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Newsletter of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, AD5BB

December, 2011

Alpine, Texas

Bill Baker, W5ATO

Santa net went smoothly this year, although the Terlingua School let out before Santa Net night so we were unable to connect them this year.

New officers were elected. Bill Brooks KE5OG is President, Bob Newman W5RHN is Vice President, Chuck Dobbins KA5PVB is Secretary, and Angie Otoupal N5MVV is Treasurer.

Dave N5DO informs me that a Banquet is planned for Friday, January 20th at Sul Ross State University. Details are still being worked out.

Dave is also getting more programs planned for this year's club meetings. With Solar conditions becoming more active, the HF band conditions are improving. So Dave has declared **2012 as "Year of the HF" at BBARC**. Many who have gained their HF privileges in the past several years have not had the opportunity to work much DX on the higher bands so now is a good time to get familiar with them. He plans to provide brief "HF Conditions, Activities, and News" reports at each of this year's meetings, possibly a few HF feature articles for the newsletter, and maybe one or two other things he hasn't thought of yet.

Here are the programs he has scheduled so far:

JANUARY: Dave N5DO, will conduct a discussion on HF, HF logging Programs, and a detailed explanation of the NAQP SSB contest coming up this month.

FEBRUARY: (tentative) A Brief Overview of the Incident Command System, presented by Ernie Reesing.

APRIL: Skywarn training presented by the National Weather Service

BIG BEND ULTRA 50 RUN is coming up on January 15. Registration of runners is looking very good and communications volunteer numbers are looking good as well. Once again the folks from San Antonio and Central Texas will be with us and we are looking forward to having a great time with them. There will be more detailed information available at the January meeting.

I, W5ATO have been with this event since it first came to the Big Bend. Each time I have led the technical planning of the communications plan and preparing and setting up of the repeater for the event, as well as operating as the primary Net Control. It has been challenging and fun. Many people have worked with me and helped me as we tried different repeater locations and Net Control set ups, etc. I thank everyone who has helped and participated in this event through the years. One more time, this year, I am depending on several people to help me get everything set up and working ahead of time, and operating their positions on race day, and I thank you ahead of time.

The past couple of years I have had to depend on these folks more as my employer has a market to attend on the same weekend each year and I must stay in Alpine and cannot take off from work to help in the set up. For that reason I am looking for volunteers to take up the responsibility for taking care of these details in the future, including the Net Control. It is time to pass the baton.

THE BARK Newsletter of the BBARC

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BBARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 10, 2012, Tuesday, 7:30 P.M.
BBARC MEETING, West Texas National Bank Building
Program "DISCUSSION, THE WORLD OF HF RADIO"

January 15, 2012, Sunday, all day event
BIG BEND ULTRA RUN, BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK