ARES District 4 Net Script

____June 7, 2018_Rev A____ (net date)
Script Rev 03-01-2018

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

__**Tom**__ *(name)* __**K5BV**__ *(call)*

__**ARES 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

he net is currently scheduled monthly for the First Thursday at 8 PM. This is subject to change. We are currently using the 147.060 repeater in Corpus Christi with a (+) PLUS 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.

Tonight after Check-In _**we will have a discussion of generators going into a bit more detail than our February 1st Net early this year**_.

For Check-In, if the frequency has been clear a second or two key the MIC and s-l-o-w-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 will have comments after the tonight's material on **_Generators_**.

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>>>> RESUME AFTER MATERIAL

This is K5BV.

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 **_K6BV_** *(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 _____ *(your call)* Out.

FCC CALL	NAME	DATE 06-07-2018
01 _____	_____ *(ENTER NET CONTROL)*	
02 _____	_____	
03 _____	_____	
04 _____	_____	
05 _____	_____	
06 _____	_____	
07 _____	_____	
08 _____	_____	
09 _____	_____	
10 _____	_____	
11 _____	_____	
12 _____	_____	
13 _____	_____	
14 _____	_____	
15 _____	_____	
16 _____	_____	
17 _____	_____	
18 _____	_____	
19 _____	_____	
20 _____	_____	
21 _____	_____	
22 _____	_____	
23 _____	_____	
24 _____	_____	
25 _____	_____	

Some of tonight's material is based on Harris County ARES Training WEB Site. Hopefully this material will stimulate more personal research on the topic of generators.

SELECTING A GENERATOR

There are a variety of back-up power sources available for amateur radio stations to use during emergency communication situations such as: deep cycle batteries, solar panels, generators. Of these a generator is likely the most versatile and longest lasting if properly maintained. There are several types of generators.

Permanent Installation

Permanent installation generators are designed to be located at a building such as a home, business or an EOC. These are powered by an internal combustion engine and are either fueled by diesel, natural gas, or propane.

Selection of the size, fuel type, preventative maintenance, spare parts, testing schedule all need to be researched in advance and are beyond the scope of tonight's ARES topic.

Trailer-mounted Generators

Generators large enough to run locations such as a small retail store, an office or emergency service agency are typically trailer mounted and are fueled by diesel. These tend to be rated at higher power and are quite expensive and likely out of the price range for most amateur radio emergency communicators.

After Hurricane Harvey many trailer mounted generators were hauled into our area. Keep in mind a quote from the former Texas Chief of Emergency Management, Jack Colley, "a trailer-mounted generator takes more than duct tape and a buck knife to hook it up. Be sure it comes with an electrician."

Portable Generators

Amateur radio emergency communicators frequently use a portable generator.

Portable generators have a capacity of between 1-18KW. Of course they become less portable as they get larger. This type of generator is fueled most often by gasoline and consume gasoline very quickly. A typical 5KW generator weighs 150 lbs. and includes an engine in the 9 HP range.

Some generators have electric start. If the starter battery is not charged good quality portable generators are easy to start with the manual pull starter.

Portable generators are typically open-frame so they are quite noisy and are not protected from the weather.

Inverter Portable Generators

Many smaller generators use an advanced alternator design and an inverter. This design

provides a generator that is very quiet, small and lightweight compared to ordinary generators of the same capacity. The inverter type generator is ideal for amateur radio emergency and public service communications.

These generators are usually enclosed and have effective mufflers so they are fairly quiet. They are also fuel efficient.

A word of caution: you do get what you pay for when you purchase a generator. Purchase a well-known engine manufacturer's product.

Initial Use and Preventive Maintenance

Don't be fooled into thinking that a new generator is ready for use in an emergency if it has been left in the shipping box in the corner of the garage. Just as driving to San Antonio, buying a new generator and hurrying home thinking everything is in the box seldom works out.

Plan ahead by setting it up being sure the proper plugs and cords are available. Have a supply of oil, be sure you have the filters, spark plugs and tools to keep it running.

Once a new generator is fueled the first time a disciplined scheduled preventive maintenance cycle is required.

A generator that is kept fueled with gasoline or diesel needs to have:
- appropriate additives such as stabilizer in gasoline and biocide in diesel.
- run every 4 to 6 weeks until throughly warmed up
- drain and replace the fuel before running every 3rd month

Follow generator instructions for storing that will include:
- removing all the fuel including draining the fuel tank, hoses and carburetor
- change or clean fuel, oil and air filters
- spray preserving oil into fuel tank, fuel lines, carburetor and cylinders
- inspect hoses annually and replace hoses when they are 4 years old

Generator Safety

Generators are a mainstay for prolonged EMCOMM work, but they can be dangerous if not handled with respect. Since generators produce the common house voltage of 120 Volts, the normal precautions with regards to this voltage must be taken.

The generator should be grounded. This may be done by taking advantage of an existing electrical ground or install a ground rod.

Use extension cords in good working order and are the appropriate size for the current being carried. Make sure that you use the minimum lengths possible.

Use Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters or GFI's. These detect current leakage and are a

safety feature that is required in most situations.

Do not attempt to defeat a GFI, circuit breaker or fuses in the generator. If the safety devices are tripping, then there is a problem that needs to be corrected.

Do not connect a generator to building or home wiring such as using an extension cord with two male plugs. Approved devices are needed at the utility entry before energizing home wiring from a generator.

Feeding generator power directly into building wiring will backfeed the utility transformer servicing and in turn energizes the main utility company power lines with thousands of volts. This is very dangerous and could electrocute a linemen working on this circuit.

NEVER run a generator inside an enclosed space such as a garage. One of the byproducts of combustion is carbon monoxide, which a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas. It is also extremely toxic.

NEVER fill a generator while it is running since the hot muffler under the right conditions can cause a fire. Before refueling Turn Off the generator and allow it to cool. Plan on at least 30 minutes to cool off before fueling.

Keep a BC rated Fire extinguisher nearby.

Generators Storage

If the a generator is to be stored at the end of hurricane season for the winter plan on a half-day task.

- Follow the manufactures instructions for storing if available.

As a Minimum

- Drain the generator of all fuel. This includes the fuel tank, carburetor, fuel lines, fuel filter.
- Change the oil and filter.
- Spray misting oil intended for engine storage into the cylinders, fuel lines, fuel tank, carburetor bowl.

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