

The
W5ES
BULLETIN
The El Paso Amateur Radio Club
March 2022
A 501 c (3) Organization



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John Moore	N5RK
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W5ES BULLETIN IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE EL PASO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
2100 SAN DIEGO AVE. EL PASO, TX 79930-1320.

REMEMBER - IT'S NOT THE CLASS OF LICENSE THE AMATEUR HOLDS, BUT THE CLASS OF THE AMATEUR THAT HOLDS THE LICENSE.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Thank you for those that have paid their dues that were due in January 2022 but there is still time to get all caught up. We need the financial support right now, so, you may pay dues by mail to EPARC, 2100 San Diego St. El Paso, Texas 79930. We have a PayPal account that will allow you to pay your dues electronically from your bank account or credit card. Please consult the W5ES website at <http://www.elpasohamradio.org/> and http://www.elpasohamradio.org/1_0/1_9.html for more information.

[Editor's Note: www.w5es.org, www.w5es.com, www.w5es.net and www.qsl.net/w5es are all still working as well. The webmaster is in the progress of moving things. See website section of the bulletin.]

Be on the lookout for a ham radio tailgate party coming soon to El Paso!!!! but we need a name for It. We are taking ideas for the name for this event, which will be a non-sponsored one.

We had an officers meeting on February 22, 2022, and talked about important business that pertains to the club and its members. We need the input of all of the members that are willing to participate in this important aspect of the club. As time changes, also the club's interests need to keep up with these times, with this being said the bylaws need to be amended for the benefit of the members and the club itself so your input is very important. I encourage each member to attend the business meetings to be well informed about the status to this club.

I want to encourage you to visit the club and check out the changes and give us ideas on how we can make our club better. All ideas and volunteers are welcome.

On March 13, 2022, daylight savings time will be in effect so do not forget to set your devices forward one hour. Remember "Spring Forward – Fall Back", this is a nice way to remember about daylight savings time and don't forget to tune in to W5ES Net every Sunday night on the Amigo Link System, at 7 pm. I'll be your host and Net Control. This past year we have enjoyed increased involvement at the ARRL West Texas Section level thanks to weekly ZOOM meeting with Dale, W5WI and David KF5WDJ. We encourage all of you to set aside time on Thursday evenings to tune in at 6:30pm MST.

For repeater information please refer to this link; hamradioelpaso.com



DEC Bulletin

How will we the Amateur Radio Emergency Service®(ARES®) be used by the disaster relief agencies? It is simple to answer that. It all starts with how the National Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the ARRL and the served agency reads. Plus, if a Statement of Cooperation already exists between the local served agency and ARES® is agreed to will determine how ARES® will be used. Usually, the regional office for the served agency will give their specifications for the type of amateur radio stations will be given. The local offices will also have an input. Especially if they are going to put up some funding to purchase the equipment for a permanent radio station for their office. In the case of the American Red Cross station here is El Paso the specifications included that it must be capable of sending messages and forms using the Win link 2000 (email via amateur radio) system. Any portable station brought in by ARES® will have to meet the same specifications. For a permanent station the served agency may specify what equipment will be ordered then it is up to ARES® to make sure that the equipment gets installed and made operational. After the station equipment has been installed and made ready for use the question becomes when will amateur radio operators be used? First off, the served agencies and ARES® are not first responders. This means that any activations would likely not happen until sometime well into the recovery phase of the incident or disaster. There will be plenty of time for any coordination talks between the served agency and ARES® Emergency Coordinator (EC) to take place. Normally if the served agency's primary method of communication is intact, they would not need to call in ARES® resources. When the primary communications become overloaded or completely fails then they would call in ARES® operators. When the ARES® operators arrive on site they will be expected to communicate with the designated destination operator on amateur frequencies. The ARES® operator could be tasked to operate the agencies radios on non-amateur frequencies. This would be in accordance with the MOU or Statement of Cooperation and the agency would also take care of the licensing authorization.

In large scale disasters or events preexisting relationships between the served agency and ARES® are crucial until help can arrive. In these instances, most likely local communications will be down. The other thing that will be impaired will be transportation routes. They will most likely be closed with down trees and power lines. So, evacuation and help arriving will take some additional time. Amateur radio can bridge the "last mile" until the help arrives. Bridging the last mile is an important concept in



emergency communications. The "last mile" is defined as the path across an area where conventional communications have been disrupted or overloaded.

