



# The Bexar Wire

VOL. 75 NO. 7

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB

JULY 1994

## SARC MEETINGS

**7:30 PM, COVENANT  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

JULY 14, 1994: General Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM Program: REPEATERS, Bob, W5TQS

**7:00 PM SAN PEDRO  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

JULY 21, 1994: ARRL VE Test Session, Les NI5S and V.E. Team. See Page 2 for details and tests at other locations.

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## AMATEUR CALENDAR

JULY 2, 1994: DX AMIGOS General Meeting, 11:30 AM, Grady's Bar-B-Que, 4109 Fredericksburg Road

JULY 16, 1994: SPACE DAY AT BROOKS AFB, TX. 9AM to 3PM. Demo of Amateur Radio to school children. Operators and helpers needed for HF CW/SSB, PACKET and SATELLITE stations.

JULY 23, 1994: QCWA "Eating Meeting", 11:30AM, Wyatt's Cafeteria, Loop 410 and Tosoro.

AUGUST 11, 1994: SARC Meeting. Program: Emergency Communications, by Ken, WA5QZI

SEPTEMBER 8, 1994: SARC Meeting. Program: Voyager II Update, by Clay, W5ZPV

SEPTEMBER 24, 1994: CHAPARRAL ARC 1ST ANNUAL SWAP-FEST, McQuenney Lions Club Community Center, TX.

## WEEKLY HAM NETS

SARC 10-METER SSB NET: 1st and 3rd Tuesday Evenings at 8:30PM on 28.350 MHz. Net Control: Clay, W5ZPV.

SARC 2-METER FM NET: 2nd and 4th Tuesday Evenings at 8:30PM on 147.06 MHz (+) Repeater. Net Control: Herb, KD5KO.

SAN ANTONIO REPEATER ORGANIZATION 2-METER FM NET: Each Wednesday Night at 8:30PM on the 146.94 (-) Repeater.

QCWA WEEKLY NET: Each Sunday Evening at 8:30PM on 28.650 MHz USB. Net Control: GUS, W5HRF.

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## WEEKLY EVENTS

HAM'S SATURDAY BREAKFAST: About 6:00AM To ?, Shoney's, 4510 Fredericksburg Road.

SENIORS HAM'S BREAKFAST: Tuesday Mornings, About 8AM, Shoney's, 4510 Fredericksburg Rd.

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## FOX HUNTING

OK! So you are not for hunting? Why - our squirrel is causing more trouble than ever. He is now using profane language on our air waves! Get off your duff and help or quit griping. Assembly point for the FOX Hunt: Saturdays, 12:15-1:00PM, VIA Park and Ride, Loop 410 and Bandero Hy. Talk-in on 147.38MHz (+). Try to Come - we need You! Bruce, WB5SQO

## The President's Perspective....

by Steve, WA5FRF.

CQ FD CQ FD de W5SC ...  
PLEASE COPY 8A STX...

Whew! How many times was that repeated the weekend of June 25/26? LOTS!

Field day was everything we hoped it would be. We had a great turnout, lots of QSO's, good friends, and good weather. Well, at least there were no thunderstorms this time, although we did have the hottest weekend of the year!

In spite of the heat and the bugs (and I don't mean something to send code with, as the walking sticks were more like walking logs), a good time was had by all. More importantly, Field Day is the annual demonstration of emergency communication preparedness, and San Antonio proved it was up to the task of providing communications by SSB, CW, PACKET, and Satellite on frequencies from 80 meters through UHF in a field environment. We fielded 8 transmitters, all running strictly on emergency or natural power. We should have contact tallies compiled by the next meeting. A resounding WELL DONE to all who contributed to the effort! (Cont. on Page 3).....

**SARC OFFICERS**

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**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Jan Sterneckert, N5YPK, 830 Saddlebrook Dr, San Antonio, Texas, 78245, H: 674-0207

**SECRETARY:** Andrew Pickens, WG5O, 222 Halbert Dr, San Antonio, TX 78213, H: 344-7624

**TREASURER:** Louis Kocurek, W5-VIV, 108 Thelma Dr., San Antonio, Texas 78212, H: 824-3884

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:** Mike Rittmann, WB5OKK, 1702 Santa arbara, San Antonio, TX 78201 H: 734-6952

