

This report was submitted to ARRL HQ at 8:03 AM December 12, 2020
 SM, SEC, ASEC, DEC and EC's are copied. Thank you for your input.

Monthly Section Emergency Coordinator Report to ARRL Headquarters			
ARRL Section: South Texas		Month: November	
Year: 2020			
AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE			
Total number of ARES members: 1592		Change since last month: 21	
# DECs/ECs reporting this month: 29			
# of ARES nets active: 150		# with NTS liaison: 96	
Calls of DECs/ECs reporting: AE5VV K0LTB K0YA K5BV K5DDM K5LGV K5RIK K5WEL K7MAL KB5DTS KD4HNX KD5BJ KE5FGA KF4WSO KG5IRM KG5JRA KG5RXG KI5FU N5LVQ N5MTX N5SBN N5TW N5TW/XYL N5WKM W5ATN WB5HJV WB5TAD WB5UZZ WD5H WP2AHG			
Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month	102	Person hours:	2805
Number of public service events this month	37	Person hours:	733
Number of emergency operations this month	2	Person hours:	38
Total number of ARES operations this month	291	Person hours:	3574

SEC

Work on STX webpage updates of ARES Content
 STX SEC Report generation
 ARES HF Net Control Duty taken by WA5LEE 70 participants November 16
 Confirmed current ASEC, DEC and EC roster with league HQ
 5 weekly HF 3873 nets

ASEC Web

Performed weekly backups of the website. Performed updates as need. Posted 6 new/updated articles. Created a new STX Events menu and STX Appointees menu.

ASEC Other

STX Depot web pages and database oversight. Monthly review & stats.
 Weekly Depot bounce report for pages sent during each week.

ASEC Advisor

Time spent beta testing Vara FM which has been released as version 4.0. Other time also Winlink related.

DISTRICT 01

EC Fort Bend County

Participated in the S.E.T. with 14 check-ins. 13 arc messages and 2 ICS messages. Weekly nets had 49 members send 176-213 check-in messages. Involvement in other county nets. Participated in Harris County hospital net and simplex net test.

Has some FLDGI training / test initiated by KG5WDF. Continue to work on getting members updated with ARES badges 34 completed, 20 pending

EC Galveston County

Number of hours of drills, tests and training included 2 members who provided 8 hours of support to the city of League City for their emergency communications systems and 2 members who provided 8 hours of support for the Galveston County Emergency Communications Group. Also, 4 ARES members provided 17 hours of support for one VEC test session. Six ARES members provided public service event communications support for the La Porte By The Bay Half Marathon.

DISTRICT 02

DISTRICT 03

DISTRICT 04

DISTRICT 05

EC Brazos County

11 members took part in the Nov 14th Red Cross exercise. Monthly meeting was done on Zoom. Asked members to continue to work on their Task Books. Asked members to practice sending Winlink messages.

EC Grimes County

we are on standby due to covid19, hope to start doing trainings and drills next year.

Also, we also lost a member to a heart attack. Silent Key KE5VPY Les Watson R.I.P.

DISTRICT 06

DISTRICT 07

DEC

Contacted ECs and asked them to contact their ARCHES sysops to get the hospital stations in their counties back up and functional. All but 1 Wilco hospitals are up. All but one in Hays Caldwell are up. Still waiting on several hospitals in Travis to get sysops for several hospitals. All packet stations in D-7 are being tested daily.

EC Caldwell County

Hours reported under Hays Co.

EC Hays County

Completed Luling ARCHES antenna upgrade. Participated in Red Cross Comm. Exercise. met with new San Marcos emergency management personnel.

EC Lee County

The month of November saw Lee Co ARES (LeeCARES) members involved in numerous activities.

The EmComm Plan has been completed.

Members have worked on radio equipment and radio and antenna installations in their vehicles.

We tested the beta version and finally new version of VARA FM.

We prepared formally with an IAP to an exercise to test the signal strength of the two repeaters' and a simplex frequency at about every cross road in the northern section of the County.

The results were exceptional:

Signal on all three frequencies were strong to and from Net Control located in Lincoln, thanks to the adjustment of the height of the antennas, which resulted from the more informal exercise back in April.

However, communications were not as strong with a station located in Coupland, TX, outside the County, and between mobile to mobile.

So LeeCARES is resolved to retest the area with just mobile to mobile communications to see what permanent infrastructure of mast and an antenna we need to add in the area so that any emergency responder with a FCC license can communicate in case of total communications disaster.

