



The Repeater

March 2011

Sponsored by AA5RO

Alamo Area Radio Organization, Inc.

Benny Martinez, NU5P, Trustee

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



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Andrew's Code from Andrew Watson, President

Wow what a great February. AARO is doing fantastic as a Radio Club.

We have 13 new members and growing. This is a good sign of a healthy growing club.

We need you as member to invite hams to join AARO this year. You are the ones who make AARO the club that it is today.

Once again, AA5RO has broken a new record for Info Net check in's on President Day February 21, 2011.

The Net had over 43 Hams join us that night. **Tony** (KE5ZUP) did a great job on that record night. Many thanks go out to the membership for when we asked you by e-mail to help set this record. Wow what a night!

We are looking for

volunteers to help out as Net control for Info Net. It is a great way to build confidence for traffic handling. If you would like to start small and work up to the something large like the Info Net.

Contact me and you can start small with Talk-Net. This is a good way to get your feet wet. Or some of you hams out there with years of experience should jump in and take control of Info net. Please volunteer to help in your local club nets.

The Roost Club this past weekend had a great event out in Marion Texas at the KBIB Radio station tower site. Roost was working the 160m Contest Friday and Saturday nights. **Lynn** (AE5LK) set up his Flex 5000 with a 1500 watt amplifier. They used the 240 foot tower to transmit and used a snake

antenna to receive on. Roost's President **Bob** (W5XW) & our own **Danny** (WA5KRP) did fine job setting up this event!

See all of you at Mamacita's Mexican Restaurant 8030 West Interstate 10 near Callaghan on March 9, 2011.

73's

Andrew
KD5NNN



PS. The AARO Crash Course will be April 9th. Check the website for details.

Tidbits

Field Day 2011 will be held Saturday, June 25th from noon to midnight at Raymond Russell Park off I-10 past the Camp Bullis Road.

We will be at Pavilion #3. More information coming in April & May.

The 5th Annual Rock N' Roll Marathon will be held Sunday, November 13th in San Antonio.

City officials recently signed a 5 year agreement with the event organizers.

It's not known yet whether our group will be asked to participate again. Stay tuned!

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Spotlight on the Beverage Antenna

There has been a lot of talk lately on the local repeaters about the Beverage Antenna.

With the help of Wikipedia, here's some information about the antenna that's been getting so much attention lately.

The Beverage Antenna is a relatively inexpensive but very effective long wire receiving antenna used by amateur radio, shortwave listening, and longwave radio DXers and military applications. **Harold H. Beverage** experimented with receiving antennas similar to the Beverage antenna in 1919 at the Otter Cliffs Radio Station. By 1921, Beverage long wave receiving antennas up to nine miles (14 km) long had been installed at RCA's Riverhead, New York, Belfast, Maine, Belmar, New Jersey, and Chatham, Massachusetts receiver stations.

The antenna was patented in 1921 and named for its inventor Harold H. Beverage. Perhaps the largest Beverage antenna—an array of four phased Beverages three miles (5 km) long and two miles (3 km) wide—was built by AT&T in Houlton, Maine for the first transatlantic telephone system opened in 1927.

While these antennas provide excellent directivity, a large amount of space is required. Beverage antennas are highly directional and physically far too large to be practically rotated, so installations often use multiple antennas to provide a choice of azimuthal coverage.

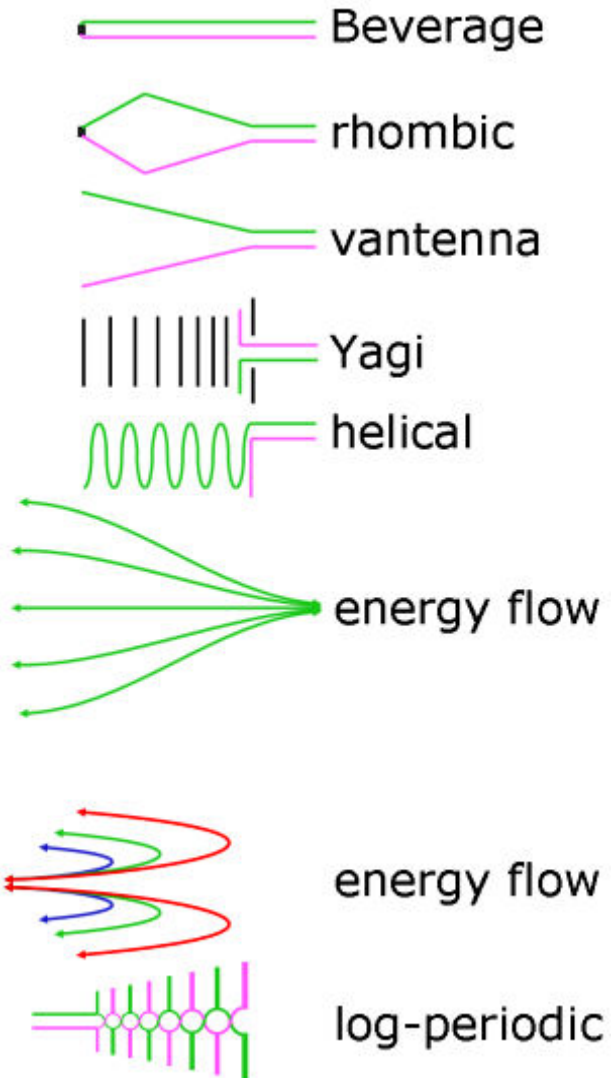
A Beverage consists of a wire one or two wavelengths long (hundreds of feet at HF to several kilometres for longwave).

