



# San Antonio Repeater Organization

P.O. Box 1753  
San Antonio, Texas 78296

## *BULLETIN*

*“Serving the Amateur Community for 37 Years.”*

April 2005

Volume 37 Number 2

**Next General Membership Meeting April 29, 2005 - 7:30PM**

**SARO NET WEDNESDAYS AT 8:30 P.M. ON 146.94- (179.9 tone)**

### THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Alfred Horn, KG5QW  
SARO 2005 President

Spring is rockin' right along and summer is just around the corner. It's time for our quarterly meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Ruble Center.

By the time this goes to print (or is posted to the web site), we will have participated in the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Battle of Flowers Band Festival held April 21<sup>st</sup>. This is a Fiesta event that brings together San Antonio's high school bands at Alamo Stadium. My favorite part is when all the bands come together on the field for the finale. The fireworks during this last song are usually spectacular! My thanks to Gil, AA5XH for coordinating the volunteers for this event. I hope you did something fun during San Antonio's Fiesta celebration.

The next public service opportunity is June 11, Texas Water Safari. There have been some changes this year with cut-off times and which stops are considered "official" check-in areas for the racers. Check out their web site, [www.texaswatersafari.org](http://www.texaswatersafari.org), for details and let Eric Olson know if you would like to help out. This even happens rain or shine (and we usually get both) so it can be challenging.



This year's MS 150 Bike to the Beach is October 1-2. The society is gearing up for 3500 cyclists this year and that means more volunteers. If you

need info or would like to sign up, let Alfred, KG5QW know.

You may have noticed some special activity on the 147.14+ repeater each evening. Beginning Monday, April 18, Bob McWha, AD5NQ, has started giving a time of code practice. This will be going on for about three weeks around 9:30 PM on Mondays (after the net), 10:00 PM on Saturdays, and 9:00 PM on every other night. The sessions last for about 30 minutes and follow the ARRL code CD. What you may not be aware of, is that during these sessions, our repeater is linked with the 147.38+ machine in order to give greater opportunity to those seeking to learn code or to sharpen their skills. Thanks to Bob and to all those behind the scenes making things happen for all their efforts.

2005 Rosters and membership cards should be coming to you very soon. I know that Shane, AD5PO, has been working very hard on this project and the draft I saw looked great. Hope to see you at the meeting or on the air.

# Texas VHF-FM Society Emergency Meeting

by Stan Stanukinos, KA5IID

I would like to share some very concerning information. The Texas VHF-FM society had an emergency meeting on April 9, 2005.

The meeting was to discuss the By-Laws amendments that were voted in during the winter meeting in Dallas as well as other items of business. Before the meeting could start a temporary injunction was served on the society as well as the president of the society forbidding any changes except by mail vote this in essence made the emergency meeting futile.

The purpose of the special meeting was to correct the improper changes to the By-Laws of the society that were enacted during the winter meeting, as I interpret them at the time any amendment that would be detrimental to the society coordination process will automatically be tabled for further discussion. This did not happen and was forced to a vote by the members present.

**The reason that it would be detrimental to the society is that the postage and other cost incurred to produce the ballots would be \$2.225 per ballot per voting session.**

If the society votes 4 times a year that is an increase of over 8 dollars just for the ballots alone and not the cost of a CPA as required by the change. The dues as well as the proposed fee of \$5.00 for coordination of every repeater pair will have to increase substantially to cover this. Also this will cause the business of the society to have to be conducted by mail ballot every time something needs to be voted on with out a limit on the number of ballots needed, you can now see how expensive this is going to get for the society.



It appears to me that a group out of the North Texas area is either trying to take over the society to run it their way or bankrupt the society so that they can try and form their own coordination body. Instead of trying to work with every one and working for change at the meetings they are using misleading tactics to do this.

If you will remember last summer when many of you received letters that looked like they came from the society urging you to vote for a select few candidates, I hope you will remember this. It looked a lot like a front for an organized group who wanted to not disclose their true identities.

Another objection in my opinion, would be the fact that the vested members will not be allowed to vote, vested members are the customers of the society who have coordinated repeaters on the air unless they are a member of the society. This was not the case in the past, this class of members had a vote since any changing of the standards would affect them as well. This "right" has been taken away from the "vested members" by the group from the North Texas area.

I have seen the great work that the society does and it does not favor one person or group. The society's work is based on 1<sup>st</sup> come first serve as well as technical ability to do the thankless job of coordination of all of the VHF frequencies with in Texas and the coordinating with the adjoining states and Mexico.

