

The WCARC Report

December 2004

Upcoming Events

January 6: WCARC Meeting

January 8: San Antonio Radio Club Swapmeet – 8:00a.m. to noon at Little Joe's Country Gold, 7405 Old Pearsall Road, San Antonio TX. Talk-in on 146.940- (179.9 PL) and 444.100+ (179.9 PL). For details, check <http://www.w5sc.org> or address your e-mail to swapfest@w5sc.org.

January 15: Wintercom 2005, the winter meeting of the Texas VHF-FM Society, hosted by the College of Engineering, UT-Arlington. Event held in Nedderman Hall on the UT-Arlington campus, Arlington TX, 6:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. The Arlington ARC will handle talk-in on 147.140 and 444.200. For details, check <http://www.wintercom.org>.

February 6: WCARC Swapmeet – San Gabriel Park Community Center, Georgetown TX. Exams - 8:30a.m. Setup – 10:00a.m., open to public noon to 3p.m. For details check <http://www.wcArc.com>, address your e-mail to Rick Trommer, w5rht@arrl.net, or call 863-2428.

Our December Meeting

by Club President Rick Trommer, W5RHT

The December 12, 2004 meeting of the Williamson County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by President Rick Trommer, W5RHT. Each member present gave his name and call sign. There were 36 attendees at the meeting, including two visitors.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved as posted on the WCARC web site in the November issue of the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of Club Treasurer Jon Boles, K5AEM, Galen Helmkamp, WA0YVQ, offered this report:

November, 2004

Beginning balance	\$ 1927.57
Receipts/Deposits	\$ 219.00
Expenditures	\$ 107.47
Ending Balance	\$2039.10
ARES Funds	\$ 72.12
WCARC Funds	\$ 1966.98

The Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

DX Report

John Warren, NT5C, reported that VU4 will be on the air this month.

Contest Report

Dave Hassell, N5IW, reported that in December we will have some 19 contests. That includes four contests on 160, one on PSK, and two using QRP, as well as a Homebrew and a 10-meter contest. Dave also

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The President's Corner

Well, my trip to Shanghai, China, was a success and I was able to head home two days early. After two and one-half weeks in China, I'm sure that I want to stay in the Georgetown area and not move to China for any reason.

The club's Technician class looks like it ended on a very positive note and proved to be a successful venture for the club. Greg Worthington, AG5W, put together a good lineup of instructors and it looks like we held the interest of the students in the class. The test session for this class produced another 14 new or upgraded licenses. Congratulations to Greg for a class well done!

Our next big event for the club will be the February 6th swapfest. I'm looking forward to this event as it is another fun time for the club and its members.

Thanks to everyone for making this a fun year. The club has seen a few new members join our ranks and we have gained a new meeting place this past year. While neither of these events was directly related to my job as your President, I'm very proud that I was part of this organization as it made these changes.

I'll keep this very short, as I want to snoop around 3.700 MHz and listen to the Yosemite Sam station that everyone is attempting to locate. I hope to see everyone after the holidays on Saturday morning at the Monument Café.

73, Rick W5RHT

WCARC-Owned Equipment List

Who Has What -- and Since When

Tower work

Gin pole – John Benedict, KE5RS – 8/30/2003
Tower step – Jeff Schmidt, N5MNW – 8/7/2003

Antenna Measurement

MFJ Analyzer – Mike Blanchard, N5KDY – 8/1/2004
MFJ Grid Dip Adapter – Stuart Rohre, K5KVH – 3/4/2004

Antennas

Butternut HF Vertical 10M-80M – Bob Helms, AF5Z
Cushcraft R7 HF Vertical – Dick Foster, W5TA – 8/5/2004
Hygain Triband – Dick Foster W5TA – 7/4/2003
Mosley Triband – to be picked up from Harvey Henning, N0AJP

Masts

Push-Up Masts (2) – Bob Helms, AF5Z – 8/7/2003
Push-Up Mast – Ken Larsen, KC5RPF – 7/4/2003
Push-Up Masts (2) – Virgil Buell, KD5KQV – 7/4/2003

Power Supply

20 Amp Supply – Tom Whiteside, N5TW – 7/14/2004

Miscellaneous

Heavy Duty Power Cords (2) – Chris Hill, KC5AQF

Pending Sale

Commercial Grade Antenna – Bob Helms, AF5Z

Please advise club secretary Greg Worthington, AG5W (ag5w@aol.com), of any additions or corrections.

mentioned something about a Silent Key contest but nobody seemed very interested in signing up for that one!

Repeater Report

Tom Whiteside, N5TW, commented that the repeater is working well.

ARES Report

Tom Whiteside, N5TW, told the club that at the next ARES meeting there would be a demo of Winlink using PC sound cards.

Refer to the WCARES Report on this page for more details.

Old Business

Ham Radio Classes

Greg Worthington, AG5W, told the club that we had 14 new/upgrades during our last testing session. The club's Technician class was a success and Greg was thanked for his work in pulling this class together.

February SwapFest

Rick Trommer, W5RHT, told the club that the ARRL has approved our application to present our annual swapfest as an ARRL sponsored event.

New Business

Election of Officers

The club held its yearly election of officers and we are very pleased to have Mark Stennett, NA6M, for our club President and Dick Foster, W5TA, for our Vice President.

Jon Boles, K5AEM, will remain as Treasurer, and Greg Worthington, AG5W, will remain as Secretary.

The club wants to thank each of you for taking these positions and for supporting the club over the past years.

Rick Trommer, W5RHT, will bring refreshments to next month's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Program

Mark Stennett (NA6M) presented the program for this month. His topic was the assembly of a UHF and VHF repeater system. ☒

The ARES Report

by Williamson County EC Tom Whiteside, N5TW

This will be another short report this month. Judy and I just returned from a wonderful Christmas vacation in Corpus Christi – we even had a white Christmas with a record breaking 4.4 inches of snow. We lost power Christmas eve and were without electricity until noon Christmas Day – would have been a good time to have my Go Kit with me!

Jim Russell, NQ5L, did a great presentation at the ARES meeting presenting a sound card based Paclink solution.

A preview to January's meeting: As we did this year, January will be a goal setting meeting for the year and we will also review how we did relative to this year's goals. Please be thinking about this and bring your ideas to the meeting.

I'm working on meeting topics for next year. Please let me know if you have a program you'd like to see!

A reminder: The ARES meeting is the second Thursday of the month at the Round Rock fire station now at 7:00p.m. And please participate in our Sunday evening nets at 8:00p.m. ☒



