

This report was submitted to ARRL HQ at 5:21 PM Apr 14, 2019
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Monthly Section Emergency Coordinator Report to ARRL Headquarters
ARRL Section: South Texas Month: March Year: 2019
AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

Total number of ARES members:1633 Change since last month:34
DECs/ECs reporting this month:36
of ARES nets active:175 # with NTS liaison:66

Calls of DECs/ECs reporting: AD5CQ AE5VV AF5EK AF5OS K5BV K5DDM
K5GOL K5LGV K5RIK K5WEL K7MAL KA5WMY KB5DTS KD4HNX KD5BJ
KD5JBT KE5FGA KE5HAM KE5MHJ KF5ACH KF5NIX KF5OYI KG5RXG
KW5PA N5LVQ N5MGC N5MTX N5SBN N5TQ N5TW N5TW/XYL N5WKM
W0HIP W5DY WB5UZZ WD5H

Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month	133	Person hours:	2097
Number of public service events this month	57	Person hours:	7777
Number of emergency operations this month	0	Person hours:	0
Total number of ARES operations this month	365	Person hours:	9874

SEC
Work on STX webpage updates of ARES Content
STX SEC Report generation
Work on ARES Connect approvals
STX ARES HF Net Control Duty Mar 25

ASEC Web
Posted new articles... Created backups and have them stored both on the remote server and my local PC.

ASEC Other
STX Depot web pages and database oversight. Monthly review & stats.

ASEC Advisor
A lot of hours testing new Winlink software this month. Most significant is new addition to RMS Packet to allow sound card Vara to be run along with a packet channel. For sending larger files this new mode is proving very useful. I am able to send a nearly 80K file in just 2 minutes! Try that with packet. Disadvantage is no digipeating in this mode.

DISTRICT 01

EC Fort Bend County

MCU support for HAMFEST and Boy Scout Expo, Training on WebEOC

EC Galveston County

Number of drills, tests and training this month includes 28.5 hours of support by 3 ARES members to the development of equipment, maintenance and operating procedures for emergency communications for League City. In addition, members provided 17 hours of amateur radio communications support for On-The-Run 5K Fun Run and 94 hours of amateur radio communications support for the Seabrook Lucky Trails weekend of fun runs and marathons. Our members also provided 17 hours in support of our monthly VEC test session.

EC Waller County

32 voice 15 digital

DISTRICT 02

EC Walker County

Tornado Drill on March 6, 2019.

ARES Skywarn Program presented to public by NWS March 27, 2019. 4 ARES in attendance.

DISTRICT 03

EC Hidalgo County

This month our ARES members had 2 main events.

First, we participated in an EMCOM meeting at DPS headquarters that was attended by ARES members from our district as well as others. We received training on ICS forms.

We also discussed each district capabilities and strengthened the contacts with each other so we will be ready should the need arise.

While at the conference, our ARES group was approached by DPS and asked to man the DPS DDC during emergency operations. We consider this a great honor. We assembled a 4-man team that will provide 24x7 coverage when called upon. We have also been asked to assist DPS technicians in setting up permanent radio equipment at the DDC facility.

Second, our group also had our major community outreach event of the year. We had a booth at the 2019 South Texas All Hazards Conference. This event is attended by around two thousand first responders and is the second largest of this type in the state.

We set up a working "EMCOM station" with full HF/UHF/VHF voice and digital capability. We also displayed and demonstrated our EMCOM go box that contains HF/UHF/VHF and Pactor. During the conference there was a power failure in the building, and literally millions of dollars of equipment stopped working. Our EMCOM station never missed a beat, we kept right on passing traffic. This drew much attention from attendees.

Our booth was very busy. We had key holders from several agencies reach out to us to form partnerships with them. We were also invited to be part of a Bi-National Mass Casualty Event between the U.S. and Mexico taking place in November 2019. For this event we have also been invited to participate in the planning.

Lastly, since this conference is attended by people from throughout the State of Texas, we processed requests for HAMS to serve agencies in other parts of the State, we gathered contact information and passed it the appropriate Districts.

DISTRICT 04

EC San Patricio County

W5JYJ Bob Lobaugh, a member of San Patricio County ARES, passed away in March.

