

**Red River Valley Amateur Radio Club (RRVARC)**  
**Secretary's Report**  
November 18, 2023

Awards briefing – At the August board meeting one of the items we took action on was the long-overdue process of recognizing people for the things they do for the Club. This ties somewhat into why I haven't produced meeting minutes. Not just buried and having a hard time catching up, but I didn't want us getting out past the tips of our skis by putting out a lot of detail prematurely. The awards that the board set up are:

- Lifetime Achievement Award – Conveyed via lifetime membership, it is the highest award the Club can bestow. Only Jerry Keisler and Silent Key Bertie Todd have received that award.
- Distinguished Service – This is our new second highest award, conferred upon a long-serving member who has conducted themselves in a particularly distinguished manner. No annual requirement, no limit to number of annual awards and no limit to the number a recipient might receive.
- Meritorious Service – This is the Club's third highest award, conferred for a period and/or activity specific recognition. Last month Johnny Thomas received the Meritorious Service award for his Field Day and Fox Hunt support activities. There is no annual requirement for one to be awarded, there is no limit to number of annual awards and no limit to the number of annual awards a recipient might receive.
- Annual Special Recognition – This is the fourth highest award we can give out. It is conferred upon the individual that served the Club in a notably effective manner for the entire year. This award confers the Club Member of the Year designation.

We will expand on these awards going forward. But, it took time for the board to come up with the awards and their descriptions and then locate suitable means of...demonstrating them. My advice to you is that if this sounds like fun. If you agree that it is a cool concept. If you think you maybe deserve one of these or you think someone else deserves it and you want to see it happen; please go to the Christmas party.

Some of these awards going forward may be given out during the year, but we will probably make it an annual “thing” to give them out at the Christmas party.

November 14 BOD Meeting – This last week we had another board meeting where we discussed:

- April 8, 2024 Solar Eclipse
- Recommend C&B Changes to Membership
- Atlas Site Upgrade Options
- C&B Review
- Club Awards
- Annual participation award
- EOC Review

EOC Inspection & Review – Following the board meeting a bunch of us went over to the Paris PD Emergency Operations Center.....Expanded remarks based on time.

This week we continued the evolution of the Club website. Right now the control operators are on the Leadership web page. Very soon we will be creating two new separate pages, one for Repeaters with details of the equipment located at the site, the Trustee function, Control Operators and what they do and a comprehensive list of all of them. We will also be adding an EOC page where we detail the equipment located at the current city facility and the County facility that is being developed right now. Takeaways from our EOC review will be detailed later, but Lamar County has just contracted to buy a \$1,000,000 400' tower and put it at the 20,000 square foot County EOC being designed, right now. The county is planning to make us a spot there as the city as done at the PD.

Further website changes, already up and running but not published – An Honor Roll page to list out all of the recipients of the Club awards mentioned a moment ago. And, long-over due but done and also ready to be published, a Silent Key page to honor our members who have passed away.

Call sign list updated – v8 is making its way around the room and it is available on the website now. It is a PDF, but if you open it on your smartphone you can do a screen capture and save it to your pictures for easy reference.

Finally, at the board meeting I was tasked to produce two resolutions, one to reduce the number of members required to be in attendance to make changes to the Constitution & Bylaws and another to reduce the total number of required board meetings from four to two. We need your help with them both. I was unable to get them done for this meeting, but once we get the language developed and reviewed we will send it to everyone and then introduce the two resolutions at the January Club meeting.