

The  
**W5ES**



**EL PASO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
 2100 SAN DIEGO AVE.  
 EL PASO, TX  
 79930

**BULLETIN**  
 The El Paso Amateur Radio Club  
**November 2011**

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[cemert@elp.rr.com](mailto:cemert@elp.rr.com)

**OFFICERS**

President Paul Wilson, AE5OJ 253-4952  
[oldwils@gmail.com](mailto:oldwils@gmail.com)  
 Vice-Pres. Loren Pinamonte, KC5DKM 422-8961  
[pinamonte@hotmail.com](mailto:pinamonte@hotmail.com)  
 Secretary Carleton Talbot KC5MRM 877-3538  
[kc5mrm@zianet.com](mailto:kc5mrm@zianet.com)  
 remaining  
 Treasurer Mary Emert, KA5EWJ 859-5502  
[phensgen@utep.edu](mailto:phensgen@utep.edu)  
 2 Years remaining

**TRUSTEES**

Artis Wright, KD5KFY 694-8802  
[awright2@elp.rr.com](mailto:awright2@elp.rr.com) 1 Year remaining  
 Mark Yakubovsky, W5YAK NON-PUB  
[c4yak@yahoo.com](mailto:c4yak@yahoo.com) 1 Year remaining  
 Albert Gemotes, KB5KWW 562-8655  
[gemoets@elp.rr.com](mailto:gemoets@elp.rr.com) 2 Years  
 Pete Hensgen, KB5HTF 593-0712

Editor Clay Emert, K5TRW

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 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**

In 1936, a group of intrepid radio operators known as the Transmitting Amateurs Association of El Paso initiated the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest certificate in the country, the WAE, Worked At El Paso Certificate. More than 5,000 certificates have been awarded and applications continue to come in on a weekly and monthly basis. Almost every Sunday finds Dale Colburn and Dr. Larry Nickey at the clubhouse on 10 meters passing out contacts and talking up WAE. An annual contest was initiated, some years later, open to all El Paso Hams, to promote El Paso and the WAE. Since activity on 10 meters has been so low in the last several years we elected to forego the contest last year. With the fantastic surge in activity this year we would like to bring back the WAE Contest. Info and rules are on the W5ES website or you may contact me directly at [oldwils@gmail.com](mailto:oldwils@gmail.com). This is a unique tradition for our club. Let's support it and have fun on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.



This month we will also celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving. (Our club dinner will be November 11<sup>th</sup>) This has become a great day for parades, football, family, and too much to eat. The origins of the holiday grew from European and American Indian traditions of giving thanks for the bountiful harvest.

There are numerous claims to the First Thanksgiving including; A celebration in Newfoundland in 1578, The Spanish in Florida in 1565, the Virginia colony in 1619, the Pilgrims at Plymouth Massachusetts in 1621, and most notably, a celebration in San Elizario initiated by Don Juan de Onate in 1598.

Fixing the date of the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in November was by Lincoln's proclamation in 1863 and the creation of a federal holiday by Congress in 1941.

Regardless of the date you choose, the reason for the celebration should not be overlooked. In recent days of unrest in the Middle East, The sacrifice of our young men in the furtherance of peace, the terrible tornados in the Midwest and South, the Earthquakes in Japan, Haiti, Chile, and the East Coast, and Hurricanes in the East and North, there is still cause to be thankful for health, the love of friends and family, and promise of a better tomorrow.

Let us share our good fortunes with those less fortunate and give thanks for our many blessings.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

73,  
 Paul AE5OJ

## EC's Bulletin

Which phonetic alphabet should be used by amateur radio operators over the air? Should we use the U.S. phonetic alphabet/Able Baker, or the NATO/ITU phonetic alphabet?

The first internationally recognized alphabet was adopted by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in 1927. The U.S. adopted the Joint Army/Navy Phonetic Alphabet from 1941 to standardize systems among all branches of its armed forces. The U.S. alphabet became known as Able Baker after the words for A and B.

