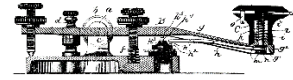




# Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club  
W5SC

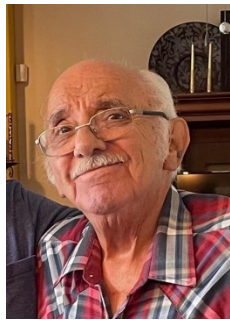


2026, No. 01

January 2026

## Robert A. Rodriguez, K5AUW, SK

(The following is lightly edited from the obituary published by Bob's family. You can find it at: [Obituary | Robert Anthony Rodriguez of San Antonio, Texas | Olinger-Saenz Mortuary Services](#)-ED)



Our beloved dad, uncle, grandpa and great-grandpa Bob Rod enjoyed his last fun-filled Thanksgiving surrounded by four generations of family. Born Robert Anthony Rodriguez on February 5, 1944, our Popo Bob passed away November 29, 2025. According to his kids he was only 81 years young, too young to say goodbye.

Joe & Lupe Rodriguez brought their first-born, Roberty Anthony Rodriguez, home to a close-knit neighborhood of friends, and family on San Antonio's Westside. Bob was later joined by a sister, Ester, whom he lovingly dubbed 'Nini'.

Bob was a proud graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School class of 1962 and later attended San Antonio College before working at Coca-Cola and KCOR radio. Bob was an avid reader and self-taught electronic

technician. It wasn't long before he put his skills to use as Biomedical instruments expert with great folks at Fort Sam Houston Army Base-Medical Center. After a few decades, he retired for the first time, from our Audie Murphy VA Hospital. Then he thrived in his post-retirement fun-jobs at Radio Shack and the San Antonio Zoo!

Bob was a devoted father, grandfather & great grandfather. He volunteered for numerous school events and parent clubs while his kids were in school including the Band and Athletic Booster Clubs and was the voice of West Campus football and baseball, as the official announcer, for many years. He was well known for his ability to fix just about anything, for his monologue dad jokes, and sharing words of wisdom including his trademark "Don't sweat the small stuff, and by the way it's all small stuff."

Bob never met a stranger. Whether in line at H.E.B or via amateur/HAM radio with astronauts at the space station, his love of connecting with people was beyond compare.

In his spare time, Bob was passionate about amateur (HAM) radio. He devoted many years using his HAM Radio skills to teach others and grow the community. He volunteered to help with communications for city and state events including fun runs, sporting events, and disaster response teams. K5AUW...73...HH...E. Bob served as president of the San Antonio Radio Club

**(Continued on page 5)**

**The next meeting, January 8, 2026, will be at 7 PM at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216, (210) 251-2602. Likely topic: Wnter Field Day**

2026, No. 01 Bexar Wire January 2026

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
01	R		N5IUT		San Antonio, TX		November 2026
TO							

Hello South Texas,

The ARRL is stating that 2026 will be the Year of the Club!

The ARRL is looking to expand the ARRL Affiliated Clubs program. The San Antonio Radio Club (SARC) has been an ARRL Affiliated Club since January 1, 1920. For 106 years SARC has done some interesting things, for example one antenna at the 1959 Field Day site was lifted by "...a helicopter from the 4th Army." as reported in the December 1959 QST.

We will be reporting on our SK committee and encouraging others to create one at their club.

Please keep an eye on Groups.io for all the details on Winter Field Day.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the meeting, January 8, 2024, at Blanco BBQ. Meeting starts at 7:00 PM. Many start to get there after 6:00 PM to enjoy an eyeball QSO before the meeting.

73,

Paul Guido, N5IUT, President, San Antonio Radio Club

### 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

Meeting Minutes  
 7:00 PM November 13, 2025  
 Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd., San Antonio, TX 78216

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

Presentations:

- Raffle Winners:
  - 1<sup>st</sup>: IC-7610 Winner – Lee Gafner/AI5NS
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> IC-7300 Winner – Kenneth Gardner/KJ5BTX
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> ID-52A Winner – Ernest Franke/ KC5ITW
- Club Officers Election: Proposed Slate
  - Notes:
    - Resigning as Chairman of the Board: Harold C. Fleischer, III AE5AS
    - Proposed Chairman of the Broad: Bill Craft, KD2HIQ
    - Replacing Bill Craft, KD2HIQ as Director through 2029 is Royce Bell, KX7Q

**Board of Directors**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| • Chairman of the Board: Bill Craft, KD2HIQ | Director through 2026: Benny Martinez, NU5P  |
| • President: Paul Guido, N5IUT              | Director through 2027: JC Smith, N5RXS       |
| • Vice President: Kelly Randal, WB5MZT      | Director through 2028: Rodney Brown, AA5RB   |
| • Secretary: Jack Bannin, N5JLB             | Director through 2029: Royce Bell, KX7Q      |
| • Treasurer: Jon April, KI5CSK              | Director through 2030: Richard Elder, WB5ACN |

- **Motion to accept** proposed slate made by: Benny Martinez
- Motion **seconded** by: Aubrey Mason
- No nominations from the floor

At 1917 hrs, slate was elected by unanimous consent without objection.

Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting

There being no additions or changes, the minutes were passed without objection by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

**President** – Paul Guido, N5IUT (Not present) – Christmas Dinner on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 7 PM at Blanco BBQ – Open to all amateur radio operator. Door prizes will be available.

**Vice President** – Position Vacant – If interested in filling this position, contact Paul Guido.

**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 – Exploring bank options, such as Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union. Leaving Credit Human because of a poor fit for non-profit organization, lack of humans to interact with.

**Chairman of the Board Report** – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS – Resigning as of December 31, 2025, after seven years as the Chairman. Bill Craft will take the position of Chairman of the Board, appointed by the President.

**Education and Training** – Marvin “Marlo” Brown (KJ5BQV) & Travis Buhler (KI5TXG): No report.

**Emergency Communications** – Ned Lee, KG5US Bexar County RACES and JC Smith, N5RXS – No report.

**Web Site – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ**

Activities for October

1. Web Site- Posted newsletter
2. Groups.io
  - a) Updated membership list
  - b) Updated calendar
3. Mail chimp- Meeting notice, Zoom Notice
4. Twitter
5. Facebook - Meeting notice
6. Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications (DLARC) contacted the club to offer digitizing and making available on the net the club’s newsletters dating back to 1955 They will become available at the Internet Archive (<https://archive.org/details/dlarc?tab=collection&query=san+antonio+radio+club>).

<b>Membership – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ</b>	As of 11/11/2025		
Paid 135	New Members for 2025		
Free / Mil 7	<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>Call</b>
Family Members 21	<b>Martin D.</b>	<b>Busse</b>	
Free / RF 16	<b>Luis M.</b>	<b>Olivarez</b>	<b>KJ5MVR</b>
Free / VE 25	<b>George</b>	<b>Raney</b>	<b>KG5LRB</b>
ARRL Members 93	<b>Andrew</b>	<b>Glass</b>	<b>KD3APB</b>
Total Membership 202			

**Notes:**

Harold, AA5ES was first to pay dues- he was the beta tester to make sure it all worked as planned.

**POTA:** When scheduled, information is published via the club’s Groups.IO and Facebook account. Volunteer need to head the club’s effort.

**Fox Hunt – Steve Ortiz – KJ5HIH – No report**

**Newsletter Editor – Jimmie Neff – Newsletter distributed November 13, 2025.** Contact Jimmy if you want to contribute an article for publication. Deadline is the Monday before the monthly meeting.

**Field Day – Jon April: No report.**

**Finance and Review – Previously completed.**

**JOTA – John April: Held in October.**

**Centennial Committee – Tom O’Brien AB5XZ – Memorabilia available.**

**Radio Fiesta – Aubrey Mason – Tickets available on EventBrite. Search: Bexar County.**

**VE Team – Benny Martinez, NU5P: Appreciation for the volunteer examiners who helped throughout 2025.**

Testing opportunities:

SARC tests are at the Leon Valley library 12:00  
 6425 Evers Rd  
 Leon Valley, TX 78238

Dec 20 – 12:00

**Silent Key Committee** – Rodney Brown, AA5RB – Equipment available for purchase. Contact Rodney for more information.

**Executive** – No report

**Election Committee** – Paul Guido, N5IUT – Election results noted above.

**Scholarship Committee** – Raffle completed. Nominations available via AARL.

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

**New Business** – None

**Announcements**

- Richard Elder: Texas State Emergency Alert System Plan available. List of cities and radio stations to listen to for emergency info. For San Antonio: KKYX 680 AM, WOAI 1200 AM. Also weather radio at 162.55 MHz.

Meeting Adjourned @ 7:57 PM.

**Robert A. Rodriguez (Continued)**

and as Chairman of the Board of Directors. Hetaught many a ham radio course, electronics talks. He shared his love of ham radio and electronics with many new hams. One could say he was an “Elmer’s Elmer.” When the SARC scholarship for young amateurs was named after him, Bob adamantly said it was not “memorial.” Sadly, now it can be called that. We will miss him greatly.

