

The
W5ES

BULLETIN

The El Paso Amateur Radio Club

July 2011



Table of Contents

Pg. 1 – Presidents Corner
Pg. 2 – EC's Corner
Pg. 3 – Field Day
Pg. 7 – Coming Events Calendar

OFFICERS

President	Paul Wilson, AE5OJ	253-4952
	oldwils@gmail.com	
Vice-Pres.	Loren Pinamonte, KC5DKM	422-8961
	pinamonte@hotmail.com	
Secretary	Carleton Talbot, KC5MRM	877-3538
	kc5mrm@zianet.com	
Treasurer	Mary Emert, KA5EWJ	859-5502
	cemert@elp.rr.com	

TRUSTEES

Artis Wright, KD5KFY	694-8802
awright2@elp.rr.com	1 Years remaining
Mark Yakubovsky, KE5OHZ	NON-PUB
c4yak@yahoo.com	1 Years remaining
Albert Gemotes, KB5KWW	562-8655
gemoets@elp.rr.com	2 Years remaining
Pete Hensgen, KB5HTF	593-0712
phensgen@utep.edu	2 Years remaining

Editor Clay Emert, K5TRW

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.

Presidents Corner

Is Ham Radio Dying?

Some people believe it is. . . Haven't Cell phones, The Internet, GPS, and Satellites replaced the worldwide communications capabilities that we held so dear? How often do you work 20 meters or chew the fat on the local repeater nets? When is the last time you made a WAE contact or attended a club meeting? .or . . . When is the last time you invited a non-ham (particularly a young person) to listen to your radio. In most cases, if a person listens or actually talks with someone in Alaska, Minnesota, Florida, Puerto Rico through the magic of Ham Radio, their hooked! All of those "new" communications mediums mentioned above were first created by Hams or the military. With modern transceivers, EchoStar, IRLP, D-Star, Morse encoders and Decoders, ATV, Satellite contacts, and yes, the trusty Swan, Drake, Collins, and Heathkit with your "Linear", Ham Radio has more to offer than ever before.



So talk to those neighbor kids or local students and neighbors and tell them about how you became interested in Ham Radio. You might offer to demonstrate radio to a neighbor science class. Maybe they'll become just as excited as you were once and we'll call you Elmer!

Join us on The 4th of July at 6:00 PM for burgers and Brats and to send off Regina and Wolfgang Rasquin and family before their return to Germany.

Our program for July 22nd will be a presentation on the recent ARRL Teacher's Institute in Albuquerque. Our dinner will be chicken and ribs.

EC's Bulletin



Last year the El Paso Office of the National Weather Service (NWS) in Santa Teresa, NM contacted us about a radio and antenna they had ordered and wanted help with installing them. With the help from the Las Cruces ARES@ the station was installed. The Antennas are a Diamond X 510, DisCcone

antenna, and an 80m loop antenna. The loop was donated by the Hams from Las Cruces, NM. The radio is a Yaesu FT-857D. Thanks to Albert, KB5GZZ the trustee of the call sign for letting us use WX5ELP.

This is part of our Amateur Radio Public Service activities as apposed to our hobby activities so we are providing a service to the NWS. Tracking hours for the ARRL's Public Service Honor Role is up to the individual, and should be reported to the appropriate DEC or EC in the respective county.

After talking with the DEC's in Otero, Dona Ana, and Luna Counties in southern New Mexico we decided that a Skywarn Net would be appropriate. The net regularly meets on the first and third Fridays at 9:30 AM. Since this NWS is responsible for the 6 southern New Mexico Counties as well as El Paso and Hudspeth counties in Texas we wanted to be able to talk to everyone on one common frequency. The only system in the area that fits this bill is the Amigo Link with the hub in El Paso. This system covers the six southern counties in New Mexico and is linked north to the southern edge of Albuquerque. We will have a station monitoring the Amigo Link at all times. There will be no information passed over this linked system unless there is no other means of getting a message through. During the nets we take check-ins by county and ask them to give us a short weather report from their location.

When we have an actual activation we will use the Amigo Link as a calling frequency for initial contact and then move off to a local repeater for further communication with the effected counties. Likewise in an actual activation we do not expect to be a net control for all counties. Each county should follow their local Skywarn Net protocol. When a reportable event occurs the NCS should report it to us at the NWS. We just gather the information and pass it on to the meteorologists at the NWS. If we have pertinent information that should be passed on to Albuquerque we can move to the Mega Link where they normally reside.

Spotters verses Chasers. Spotters will work from home and report what they see from their window. There might be an occasion when a spotter might be asked to go down the block and report back on what the situation might be down there.

Chasers on the other hand will be dispatched to gather information from places where there are no spotters.

Chasers should have experience in chasing storms. It could be dangerous at times. We will try not to ask a chaser to go into an area where their lives or property will be in danger. Chasers should be in constant communication with their county NCS or with other chasers on a separate frequency.

Participation in the program is key to a successful Skywarn program. The NWS is depending on accurate reporting so they can make a timely and accurate call to issue a warning or watch announcement. Skywarn training is normally given twice a year. A basic course is scheduled for June and an advanced course is scheduled for September at the Sun City Amateur Radio Club, K5WPH. A basic course this year is June 17, 2011 at 7 PM.

As always questions and comments are welcome and encouraged regarding this article. If anyone would like to be a part of this program send me an email as shown below.

Lew Maxwell, KB5HPT
ARRL Emergency Coordinator, El Paso County
Email: kb5hpt@arrl.net
Phone: (915) 449-5277

YEA ! . . . FIELD DAY 2011 . . . WHEW !

Another annual Field Day is past and W5ES members who participated can pat themselves on the back for a job well done. We proved that had it been a real emergency we could have setup and maintained a viable communications system operating on emergency power and sustain it for more than 24 hours. We held it in a public place – (100 Points). We had media coverage before, during and after the event – (100 Points). We provided literature and educational displays on ARRL, ARES, and our Amateur Radio Clubs- (100 Points). We followed our timetable, setting up in 3 hours; tearing down in 2 hours and operating continuously for 24 hours on solar power and batteries (200 Points). We logged 47 contacts on 20 meters and 80 contacts on 40 meters! We had public participation from Children, students, and adults. Some of us were totally exhausted but supported by the others and above all **WE HAD FUN !**

Mark KF5CJQ provided a portable mast, Clay K5TRW, Charlie WA5KYV and Paul- AE5OJ provided Tents, radios, antennas, cables, batteries, and solar panels. Mary- KA5EWJ brought beans and chips. Artis, KD5KFY and Richard, KD5KFC brought water.

The real heroes of the event were those who helped set up and tear down the apparatus in un-yielding 110+ degree temperatures. My very special thanks go to Pete- KB5HTF, Loren -KC5DKM, Charlie- WA5KYV, Al- KB5KWW, Mark-KF5CJQ and Grant-N5FHF who erected and dismantled the tent, tables, antennas and masts when this old body just wouldn't move.

Other special thanks go to Ms. Donna Villarreal and Ms. Jerien Rausch who re-worked the press releases, contacted the media, and followed up during and after the event to insure the coverage. I believe this will enhance the image of Amateur Radio in the community for the future.



Displays and handouts were available.



Two stations were on for the full 24 hour Event, operating from solar charges batteries.



Charlie WA5KYV setting up the ICOM 707



Clay, K5TRW found operating the ICOM 745 very difficult to see the display during the daylight.



Pete, KB5HTF made contacts while Clay caught up on his sleep.

F
I
E
L
D



Charlie, WA5KYV made some contacts on Saturday afternoon.

D

A
Y



Frankly I think the best part of the whole weekend was Saturday evening meal. Of course.

2
0
1
1



The display is much easier to see at 3:00 in the morning, if you can keep your eyes open.

JULY 2011

COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 7:00 PM KSWPH Regular Meeting,	2 9:00 AM VE TESTS at KSWPH
3 WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at W/SES 28,440 MHz	4 4 th July Celebration Burgers & Brats Watermelon 6:00 PM to ~				8 8:00 PM Regular meeting W/SES	9 No Host Ham Breakfast at 08:00 at Tejas Cafe, Dyer
					15 7:00 PM KSWPH Program Night 3709 Wickham	16 QCWA – 2:00 PM MEETING, Golden Corral 4610 Woodrow Bean
10 WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at W/SES 28,440 MHz	11	12	13	14	22 Tech Night at W/SES Program: ARRL Teachers Institute Dinner: Chicken & Ribs	23
17 WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at W/SES 28,440 MHz	18	19	20	21		
24/31 WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at W/SES 28,440 MHz	25	26	27	28 6:00 PM El Paso Prospectors Club, 2100 San Diego	29	30