This report was submitted to ARRL HQ at 7:32 PM Feb 13, 2020
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: January   Year: 2020
AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

Total number of ARES members: 1637   Change since last month: -3
# DECs/ECs reporting this month: 28   # with NTS liaison: 38
# of ARES nets active: 135

Calls of DECs/ECs reporting: AE5VV K5BV K5DDM K5GOL K5LGV K5RIK K5WEL K7MAL KB5DTS KD4HNX KD5BJ KD5JBT KE5FGA KE5HAM KF5ACH KF5NIX KG5RXG KW5PA N5MTX N5SBN N5TQ N5TW N5TW/XYL N5WKM NT5CC WB5HJV WB5TAD WB5UZZ WD5H

Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month: 103   Person hours: 3318
Number of public service events this month: 136   Person hours: 2351
Number of emergency operations this month: 7   Person hours: 291
Total number of ARES operations this month: 381   Person hours: 5960

SEC
Work on STX webpage updates of ARES Content
STX SEC Report generation
Work on ARES Connect approvals
4 weekly HF 3873 nets
Houston Marathon Weekend Meeting Jan 4
San Antonio Radio Fiesta ARES Forum Jan 11
Houston Marathon Weekend Jan 18-19
SM/SEC ARES Connect Webinar Jan 29

ASEC Web
Performed updates and backups to the ARRLSTX.org website. Sent out reminders of the AUXCOMM training in Corpus. Assisted 3 ARES groups with setting up their Groups.io groups.

ASEC Other

ASEC Advisor
Very busy month testing numerous VaraFM versions and other Winlink related activities. The new VaraFM 3.x release is stunningly fast!

DISTRICT 01

EC Fort Bend County
Members provided support to Houston Marathon and participated as VE in HAM testing, along with scheduled nets and training.

EC Galveston County
Reduction of members due to archiving members who have not participated in GCECG/ARES functions in the last 2 years. The number of hours included in the drills, tests and training include 23 hours volunteered by 3 ARES members to provide updates and maintenance of the emergency communications equipment for the City of League City, 20 hours for the monthly VEC test session, and 86 hours for participation in the training conducted during the monthly meetings of the Texas City Amateur Radio Society (TARS) and Galveston County Emergency Communications Group (GCECG). Public Service events included demonstrations of amateur radio operation and equipment attended by 10 adults at the Evelyn Meador Library in Seabrook and presentation of amateur radio capabilities during a disaster to the Galveston County Health Department staff.

EC Waller County
34 voice 18 digital

DISTRICT 02
EC Walker County
ARES meeting discussed emergency messages using winlink.

Severe weather event. WC EOC monitored weather as it passed through Walker County. Two operators on duty at EOC. One ARES member monitored from his QTH. Maintained contact with NWS WX5HGX through Saltgrass network to send and receive reports as weather front moved through. Some damages reported. No injuries.

8 members attended Pipeline Safety Seminar 1-29-20 at WC Fairgrounds. Great information presented for operators to know during pipeline event.

Walker County ARES planning for mid-March drill. Will advertise when final date is established. All operators encouraged to participate.

DISTRICT 03

DISTRICT 04

DISTRICT 05

EC Brazos County
Working on updating Brazos Co ICS-205. Talked about sending Winlink messages. We have weekly Friday work mornings at the CEOC. Dick and Mike installed a new computer in the radio room

DISTRICT 06

DISTRICT 07

DEC
Participated with Williamson County ARES at Winter Field Day on Saturday and Sunday, Jan 25 & 26. Observed a very professional operation!

EC Caldwell County
Hours and training reported under Hays Co. Working on replacing one antenna at EB Davis at Luling

EC Hays County
ARCHES station testing was good for this month. Working on replacing one antenna at EB Davis at Luling

EC Lee County
We lost one member due to her lack of interest in ham radio. EC participated in EmComm meeting and researched topics for LC ARES training net; was back-up SKYWARN net control of WC-ARES and held SKYWARN net for LeeCARES. Reprogrammed RT system for HT and helped Gaye Lynn KF5PWN to prepare program and demonstration for LCARES monthly meeting. We are very grateful to KF5PWN for a wonderful job and to K7MAL for demonstrating his power box. Visited with Lee County public officials for public relations and to keep them up to date on LCARES. Prepared with Gaye Lynn KF5PWN the IRS form 990 for Lee County ARES. Worked on LCARES net script and minor changes to website.

