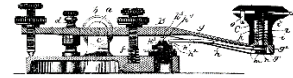




Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2025, No. 6

June 2025



A Celebration of Community, Communication, and Technology

This year's event will take place at Schertz Civic Center, 1400 Schertz Pkwy, Schertz, TX on June 6 & 7, 2025. **Admission information is at**

<https://w5sc.org/radio-fiesta-2025-information/>

*There is an outdoor tailgate area and indoor tables where you can find all kinds of HF, VHF, and UHF radios, vintage radios, and components. I always end up discovering something I didn't know I needed.

*Throughout the day, there are presentations from experts like Steve Cerwin WA5FRF at 9:00 AM on Antennas.

*If you're thinking about getting your ham license or upgrading, take your exam at the event!

*Raffle prizes

Grand Prize: Icom IC-718 100W HF Base Station

2nd Prize: Icom IC-2730A 50W VHF/UHF Dual-Band

3rd Prize: Baofeng UV-22—with Bluetooth programmer

4th Prize: Baofeng UV-22—with Bluetooth programmer

The next meeting, June 12, 2025, will be at 7 PM at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216, (210) 251-2602. Topic: Field Day

*Even if you've never used a radio before, I encourage you to come by. Whether you're interested in emergency communication, seeing old friends, or making new friends, there's something for everyone.

Paul Guido, N5IUT

ARRL FIELD DAY



JUNE 28-29

Experience ARRL Field Day 2025 with AARO, SADRC and SARC!

Get ready for one of the most exciting ama-

teur radio events of the year! ARRL Field Day 2025 is coming up on June 28–29, and this year's local event is hosted by the San Antonio Radio Club (SARC), San Antonio Digital Radio Club (SADRC), and the Alamo Area Radio Organization (AARO).

Field Day 2025 will be at the City of Shavano Park, 900 Saddletree Court Shavano Park, TX 78231 starting the setup at 1:30 PM.

That is correct, this year we will begin setup at 1:30 PM. The delay is due to a city held "Independence Day Celebration" that conflicted with our normal start time. The Mayor, City Manager and Event Manager reached out to the club and wanted to make sure that this delay would not impact our event.

I assured them that our operations would continue with a delayed start.

Field Day is more than just a radio event, it's a 24-hour demonstration of emergency preparedness, community outreach, and learning about setting up a ham radio station in less-than-ideal circumstances. Please come out and get on the air. Last year we contacted Australia!

Join us and be part of this event, radio is more fun when we are learning together!

PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
6 R		N5IUT			San Antonio, TX		June 2025
TO							

Hello South Texas,

June 2025 is stacked with great events for the Amateur Radio Operator!

June 6-7 is Radio Fiesta at Schertz Civic Center, 1400 Schertz Pkwy, Schertz, TX 78154 <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sarc-radio-fiesta-2025-tickets-1004659302017>

Thursday June 12, 2025, the San Antonio Radio Club Meeting is at Blanco BBQ.

Friday, June 13, 2025, Texas Water Safari "The World's Toughest Canoe Race" begins.
b, 9:00am - 10:00am Medina County ARC

Saturday, June 21, 2025, San Antonio Digital Radio Club Meeting, at Lupe Tortilla 21103 U.S. Hwy 281 N, San Antonio, TX 78258

Saturday, June 21, 2025, BSides SATX Computer Security Conference at St Mary's University.
<https://www.bsidesatx.com/>

Friday, June 27, 2025, ROOST monthly meeting. R.O.O.S.T. clubhouse at 7201 Palm Park Blvd. in San Antonio

Saturday June 28, 2025, through **Sunday June 29, 2025**, is **Field Day 2025**. Come join AARO, SADRC and SARC at The City of Shavano Park, 900 Saddletree Court, Shavano Park, TX 78231. We will arrive at the Field Day site at 1:30 PM to start setting up the event.
Please attend these great events and meetings!

73

Paul Guido, N5IUT, President

Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:



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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., May 8, 2025

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

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM//Pledge of Allegiance//Introductions

Presentation: Paul Guido, N5IUT – Nostalgia for packet radio and pre-internet digital communications.

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 – Reminded members about the scholarship fundraiser, and the November drawing for Icom radios. Tour of a national emergency center is available 4/12/24 from 10 AM to noon. Contact Paul Guido to attend.

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 – Provided summary of expenses and income received, including Radio Fiesta venue and prizes for that event.