In 1956 the present phonetic alphabet was chosen. The alphabet's common name (NATO phonetic alphabet) arose because it appears in the Allied Tactical Publication used by all allied navies in NATO, which adopted a modified form of the International Code of Signals. Because the latter allows messages to be spelled via flags or Morse code, it naturally called the code words used to spell out messages by voice its "phonetic alphabet". The name NATO phonetic alphabet became widespread because the signals used to facilitate the naval communications and tactics of the United States and NATO have become global. Because the ITU governs all international radio communications, it was also adopted by all radio operators, whether military, civilian, or amateur. English is not required domestically everywhere, thus if both parties to a radio conversation are from the same country, then another phonetic alphabet of that nation's choice may be used.

The answer to the question above is, while our public safety officials and others still use the U.S. phonetic alphabet its plain to see that amateur radio operators should be using the NATO/ITU phonetic alphabet over the air. All references made in the ARRL educational materials also reference the NATO/ITU phonetic alphabet.

### Other News

*NOTE: The following information was released by FEMA.* The first nationwide test of the emergency alert system will be conducted at 2 PM (EDT). Nov. 9 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Federal Communications Commission and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The test may last up to 3½ minutes. The public will hear a message indicating, "This is a test." The audio message will be the same for radio, television and cable. The national-level emergency alert system is a public alert and warning system that enables the president of the United States to address the American public during extreme emergencies. Similar to local emergency alert system tests that are conducted frequently, the nationwide test will involve broadcast radio and television stations, cable television, satellite radio and



television services and wire line providers across all states and territories.

As part of ongoing, national preparedness planning efforts, work to make the test a reality has been occurring over the past two years by FEMA; the FCC; other federal partners; state, local, tribal and territorial governments; emergency alert system participants; and others in the emergency alert system community.

While the federal, state, tribal, territorial and local governments prepare for and test their capabilities, the event serves as a reminder that everyone should establish an **emergency preparedness kit** and **emergency plan** for themselves, their families, communities and businesses. Visit [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov) for more information about how to prepare for and stay informed about what to do in the event of an actual emergency.

For more information on the nationwide test, visit: [www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/eas\\_info.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/eas_info.shtm).

Join Mikaila Williams (KI4DS), a nine year old Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator, and the Southern California PAPA SYSTEM (<http://www.papasys.com>) in supporting "Kids In Amateur Radio". Mikaila is from Deltona, FL. Tune in on D-Star Reflector12-C, on Friday Night at 9:00pm EDT / 6:00 pm PST (7 PM MDT) for her "Kids In Amateur Radio Net".

All Licensed Amateur Radio Operators and their 3rd party "Young Future Hams" are welcome to check in! Non-amateur radio operators and non-D-Star users can also check into the net via Radio Reference. Go to <http://www.kidsinamateurradio.net> where you can listen. You can check in and send questions and comments via email. She reads them on the air and will answer them. Get your younger family members involved in amateur radio.

Take a look at the new West Texas Section website at [www.arrlwtx.org](http://www.arrlwtx.org). It's still a work in progress but it is taking on a great look.

Hope everyone has a safe and happy Thanksgiving. Questions and comments are welcome and encouraged regarding the content of this article. Send an email to the address shown below.

Lew Maxwell, KB5HPT

ARRL Emergency Coordinator, El Paso County

Email: [kb5hpt@arrl.net](mailto:kb5hpt@arrl.net)

Phone: 915-449-5277



### A new revival

The second oldest contest in Amateur Radio, "The Worked All El Paso Contest" or "The WAE" has returned. Due to poor band conditions the last few years the contest was not held.

Started in 1936 by the Amateur Transmitting Society of El Paso and reinstated after WWII, it is only surpassed in age by the ARRL contest. **WAS**

See the W5ES web pages for more information.

