

The
W5ES
 BULLETIN
 The El Paso Amateur Radio Club
August 2023
 A 501 c (3) Organization

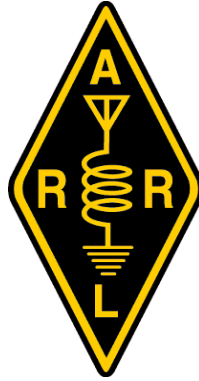


Table of Contents
Pg. 1 – Presidents Corner
Pg. 2 – DEC Bulletin
Pg. 3 - Club News
Pg. 4 – Air Quality testing site
Pg. 5 – ARRL Dues
Pg. 6 – Proposed 2-25 MHZ Rule making to FCC.

OFFICERS

President	Javier Polendo	K5MHC
	K5MHC@hotmail.com	
Vice-Pres.	Jim McCain	KI5GTJ
Secretary	Christopher Salles	NK5U
Treasurer	Pete Hensgen	KB5HTF

TRUSTEES

P. Roberts	K1DPR
R. Chris Roberts	KC8GOQ
P. Wilson	AE5OJ
K. Amspaugh	WD4ISK

Email the Club: w5es.eparc@gmail.com

Club Phone: (915) 703-3232

Editor Paul Wilson AE5OJ

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

This month, I have attached three articles that should interest you. 1) There is proposed rule-making from a commercial company to allow 20kW transmissions on the edges of some Ham bands, 2) ARRL Dues are being raised to \$59.00 per year with additional cost for the print version of QST, and finally 3) A request from Federal Air Quality Admin. To use part of our parking lot to install a new air quality monitoring station. Please review these articles and pass your comments to an officer.

Don't forget to participate in the weekly W5ES EPARC Sunday Nite Net at 7:00 pm MST. on the Amigo Link System. If you are a frequent user of these repeaters, The WTRA would like your donation.

Please invite and persuade others to take part of this hobby and be part of our VE team. For more information, please contact Chris Roberts at robert.roberts@gmail.com.

On another note, we have acquired several sponsors for our 2nd annual El Paso Ham Radio Roundup and Hamfest and will be having a raffle on October 28, 2023, of an Icom 7300. Tickets are available NOW for ONLY \$20.00 by using <https://www.paypal.com/us/home> and enter w5es.eparc@gmail.com and for the reason you can put "IC7300" or "raffle" and please email us , so we can send a ticket number.

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 7:00 pm MST.

If you are a member of The El Paso Amateur Ham Radio Club, your yearly contribution is needed. We need the financial support. You may make your contribution to the club 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 and/or make your contribution electronically from your bank account or credit card. Please consult the W5ES website at: W5ES - El Paso Amateur Radio Club <http://www.w5es.org/index.html> and W5ES Membership http://www.w5es.org/1_0/1_9.html for more information.

73

Javier K5MHC



DEC Bulletin

This is part three of a three-part article. What will you need or should do prior to an actual SKYWARN®

Activation? There is more to spotting than just sitting in that easy chair looking out the window and responding to a net. SKYWARN® Spotters must be prepared for activation. SKYWARN® Spotting could require deployment to a field location where the vehicle is the only cover. Our job as spotters is to report information or confirm information that the National Weather Service (NWS) does not have. So, we may be required to go to a safe location where we can get a good look at the approaching storm and collect information.



There are some things that should become a daily routine. One thing is that visiting the [El Paso NWS website](#), and look at the seven-day forecasts. I might point out that long range forecasts are not set in stone. The further out the more unpredictable they could be. Changes will happen. At any rate, an idea of what to expect can be made. Will there be a possibility of activation in the coming days?

The next item to check is the Hazardous Weather Outlook (HWO). This is more specific and more up to date forecasting. At the bottom of the report a Spotter Activation Statement is given. Pay attention to this statement. There is not a given time that the report must be put out so be sure to check back frequently to get today's statement.

Another tool is to look at the [Storm Prediction Centers website](#). There are many different tools available on this website that could be beneficial to getting a better idea of the short-term predictions.

Next is the vehicle that is going to be used. Is it ready for deployment? Has the fuel tank been topped off? Is the vehicle maintenance up to date? Are the windshield wipers and tires in good shape? Has the Go-Bag been checked and loaded? Is it complete? It would be a good idea to create a To-Do-List so that everything can be listed and then checked off. That way nothing gets overlooked or forgotten.

Now a little bit about the nets. When the NWS issues an Advisory that severe weather is imminent spotters should start making plans for activation. In other words, start charging batteries. Start listening to the designated frequencies, but otherwise continue with the daily routine. It is business as usual. When a Warning is issued a SKYWARN® Net should be convened on the designated frequency. Continue to make ready for deployment. Load equipment. When a Watch is issued a deployment could be imminent. Be ready for deployment orders. If the WX5ELP station is going to be activated at the NWS, there is usually plenty of notice. Sending out emails or text messages giving everyone advanced warning that WX5ELP is going to be on the air. Putting out QST's on the designated frequencies advising of the activation.

