

Emergency Communications

ARRL North Texas Section

A Little About the SEC

- ✓ Licensed since 1957
- ✓ Harris County RACES Radio Officer - 1961
- ✓ Collin County EC - 1973-2000
- ✓ DEC District 5
- ✓ Texas State RACES Unit 13-085
- ✓ Founding Member of the PARK
- ✓ Appointed SEC North Texas Section - 2000

To Me the Key is the “C”

What Do I mean about the “C”

- ✓ SEC, DEC, EC or AEC
- ✓ A leadership focus should be “C” for Coordinator
- ✓ The EC wears both hats - Organizer and Coordinator
- ✓ My job is to help set policy and provide a sense of direction for the section
- ✓ Also I believe in the importance of team - A real team is one where no one cares who gets the credit
- ✓ The DEC provides that same leadership on the district level
- ✓ SEC, DEC, EC and AECs are the Leadership team

How It all Began

- ✓ 1890s - Marconi experiments with wireless.
- ✓ 1912 - US Gov begins Licensing Amateur Radio Operators
- ✓ 1914 – ARRL formed (Amateur Radio Relay League)
 - Hiram Percy Maxim - Connecticut Inventor and Industrialist
- ✓ The real beginning of the NTS (National Traffic System)
- ✓ NTS one of the two main areas of the ARPSC - Providing a service in the spirit of the FCC definition of Amateur Radio (Service not a hobby)

ARPSC

- ✓ ARPSC - Amateur Radio Public Service Corp
- ✓ Objective is to perform communication services directly in behalf of the general public using facilities of its members and those provided by the agencies it serves
- ✓ Sponsored by ARRL
- ✓ Consisted of ARES and NTS
- ✓ Close relations with any organization with the same purpose

ARES (AREC - 1935)

- ✓ ARES - Amateur Radio Emergency Service
- ✓ Objectives are to train for and perform Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Services in time of disaster
- ✓ Who is qualified to join? - Any Amateur, ARRL member or not, with a sincere desire to serve

RACES (1951)

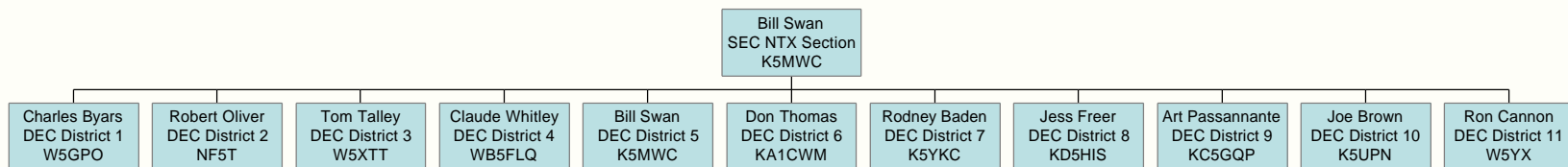
- ✓ RACES - Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service
- ✓ Objective is to serve Civil Defense in Disaster Communications on an organized basis
- ✓ It is a part of the Amateur Service (97 Subpart F)
- ✓ ARRL was a kind of “nanny” in late 40’s
- ✓ Who is qualified to join? - Any individual Amateur who registers with appropriate C.D. Organization (RO)

RACES and ARES?

- ✓ Separate Entity
- ✓ Part of ARRL effort
- ✓ Uncontrolled by it
- ✓ Unsponsored by it
- ✓ But recognized and important
- ✓ Today it is sometimes useful to have both
- ✓ Suggest dual membership in some cases
- ✓ Local situation is important
- ✓ Should not be in conflict

North Texas ARRL Section - Thumbnail View

- ✓ 68 Counties
- ✓ Prime Goal - Have some form of Emergency Communications in each county that is tied into the infrastructure
- ✓ 11 Districts and 68 EC positions
- ✓ Focus on coordination in order that resources can be made available where needed and when needed
- ✓ Diversity of membership is a great strength



Archer	Jack	Brown	Hood	Collin	Dallas	Bell	Delta	Hopkins	Bowie	Anderson
Baylor	Stephens	Commanche	Johnson	Cooke	Coppell (City)	Bosque	Fannin	Hunt	Camp	Cherokee
Clay	Young	Eastland	Palo Pinto	Denton	Garland (City)	Coryell	Lamar	Rains	Cass	Freestone
Montague		Erath	Parker	Grayson	Irving (City)	Falls	Red River		Franklin	Harrison
Wichita		Mills	Somervell		Mesquite (City)	Hamilton			Gregg	Navarro
Wilbarger			Tarrant		Richardson (City)	Lampasses			Harrison	Smith
			Wise		Ellis	Limestone			Marion	Van Zant
					Kaufman	McLennan			Morris	
					Rockwall				Nacogdoches	
									Panola	
									Rusk	
									Shelby	
									Upshur	
									Wood	

