

This report was submitted to ARRL HQ at 9:56 AM May 12, 2017
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: April Year: 2017
AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

Total number of ARES members: 1517 Change since last month: 33
DECs/ECs reporting this month: 47
of ARES nets active: 258 # with NTS liaison: 74

Calls of DECs/ECs reporting: AB5AS AD5CQ AE5VV AF5EK K5BV K5DDM K5GOL K5LGV
K5RIK K7MAL K7PGC KA5GIL KB5DTS KB5RSV KD4HNX KD5CQ KE3D KE5FGA
KE5HAM KE5MHJ KE5PWJ KF5ACH KF5DDV KF5OYI KF5VIK KG5AYD KG5DLD
KG5JRA KK5LO KM5MK N5HV N5LVQ N5MDT N5MTX N5RZQ N5SBN N5TQ N5TW
N5TW/XYL N5WKM NT5CC NV5C W5DY W5IM W5KKL WB5UZZ WB8FVB

Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month	151	Person hours:	2457
Number of public service events this month	62	Person hours:	3867
Number of emergency operations this month	15	Person hours:	1454
Total number of ARES operations this month	486	Person hours:	7776

COMMENTS

SEC

Work on STX web page updates of ARES content
STX SEC report generation

ASEC Web

Continuing to work on the new version of the ARRLSTX website. To get a sneak peek visit
<http://www.a2z-websites.com/>

Notable additions are:

How to find local clubs, exam sessions, ham fest and what is new at ARRL.

The most notable additions are how to find a local ARES group in STX. This requires the ECs to submit the URL to their website, Facebook or email group. The idea being that's where they post when and where they meet plus info on any NETs. (This may be delayed as Judy fixes the Vault part of the current website).

A second notable addition is how to post ARES Activations in a timely manner. I have 2 examples on the home page.

The first one links to a Google Doc and the idea is the ECs and DEC's can edit this simple Word like document from any smartphone, tablet, or PC.

The second link is to a Google Sheet. This lets the ECs and DEC's assign a Tab for each county or district. They just simple login and start posting info.

Both the Google Doc and Google Sheet can have multiple editors and Google claims they can edit at the same time. My thoughts are while Blue Bell Co is flooded the EC could use HF comms to tell the EC in a non-flooded, full speed internet county what to post.

ASEC Other

Monthly review and stats.

Added county website link to map page.

ASEC Broadband

Working on upgrading EOC LAN network. Upgraded the network switch from older 8 port to 16 port, as we are using 10 total ports (2 from router). Next phase is to upgrade the router to Gigabit managed router.

Updating the home antennas. Hope to be on 40m and 30 mt in the next two weeks.

Prepping the EOC for June Seton Hospital drill. CATRAC here is coordinating with Galveston RAC . The Seton hospital needs to practice the evacuation for hurricanes. We will try to use the dillo network, HF and HF winlink to tie the Seton command here in Austin to their efforts there.

District 01

EC Fort Bend County

Support for Schlumberger Education bike ride (3 members) Weather net support for NWS severe weather on two occasions. (4 members) Unk nr members support for BP MS150 ride (not included in total). 4 members planning and prep for deployment and support for Boy Scout event at NRG on May 6th.

EC Galveston County

Includes 24 hours of volunteer time by 7 3 ARES members supporting the development and implementation of emergency communications equipment and procedures for the city of League City, 5 hours of volunteer time by 1 ARES member working on radio go-kits for the Galveston County Office of Emergency Management. Members also provided communications for 2 - 5K fun runs and parking for an event at the Johnson Space Center.

District 02

EC Houston County

The bear chase marathon in Groveton, Tx. went off without any major Problems. We furnished six men and radios for the aid stations. We also set up the command bus with 2 operators at the football stadium where the marathon started and finished. Medical backup was

provided by Groveton EMS. This is about the sixth year we have provided this service. The marathon organizers are really pleased with the ham radio operators from Houston County.

EC Walker County

Weather event that required monitoring of two way communications and phone calls at EOC. ARES member logged 14 hours. MARS Exercise with one member logging 3 hours.

District 04

EC Kleberg County

New and repaired repeaters put back on line - (146.68 and 444.225 107.2 tone). Work party in EOC radio room, getting things ready for hurricane season. HF work to be done in May. Lions club bike event held in county, accountability public service provided by Kleberg and Nueces County ARES.

District 05

EC Brazos County

Working on Hurricane Charlie state exercise with the EOC and Red Cross

EC Grimes County

Helped with Gran Fondo bike ride and Grimes County Train derailment exercise.

District 07

EC Hays County

Successfully deployed and used the ARRL ARES HF go kit during the Texas Parks On The Air contest 8 April. Great addition to the Hays/Caldwell ARES capability.

EC Travis County

Assisted Webb County ARES with Casa Blanca St. Park Easter event

Assisted Red Cross with Home Fire Campaign

Assisted MS 150 Bike Ride

Assisted NWS with Skywarn WX

EC Williamson County

WCARES had a very active month. We operated for 686.5 man hours in Emergency Activation's.

