present to win hourly prizes) (\*) Handhelds generously donated by Baofeng

Admission - \$13 online for 2 day Pass (includes Taxes & Fees) \$15 at door for 2 day Pass Children - under 12 and Scouts, Military and First Responders in Uniform get in FREE. Students with school ID - \$10 All Tables - \$25 - for 2 day - Includes 1 Admission ticket & Electric (if available) Tailgate Spaces - 1 free space with admission - Saturday only => Extra spaces \$5 each Door Prize tickets - \$2 Each, 6 for \$10, 15 for \$25

Note: No refunds after July 12, 2024

Some Photos from the 2023 Radio Fiesta



**The 2024 Robert A. Rodriguez Scholarship Fundraiser is here! 5 chances to win hot selling Yaesu Radios. Only 400 tickets sold @ \$25 each. Drawing is November 14, 2024 at the club meeting.**

To purchase a ticket: Mail check to: San Antonio Radio Club PO Box: 34263 San Antonio, TX 78265-4263 Ticket will be mailed to you or PayPal [treasurer@w5sc.org](mailto:treasurer@w5sc.org) be sure to include your name, phone # & call sign. 210-642-9391 or Treasurer @w5sc.org. For more info see the club web page at: [w5sc.org](http://w5sc.org)

**Radio Fiesta will be an excellent opportunity to purchase Scholarship Tickets!**



## Volunteer Examiners at Work



**From Bennie Martinez, NU5P VE Coordinator**

Register at [HamTest@w5sc.org](mailto:HamTest@w5sc.org)

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

Filed Day Testing winners

New members John(KJ5FIA) & Jackie Maldonado tested at Field Day this year. John(KJ5FIA) upgraded to General and Jackie passed her technician license.

Jackie won the Gray Lester(K5MUG) memorial radio in the technician's raffle.

There were 8 people testing at Field Day Results were:

- 1 Extra
- 1 General
- 6 Technician

**The schedule for the rest of the year is:**

July 20 Radio Fiesta, 1:30 PM

August 26 Leon Valley Library Oct 28 Leon Valley Library

December To be announced.





## Ham Radio History, the “XYL”

XYL “Mrs. W8CNO” was credited with inventing the term “XYL” to describe a married woman. She explained that it “means just what it, says, i.e., ex-YL, which means that I am no longer exactly a YL operator, nor yet can I be classed as an OW.”

However, “Very few guesses as to [YL’s] meaning are correct,” she complained, “which may not indicate an over-abundant amount of intelligence on the part of the male of the species!” It was not simply a more polite version of OW, nor was it a synonym for “old maid.” She credited arctic explorer Donald MacMillan for getting her into “the game,” mostly from being inspired by radio operations during his trips to the Arctic [add ref to previous chapters].

Discouraged at first by having to learn CW, her new neighbor, W8DED, tuned in and copied WNP for her. This made her determined to master it. She got her license the next summer in 1926. She enjoyed handling traffic and DXing but got a thrill mostly out of establishing new friendships, writing:

*“Only we, who have sat in a fast-chilling room, listening with queer, hypnotic fascination to a friend, a mile, a thousand—or even ten thousand miles away, saying “73” can understand. We snap on our transmitter and*

*out through the clear air go thin, etheric fingers; out through the infinite goes a hand-clasp of friendship. So we, sitting alone by our set, become suddenly warm and happy, for the Angel of Friendship has entered and we know that across the miles we have found a friend. Outside, pale stars gleam down on our invisible bond, a bond stronger than the strongest steel. Of such stuff are amateur [radio] friendships made.”*

Nevertheless, she had taken note of three distinct types of male operators on the air. The first was the “budding Romeo.” They came in all age groups. Most hams, she believed, prefer a YL familiar with radio. The second type was extremely courteous, exaggerating signal reports and complimenting her on her fist. Aware of the phenomena, she usually divided such a signal report by a factor of two or three. Both types prized her QSL card, especially one with a picture that could be hung on the wall. The third type consisted of those who resented women being involved in radio at all. She first ran into one of those at her license testing session where a male examinee, upon seeing her, announced in a “disgusted” tone to the assembled group that “the good old days are gone forever.” Although she sometimes has regrets, she’d gotten a lot of pleasure out of being a ham. “The ham game is a great old game, and the species ‘ham’ is a great old genus, and I say—‘Long may it, and they, flourish.’”

## My Newest Radio, Baofeng K5Plus Tri-bander

Saw this on Amazon for \$29.99, a pair for \$59.99. I did not have a handheld that would work on 220 so at the price, took the plunge and bought one. RB, KX7Q and I have one each. I purchased a Nagoya tri-band antenna as the rig comes with two antennas, one VHF/UHF antenna and a separate one for 220. We tried the dual band whip in my family room and could raise the repeater. The longer Nagoya puts out a stronger signal. We tried 220 simplex and could make contact about 1½ miles direct, one of us inside a restaurant and the other a



car. I had to buy a new programming cable for about \$10 since my old one for the UV5R was outdated. A short learning curve with Chirp and I had the radio programmed with repeaters I wanted. Programming manually is an exercise in frustration. Quality seems better than the UV5R. The K5Plus has its quirks, but it makes a nice, inexpensive knock-around rig.





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

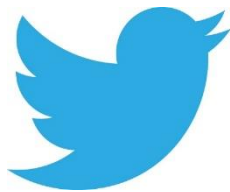
If you haven't signed up for group.io, you should. Groups.io is our primary email messaging method to all club members. It is FREE for all members.

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 X (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](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.

**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/>

**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](mailto:HamTest@w5sc.org)

Other info at W5SC.org click “Getting Started” then “Testing.”

**SARC has a website:**

w5sc.org

Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ  
 Billc851@gmail.com  
 210-570-0335

**Amateur Radio License Classes**

For more information, contact: Marlo Brown, KJ5BQV  
 Travis Buhler, KI5TXG

## 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>

## Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency communications, contact:

Ned Lee, KG5US  
RACES Bexar County  
210-344-3481/210-391-8258

David Rice, NB5K  
ARES Bexar County EC 210-367-8623

## Field Day 2024

**Field Day exercise, June 27 – 28** at the City of Shavano Park city hall for the twenty first year. It was a great success. Start planning for FD 2025, *where SARC proves they are an eating group with a radio problem.*

## 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