NTX Counties within each District unless City notation is in place

North Texas Section ARES Organization

Texas ARES Net

- ✓ Every Monday at 1930 hours following the Texas Traffic Net on 3873 Khz LSB (This is one of the designated HF emergency frequencies)
- ✓ Encourage greater participation from North Texas
- ✓ Provides an opportunity to meet those in other parts of the state
- ✓ Usually no more than 30 minutes in length
- ✓ Sharing of information is the major objective

Emergency Communications

Emergency Management and Amateur Radio

- ✓ Who are our customers?
 - General Public – Scanners
 - National Weather Service
 - Served agencies (Police, Fire, Red Cross, etc.) – Covered by MOUs
 - City/County Governments
- ✓ Is Amateur Radio in Emergency Management Plans –
Yes but usually referred to as RACES or other
volunteer organizations in Annex B

Emergency Management and Amateur Radio

- ✓ Support the four phase of a disaster cycle
 - Mitigation
 - Preparedness
 - Response
 - Recovery
- ✓ “First Responder Emphasis”
- ✓ Communications support only – Prime directive
- ✓ Recognize the ICS concept
- ✓ Must operate from a position of trust and established relationships

Technology Issues

✓ Technology “Freshness”

- Other than Voice or CW
- Really today is focused on VHF/UHF FM Voice

✓ What about?

- ATV
- APRS
- Packet
- IRLP
- Echo Link
- Other

✓ Understand the disadvantages as well as the advantages

✓ Understand the operational issues as well as the technical issues

Readiness and Discipline

Have a Plan

Coordinate that Plan with Others

Tell Everyone About It

Practice, Practice, Practice

Citizen Corps and YOU



Opportunities for Amateur Radio

Citizen Corps Mission

**To have everyone participate in
making America safer**

Everyone can do something to be safer from the dangers we all face – natural disasters, terrorism, crime, public health issues and other medical emergencies – and to help our communities be safer too.

Citizen Corps Approach

National network of state/local/tribal

Citizen Corps Councils to:

- tailor activities to the community**
- build on community strengths to develop and implement a local strategy for all to participate**

National Voice – National public awareness and media campaign

Citizen Corps Programs



Department of Justice

- Neighborhood Watch
- Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)



Department of Homeland Security

- Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)



Department of Health and Human Services

- Medical Reserve Corps

**Other public education, training and volunteer service programs
promoting community and family safety**

Citizen Corps Affiliates

- **Points of Light Foundation and the National Network of Volunteer Centers**
- **National Safety Council**
- **American Radio Relay League**
- **American Red Cross**
- **Civil Air Patrol**
- **Veterans of Foreign Wars**

Citizen Corps Affiliates

- **National Fire Protection Association**
- **Save-A-Life Foundation**
- **The U.S. Junior Chamber (Jaycees)**
- **National Volunteer Fire Council**
- **National Voluntary Organizations
Active In Disaster**
- **National Crime Prevention Council**

Citizen Corps Affiliates

Additional Federal Partners

- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**
- **Environmental Protection Agency**
- **Department of Education ~
Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools**

CERT / Amateur Radio Opportunities



- ✓ Amateur Radio can provide state-of-the-art communications for CERT teams
- ✓ Public service orientated Ham clubs or groups can help create local CERT teams
- ✓ Amateur Radio can benefit from Citizen Corps promotion and visibility to the general public
- ✓ Hams can benefit from free FEMA sponsored training
- ✓ Increased credibility in the eyes of professional first responders and the general public
- ✓ Potential source for new Hams
- ✓ Grant Money

