

# Sierra Blanca Amateur Radio Club: An Overview

10 September 2007

## Introduction

The Sierra Blanca Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (SBARC) is an organization based in Ruidoso, New Mexico composed of individuals who share a common interest in and enthusiasm for amateur (ham) radio. Each of our members hold a valid amateur radio license issued by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission. In addition, the club has its own amateur radio license (KR5NM) which is administered by a trustee member.

## Purpose

Founded in the late 1980s, the club was incorporated in the State of New Mexico as a non-profit organization in 1992. A primary purpose of the club is to operate and maintain a VHF amateur radio repeater system, which is used to provide reliable voice communications throughout Lincoln County, NM. This system is available 24 hours a day to support emergency and disaster relief operations by volunteer amateur radio communicators in Ruidoso and surrounding communities. In addition, the club was founded to:

- Promote interest in amateur radio communications and experimentation.
- Disseminate information among its members concerning scientific advancement and progress in the field of radio communications.
- Organize and train licensed radio amateurs for the purpose of providing radio communications as a public service.
- Foster education in the field of electronic communications for both members of the club and the public at large.

## Organization

The business affairs of SBARC are managed by three club officers who are elected annually by the general membership. The officers are President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer. The club also has three board members to oversee our strategic mission and incorporation objectives. As of this date SBARC has 45 full members. We are an affiliated club of the ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio, based in Newington, Connecticut.

SBARC is organized exclusively for educational, scientific, and charitable purposes. The club is a Federal income tax exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and we are classified as a 509(a)(2) Public Charity. Contributions to SBARC are deductible under section 170 of the Code. In addition, we are qualified by the IRS to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code.

## Activities

The club operates and maintains two VHF voice repeater systems which serve amateur radio operators in Ruidoso and Lincoln County. Our newest repeater became operational in September 2007 and is strategically located on municipal property courtesy of the Village of Ruidoso. We recently acquired a digital packet radio system which provides wireless digital data coverage for Lincoln County amateurs independent of the Internet.

SBARC members develop and maintain communications proficiency through weekly radio nets as well as an annual simulated emergency test. The annual Field Day event is conducted over a continuous 24 hour period during which 100% of our power is from non-commercial sources to simulate emergency operating conditions.

## Contact Information

Inquires about the club may be directed to:

Sierra Blanca Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 773  
Ruidoso, NM 88355

Our email address is: [info@sbarcnm.org](mailto:info@sbarcnm.org)

Our website URL is: <http://sbarcnm.org>