ARES District 4 Net Script
__August 10, 2017__(net date)
Script Rev 07-03-2017

Good Evening everyone and welcome to the South Texas District 4 ARES net. This is

___**TOM**_____ *(name)* _**K5BV**__ *(call)*

_____**ARES EC for ARANSAS and SAN PATRICIO COUNTIES**__
         (position e.g. member, AEC, etc. & County)

I will be the Net Control Station for tonight's net. First, if there are any stations with priority or emergency traffic please call

__**K5BV**__ *(call)* at this time. UN-KEY

Either s*ay "**nothing heard**" or handle the traffic immediately.*

All hams in all Counties are welcome to check in to this net. You do not need to be an ARES member to participate in this net.

The purpose of ARES, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, is to furnish emergency communications via amateur radio when regular means of communications fail or become inadequate during an emergency situation. ARES is sponsored by the ARRL, and supported by area radio clubs and individual hams. The only qualifications for ARES are that you possess an amateur radio license and you have a desire to help others. For more information or off-net questions please contact one of the following by email

      Mark Dist. 4 EC - ad5ca@arrl.net
      Tom EC for Aransas & San Patricio County - - - - - k5bv@arrl.net
      Bob Asst EC for Aransas County - - - - - - - - - - - - kf5cfu@arrl.net
      Jim EC for Live Oak County - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - w5im@arrl.net
      Harley EC for Kelberg County - - - - - - - - - - - - - - kg5ayd@arrl.net

Tonight is an exception being on the Second Thursday, this Net is normally scheduled monthly for the First Thursday at 8 PM. This is subject to change. We are currently using the 146.820 repeater in Corpus Christi with a (-) MINUS offset and a 107.2 tone.

This net is being conducted for the purpose of providing training and information related to emergency communications; to serve as a forum for discussion; and to foster fellowship among Amateur Radio operators.

Next, are there any operators who would like to make announcement or provide information related to EmComm? This is not general check-in. Please State your call now.

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Tonight after Check-In **I will summarize some of the information from Forums at the Austin Summerfest conducted Saturday August 5th.**

To Check-in If the frequency has been clear a second or two key the MIC and s-l-o-w-l-y give your FCC call sign using ITU phonetics spoken clearly and slowly and UNKEY. Stating your name as well will be appreciated. Writing calls down takes a moment so allow a couple of seconds. Keep checking in and calls will be reviewed for clarifications, errors and missed calls. Please check-in with __K5BV__ (Call) now.

(note these actions)
- *read each call back,*
- *ask for corrections*
- *ask for additional check-ins*

We ask for questions and comments after tonight's review of EmComm related SummerFest Forums.

This is K5BV

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Before we go down the list for comments if there any late check-ins please provide you call now.

(again note these actions)
- *read each call back,*
- *ask for corrections*

Net Control __K5BV__ *(your call)* will now go down the list for comments.

- *go down list of check-ins*
- *now have presenter give their comments)*

Final call for check-ins. Additional stations for the net please check-in now with __K5BV__ *(your call)*.

(again note these actions)
- *read each call back,*
- *ask for corrections*
- *ask for comments*

THIS IS NET. We had XX check-ins tonight. Thank you all for joining the ARES net tonight, and thanks to the repeater owners and mountaineers for the use of these fine repeaters. I am now closing the net and returning these repeaters back to normal amateur radio use. Stations may remain on frequency to make additional QSOs.
Net Control __K5BV__ *(your call)* Out.

FCC CALL   **NAME**   **Date** 08-10-2017

01 _____   _____ *(ENTER NET CONTROL)*

02 _____   _____

03 _____   _____

04 _____   _____

05 _____   _____

06 _____   _____

07 _____   _____

08 _____   _____

09 _____   _____

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19 _____   _____

20 _____   _____

21 _____   _____

22 _____   _____

23 _____   _____

24 _____   _____

25 _____   _____

Tonight we will review August 5th Austin SummerFest topics from the ARES and ARRL Forums and Meetings.

ARES Forum
The primary topic was a high level discussion of Mesh network systems using amateur bands suitable for high speed data transmission operating with modified commercially available hardware. This is known by the acronym AREDN from Amateur Radio Emergency Digital Network. The presentation was made by Darryl Quinn K5DLQ

A connection to the traditional Internet or World Wide Web is not needed to have an AREDN.

A Mesh network is a network topology in which each node relays data for the network. All Mesh nodes cooperate in the distribution of data in the network. It can be applied to both wired and wireless connected nodes.

An AREDN may include a Backbone network connection between Mesh networks.

An implemented AREDN system allows a large number of terminals to be connected and exchange information in many formats such as text messages, chat rooms, voice, images and videos.

The size of the network may be scaled and may include a couple of locations within a city up to many locations even crossing county lines and farther.

The implementation uses UBIQUITI wireless networking hardware with AREDN software replacing the commercial software and then using amateur bands from 900 MHZ to 5.9 GHZ. There are opportunities to avoid Part 15 frequencies.

For personal research I would suggest the WEB site aredn.org, QST June 2017 and entering AREDN in your favorite search engine.

This is not my area of knowledge and if interested in more information please use the references I provided.

ARRL Forum
ARRL West Gulf Division Director David Woolweaver K5RAV began with recent happenings at the ARRL. The two topics I recall were:

The First topic -
The FCC will increase enforcement activities. In response to this the ARRL will be making some changes in the Official Observer Program that uses hams known by the abbreviation OO.

It was stated in the Forum that a single OO informing the FCC of an issue would be unlikely to trigger an FCC investigation. However, if three OOs independently inform the FCC of the same issue then an FCC investigation is likely to be undertaken.

The Second topic -
The ARRL is exploring a new entry level of amateur license. From an ARRL August 3rd email a new license level is not popular among amateurs.

The same news letter stated that *"the Board charged the ARRL Executive Committee with developing a plan to implement the ad hoc committee's recommendation to make the current Technician class license more attractive and useful by expanding its operating privileges on HF to include phone and digital modes. The Board asked the Ad Hoc Entry-Level License Committee to further research and develop the details of a second recommendation to improve successful outreach to prospective radio amateurs and help them through the licensing process."*

This was followed by an interesting presentation covering Portable Operation centered around the National Parks On The Air 2016 event

ARES MEETING for Dist ECs with ECs, Asst ECs
Finally there was an ARES Meeting during the lunch hour. It was chaired by the South Texas Section EC Jeff Walter KE5FGA. The main points I got from the meeting were:

Item 1 - A passport type picture on the ARES Info Depot WEB site is needed to generate a badge. At the present time our District 4 is not getting eligible for these badges. Sending a picture to your EC is appropriate to be ready for the new type of ARES badges.

Item 2 - Contact information as well as call, class of license, addresses need to all be current on the ARRL STX ARES.

It is helpful to keep training and participation up to date at the same ARES WEB Site.

The site may be accessed at arrlstx.org and at the top move mouse over STX ARES, there will be a drop down without clicking. Select the STX Info Depot. Login, register, recover password as needed.

Item 3 -
The final item involves a Simulated Emergency Test. I'll leave this topic for Mark, AD5CA.

I will ask AD5CA, Mark, to make comments and add information. Also maybe a few words on a local Simulated Emergency Test.