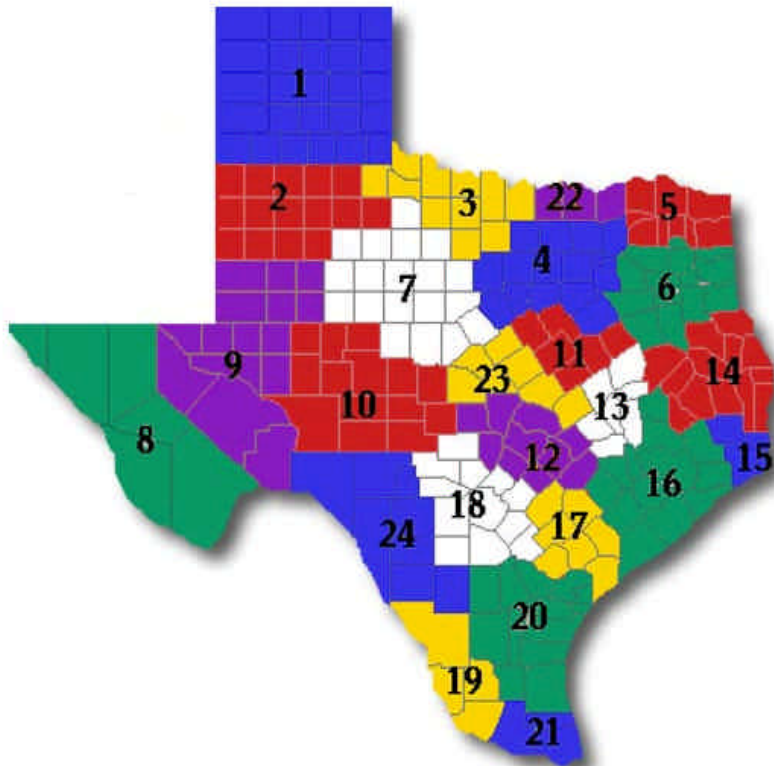
Suggestions on How to Proceed

- ✓ Understand Citizen Corps/CERT Organization in Texas
- ✓ Evaluate CERT activity in local area
- ✓ Contact existing teams and learn from them (Rowlett)
- ✓ Evaluate your strengths and what you can contribute to the program
- ✓ Develop a plan to proceed
 - Create a full service CERT?
 - Create a communications specialization CERT?
 - Support multiple CERTs?
 - Remember: CC stresses flexibility
- ✓ Establish relationship with regional COG

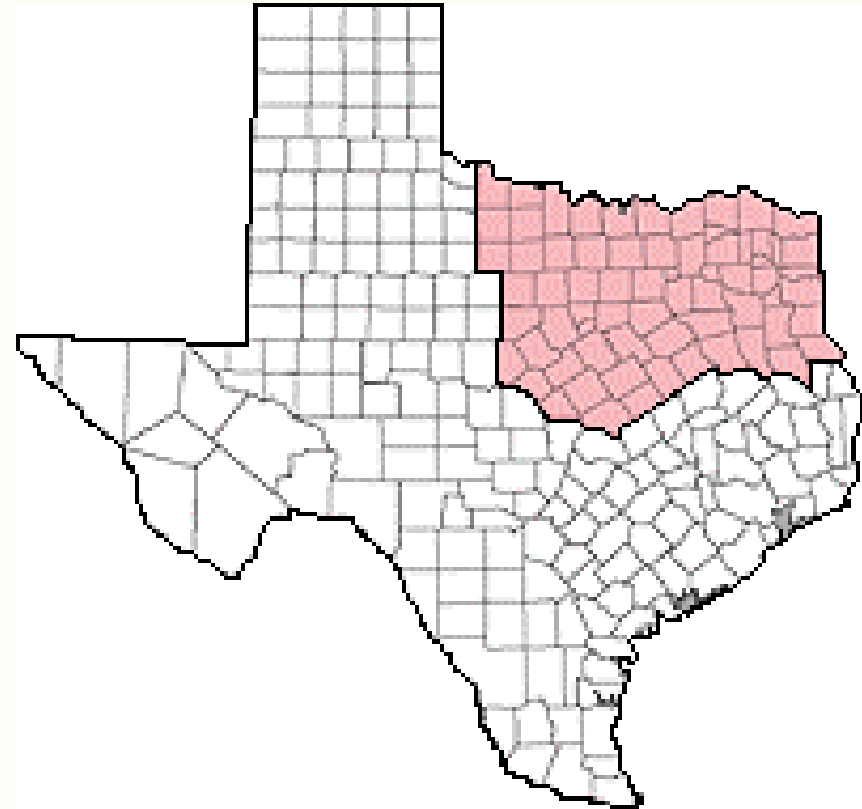
Texas

Councils of Government

COGs



ARRL NTX Section



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