These are just a few of the things I can cover in a short time frame. I would like to urge you to become a voting member of the Texas VHF-FM Society and let your voice be heard.

[editor's note: According to the search engines, their website should be at [www.txvhfm.org](http://www.txvhfm.org) but that site is currently not responding as of the date this article was written.]

## REMINDER

2005 SARO dues were needed to be received no later than February 28th, 2005 in order to be included in the roster, which will go out in mid-March.

**You can still bring your dues and renewal form to the April 29th meeting in person** and find out what is happening at the same time! A copy of the renewal / application form is on page 3. If you did not receive a renewal notice in the mail earlier this year, please contact the membership chairman, Shane O'Neal NS5D at 210-473-4847 or send him an email at [membership@sarepeater.net](mailto:membership@sarepeater.net).



**ARRL Executive  
Committee Readies  
Bandwidth  
Recommendations**  
(Apr 13, 2005) —



Acting on the premise that the amateur bands must flexibly and comfortably accommodate present and future operating modes and technologies over the long haul, the ARRL Executive Committee has reached consensus on recommendations to the ARRL Board of Directors for a regulation-by-bandwidth proposal. Meeting April 9 in Denver, the panel adopted recommendations that will form the basis of a draft ARRL petition to the FCC seeking to govern the usage of amateur spectrum by emission bandwidth rather than by mode.

The proposals remain only Executive Committee (EC) recommendations at this point. Nothing will be filed with the FCC until the ARRL Board of Directors gives its go-ahead. Five of the 15 voting Directors sit on the EC. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says a key principle underlying the League initiative is that the amateur community must shoulder the responsibility for resolving conflicts

among potentially conflicting modes and not expect—or wait for—the FCC to impose its own solutions. See ARRL's web site at [www.arrl.org/news/stories/2005/04/13/1/?nc=1](http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2005/04/13/1/?nc=1) for more details on how their proposal is being laid out.



**Membership Report**

by Shane O'Neal NS5D  
Membership Chair

Well, the 2005 rosters are at the printers. I hope to have them back by the end of the third week of April. The membership cards are printed. As soon as I have the rosters, I'll get both in the mail to you ASAP.

Remember, our quarterly meeting is Friday, April 29th at 7pm at the Ruble Center at 419 E. Magnolia. Anyone needing directions can find them on the website ([www.sarepeater.net](http://www.sarepeater.net)) or give a call out on 146.94 or 444.100 on meeting night.

Hope to see you there!

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM  
SAN ANTONIO REPEATER ORGANIZATION**

P O Box 1753, San Antonio TX 78296-1753

Are you an ARRL member?  No  Yes  Life

Call \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Please put your Call-Sign on your check  
**Annual DUES \$15.00** (if have ever been a SARO member)  
**First Time Applicant \$10.00 plus prorated Dues**  
 (ie. \$25.00 for new applicant at start of year)

I volunteer for the following committees (NOTE: telephone number and e-mail address will be given to the committee chairperson)

- Engineering  Maintenance  Newsletter
- Public Service  Membership  Public Relations
- Web Site  Other \_\_\_\_\_

- New Member (copy of license must be enclosed)
- Renewal (include copy of license if revised/renewed recently)
- Some info has changed, please review record

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

In accordance with Privacy and Freedom of Information Acts, the following applies: Failure to check the following blocks indicating that you **DO NOT WANT** the information published in the SARO Directory, constitutes agreement with its publication.

Check each box **ONLY** if you **DO NOT** want it published:  
 Phone  Address  e-Mail

I understand communications of a business or commercial nature have no place on SARO repeaters. I will comply with the policies of SARO and will not engage in any activities that might bring discredit to the Organization.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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The SARO Bulletin is published quarterly. Past issues are available from the SARO website. SARO General Membership meetings are held quarterly, at the Ruble Center, at 419 East Magnolia, the 4th Friday in January, April, July and October. Subscription and advertisements for personal equipment are free to SARO members. Our web site is [www.SARRepeater.Net](http://www.SARRepeater.Net).

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**SARO REPEATERS**  
 All PLL tones 179.9Hz

<b>6 Meter</b>	53.13 -
<b>2 Meter</b>	145.01 d 146.78 - 146.82 -a 146.94 - 147.14 + 147.36 +a
<b>220 MHz</b>	223.50 d 224.38 -
<b>440 MHz</b>	444.100 +a 444.125 +

(+/-) offset direction Std. Split  
 (a) autopatch  
 (d) digipeater