Thanks to the idea of one of our members, we will divide the County no longer in geographical areas, but according to precincts, giving us a chance to develop a relationship with each commissioner and maybe using County infrastructure for permanent antennas. This will allow us to be formally introduced to the whole Commissioner Court.

LeeCARES also participated successfully to the American Red Cross Fall 2020 drill, that required sending specific digital messages through the ARC 213 forms, in a simulated scenario of a devastating severe weather event crippling in different ways each Division nationwide. We sent digital messages individually and as a group through VARA FM to the Southwest and Rocky Mountains Division. We joined 1,550 operators in forty-seven states, plus Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and Canada sending a total of 1750 messages. We are looking forward to participating in the 2021 Spring exercise.

We kept working on right language and documentation for grants and for applying to the Government Surplus Program.

Finally, we enjoyed a presentation on Digital Mobile Radios (DMRs) offered by a visitor, a retired Safety Officer of CalFire, at our monthly meeting.

EC Milam County

training on winlink2k install & setup

EC Williamson County

Still in the Covid Jungle. Added 16 new members, some that had queued for a while due to Covid restricting our in-person meetings, trainings, getting to know each other. They will complete 100, 700, etc. over the next couple of months. Preparing operations for Winter Field Days on last weekend of January with all our equipment at a local lake campground. Currently have 14 campsites reserved. Last year (pre Covid) we had over 50 attendees. We will see what this year brings. One

emergency activation this month due to weather event. Members have been updating digital systems to VARA 4.0. Hospitals still off limits though. Merry Christmas everyone!!

DISTRICT 08

DEC

1. Winlink to two events (i Red Cross) 3 hours

2 Red Cross, Duty including Planning Section Chief (AD IP) 147 hours

DISTRICT 09

EC Jasper County

Silent Key Greg KC5AK Jasper, Tx.

EC Newton County

See Jasper County for additional details.

EC Orange County

Worked on back up VHF repeater. Setting up APRS digipeater with IGATE to be operational before end of Dec 2020.

DISTRICT 10

DISTRICT 12

EC Gonzales County

New Repeater Frequency: 145.270 Tone 107.2

DISTRICT 13

DISTRICT 14

DEC

- WEBEOC Training 11/4 (15 participants)- ARES members log into WEBEOC and perform functions including STAR requests

- Texas ARES HF Net 11/02 65 check ins, conditions: Extremely Long, length: 33 minutes (WB5HJV NCS)

- Repeater work / Simulated Emergency Test preparation

- ECHO Society Meeting 11/09

- HCARES D14 meeting - presentation by KE4DRF, Ron, STX Traffic Manager on NTS; 52 attendees 11/16

- Houston Area Hospital net 11/29 (W5LDK ADEC NCS) 48 participants

- Oak Forest Radio Club Meeting 11/21 18 participants

- ARES / Red Cross Drill - Simulated Emergency Test - Voice coordination net 11/14 (2 repeaters in use; 90 participants; 29 portable/mobile)

- ARES / Red Cross Drill - Simulated Emergency Test - Winlink messaging test 11/14 (48 Winlink messages with ARC-213 attachment passed)

- ARES / Red Cross Drill - Simulated Emergency Test - NTS traffic exercise 11/14 (VHF NTS net held with 28 radiograms passed on VHF and HF; 34 participants)

- ARES / Red Cross Drill - Simulated Emergency Test - Served agency activations 11/14 (HCOHSEM TranStar, Red Cross Houston HQ, Houston Transit Authority - METRO, Fort Bend EOC, Galveston County EOC, Jersey Village EOC, Tomball EOC - 11 operators)

- HCARES D14 wide area simplex net 11/29 (145.700 MHz county wide simplex frequency)
- SW Unit drill - 11/4 HCARES DEC called a surprise drill for the weekly SW Unit net declaring repeater inoperable requesting members to utilize secondary/backup frequency (WB5HJV)
- AE5PA, Earl, ADEC-Training - District training work - preparing / refreshing training articles for training database in use across multi-units / sections
- W5LDK, Linda, ADEC attended Disaster Preparedness for the Healthcare Organization within the Community Infrastructure

EC Harris-NW County

Our team participated in the SET this month. The lessons learned were valuable within our team. We have focused on learning to pass messages through NTS. We have several volunteers working currently on ICS class completion. We continue to try to find ways to prepare and stay ready if needed.

EC Harris-SW County

NTS ramping up under Ron Bosch KE4DRF who also held an NTS training session.

Wide participation in the ARC/ARES 2020 Simulated Emergency Test

DISTRICT 15

Jeffery A Walter – KE5FGA

ARRL STX SEC

RACES 16-201-U

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