

This report was submitted to ARRL HQ at 6:58 PM June 17, 2020  
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Monthly Section Emergency Coordinator Report to ARRL Headquarters  
ARRL Section: South Texas Month: May Year: 2020  
AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

Total number of ARES members: 1664 Change since last month: 11  
# DEC/ECs reporting this month: 32  
# of ARES nets active: 187 # with NTS liaison: 75

Calls of DEC/ECs reporting: **AE5VV K5BV K5DDM K5LGV K5WEL K7MAL KB5DTS  
KD4HNX KD5BJ KD5JBT KE5FGA KE5HAM KE5MHJ KF4WSO KF5NIX KG5RXG  
KI5FU KW5PA N5LVQ N5MDT N5MGC N5MTX N5SBN N5TW N5TW/XYL N5WKM  
W3OQ WB5HJV WB5TAD WB5UZZ WD5H WP2AHG**

Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month	100	Person hours:	2732
Number of public service events this month	27	Person hours:	910
Number of emergency operations this month	24	Person hours:	493
Total number of ARES operations this month	334	Person hours:	4132

#### SEC

Work on STX Info Depot data

STX SEC Report generation

Russell Richter WP2AHG appointed EC for Harris-SW County May 6

Joe Bruno W5AUQ appointed EC for Guadalupe County May 9

Tom Hauer K0YA appointed EC for Blanco, Burnet and Llano County May 9

HF Net Control duty May 18

Red Cross Forms Training via Zoom May 27

4 weekly HF 3873 nets

Red Cross Drill May 30

#### ASEC Web

Backups and updates to the ARRLSTX.org website are done weekly.

The STXARES email group now has 564 members and the ARRLSTX group has 42. The STXARES group has subgroups for; Alerts, Digital-Comms, Districts 1-15, Training, and For-Sale-or-Wanted.

#### ASEC Other

STX Depot web pages and database oversight. Monthly review & stats.

Weekly Depot bounce report for pages sent during each week.

Helped a DEC manage a member's status from active to inactive.

Generated new pw for a member.

#### ASEC Advisor

Another very busy month focused on Winlink Beta Testing including a new VARA version that will be available on 5/30 and includes a 500Hz mode. Published a Winlink Digital Mode performance comparison based on simulator runs. Lots of simulator debugging too.

#### DISTRICT 01

##### EC Galveston County

Number of hours for drills, tests and training include 6 hours by one ARES member supporting League City's emergency communications operation and maintenance, 4 ARES members spent 25.5 hours preparing for, and supporting the ARC/ARES exercise. All of our public service events scheduled through June have been cancelled so far this year, so our reportable activities have been reduced below normal levels.

##### EC Montgomery County

Membership includes 13 liaisons to other organizations. (CERT, FD, etc.) Covid has us restrained.

##### EC Waller County

25 voice 14 digital

#### DISTRICT 02

##### EC Walker County

Two preparation training sessions for ARC drill using P2P/Packet/Winmor.  
ARC Drill 5-30-20 with 7 operators.

#### DISTRICT 03

#### DISTRICT 04

#### DISTRICT 05

##### EC Brazos County

We held 3 Skywarn nets. We held our monthly meeting as a net meeting. We had 10 hams participated on the American Red Cross and ARES exercise May 30th. everyone operated from home. I operated the Red Cross local station N5BVR from the house.

#### DISTRICT 06

#### DISTRICT 07

#### DEC

Lots of activity in May. Travis, Williamson and Lee participated in the Red Cross Digital

exercise on May 30. Lots of documents sent using Winlink, Vara FM and Vara HF. The licensed Vara software usage is expanding rapidly in District 7.

#### EC Hays County

hours and events data reported under Hays Co. All meetings are still being held virtually.

#### EC Lee County

LeeCARES had a busy month in training to put up new NVIS antenna and for KI5HHI passing three FEMA courses. KD5BJ participated weekly in Packet Cavalry and Winlink Wednesday. We had two formal KYWARN nets, through one of which we were able to notify the NWS of a newly formed tornado at intersection of HYY 77 and 21 going toward Old Dime Box, and one informal SKYWARN net. We also have been busy with our monthly meeting, and we had four successful nets, attracting new listeners and keeping the old faithful. Many are hams in Lee County not (yet) affiliated with LeeCARES. We prepared for the May 30 Spring 2020 Red Cross exercises and three members participated, two actively for the whole duration of the exercise, one only part time and watching and learning. We also attracted a prospective member living in Lee County and we helped him answering his questions about Winlink and added a new member who lives at the border between Lee and Williamson counties. KI5ABB is doing progress in improving deployment of higher antennas for the go kits. Two members have acquired new equipment to further their service with ARES to the community.