A celebration of Bob's life will take place on Saturday, January 10, 2026, at 1:00 PM at Mission Park Medical Center Funeral Chapel, 8332 Fredericksburg Road, 78229.

Popo Bob's jokes, gift for gab, and words of wisdom live on through his grandchildren Becky, Ashley, Mandy and Hayden, whom he loved dearly. Bob's spirit lives on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations be sent to help fund the San Antonio Radio Club's ROBERT A RODRIGUEZ SCHOLARSHIP fund at:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=7Y9GLZMSX4PDL](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=7Y9GLZMSX4PDL)



**San Antonio Radio Club Christmas Party**

The San Antonio Radio Club Christmas party December 4 at Blanco Barbeque was well attended. Invitations went out to other clubs in the area, and we had a good turnout. The Silent Key Committee provided some desirable items as door prizes, augmented by three new Rattel dual-band handhelds donated by one of the members.





President Paul Guido and Bill Craft, KD2HIQ, also recognized members who had contributed to the club's successes through the year and beyond. He presented outgoing Chairman of the Board, Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, with a plaque recognizing his years of leadership in the club. Harold announced his resignation from the board and assured members that retired from leadership, he will not fade into the noise but remain active in supporting the club.

Rodney Brown, AA5RB and Mary Brown, KG5UYV, were given certificates recognizing for their work as the Silent Key Committee cataloging, maintaining and disposing of items donated to the club by families of hams who became silent keys. As a two-person committee, their work contributes to the financial wellbeing of the club in addition to helping hams obtain good, used gear. The contributions do not go to waste but are put to good use.



After the presentations, it was time for the door prize drawings. The happy winners are pictured below followed by random photos of the event. Everyone left the event happy and full of good barbeque, thus carrying on the club's tradition of being a club that likes to eat barbeque and has a radio habit.







Galaxy S23



Galaxy S23



Galaxy S23



Galaxy S23

## Leadership for 2026

<b>Officers *</b>	Committee Chairpersons
Paul Guido, N5IUT <b>President</b> 210-289-0473	Marlo Brown, KJ5BQV Travis Buhler, KI5TXG <b>Education and Training Committee</b>
Kelly Randal, WB5MZT <b>Vice President</b> 210-288-5696	Ned Lee, KG5US <b>Bexar County RACES CRO</b> 210-344-3481 /210-391-8258 Patricia Colley, KI7IEE <b>ARES Bexar County EC</b> 206 949-8974
Jack Bannin, N5JLB <b>Secretary</b> 210-825-9969	Bill Craft, KD2HIQ <b>Membership Committee</b> 210-570-0335
Jon April, KI5CSK <b>Treasurer</b> 210-642-9391	Jon April, KI5CSK <b>Field Day</b> 210-642-9391
<b>Board of Directors</b>	Paul Guido, N5IUT <b>Finance and Review Committee</b> 210-289-0473
Harold Fleischer, AE5AS ( Board <b>Chairman of the</b> 210-497-2532	John Douglas – W5NZK <b>Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) Committee</b> 210-887-8317
Richard Elder, WB5ACN (Running again) <b>Director through 2025</b> 210-658-3937	Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ <b>Centennial Committee</b> 210-481-3443

Benny <b>Director</b> 210-269-1402	Martinez, <b>through</b>	NU5P <b>2026</b>			
JC <b>Director</b> 210-522-6167	Smith, <b>through</b>	N5RXS <b>2027</b>	<b>Radio</b> Aubrey 210-602-4291	<b>Fiesta</b> Mason,	<b>Committee</b> WA6DMI
Rodney <b>Director</b> 210-286-4480	Brown, <b>through</b>	AA5RB <b>2028</b>	Benny <b>Volunteer</b> 210-269-1402	Martinez, <b>Examiners</b>	NU5P <b>Team</b>
Bill Craft, <b>Director</b> 210-570-0335 Royce Bell will take this over.	KD2HIQ <b>through</b>	(Next Chairman) <b>2029</b>	<b>Appointed</b> Jimmie <b>Bexar Wire</b> 210-563-2121	Neff, <b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Positions</b> WJ4M <b>Editor</b>
			Bill <b>Webmaster</b> 210-570-0335	Craft,	KD2HIQ
*Officers are also a part of the Board of Directors.			Rodney <b>Silent</b> 210-286-4480	Brown, <b>Key</b>	AA5RB <b>Committee</b>

### ICOM IC-7300 Mk2, A First Look Jim Neff, WJ4M



sensitive receiver.