EC Travis County
First SKYWARN activation of 2020 on 10 Jan.

EC Williamson County
Williamson County ARES held our first Winter Field Day event over the Jan 25 & 26 weekend. We struck camp at 10 campsites, for three days and two nights at Jim Hogg park in Lake Georgetown Texas. We had everything from overcast sky and cool, COLD with rain and sustained 30 MPH winds for hours on Saturday (we had outdoor setups for go kits on picnic tables, point to note, put up tarps before wind storm -that was not forecast), and Sunday had sunny weather near 70. It’s Texas winter!

We erected 5 antennas, plus a testing antenna area, from packable verticals, to 250’ long wires, to full size folded dipoles at 30 feet (one erectable mast over 40’), to multiple band NVIS wire antennas, attempted satellite comms, plus our pneumatic mast on our Emcom Trailer for VHF and HF, with 40+ personnel. We took this project on for a number of reasons. 1) Just Have Ham Radio fun. Usually we operate under strict ICS Command Structure, and mission comes first. 2) Build Team relationships. Even though this was a casual event, we still ran under ICS with and Incident Management Team for consistency and order. It’s the way we roll. 3) Get more familiarization with HF operations. Our normal day to day events are almost exclusive VHF/UHF 4) Finalize a 2 year testing of which antennas to recommend to our members to add to individual kits for in-county and next county HF communications. Objective accomplished. 4) Exercise as much of our gear and comms trailer as possible, in a multiday outdoor and sustained environment. 5) Exercise and train on three Williamson County Emergency Communications go kits.

We cooked out, with WCARES providing foodstock for Dinner Saturday night and Breakfast Sunday morning, for all attendees. Great times by the fire,
at the lake shore, with a mass of HF antennas in the background, and lots of friendships. We submitted logs with points that have a chance at top billing compared to national scores a couple years ago. We are hopeful.

All in all, every goal was accomplished, and even had a bit of recruiting in the process. Plans have already begun for next years event.

AND, we had one emergency activation at Williamson County EOC for the nasty early spring weather event two weekends before Field Day. We provide real time Sitrep's across the county for Emergency Management. All was good. We integrated as usual with Emergency Management, Sheriff office, etc.

Busy month.

DISTRICT 08

DEC
Support Red Cross activities

DISTRICT 09

EC Jasper County
Slow month in Jasper county.

EC Newton County
See Jasper report for details.

EC Tyler County
Tyler County ARES completed the annual review and update of our Emergency Communication Plan and Standard Operating Procedures. We finalized the ARES Net Operator Schedule for the next 6 months. We also discussed organizational objectives and training for the upcoming year.

DISTRICT 10

DEC
Currently disabled due to accident .......

DISTRICT 12

DISTRICT 13

DISTRICT 14

DEC
Houston Marathon Communicators Training Session 1/4/20
Texas ARES Net (WB5HJF Net control) 1/6/20
WebEOC monthly training 1/8/20
Houston 5K Communications Support 1/18/2020
Houston Marathon Communications Support 1/19/20
ARES STX D14 meeting 1/20/2020 - presentation by Dom N5TCB "Victorian Internet: Oak Forest club at Dickens on the Strand"
Harris Co Public Health CASPER planning meeting 1/22/2020
Texas Childrens Main Campus - program radios 1/25/2020
Texas Childrens Winter Field Day - Ham Radio demonstration 1/25/2020
Houston Area Hospital Net 1/26/20
Houston Amateur Mobile Society meeting 1/30/20

EC Harris-NW County
Busy month with Houston marathon and minor equipment upgrades / repair. Preparations underway for the Public Health CASPER survey.

EC Harris-SW County
We mourn the passing of Kerry Mallory, AE5JY, former EC for Harris County SW and a very strong supporter of ARES.

Several of our team members supported the Houston Marathon. Hat's off to Lee, WA5QXE, the main organizer of amateur radio operators for the event.

Linda, W5LDK has been working on creating and updating training on the STX Info Depot along with Earl Pack, AE5PA of NW unit.

DISTRICT 15

Submitted by:

Jeffery A Walter - KE5FGA
ARRL STX SEC

ARES Form 4