Chairman of the Board Report – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS – No report

Education and Training – Marvin “Marlo” Brown (KJ5BQV) & Travis Buhler (KI5TXG): Working on options for venue for holding an in-person class.

Emergency Communications – Ned Lee KG5US – Absent

Web Site – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ

Activities for March

1. Web Site-
 - a. Posted newsletters
 - b. Tailgate
 - c. Radio Fiesta info & flyers
 - d. Radio Fiesta volunteer form & tracker
2. Groups.io
 - a. Updated membership list
 - b. Updated calendar
3. Mail chimp- Meeting notice, Zoom Notice
4. Twitter
5. Facebook -Meeting notice

MEMBERSHIP

Membership	As of 4/10/2025		
Paid 114	New Members for 2025		
Free / Mil 5	First	Last	Call
Family Members 18	Scott	Stanford	W5SLS
Free / RF 3	John M	Shepherd	W5BSR
Free / VE 14	Owen	Slubowski	KJ5DDZ
ARRL Members 81	Linda K.	Jobe	KE8RXX
	Harold	Jobe	WC8L
	Ron	Wingenter	AA5OX
Total Membership 153	Micah June	Culpepper	

Notes:

Teddy Morse, KE5QGR was first volunteer to sign up for RF.

Thanks to Derek Moyes, K1DDM to creating volunteer tracker for RF – link to check your day/time.

POTA: 4/12/25 scheduled. Details to follow.

Fox Hunt – Steve Ortiz – KJ5HIH – None scheduled. Two will be scheduled for 2025.

Newsletter Editor – Jimmie Neff – Newsletter distributed April 8, 2025. Contact Jimmy if you want to contribute an article for publication. Deadline is the Monday before the monthly meeting.

Field Day – Jon April: Joint effort with AARO and SADRC. Volunteers needed to staff the event, help with setup and teardown, operate the radios, including two overnight operators. 4th full weekend in June.

Finance and Review – Previously completed.

JOTA – Position vacant. No Report.

Centennial Committee – Tom O’Brien AB5XZ – No report.

Radio Fiesta – Aubrey Mason – Volunteers needed for this event. Sign-up is available at the club’s website. Benefits: free admission ticket to the event for two-hour shift plus free raffle ticket. Radio Fiesta for 2026 will be May 29-30.

VE Team – Benny Martinez, NU5P

Testing opportunities:

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

June 7 Radio Fiesta 1:30
June 29 Field Day
Aug 23 12:00
Oct 25 12:00 Leon Valley Fire Station
Dec 20 12:00

Silent Key Committee – Rodney Brown, AA5RB – Equipment available for purchase.

Executive – No report.

Election Committee – Paul Guido, N5IUT – No Report.

Scholarship Committee – This year, we will raffle Icom radios. 3 prizes. 1st: IC-7610, 2nd IC-7300, 3rd ID-52A. Nominate your favorite young local ham today for these scholarships! Tickets on sale now for \$25 each. Maximum tickets to sell: 400.

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

New Business – None

Announcements

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:40 PM.

Other June Happenings: Texas Water Safari SATX Computer Security Conference

Texas Water Safari and Amateur Radio Paul Guido, N5IUT



Amateur Radio operators play a vital role in the safety, logistics, and communications of the Texas Water Safari.

Operators are stationed at key checkpoints—such as Staples Dam, Luling, Palmetto State Park, Hochheim, and others—to log team numbers as they pass through and relay that information. They operate 24/7 during the race, using repeaters, simplex and HF transmitting updates to maintain a running tally of participants.

In critical or emergency situations (e.g., if a team cannot reach the next checkpoint or motor rescue is needed), operators act as the bridge between on-the-river captains and race.

The team captain contacts the station via ham radio, providing essential details—boat number,

names, location, time—to enable quick response and avoid unnecessary search efforts.

Although satellite trackers (SPOT, Garmin inReach) are used, ham radio serves as a reliable fallback, especially in areas with poor satellite or cellular coverage near swamps, bay crossings, and deep river corridors.

Local ham clubs like Hill Country REACT organize sessions to ensure systems work reliably before race day.

Why Ham Radio Matters:

- **Reliability:** Works even where satellite or cellular signals drop out.
- **Speed:** Radio transmissions can relay real-time updates to safety and logistics teams.
- **Coordination & Safety:** Gives race officials real-time situational awareness and a direct, fail-safe line for emergencies.
- **Community Contribution:** Offers a meaningful way for local amateur radio volunteers to support a major endurance event.