Paperwork is in everything that we do. Make a log and keep copies of reports called in to the NCS/NWS in case something comes into question later.

Being a SKYWARN® Spotter is not a job that is taken lightly. This is not part of the hobby amateur radio. It is the service amateur radio which gives it a completely different meaning. Submitting accurate reports is why we take spotter training. Accurate reporting is what makes radio amateurs an asset in the reporting system. The NWS is responsible for saving lives and property. They depend on the spotters to give them accurate reports so that they can make the correct decisions. Knowingly submitting a false report to the NWS is in violation of the False Statements Accountability Act of 1996 (18 USC §1001). It carries a fine of up to \$250,000 and/or up to five years in prison.

The SKYWARN® name and logo are trademarked: SKYWARN® is a registered trademark of NOAA's National Weather Service and are used by permission.

Questions and comments regarding the content of this article are welcome and encouraged. Send an email to the address shown below.

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

VE Testing News

For the past year, the W5ES VE team has implemented a digital paperwork process that has made testing faster and easier than ever. The VE team has also held multiple online test sessions. Thinking of upgrading? We can help make it happen on your schedule, from the comfort of your QTH. Email Chris (kc8goq@qsl.net) for more information about online testing. The next VE session will be held on July 1 at K5WPH at 3709 Wickham Ave. at 9:00AM.

Net Meetings

Don't forget our Sunday night net at 7:00 PM on the Amigo Link. Also - -

2-Meter Sideband Net -Sundays at 8:00 PM on 144.200.

D-STAR Net Mondays at 7:15PM on Reflector 55A

WTR – Mondays at 8:00 PM on Amigo Link repeaters

Classified Ads

WANTED: Donation items for the W5ES Tailgate on Oct 29. If you have any gear you would like to donate to the club, please send an email to w5es.eparc@gmail.com

WANTED: Your classified ads! Having something to sell? Have something you want? Post an ad in The Bulletin! Send your 100 words or less ad to w5es.eparc@gmail.com by the 25th of the month to be included in the next issue.

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

August Business Meeting 8/11/23

Our next meeting will be held Friday August 11th at 7:00PM.

Our usual dinner meeting on the 4th Friday will be Friday August 25th at 6:00PM.

The ZOOM links for our meetings will be as follows:

Fridays- [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/833 3785 7007](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83337857007)

Meeting ID: 833 3785 7007

Passcode: 039370

Repeaters

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

Wires X Node: 11584 Room: 21584

W5ES Merchandise



Kelly KB2RN has been hard at work and set up an online store featuring W5ES branded items with the club logo. Items include cups and mugs, stickers, t-shirts, sweatshirts, and handbags. There are many colors and styles to choose from, so hopefully there is something for everyone. Part of the proceeds come back to the club. To visit the web store, go to www.w5es.org and click on the store on the main page of the club website.

Environmental Air Quality Test Station

I hope this email finds you well. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is currently evaluating property options to relocate an air monitoring site in El Paso. During a recent site reconnaissance, the TCEQ identified a portion of the El Paso Amateur Radio club as suitable for an air monitoring station.

The TCEQ is federally required to conduct ambient air monitoring in the area and must find a new location for an air monitoring station, as the previous station was shut-down due to construction on their property. The previous station was located at the University of Texas at El Paso, roughly 2 miles away. Historical data and more information on the Ambient Air Monitoring Program can be found at this link: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/monops>.

When determining a new location, we require an area of about 40 feet by 40 feet, which is away from trees and buildings, with access to power, and vehicle and staff access for weekly instrument checks. I have attached a picture of the previous station located at UTEP so that you can get an idea of what it may look like. The TCEQ will pay for all air monitoring station associated costs and utilities.

The TCEQ manages over 200 air monitoring stations across the state of Texas, providing crucial air monitoring data to millions of Texans statewide. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out. I look forward to hearing back from you.



Best,
Matthew Ooi
Network Coordinator, Ambient Monitoring Section
Monitoring Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
matthew.ooi@tceq.texas.gov
Office: (512) 239-1709

ARRL Membership Dues Increase

Dear ARRL members,

Yesterday, the ARRL Board of Directors completed their second annual meeting. I'm writing to let you know that they made the tough, but necessary, decision to increase the regular membership dues rate to \$59 a year starting January 1, 2024 (see 2024 Dues Rates). Additionally, we have chosen to separate the printed, mailed magazine from regular membership. Members will be able to choose whether they want to add-on a print subscription to any of our magazines including QST, On the Air, QEX, and NCJ. All members will continue to have online, digital access to each of these four magazines and the digital archive as part of their regular membership benefits.

This is only the second time in 22 years that ARRL has raised our dues. It is a necessary part of ensuring ARRL is supported so we can continue to promote and fight hard for our Amateur Radio Service, while providing benefits and services for our members that increase your knowledge and enjoyment of ham radio.

To help us make this decision, we invited every ARRL member to participate in a survey in May. Over 20,000 members responded (you can view the survey results [here](#)). We know from the survey results that most of you will find the new rate reasonable, or even ask why we didn't set it higher. We also know that some may find the rate is too high. As I've shared with many of you during my visits at hamfests and conventions, each of us has a responsibility to be active participants, and to support ARRL if we want to increase our ranks and ensure a lasting legacy for amateur radio's future.

You told us that you value ARRL's advocacy efforts, including spectrum defense, standing up to regulators and policymakers, and our work in other areas that defend, promote, and grow amateur radio - including STEM outreach to schools, teachers, and youth. There is no other organization that is working harder to advance a vision that allows any citizen to explore, develop, and practice radio communications and radio technology.

Your feedback showed us the many benefits, services, and programs you use - from Logbook of The World, to the work done by the ARRL Lab to test equipment for product reviews. While our magazines topped the list of benefits, many of you also shared that your reading preferences have changed. Some of you prefer print, and increasingly members prefer digital. As a result, for those who prefer print, you will be able to subscribe to QST and/or On the Air magazine. Again, all members will continue to have access to the digital editions of all four ARRL magazines.

Have you ever heard a Life Member say, "I got a good deal when I signed up for Life Membership 25 (or 30, or 40...) years ago." They're right! They got a good deal, but continuing to serve Life members is not sustainable without making some changes. So, we're going to freeze new applications for the program, not adding any new Life Memberships until we can price the offering to be revenue neutral over its term. And again, as more members prefer digital, we'll be asking current Life Members to opt-in if they want to continue to receive QST by mail.

The cost of doing business goes up every year. During the last couple of years, the costs associated with printing and postage have increased significantly. We've cut and delayed hiring for some positions on our professional staff - one of the smallest teams we've had staffing our headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, in years. We are also continuing to examine other cost-saving measures, but we cannot go further without reducing or eliminating benefits and programs which our members have told us are important to them.

I can assure you that the ARRL Board exercises due diligence and oversight in making sure your association is a good steward of your membership dollars. The reality is that ARRL does a lot - in fact much more than dues cover.

ARRL shares your passion for amateur radio. We are committed to strengthening and growing our community and protecting our rights to use and experiment on our amateur radio spectrum. We have a 109-year track record that includes YOU as part of that ongoing legacy of support for amateur radio and ARRL.
73, Rick K5UR

New Rule Making Petition on 2 – 25 MHz.

QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 15 ARLB015
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT July 12, 2023
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB015
ARLB015 Commercial Interests Petition FCC for High Power Allocation
on Shortwave Spectrum

The ad hoc group "Shortwave Modernization Coalition" petitioned the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to allow data communications on multiple bands within the HF 2 - 25 MHz range with up to 20 KW, including in bands immediately adjacent to spectrum allocated to the Amateur Radio Service. This group appears to represent high-speed stock trading interests.

The FCC has assigned it RM-11953. Comments are due by July 31, 2023, and reply comments by August 15.

While the petitioners exclude the amateur bands, high power operations on immediately adjacent bands are proposed. The ARRL is reviewing the petition.

A copy of the petition can be found in PDF format at:
<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/1042840187330/1> .

NNNN
/EX

73,

dale
W5WI

2023 August



COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	West Texas Zoom Mtg. 7:00 PM 3	4	VE Exam WSES 2100 San Diego 9:00 -Noon 5
WSES NET 7:00 PM AMIGO LINK 6	D-Star Net 7:15 PM WTRA NET 8:00PM 7	8	9	West Texas Zoom Mtg. 7:00 PM 10	WSES Business Mtg 7:00 PM 11	12
WSES NET 7:00 PM AMIGO LINK 13	D-Star Net 7:15 PM WTRA NET 8:00PM 14	15	16	17	18	19
WSES NET 7:00 PM AMIGO LINK 20	D-Star Net 7:15 PM WTRA NET 8:00PM 21	22	23	West Texas Zoom Mtg. 7:00 PM 24	WSES Dinner Mtg 6:00PM 25	26
WSES NET 7:00 PM AMIGO LINK 27	D-Star Net 7:15 PM WTRA NET 8:00PM 28	29	30	West Texas Zoom Mtg. 7:00 PM 31		
3	3			7		

WSES NET
7:00 PM
AMIGO LINK