Another thing to remember is that what may work in one area may not work in another area. ARES® groups can adapt to different situations on the fly. In the end ARES® operators are responsible for reestablishing lines of communications out of and into a disaster area. It is also an ARES® responsibility to help ensure that the served agencies end goals are successively achieved. Keeping open lines of communication will make this possible.

The terms ARES® and Amateur Radio Emergency Service® is both registered trademarks of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. and are used by permission.

Questions and comments are always welcome and encouraged. Send email to the address shown below.

Lew Maxwell, KB5HPT
Amateur Radio Emergency Service
DEC, District 6, WTX Section
Email: kb5hpt@arrl.net

W5ES Fish Fry March 25th

Get ready for our annual fish fry with all the trimmings on Friday March 25th at 6:00PM.

VE Testing News

The February VE Session was an excellent success under Paul Wilson, AE5OJ's leadership. A change this month is that Chris Roberts, KC8GOQ has agreed to step into the VE Liaison role for the club, following in the shoes of Paul and Clay. In addition to in person testing, Chris has also been performing online Zoom testing with Larry Simon KC7QJO's VE team out of Las Vegas, NV since the pandemic started, having administered over 45 exam sessions. Hopefully, this experience can help continue the legacy of VE testing at W5ES. If you've been thinking of upgrading, there has never been a better time! Feel free to email Chris for study guides and tips. Our next in person VE test will be the first Saturday in April at 9am at the clubhouse. Looking for other testing options? Email Chris (kc8goq@qsl.net) for more information about online testing.

Website News

Our keen readers may have noticed that a new domain name (www.elpasohamradio.org) appeared in the February 2022 issue of The Bulletin. But, fear not, the club's original domain names www.w5es.org, www.w5es.com,

www.w5es.net, and www.qsl.net/w5es are all still active and working. Currently, Keith WD4ISK and Chris KC8GOQ are in the process of migrating the club website infrastructure over to a single, professionally managed, and free (as in beer) hosting system. A Small Orange LCC (www.asmallorange.com) was generous enough to provide hosting for the club. Until now, the club had two separate websites to keep updated in parallel, so it is hoped the upgrades will make communicating with all members easier than ever.

If you have ever searched for W5ES on Google, you may have noticed that it did not show up as an organization. Well, after some digging, the Club had been marked as “Permanently Closed” by Google. ☹️ As we can all attest, that certainly is NOT true. Fortunately, this month we were able to prove that we are indeed still open for business, so you will now find us when searching. If you search for “el paso amateur radio” on Google you will now see both clubs. Feel free to leave the club a review!

The club was also able to get their Facebook (or is it Meta) page working this month, which had sat inactive since 2015. The careful sleuthing of Kelly, KB2RN allowed us to track down the previous club member running it, who was extremely helpful in remembering all of the login details for us. A special thanks to Laura KG5EHH for her kind assistance! She also says she misses W5ES and its members.



Friend us on Facebook for regular updates:
<https://www.facebook.com/El-Paso-Amateur-Radio-Club-W5ES-508618989304044/> or use the QR Code Above.

February Social Meeting Recap

You missed a great social meeting on the 4th Friday of February. Chicken and potato salad made for a hearty potluck, and Paul Wilson AE5OJ provided an excellent photographic history of the club and the Worked All El Paso certificate. Many thanks for Paul (and his XYL) for coming out and sharing such great information and memories.

Around the Shack

Chris, KC8GOQ: February was a busy month for the Club, with many members contributing to Spring cleaning projects. Let me try to summarize everything I witnessed.

[Author's Confession: I am certain I will omit or misremember the names of everyone who has been helping out, so I will instead just say THANK YOU to all who have helped and try to summarize the many activities at the club.]

Early in the month, several members dedicated much of a Saturday (or was it a Sunday?) to cleaning out the Clubhouse, where many of the old folding tables were replaced with new plastic tables. The bargain table was also sorted out and densified in the back of the room. The faucet in the women's restroom was replaced. The storage shed on the side of the build was also cleaned out of damaged periodicals. A new propane cylinder for the BBQ grill was donated as well! You will notice it locked outside with the old cylinder looking quite dapper. Look forward to some delicious cookouts soon.

Some tower work also took place to install a new antenna on the primary tower. In the future, a follow up tower project may upgrade the coax on the tower.



A beautiful El Paso sunny day to work on the antennas.