**BEXAR WIRE STAFF**

**EDITOR:** Clay Laster, W5ZPV, 10915 Burr Oak, San Antonio, Texas 78230 H: 344-7356

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**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:** Carlyle Lutz, KA5SSA, 1402 Viewridge St. San Antonio, Texas 78213 H: 344-1500

**V.E. LICENSE EXAMINATIONS**

Leslie (Les) N. Dale, NI5S, 9526 Gold Dust, San Antonio, TX 78245 H: 673-8852

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**CHAIRMAN THRU 1994:** Walter Laubach, KA5HQU, 6235 Forrest Bend, San Antonio, TX 78240, H: 680-4952

**DIRECTOR THRU 1994:** Roy L. Lane, KA5RLG, 8081 S. Verde, San Antonio, Texas 78240 H: 680-1277

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**DIRECTOR THRU 1998:** Clay Laster W5ZPV, 10915 Burr Oak Dr, San Antonio, TX 78230 H: 344-7356

**AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TESTING**

The following V.E. Testing Activities administer FCC Amateur Examinations for new license applicants or upgrade. Please advise the BEXAR WIRE of any new test groups or changes of test schedules.

1. ARRL Test Group, headed up by Les, NI5S, 673-8852, provides V.E. Testing at these locations and approximate times. Contact Les for more information.

a. Covenant Presbyterian Church 211 Roleto and Loop 410 - Fourth Thursday, each month at 7:00 PM.

b. San Pedro Presbyterian Church, 14900 San Pedro (North of Loop 410) - Third Thursday of each month - 7:00 PM.

c. Liberty Baptist Church, 7421 Marbach Rd (near John Jay H.S.).

One test session per month - call Les, 673-8852, for specific date and time.

2. W5YI Test Group, Universal City Library, 100 North View, Universal City. Last Saturday of each month at 12:00 Noon. Contact Gary, K5JWK, at 657-1549 for information.

3. W5YI Test Group, San Antonio Amateur Radio Society (STARS), Trinity Lutheran Church, 5520 South Flores St. - Second Saturday of each month at 12:00 Noon. Contact Joe, AF5D, at 922-8136 for information.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR TESTING CANDIDATES**

1. Identification documents: Bring a legal photo ID such as a driver's license or passport. If this is not available, bring any two of the following: Non-photo ID driver's license (if your state issues such a license); Birth certificate with an appropriate legal seal; minor's work permit or school report card; a utility bill, bank statement or other business document that specifically names the person; a postmarked envelope properly addressed to the test candidate.

2. Original and photocopy of FCC licenses if appropriate, and any CSCE (Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination) for credit. Also, a Physician's Certificate of Disability and Patient's Release may be appropriate.

3. Supplies: A supply of sharpened No. 2 pencils and a pocket calculator if math calculations are anticipated.

4. Approximate \$5.60 exam fee for Technician or higher exams.

**THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE .....(Cont. from Page 1)**

Many thanks to those who helped organize this year's Field Day, including Royce KA5OHJ, Jan N5YPK, Pat KA5RIO, and Kurt KB5ZZT. Eisenhower Park provided some of the best facilities and the nicest accommodations we could ask for. The bar-b-q and pot luck dinner was delicious and the breakfast cooked up by Jim K5CDT was terrific.

The San Antonio Radio Club was honored to have have representatives of three other area clubs join us for Field Day this year. The Women's Educational Radio Club (WERC) provided us with the 10-Meter phone and 2-Meter packet station while the Alamo Area Radio Organization (AARO) manned the 80-Meter site. The Southwest Research Amateur Radio Club supplied the impressive satellite antenna array and helped snag satellite QSO's. Our Field Day experience was richer for your presence and we hope you can join us again for this and other events in the future.

If you missed Field Day, don't despair, because we're giving you a second chance to ham it up in a field-type environment. Space Day is coming up on July 16 at Brooks Air Force Base. Last year we set up and operated an HF, PACKET, and Satellite station to the amazement and wonderment of many a prospective young astronaut (or ham)! We have been invited back this year and will most likely again set up under the sprawling oak trees in front of Hangar 9. Operating hours are 9am to 3pm on Saturday, July 16. We will need operators and helpers, so come on out and join the fun.

73 to all and see you at the next

meeting on Thursday, July 14.

Steve, WA5FRF

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**VLF OBSERVATIONS  
DURING THE MAY 10  
ECLIPSE**

by Bill, AA5HI

As I described during a program at a SARC Meeting earlier this year, I did make recordings of VLF (below 10 kHz) natural radio signals before, during and after the May 10 Solar Eclipse. On May 9, during 45 minutes centered on "Local Eclipse Peak Time" of 1618 UTC, continuous recordings were made, with WWV time ticks each 10 minutes. These were followed by audio cassette recordings from 1515 UTC on May 10 - the day of the eclipse - until 1733 UTC. On May 11, "Baseline" recordings begun on May 9 were completed with 45 minutes of tape again centered on the Eclipse peak time of 1618. The purpose was to "bracket" the Eclipse time with data taken the day before and the day after to help see if any effect could be determined.

The site I chose was on the wide shoulder of Texas Highway 211, 4.4 miles South of Texas Highway 16, near San Geronimo. The location is 3 miles or so from the nearest 60 Hertz power, and is free of harmonics (hum) from power lines - even the line 3 miles away was behind a shielding hill! Two problems: buzzards were present by the dozens, just 150 feet away. Fortunately, downwind! They were doing what buzzards are supposed to do to a very large horse. The second problem was that the very unsettled weather made for very heavy sferics (static). Even so, lots of "tweaks"

were recorded and even a few up-scale whistlers. Also, a couple of "normal" down-scale whistlers were heard. I did NOT, however note any obvious effect of the eclipse itself.

Anyone interested in these phenomena is invited to join me next time the Space Shuttle flies with a VLF experiment abroad. Or if another celestial event calls for observations.

73's, Bill, AA5HI

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**NOTICE - WHERE ARE THE  
CLUB'S BANNERS-FLAGS?**

No one at the last SARC club meeting knew where the Club's banners or flags are stored. Anyone knowing where these items are, please contact Steve, WA5FRF, at 681-2037. The club's banners are important for events such as field day and special events.

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**ARRL BRIEFS**

In March 94, the FCC released a study of 105 cases of random telephone interference. This study concluded that since some telephones are "bullet proof", all of them could be. Also, the study indicated that transmitter power was not a significant factor and that filters worked only one-third of the time. It turns out that HF filters cannot cure VHF interference and vice versa! Also, the newer electronic telephones require filters both for the handset and base units. Finally, the FCC offered hope that new, interference free telephones can be developed, (THE ARRL LETTER, May, 1994)

# IMPORTANT NOTICE

YOUR SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP ROSTER AND IDENT CARD ARE ENCLOSED IN THIS BULLETIN - PLEASE CHECK INSIDE!

# SARC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 14 JULY '94

Program: REPEATERS, by Bob , W5TQS - a good program which compliments the recent internet program. Also, door prizes to be raffled!

## SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB

The San Antonio Radio Club meets on the 2nd Thursday, each month at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 211 Roletto and Loop 410, at 7:30PM. Visitors are welcome to attend and are invited to join the Club.

The purposes of the Club are many fold: promote an interest in amateur radio; provide emergency communications; promote electronic communications within the amateur ranks; foster education in electronic communications technology; disseminate knowledge and information by regular or special meetings, classes, and publications such as the Club bulletin, THE BEXAR WIRE.

Club membership - \$10.00 per calendar year, prorated by quarter - is open to licensed amateur

radio operators and persons interested in amateur radio. For more information, contact the SARC Treasurer, Louis Kocurek, W5VIV, at the Club's address below.

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## THE BEXAR WIRE

The San Antonio Radio Club's BEXAR WIRE has a circulation of about 400 and is published monthly throughout the year. Subscription rates: free to SARC members and \$6.00 per calendar year to all others. Ads for personal equipment are free to SARC members and \$1.00 per line for all other amateur radio operators. Contact the Club Treasurer for commercial rates.

Members are encouraged to submit articles and express their views on subjects relating to Amateur Radio as well as meeting

notices and schedules of other amateur radio events. The BEXAR WIRE reserves the right to edit material submitted with respect to suitability, style and format. Views and opinions expressed in the BEXAR WIRE, unless specifically noted, do not necessarily represent those of the members, officers or directors of the San Antonio Radio Club.

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## SARC/ARRL VE AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TESTING

Les, NI5S, and his ARRL V.E. Testing Team, conducts FCC amateur radio license examinations, including up-grades, during the 3rd Thursday of each month at the San Pedro Presbyterian Church (North of Loop 410). Sign-up for testing begins at 7:00 PM. Call Les at 673-8852 for more information.

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SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB

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