



The Repeater

June 2011

Sponsored by AA5RO

Alamo Area Radio Organization, Inc.

Benny Martinez, NU5P, Trustee

P.O. Box 380032, San Antonio, TX 78268

2011 Board of Directors

Andrew Watson, KD5NNN, (President) , 340-6154

Tony Saucedo, KE5ZUP, (Vice President), 695-9774

Dale Robinson, KB5YSJ, (Secretary), 340-0107

Stanley Waghalter, KD5ZSY, (Treasurer), & Membership Chairman 732-9426

Chuck Kenworthy, WB5FWI, 342-7066

Terry Platt, K5ADF, 695-9570

Danny McCarty, WA5KRP, 822-8358

Andrew's Code __. __. __. __ (Andrew Watson, President)

Thanks to **Rodney W. Baker** (W5DY) for his presentation at our May meeting.

Baker is the ARRL West Gulf Division, South Texas Section, Section Traffic Manager.

He gave the group a picture of traffic handling in today's electronic communication environment.

Baker also talked about the Gonzales community where he lives.

In last month's newsletter, I mentioned HB 3038. This bill related to unenforceable restrictive covenants affecting residential homes.

Warren Chisum and **Connie Scott** sponsored the legislation. Unfortunately, the bill never left committee, so it died with no action taken.

The measure would have struck down all existing HOA restrictions against Amateur Radio antennas in a neighborhood.

On page 3 of this newsletter is the obituary of former AARO President **Herm Haertel**. Herm will be missed by the ham community.

Field Day 2011 is nearing. This

year's event will be held at Raymond Russell, located off Interstate 10 West. Take the Camp Bullis exit and follow the signs.

Michael Brown (AE5WT), is this year's event coordinator. If you want to help with the activities, contact Michael at the June 8th AARO meeting.

On Saturday, June 4th, the password to the "Members Only" section of the AARO website changed.

Paid up members will be receiving a letter with the new password this week.

Hurricane Season started June 1st. This is supposed to be another active year for the storms.

Now would be a good time to review

your preparation plans in case we get a drought breaking rain event here.

Our speaker for the June meeting will be **Bob Rodriguez**. The topic will be "Construct a dual band 2M and 70CM J Pole Antenna and The Theory of Operation".

WOW, a long title. It should prove to be a very good presentation.

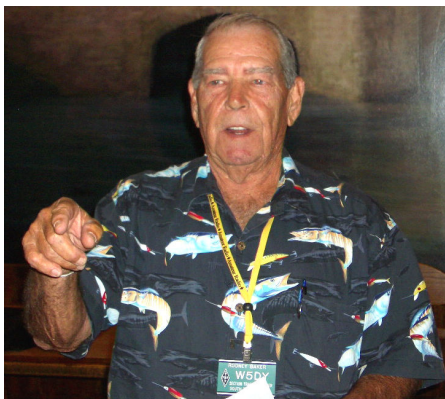
See our website for the Field Day schedule.

See you June 8th at Mamacita's on I-10. Dinner around 6:15pm, the meeting starts at 7pm.

Get on the Air...

73's

Andrew
K5NNN



The Repeater

FEMA Administrator Calls Amateur Radio “The Last Line of Defense”

In an FCC forum on earthquake communications preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator **Craig Fugate** (pictured below) described the Amateur Radio operator as “the ultimate backup, the originators of what we call today, social media.”

Fugate spoke more on Amateur Radio. “During the initial communications out of Haiti, volunteers using assigned frequencies that they are allocated, their own equipment, their own money, nobody pays them, were the first ones oftentimes



getting word out in the critical first hours and first days as the rest of the systems came back up,” he told the forum.

“I think that there is a tendency because we have done so much to build infrastructure and resiliency in all our other systems, we have tended to dismiss that role ‘When Everything Else Fails.’ Amateur Radio oftentimes is our last line of defense.”

I think a strong Amateur Radio community [needs to be] plugged into these plans. Yes, most of the time they’re going to be bored, because a lot of the time, there’s not a lot they’re going to be doing that other people aren’t doing with Twitter and Facebook and everything else. But when you need Amateur Radio, you really need them.”

The forum-- held

May 3 at FCC Headquarters in Washington, DC -- brought together officials from the White House, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the United States Geological Survey (USGS), FEMA, the FCC and the private sector. Fugate and FCC Bureau of Public Safety and Homeland Security Chief **Jamie Barnett** gave the opening remarks.