DISTRICT 05

DISTRICT 06

EC Kerr County

LBJ 100 Bicycle tour

EC Medina County

Hondo Area Response Committee (HARC) table top emergency exercise (2 hours)

DISTRICT 07

DEC

March was a busy month for District 7 ARES members. The combined Wilco -- Lee SET went very well. This was a great ARESMAT exercise in that it demonstrated cross-county cooperation. Although it was a planned event, it was a simulated mobilization. Time was tracked from simulated notification to deployment on scene in under 3 hours.

EC Caldwell County

3 new members joined this month. All other data combined with Hays numbers.

EC Lee County

LCARES welcomed WCARES, WCEC, and WCOEM to Lee County for BAIT 2019. Activities in public service includes hours to and after the event spent with public officials, testing thought the county the new LCARES repeater that went on the air before the event; building up the LCARES go kits and programming go kit and state radios with new repeater; WCARES monthly and EmComm Meetings, first LCARES monthly meeting; participating in training nets and first time in Packet cavalry and Winlink Wednesdays.

EC Travis County

Training using WinLink Express has paid dividends. Packet reporting has increased 240% since we moved from UNPROTO net. Several members has spent numerous hours planning for COMDEX. Had presentations by Paul English and Rodney Warner on Army MARS and 60 meter interoperability.

EC Williamson County

Our Annual Williamson County Multi Day SET took place on March 8 & 9 at

the Sheriff's office in Giddings, Lee County. This was a joint two county exercise which entails both Williamson OEM and Lee counties OEM, both counties Emergency Communications, Lee County Elected and Public Officials, Lee County ARES and Williamson County ARES, ARES District 7 DEC, along with a significant number of County, ARES, and City's assets. WCARES operated as Unified Incident Command with Wilco Emergency Communications on this event. All objectives set out in EAP were accomplished.

Many ARES members took time off work participate. There were 59 total participants on Friday, (13 were Lee County agencies and officials), 39 on Saturday. WCARES performed the bulk of the Incident Management Team and planning for SET. WCARES provided an IC, PSC, Deputy PSC, LOFR's, LSC, SOFR, OSC, PIO, and their support staffs, for the planning and exercise. WCARES was the complete Command and General Staff for the operation, with the addition of the Wilco Unified IC.

LCARES EC Marida Favia del Core Borromeo, KD5BJ, operated as Deputy PSC for WCARES and as LOFR for event. Key player in the planning process.

We deployed Wilco OEM and Emergency Communications command and comms vehicles CV3, RMC3, ESU1, WCARES Emcomm Trailer, three County go kits with Winlink, plus personal members equipment as go teams.

The event was highly successful on many levels. #1, everyone was safe at the end of the exercise. No accidents. We accomplished all objectives in the EAP at the satisfaction of the County Judge, established great relationships with a neighboring counties highest elected officials, supported LCARES membership growth. (Saturday was open to public, and it looks like 4 new members will be added to LCARES ranks.)

Our exercise was published, with photos, in two Lee County newspapers.
DISTRICT 08

DEC

1. Red Cross duty officer, 144 hours
2. Disaster planning/GIS, 36 hours
3. RACES planning, 5 hours

DISTRICT 09

EC Jefferson County

Kirk N5WKM & Randy K5RWL gave a presentation on ARES in Jefferson County at the LEPC meeting in March.

EC Newton County

See Jasper County for details.

EC Orange County

Nothing to report from Orange County for March

DISTRICT 10

DEC

EC Goliad County

No Activity

DISTRICT 12

DISTRICT 13

DEC

Webb County added 1 analog repeater for local use, 1 multi-mode digital repeater for local, regional and state use and are ready to install a Fusion C4FM/WIRES-X repeater for our primary use. In addition, a Winlink node that is able to do VHF and HF messaging is up and running giving us full EMCOMM capacity. Testing inter-county communication capability has given us a clear picture of our strengths and weaknesses and are currently working to fill in the gaps.

EC Dimmit County

Dimmit and Zavala Counties are 1 unit

DISTRICT 14

DEC

WebEOC monthly login training Mar 6

Woodlands Marathon Mar 2

Greater Houston Hamfest Mar 23

CERT ARES Training meeting for BP MS150 Mar 26

EC Harris-NE County

Attended District meeting at Ham Fest and learned that HAM bands are under attack and adding members is imperative. Continue Winlink educational process. Set up COMDEX exercise for Saturday 4-6. Sent email for BP 150 volunteers.

EC Harris-NW County

Quiet month, great HamFest in Rosenberg, kudos to the organizers. continue to see strong training net attendance.

DISTRICT 15

Signature: Jeff Walter Callsign:KE5FGA

ARRL Form 4