Amateur Radio operators form the backbone of the Texas Water Safari's real-time tracking and safety network. By staffing checkpoints, relaying team check-ins, and serving as the emergency communications bridge, they enable organizers to monitor progress, react to potential issues,

and ensure all teams stay safe across the 260-mile course.

To Volunteer: Text Don Kichner, W5DK at (Two One Zero – Two One Three – Four Six Zero three)

Texas Water Safari "The World's Toughest Canoe Race" June 13, 2025



The Texas Water Safari—often dubbed "The World's Toughest Canoe Race"—is a legendary annual endurance paddling event with a rich history dating back over six decades. In the summer of 1962, Frank Brown and Bill "Big Willie" George embarked on an ambitious journey. They paddled a 133-lb motorboat (without a motor) from San Marcos to Corpus Christi. Their multi week voyage covered over 330 miles through rivers, rapids, logjams, and swarms of mosquitoes. Inspired by their adventure, Brown and George organized the first Texas Water Safari in June 1963. The inaugural race followed the same route, attracted 127 entrants (126 men and 1 woman), and only 2 boats finished.

Currently the race is about 260–262 miles from San Marcos Springs to Seadrift. Participants must paddle without motors, carrying all their gear, food, and repair tools from the start. Only water and ice can be resupplied by their team captains.

The race includes around 11 checkpoints with strict cutoff times, and teams have a maximum of 100 hours to reach the finish. The combination of distance, whitewater rapids, logjams, portages, swamps, bay crossing, Texas heat, and encounters with wildlife (alligators, snakes, fire ants, mosquitoes) contribute to its brutal reputation.

Many racers suffer from exhaustion, injury, hallucinations and some have died. Even well-prepared athletes can drop out; the course demands unwavering resilience. Around 40% of entrants typically fail to finish.

The record for the Unlimited Class was set in 1997: a six-person crew completed it in just 29 hours 46 minutes!

Over the years, records have been set in multiple categories solo paddlers to mixed and novice teams. Noteworthy feats include a solo men's time of 36:03 (2007) and mixed team fastest time 37:45 (2007). The youngest solo finisher was only 9 years old in 2003.

The Route in Brief

San Marcos Springs → Luling → Palmetto
State Park

Quick rivers, rapids, several portages in first ~75 miles.

Palmetto State Park → Victoria

Slower-flowing sections, checkpoints, and long night paddles.

Victoria → Seadrift (San Antonio Bay)

Final stretch through logjams, swamp cuts, and a bay crossing that can make or break a finisher.

Echoing the rugged Texas spirit, it continues to draw competitors from around the globe, keeping alive the vision of Brown and George.

(For more information control click here: [Home](#))



Volunteer Examiners at Work



From Bennie Martinez, NU5P VE Coordinator

No report for This month

Register at HamTest@w5sc.org

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



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

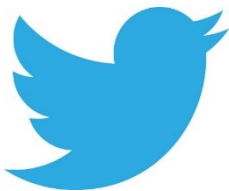
If you haven't signed up for group.io, you should. Groups.io is our primary email messaging method to all club members. It is FREE for all members.

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. In actuality, any team member already a part of the w5sc.slack.com can invite you, but Paul is known to be on it.

Amateur Radio License Classes

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

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/>

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

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

Radio Fiesta 2025

Radio Fiesta 2025 will be at Schertz Civic Center on June 6-7. 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 2025

Field Day exercise, June 28 – 29 at the City of Shavano Park city hall for the twenty second year. Start planning for FD 2025, where SARC proves they are an eating group with a radio problem.

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

SARC Meeting Dates for 2025

January 9, 2025
February 13, 2025
March 13, 2025
April 10, 2025
May 8, 2025
June 12, 2025
July 10, 2025
August 14, 2025
September 11, 2025
October 9, 2025
November 13, 2025
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

License Testing Dates for 2025

SARC does all of its licensing testing as a part
of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator
(VEC) or- ganization so all of the Volunteer
Examiners in SARC are duly authorized Vol-
unteer Examiners of ARRL's VEC.

Register at HamTest@w5sc.org

Other info at W5SC.org click "Getting
Started" then "Testing." If not other-
wise noted, testing site is Leon Valley Li-
brary, 6425 Evers Rd, Leon Valley, TX
78238

Scheduled for 2025

June 7 Radio Fiesta 1:30
June 29 Field day
Aug 23 12:00
Oct 25 12:00 Leon Valley Fire Station
Dec 20 12:00