#### EC Milam County

#### EC Travis County

Lots of work put in preparing for ARC Drill. The Public Service event was a huge success. All participating stations were able to do P2P by either packet or VaraFm. Was also able to send VaraHF traffic to the SOC. We had 3 SKYWARN net activations of which one lasted almost 3 hours. Good training sessions on NVIS antenna modeling using EZNEC6.

#### EC Williamson County

WCARES had 4 SKYWARN Emergency Activations and 1 Informal Weather Net in May. One storm produced measured hail stones up to 2.5". Participation with NWS, Williamson County Sheriff Office, and Williamson County OEM. All activations were from home, business, or mobile. Emergency Operations Center was still locked down for whole month to absolute essential personnel only due to Covid-19.

WCARES participated in the Spring 2020 Red Cross Exercise. We had 21 participants, 19 activating Winlink stations as shelters, DOC or Backup DOC. We activated our Emcomm Trailer as the Backup DOC. Participation was both HF and VHF digital Winlink traffic. Over 80% of participants utilized the new VARA FM and VARA for HF software. Emcomm Trailer now has two stations for VARA FM operational with paid licenses and DRA-40 modems, that were donated.

This red cross exercise required more than anticipated setup and planning but came together very well. As a result, WCARES is much more capable for Winlink Digital Coms support operations now than just two weeks ago.

## DISTRICT 08

## DISTRICT 09

### EC Jasper County

We had a real meeting with 8 members present. Two people tested with one new ham and one upgrade. We decided to follow guidelines from ARRL on field day.

### EC Newton County

See Jasper County for all details. Reports are combined.

### EC Orange County

The 147.180 repeater had damage from electrical storms. ARES members were able to make repairs and put the repeater back in service.

### EC Tyler County

Tyler County ARES did not meet in May due to Covid-19.

## DISTRICT 10

## DISTRICT 12

### EC Gonzales County

I have a meeting set up on 6/11 with County Judge Pat Davis and County EMC Jimmy Harless to reintroduce ARES to the County. Working on MOU. Obtained building permit from TXVHFFM for repeater.

## DISTRICT 13

## DISTRICT 14

### DEC

TEXAS ARES Statewide HF Net (WB5HJV NCS) 5/4

ECHO Society Amateur Radio Club 5/11

Oak Forest Amateur Radio Club 5/23

District 14 Virtual Meeting featuring Jo Ann KA5AZK National Traffic System Overview 5/18

W0MAC RMS Gateway VHF/UHF rebuild (WB5HJV)

Meeting with Houston Red Cross officials 5/7, 5/17

TRAINING: Winlink for Beginners (W5LDK)

Red Cross Drill prep meetings (W5LDK/WB5HJV)

TRAINING: Winlink forms data import and message handling training 5/27

Pre RC/ARES drill work (W5LDK/WB5HJV)

"District 14 participated in National Red Cross/ARES drill 5/30

N5WAJ Red Cross

44 unique participants

39 Part A Net  
21 Part B Exercise  
36 operated under emergency power  
7 both ARES/ARC Membership  
4 ARC 213s sent  
31 ARC 6409s received and HF digital forwarded to K5SOC/W5RZG"  
Houston Area Hospital Net 5/31 (W5LDK/K5OB NCS) (38 participants)  
HF Nets, VHF Nets 7290, TTN, Texas ARES, (WB5HJV)  
HCARES D14 Wide Area Net 5/31 (WB5HJV NCS) (41 participants)

#### EC Harris-NW County

Still in lock down but did have a chance to work the Red Cross Drill to help prepare for hurricane season. Digital activity remains strong with several new members joining the team.

#### EC Harris-SW County

Linda Kangas W5LDK continues to do Winlink training.

New member KG5BCB Lisa Uhlich

2 new net control operator candidates.

13 participants in the ARC/ARES digital drill

Wayne Johnson K5OB accepted the role of Administrative AEC for the District 14 SW Unit

#### DISTRICT 15

#### DEC Cameron County

District 15 conducted four ARES Emergency nets on the STARS linked repeater system. One ARES Emergency Net operation. ARES net communicated with storm spotters and relayed info from the field to the weather experts. Digital DMR ARES NETS, HF ARES NETS, and weekly emergency communications gatherings, ect also took place. This report is inclusive of all activities that took place in all districts from ARES region 15.

Signature: Jeff Walter      Callsign:KE5FGA

ARRL Form 4