The bulk of our activation's was accomplished while being integrated with Williamson County Emergency Management and Communications over two events. Both were in the middle of the week, and overnight each time. This was a planned Motorola IP Cut-over event across the county that affected 911 services for the Sheriff, Fire, and EMS over two nights. This was the scenario that WCARES simulated in our February SET, BAIT 2017. WCARES participated in setting up remote equipment and deploying 25

operators to five cities plus Wilco EOC where I as EC operated as part of the IMT for the event. Each of these cities activated their EOC's for the events. The purpose of our participation was to be the final backup in case of complete system failure to provide dispatch services for Fire, EMS, and LE. The first event on 4/3 resulted in a failed cut-over, but event was stopped before any dispatch services were severely hampered, and was rescheduled for 4/18. On that date, we deployed 22 operators, on three Nets, for coverage, as the decision was made by Wilco to push through the event no matter the consequence until Motorola was able to correct any issues. The cut-over had its hiccups, but was successful in its entirety. As the event stabilized, WCARES operating as Net Control Dispatch, transmitted 60 selected dispatch calls as a test across three cities. Net control prioritized the calls in order of urgency, and dispatched accordingly. Wilco Dispatchers entered the results into their CAD system on the receiving end of the dispatches to verify accuracy and speed of the transmissions. We received a very high grade for speed and accuracy. Times ran a little over two minutes from receipt of dispatch, to transmission by Net control, to being entered into the CAD and re-dispatched on the receiving end. It was very satisfying as EC to witness our operators function at a very high level, with professionalism and class, all in uniform as we professionally integrated seamlessly with Emergency Management, and accomplished our part of the operation as laid out in the Incident Action Plan. We received high accolades from the County management up to the Emergency Manager for the County. As a result of preparations, and implementation, two large cities in the county are expanding the roles of WCARES in their operations.

Additionally, 2 severe weather events, one of which was in conjunction with the Williamson County Office of Emergency Mgmnt. within the EOC activated on a Sunday morning. We had 65 participants in the Severe Weather Net that morning providing situational information to the EMC, at teh EOC, and to several churches in the county that were in services. Our Net provided information for those churches to allow them to continue services uninterrupted, or take cover accordingly. A very satisfying month!

District 08
DEC

1. Communications support to Red Cross for Home fire Campaign, Travis County, 7 hours
2. GIS Map development for Red Cross disasters, 16 hours

EC Burnet County

All data under Burnet County except for number of unique Llano Co. Members.

District 09

EC Sabine County

Planning a meet-n-greet for Field Day to generate ARES interest. Direct mailers will go out this month to all amateurs in our surrounding area. Making progress on the technical side. Our Kenwood UHF repeater is on the test rack and working great in the high end of the amateur band. Hopefull of getting tower space in the fall. Backup 2m repeater programmed and ready to put in service if needed. Just received crystals for our GE Master II 6m repeater. Will utilize a Tx and Rx antenna since duplexers are

expensive, rare and 6' tall. Handy tool in the pine trees of Deep East Texas. Also looking at a fall install. Currently have ten (10) Motorola Spectra 110w mobiles on the bench. Some in 136-162MHz and some in 146-174MHz. Potential HAM and/or VFD use. Haven't got to the bottom of the box yet. Total cost for all of the above, about \$200 in software and programming cables. Excess Public Safety equipment.

EC Tyler County

This was a busy month for Tyler County ARES. Our team received training from NOAA for the upcoming hurricane season. TC ARES participated in several repeater linking tests along with community outreach public service events.

District 10

EC Colorado County

Completed CERT training per conversation with County OEM

EC DeWitt County

no activity this month.

EC Goliad County

No Activity

EC Victoria County

Is there any way we could include a slot for Admin Service Hours ie time spent on tasks such as filing reports, updating member lists, making badges, helping with training, etc and include work of AEC's as well; also any face to face meetings we have?

District 12

EC Guadalupe County

Fiesta Wildflower Bike Ride

District 14

DEC

WebEOC monthly login training 4/05 (22 participants)

Transtar work by KB2WF

CERT/ARES Joint meeting at Transtar 4/11 for BP MS150 (50 participants)

Mount Pleasant COMX 4/17 - 4/21 (5 participants)

Radio preparation for BP MS150 break points and SAGs

EC Harris-NE County

NE Harris Cty Dist. 14: Unit membership has increased by two (2). Previous members moved and returned to our unit. Participation in public events increased ARES Operating Hours this month.

Events: Liberty County, TX Bike race; April 8. First time NE Harris Cty Dist. 14 contacted for assistance by Liberty Cty. Three radio operators from NE Harris Cty unit with a few others volunteering from surrounding ARES units. We will do it again if requested. Very nice professional group in Liberty. Great Gumbo. MS 150 took place with our operators involved.

WebEOC check INS are consistent. I would suggest some general critique of supply requests be provided to improve performance requests.

Winlink digital check INS getting up and running. Use of Standard ICS forms is becoming prevalent.

EC Harris-NW County

Ironman 04/22 - 1 Participant @840 min (14 Hrs) AE5PA

BP MS 150 04/29 24 Participants @960 min (384 Hrs)

AE5MZ, AE5PA, AG5GQ, K1TAZ, K5BIO, K5PRS, K5SEK, K5WTF, KD2EYR, KD5HW, KE5FGA, KE5PBM, KF5MNJ, KG5IRM, KG5JBJ, KG5MAQ, KG5MAU, KG5MBB, KG5PYX, KW5PA, N5RSH, W0PCW, WB3EWP, WD5JRD

BP MS 150 04/30 14 Participants @960 min (224 Hrs)

AE5PA, K1TAZ, K5WTF, KD2EYR, KD5HW, KE5FGA, KE5PBM, KG5IRM. KG5MAQ, KG5PYX, KW5PA, N5RSH, WB3EWP, WD5JRD

EC Harris-SE County

Emergency: severe weather

EC Harris-SW County

Net new 3 members this month. 145.19 still has weak coverage. Considering a new weekly repeater schedule.

Signature: Jeff Walter Callsign:KE5FGA

ARRL Form 4