(This article appeared on the ARRL website. The audio remarks can be accessed at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/view/fema-administrator-calls-amateur-radio-the-last-line-of-defense>)

Upcoming Hamfests

ARRL National Convention at Ham-Com
June 10-11, 2011
Plano, Texas



Welcome New Members

AARO’s membership rolls continues to grow.

Membership information is available on our website.

Remember the Membership Challenge. The current member who brings in the most new members gets a free AARO membership for one year.

Come join us.



The AARO Membership Roster is updated every month on the website. Please check your information and let Stan know of any changes.

BELTON HAMFEST
October 1, 2011.
<http://www.beltonhamexpo.org/>
for information.

The website “members only” password changes June 4th. Every member counts in our organization. Please renew your membership to get the new password.

Hermann Haertel SK



Hermann Haertel N5CNH beloved father, grandfather and brother

passed away on Wednesday, May 25, 2011 in San Antonio.

He was born May 1, 1931 in Staten Island, NY. Preceding in death are his parents, **Hermann** and **Elisabeth Haertel**; sister, **Christa Kinne**; son, **Keith Haertel**; and wife, **Ruth Haertel**.

Herm retired from the Air Force in the grade of Major. Following his military career he volunteered in many organizations and was a past president of the Alamo Area Radio Organization.

He traveled the world both as a pilot in the USAF and as a civilian using his perks as a travel agent.

Herm is survived by his three daughters, **Gail Airington**, **Wendy Thomsen** and husband **Bill**, and **Laura Carpenter** and husband **Travis**; and son, **Dean Haertel** and wife **Sidney**; five grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; mother, **Veronika Haertel**; sister **Margret Kolbjornsen**; brother, **Fred Haertel**; and

numerous nieces and nephews. Family and friends will remember Herm as the king of one-liners.

The Memorial Service is Thursday, June 2, 2011 at 9:00 AM at the Sunset Northwest Funeral Home and interment will follow with full military honors at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be made at www.sunsetnwfuneralhome.com.

A bit of Courtesy Please!

Recently, a QSO was going on between two radio operators on the AARO repeater.

A third operator tried to get into the conversation but kept getting squeezed out. Finally, one of the folks paused long enough for the "breaker" to talk.

Remember your radio etiquettes. Pause between transmissions to see if someone else is wanting to join in.



Around the Band

The AARO Annual Holiday Christmas Party will be held Wednesday, December 14th at Grady's Barbque on Bandera Road. Time hasn't been set yet.

The AARL Newsline program can be heard on the AARO repeater every Tuesday night starting at 8:30.

Thanks to **Lars Hansen** for using his expertise in bringing the program to us.

Condolences go to AARO members **Charles Thomas** (WA3PAY) on the loss of his father. To **Teri Thomas** on the loss of her father, and **David** (KF5BGT) and **Luke Ham** (KF5CSK) on the loss of David's mother, Luke's Grandmother.

Our Sun was certainly quieter this week. The average daily sunspot numbers were down nearly 17 points to 51.6, while the average daily solar flux declined nearly 9 points to 83.2. Sunspot numbers for May 19-25 were 36, 33, 44, 47, 37, 23 and 23, with a mean of 34.7. The 10.7 cm flux was 84.4, 83.7, 83.6, 84.5, 84.1, 81.7 and 80.3, with a mean of 83.2. The estimated planetary A indices were 4, 3, 4, 4, 4, 6 and 4, with a mean of 4.1. The estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 2, 4, 3, 4, 5 and 2, with a mean of 3.1.

Amateur solar observer Tad Cook, K7RA, of Seattle, Washington, provides this report.
<http://www.arrl.org/news/view/the-k7ra-solar-update-166>.

Talk Net
146.420 Simplex
Tuesday nights
7:00 o'clock

Check out the "Rainfall Net" every night at 8 o'clock on 146.940. Tone 179.9

Calendar of Events

- June 8 - AARO Meeting at Mamacita's Restaurant. 8030 I-10 West near Callaghan. Dinner at 6:30PM, Meeting starts at 7PM.
- June 25 - Field Day 2011.



June Birthdays



Henry Lipsitt KC5KCZ
Bruce Parkes KA2ZGW
David Besing KD5MTJ

Josh James WA5CXY
Joe Jankowski W5KTX
Tony Gallardo KJ7BE

Join Us on 147.380+ and 443.875+ (both PL tone 162.2) for *Newsline* and the *InfoNet* - Monday Evenings at 8:30 p.m., followed by a *SLOW "Learn CW" Net* *Saturday Night Code & NightOwl Net* - starting at 10:00 p.m.
Also check out the club's web site - <http://aa5ro.org>

Atlanma Area Radio Organization, Inc.
P.O. Box 380032
San Antonio, TX 78268

