ARES meeting Minutes
8 May 2019
Susan Halbert, for Leland Gallup, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 18:57 Local time

One new person came: Wendel Wright, KN4TWS. He just received his General license.

Program began with a lesson on programming routers by Jeff Capehart. It is possible, if you know where to look, to determine IP addresses of routers. After obtaining the addresses, it is possible to link them so that they receive each other's signals. We need to know this information, because we might have to program the routers in a deployment situation. Jeff will write a tutorial.

> [note from Susan: After he does this, it would be good to practice this with our own routers, allowing time and patience to get beginners up to speed.]

After the router exercise, we practiced message handling. We divided into four teams, with Gordon Gibby acting as net control. Each team had to send and receive a message. Besides message handling, we practiced going to alternate frequencies to exchange traffic. The homemade 440-band repeater worked flawlessly. We need more practice with pro-words, speaking slowly, and working between radiograms and ICS213 forms.

Progress is being made on getting background checks. Jeff Capehart has a chart showing the status of everyone with respect to prerequisites. It is still not clear when we need to show up to get fingerprints taken and photos taken for an ID badge.

Gordon had an opportunity to help the Baptist Disaster Relief team. He introduced them to SARNET and WINLINK. They recently acquired a large tower that Gordon also just learned how to operate. He will train them on five skills: 1 how to program the radios, 2 how to build and put up an antenna, 3 how to send and receive messages, 4 telnet, 5 WINLINK over radio.

There was a brief but intense lecture on single transistor amplifiers. The write-up on this concept can be found on the NF4RC website. More information, starting with how a transistor works, is available in the Extra Class HAM manual.

This month's Thursday night net will feature signing in with emergency power.

The EC001 class will start 18 May at the EOC. In order to take the test, you must have already taken ICS100 and ICS 700. The class is expected to take 3 Saturdays and will include practice and lots of homework.

The problems with radio interference and antennas at the EOC are getting fixed. A spectrum analyzer plot shows that the background noise is much worse at the EOC than at Gordon's house, so much worse that it obscures any real radio signals from showing up

on the plot. It was determined that at least part of the interference is coming from the floor of the EOC building, which is made of metal and is radiating rf noise. Next Tuesday is the day designated to work on the problems. Colonel Huckstep is helping immensely to get the infrastructure funded and functional. There is a plan to fix the HF antenna, for example. Additionally, there is a budget for antennas at 4 shelters.

A tower has been donated to the ARES club. Gordon and Leland have fetched it. The intention is to use it for Field Day in June.

Meeting adjourned at 20:45, allowing time for people to test their radios for illegal extra signals using Gordon's new high quality spectrum analyzer.