(Editor)

## Simply puntastic

- Did you hear about the cat who drank 5 bowls of water? He set a new lap record.
- Did you hear about the cat who swallowed a ball of wool? She had mittens.
- What is the difference between a cat and a comma? One has the paws before the claws and the other has the clause before the pause.
- What do you get when you cross a chick with an alley cat? A peeping tom.
- Why don't cats play poker in the jungle? Too many cheetahs.
- What is a cat's favourite song? Three Blind Mice.
- What did the freshman computer science major say when he was told that the work stations had mice? Don't you have a cat?
- What is a cat's way of keeping law & order? Claw Enforcement.
- How did a cat take first prize at the bird show? He just jumped up to the cage, reached in, and took it.
- Why did a person with an unspayed female cat have to go to court? For kitty littering.
- Why did the litter of communist kittens become capitalists? Because they finally opened their eyes.
- Why are cats better than babies? Because you only have to change a litter box once a day.
- What is the name of the unauthorized autobiography of the cat? Hiss and Tell.
- What do you get when you cross an elephant with a cat? A big furry creature that purrs while it sits on your lap and squashes you.
- What does a cat do when it gets mad? It has a hissy fit.
- What do you call the cat that was caught by the police? The purrpatrator.
- What happened when the cat went to the flea circus? He stole the whole show!
- What is a cat's favourite colour? Purrrrrrrple!
- Where does a cat go when it loses its tail? The retail store.
- What does a cat like to eat on a hot day? A mice cream cone.
- What do cats use to make coffee? A purrcolator.
- What do you call a cat that has swallowed a duck? A duck filled fatty puss.
- If lights run on electricity and cars run on gas, what do cats run on? Their paws.
- Why is the cat so grouchy? Because he's in a bad mewd.
- If there are ten cats on a boat and one jumps off, how many cats are left on the boat? None! They were copy cats.
- Is it bad luck if a black cat follows you? That depends on whether you're a man or a mouse.
- How does the cat get its own way? With friendly purrsuasion.
- What do you call a cat that lives in an igloo? An eskimew.
- What has more lives than a cat? A frog because it croaks every night.
- What is a cat's favourite subject in school? HISStory.
- What do cats like to eat for breakfast? Mice Krispies.
- How do cats end a fight? They hiss and make up.
- What's happening when you hear "woof... splat... meow... splat?" It's raining cats and dogs.
- Why are cats such good singers? Because they're very mewtical.
- What do you call newborn kittens that keep getting passed from owner to owner? Chain litter.
- What is the cat's favorite magazine? Good Mousekeeping.
- How many cats can you put into an empty box? Only one. After that, the box isn't empty.
- Why do you always find the cat in the last place you look? Because you stop looking after you find it.
- If a cat can jump five feet high, then why can't it jump through a three foot window? Because the window is closed.
- What is a cat's favorite movie? "The Sound of Mewsic."
- What does a cat that lives near the beach have in common with Christmas? Sandy Claws.
- Where is one place that your cat can sit, but you can't? Your lap.
- Why did the cat put oil on the mouse? Because it squeaked.
- What side of the cat has the most fur? The OUT-side.
- What is a cat's favorite car? The Catillac.
- What kind of cat will keep your grass short? A Lawn Meower.
- Why did the judge dismiss the entire jury made up of cats? Because each of them was guilty of purrjury.
- What do you use to comb a cat? A catacomb.
- Why did the cat run from the tree? Because it was afraid of the bark!
- Why is it so hard for a leopard to hide? Because he's always spotted.



# NOVEMBER 2011

## COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>WAE CONTEST WEEKEND of 5<sup>th</sup> SEE CONTEST RULES ON WSES WEB PAGES.</b> <a href="http://WWW.WSES.ORG">WWW.WSES.ORG</a> <a href="http://WWW.OSI.NET/WSES">WWW.OSI.NET/WSES</a>						
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
WAE CONTEST 0800 TO 2000					8:00 PM Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner WSES	No Host Ham Breakfast at 08:00 at Tejas Cafe, Dyer
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at WSES 28,440 MHz					7:00 PM K5WPH Program Night 3709 Wick ham	QCWA 6:200 PM MEETING, Golden Corral 4610 Woodrow Bean
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at WSES 28,440 MHz				6:00 PM El Paso Prospectors Club, 2100 San Diego		Fall Auction Doors open 3:30; Kitchen open 4:30 Bidding starts 5:30
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			
WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at WSES 28,440 MHz						



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