Inside the radio room, members cleaned out the filing cabinets and wiped down the gear in preparation for installation of the donated IC-9100 mentioned last month. After donation of a suitable power supply, the IC-9100 is connected on the air! The first contacts with the rig were using FT8 on 20m, but the radio is also ready for voice and CW contacts, so please consider using the radio room to try it out! Currently the HF and 440MHz antennas are connected.



Shiny new IC-9100 in the shack, ready for you!

The Mosley tri-band antenna for the west tower was also repaired this past month. Using an insulator design from Clay Emert, 3D printing was used to fabricate some shiny orange replacements. In the near future we can throw this back up on the tower and have another antenna ready for use.



3D Printed Antenna Insulators & KC8GOQ's Helper

Classified Ads

WANTED: Top tower section. I am trying to assemble a satellite antenna system, so I am looking for a tri-pod or top tower section to mount my rotators. If you have anything, please let me know. 73, Chris, KC8GOQ kc8goq@qsl.net

WANTED: Coax Switches. I am looking for ~4 coax switches for the W5ES shack to better connect the radios. If you have any spare ones in your shack you might be able to part with, please get in touch. 73, Chris, KC8GOQ kc8goq@qsl.net

Helpful Websites

Area Ham Activities -
Hamradioelpaso.com

66TH ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY HAMFEST & ARRL WEST TEXAS SECTION CONVENTION MARCH 19, 2022

The 66th Annual St. Patrick's Day Hamfest will be held Saturday, March 19, 2022, at the MLK Community Center in Midland, TX. The Midland Amateur Radio Club is raffling an Icom IC-7610 HF+50 MHz All Mode Transceiver. For more information, please visit the web site at <https://hamfest.w5qgg.org/>.

Contact W5ES

Want to join the Club? Help out around the Clubhouse? Contribute an article or classified ad to The Bulletin? Have a question? A comment? An idea? A donation?

Items for inclusion in The Bulletin should be sent by the 25th of the month.

Send an email to: w5es.eparc@gmail.com

WINLINK 2000 Info

Here is the site to download Winlink Express:

<https://downloads.winlink.org/User%20Programs/>

Here is the link to the Group.io website.

<https://groups.io/g/Winlink>

Meetings and Nets

W5ES – Sundays 7:00PM on The Amigo Link
2-Meter Sideband Net -Sundays at 8:00 PM on 144.200.
D-STAR Net Mondays at 7:15PM on Reflector 55A
WTRA – Mondays at 8:00 PM on Amigo Link repeaters.

W5ES In-Person and ZOOM Business Meeting – Friday March 11, 2022 at 7:00PM. Link, ID, and Password will be sent out by email.

W5ES In-Person and ZOOM Social Meeting – Friday March 25, 2022 at 6:00PM. Link, ID, and Password will be sent out by email.

Dates To Remember

1. **MARCH 5-6, 2022, ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST**
2. **March 13 – Daylight Savings Begins**
3. **March 17 – St Patrick's Day**
4. **March 20 – First Day of Spring**

Repeaters

W5ES repeater is 443.150, + Offset, PL 173.8 Automatic analog and C4FM digital.

Wires X Node: 11584 Room: 21584

KE5OIB – 147.360 +Offset PL 192.8 with Club Announcements

KE5OIB - 444.750 + offset, PL 192.8 with Club Announcements

N6TOC - 443.375 + offset, PL 100 with Club Announcements & ECHOLINK, node-207517.

2022 March



COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 West Texas Zoom Mtg. 7:00 PM	4	5 VE Exam K5WPH 3709 Wickham 9:00AM- 12:00
6 WSES NET 7:00 PM AMIGO LINK	7 D-Star Net 7:15 PM WTRA NET 8:00PM	8	9	10 West Texas Zoom Mtg. 7:00 PM	11 WSES Live Meeting & ZOOM 7pm	12
13 	14 D-Star Net 7:15 PM WTRA NET 8:00PM	15	16	17 	18	19
20 	21 D-Star Net 7:15 PM WTRA NET 8:00PM	22	23	24 West Texas Zoom Mtg. 7:00 PM	25 WSES Live Meeting & ZOOM 6pm	26
27 WSES NET 7:00 PM AMIGO LINK	28 D-Star Net 7:15 PM WTRA NET 8:00PM	29	30	31 West Texas Zoom Mtg. 7:00 PM		1
				7		



El Paso Amateur Radio Club
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