My new IC 7300 Mk2 was delivered last Saturday. I already had an IC 7300, and was anticipating the improvements the new rig has over the older generation. I was especially interested in the CW decoder feature as I would like to have a set of “training wheels” when I have a longer QSO using CW. I’m ok for the quick “fist bump” exchange typical of Parks on the Air, bur when I’m in a longer QSO it is easy to lose track and miss words. The HDMI jack on the back is another attractive feature I’ve not yet used, but I have a monitor to try it on. The ads say it uses less power and has a more

The radio is very familiar, almost a direct copy of the older model 7300. The main difference is in the menu structure and the connections on back. When you open the “Keyer” menu you now have a Keyer and a Decoder choice. More on the decoder later. There is also a menu for the network connection to connect to a wired ethernet. You also have a menu item for the display that lets you set the resolution of the external display. Those are the new menu items I’ve seen so far.

Otherwise, the back has several new connections. Most noticeable are the external antenna connections, the ethernet connector, the HDMI video jack and the new USB C connector. Operationally, an experienced IC-7300 user will feel right at home.

How about the CW decoder? Well, for me it is a disappointment. I can compare it to the decoder built into the Elecraft KX-3. It works well when you have a strong signal, tuned to the right tone. Even then, if there is noise (when is there not noise?) it can give false letters. I’m afraid the “training wheels” are often square. Maybe I just don’t have things adjusted right? Time, and experience, will tell.

As for sensitivity and near signal rejection, I am not technically equipped to measure it. I can say that it is OK, but I don’t see a big difference from the older model 7300. I think the acid test will be on Winter Field Day when I’m operating CW.

I can say that the transmitter works well. So far, I’ve had no trouble making contact with weaker stations. I consistently get better signal reports than I give. Maybe I’m too stingy.

Is the cost worth it to have the newest IC-7300 Mk2? I’m glad I have it. Nothing is wrong with having the latest, just in case the claims of improvements are right. However, if I were a new ham looking for my first HF rig, I’d snap up a great deal on the older IC-7300. Venders are still selling the IC-7300 and the new radio price is still over a thousand dollars. A pristine used IC-7300 can be had for around \$700. That is a lot of radio for the money.  
73, WJ4M



## It's time to renew your membership.

The membership page on the website has been updated for 2026. Membership Renewals before January 13, 2026 get the discounted rate of \$12.00. The new members rate is \$15.00 and is prorated after April.

The membership application form has been updated for 2026 for those who prefer to mail in their dues. ([Application](#))

Using the online payment is our preferred method of renewals or new memberships. (<https://w5sc.org/membership/>)

Bill Membership Committee Craft, KD2HIQ



### 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."



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

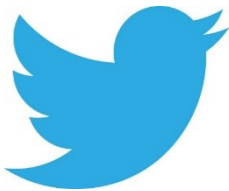
If you haven't signed up for group.io, you should. Groups.io is our primary email messaging method to all club members. It is FREE for all members.

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.

### Radio Fiesta 2026

Radio Fiesta 2026 will be at Schertz Civic Center on May 29-30. Get a table and bring stuff to sell or just come in and browse the deals, listen to the presentations and swap tales. Hope to see you there!

### Field Day 2026

Field Day 2026 will be here before you know it. Start planning for FD 2026, where SARC proves they are an eating group with a radio problem.

### License Testing Dates for 2026

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." If not otherwise noted, testing site is Leon Valley Library, 6425 Evers Rd, Leon Valley, TX 78238

#### Scheduled for 2026

Feb 21 12:00

April 25 12:00

May 30 Radio Fiesta 1:30

June 28 Field day

Aug 22 12:00

Oct 24 12:00 Leon Valley Fire Station

Dec 20 12:00

## Amateur Radio License Classes

For more information, check the club web page, W5SC.org

## SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ  
Billc851@gmail.com

## SARC Meeting Dates for 2025

- January 8, 2026
- February 12, 2026
- March 12, 2026
- April 9, 2026
- May 14, 2026
- June 11, 2026
- July 9, 2026
- August 13, 2026
- September 10, 2026
- October 8, 2026
- November 12, 2026
- 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

## Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency communications, contact:  
Ned Lee, KG5US RACES Bexar County

210-344-3481 / 210-391-8258

The ARES EC for Bexar County is Patricia Coley, KI7IEE,  
Phone 206 949-8974  
email [cosmicfire@gmail.com](mailto:cosmicfire@gmail.com)