A resistor connected to a ground rod terminates the end of the antenna pointed to the target area, a 470 ohm non-inductive resistor provides excellent results for most soils.

A 50 or 75 ohm coaxial transmission connects the receiver to the opposite end of the antenna through an impedance-matching transformer.

Some Beverage antennas use a two-wire design that allows reception in two directions from a single Beverage antenna.

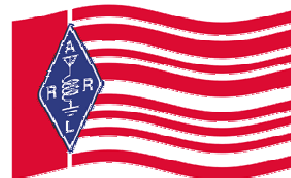
You can get additional information on the internet. Meanwhile, keep your ear tuned to the repeaters for more talk about this antenna system.



Upcoming Hamfests

4/2/2011 Belton Hamfest. 8AM-2PM. Admission \$5. An ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest. Talk-in Freq: 146.82-(PL 123.0).

56th Annual St. Patrick's Day Hamfest and ARRL West Texas Section Convention. March 19th, 2011 Midland Lions Club 200 Plaza Ave. Midland, Texas



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Texas State Guard ready to serve

Major **Joe Thaxton** of the Texas State Guard was our featured speaker at the February AARO meeting.

The major described to the group his role in the guard. He's the Military emergency Management Specialist (MEMS) which is responsible for the management of information during a crisis.

At present, there are 2500 members of the State Guard. You don't have to be in the military to join the group and spouses are welcome.

The Texas State Guard (TXSG) mission, as a branch of the Texas Military Forces, is to provide mission-ready military forces to assist

State and local authorities in times of state emergencies, with homeland security and community service through Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA).

To augment the other two branches of the Texas Military Forces, the Texas Army National Guard and Texas Air National Guard as force multipliers.

Missions are directed by the Commander in Chief of the Texas Military Forces the Governor of Texas and commanded by the Texas Adjutant General.

If you would like more information about the Guard, contact Major Thaxton at: joseph.thaxton@txsg.state.tx.us.

Thanks to **Tony Saucedo** (KE5ZUP) for arranging our February speaker.

If you have program ideas for the group, call Tony.



Major Joe Thaxton



South Texas Sever Weather Conference Details

The South Texas Severe Weather Conference is scheduled for April 1 - 2, 2011 at the University of Incarnate Word.

SkyWarn Training is April 2, 2011 at the Bonilla Science Hall.

This year the conference will feature **Bill Read**, National Hurricane Center Director, **Dr. Phil Klotzbach**, Season Hurricane Forecast Researcher, and **Dr. Eve Grunfest**, Flash Flood - Society researcher.

The South Texas Severe Weather Conference is produced by the Urban Science Initiative Inc. with the support of the University of Incarnate Word and

the National Weather Service Offices in Austin/San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and Brownsville, Texas.

There is no conference fee however, registration is required as seating is limited.

Register online at: <https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dHF6aWZiU3N6X0ZkdMZWVXNraktfRIE6MQ>.

Parking: Agnese-Sosa Garage (Friday) Parking Saturday: Any available slot in near by campus parking lots.



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

- March 9 - AARO Meeting at Mamacita's Restaurant. 8030 I-10 West near Callaghan. Dinner at 6:30PM, Meeting starts at 7PM.
- March 19th - AARO VEC Testing @ Red Cross 9 AM.



March Birthdays



Robert Alexander KE5YQE
Dale Robinson KB5YSJ
Meghann Johnson KE5KDR

Kathy Parke KF5FMQ
Benny Martinez NU5P

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>

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