

ARES District 4 Net Script

JUNE 04, 2020 Rev. (net date)

Script Rev 09-04-2019

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

TOM (name) **K5BV** (call) **ARES EC for Anansas & San Patricio Counties**

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 say "**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

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Tom EC for Aransas & San Patricio County - - - - k5bv@arrl.net
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The net is currently scheduled monthly for the First Thursday at 8 PM. This is subject to change. We are currently using the Sinton W5CRP 147.080 MHz repeater with a (+) Plus offset and a 107.2 Hz 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 an announcement or provide information related to EmComm? This is not general check-in. Please state your call now.

Tonight after Check-In we will discuss ham related activities and tasks each of us may have accomplished during the CORONAVIRUS stay home situation. Non-ham related activities are OK as well.

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*

Now we will call on tonight's check-ins for comments on ham activities that may have occupied some of their time the last 2-1/2 months.

(after calling on check-ins ask for late check-ins)

- *read each call back,*
- *ask for corrections*

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 maintainers 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.

What to do during the Pandemic

- Ham radio has picked up during the pandemic as many people have to stay at home.
- The following slides are examples of what people are doing to support others and the community.

From North Carolina

- His voice crackled over the airwaves, before a short burst of static and then a brief moment of silence. Soon, check-ins from around the state commenced. So began the daily call Stark leads, from his home in Cary, in an effort to keep its participants informed and connected amid the shutdowns and stay-at-home orders related to COVID-19, the coronavirus disease.
- Fostering a sense of community is but one reason for the daily ham radio sessions. Another, Stark and others said, is to check on people in the participating communities, and to brainstorm thoughts on how members of the call might help.
- Last week, those discussions led to the Cary and Carolina Preserve emergency response teams to donate supplies to local hospitals. Between the two groups, Stark said, they donated nearly 400 N95 face masks and about 1,800 disposable gloves to WakeMed Cary Hospital.

Ham Tinkering to Help

- Although often seen as a volunteer support group aiding communications during natural disasters, most amateur ham radio enthusiasts simply enjoy the do-it-yourself (DIY) nature of putting together and improving their radio stations while communicating with the world-wide community.
- In addition to emergency communication support, ham radio operators have been helping build DIY medical equipment during the COVID-19 crisis. For example, George Zafiropoulos (KJ6VU), a ham operator in the San Francisco Bay area and well-know ham podcaster, has designed a development board to do ham radio projects with microcontrollers (Arduino, PIC, Raspberry Pi, Feather).
- A few fellow hams picked up the design and are now using BenchDuino to test valves in home brew ventilators with the University of Florida. Check out their Facebook page to learn more.

Tracking Zombie Satellites

- "Most zombie satellites are satellites that are no longer under human control, or have failed to some degree," says Scott Tilley.
- Tilley, an amateur radio operator living in Canada, has a passion for hunting them down.
- British Columbia, where Tilley lives, was on lockdown. Like many of us, suddenly Tilley had time on his hands. He used it to look for LES-5, and on March 24, he hit the ham radio equivalent of pay dirt.
- In other words, says Tilley, even though the satellite was supposed to shut down in 1972, it's still going. As long as the solar panels are in the sun, the satellite's radio continues to operate. Tilley thinks it may even be possible to send commands to the satellite.

May Special Event to Honor Heroes

- To honor the new generation of coronavirus pandemic heroes, local operators from the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club (GSBARC) looked to one of the oldest forms of electronic social networking available to link folks in the time of social distancing: ham radio.
- Their monthlong event, which ran 24 hours a day from May 1-31, saw FCC-licensed ham radio operators, hams for short, from each of the state's 62 counties operate their stations under the special event call sign K2H to reach out to other operators around the globe.
- Club member and event organizer Lou Maggio, 71, of Islip Terrace, said the idea was to remind hams and those they reach that "every contact is a thank you to a hero" who has put their life on the line in a time of crisis.

Ohio VHF Net Expands

- The Madison County Amateur Radio Club has expanded its weekly “nets” — a channel for multiple radios to use for communication — to almost every night, giving its members a space to entertain, educate and converse with each other. The radio club, made up of about 60 licensed amateur radio operators in Madison County and central Ohio, first expanded its “nets” in late March following Gov. Mike DeWine’s initial stay-at-home order.
- Prior to the stay-at-home order, the club’s weekly “nets” drew about a dozen or so members who checked in to mostly discuss topics related to amateur radio operating. Now, the near-nightly offering — lovingly called “the Cabin Fever Nets” — draws upward of 20 listeners tuning in for over-the-air moderated discussions on a variety of topics.

What are You Doing?

- What interesting story do you have about ham radio during the pandemic?