

The  
**W5ES**

BULLETIN

The El Paso Amateur Radio Club

September 2011



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2100 SAN DIEGO AVE. EL PASO, TX 79930-1320.

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## Presidents Corner

### Ham Stew

I was starting to gather the ingredients for Spaghetti Sauce for our Tech Night Dinner the other Day . . . Tomatoes, Tomato sauce, Tomato Paste, Celery, Garlic, Onion, Oregano, Ground Beef, etc. Some of the best recipes are those where you encounter many delicate and sophisticated flavors that are contributed by each ingredient. How proud we feel when people compliment us on our cooking. Sometimes we forget to add something or we run out of an item and we immediately notice it and realize it's not our best effort. Our guests are too polite to mention it but a judge is quick to call out the deficiency. For that reason, we often resign ourselves to using a cookbook or a written recipe from a renowned cook in order to assure satisfaction. Besides, if it turns out badly we can always blame the publisher.

It has occurred to us that organizations are much the same. They "taste" better when all of the ingredients are blended in the right proportions. Too much of this or that covers up the delicate contribution of a delicate individual, too little of another and the flavor is bland. Each of us is an "ingredient" in a ham stew. Our education, our travels, our experience, and our hobbies all give us a different flavor. We all enhance and contribute to the Ham Stew in a different way. If we hide or deny our talents the stew doesn't taste right. If we leave up to a few people the stew begins to develop a strong flavor of one ingredient.

Now we're all busy with our daily lives, so sometimes we can give a "cup" of ourselves and other times just a dash but contributing our "flavor" will always insure that we've got the right recipe.

Don't hide your "ingredient". Make sure you sprinkle a little bit of your experience at every meeting, dinner, or project you can. Taste the "Ham Stew" from time to time and make sure we have the right recipe of individuals and ideas.

On another note, please join me in mourning the loss of our friends Margie Adair KD5CEC and Peter Dahl K0BIT as they join our other Silent Keys.

Remember the Alamogordo Ham fest coming up on September 3.

Don't forget Texas QSO Party This month. Let's do it up proud!

We had a chance to meet and talk with our interim and hopeful permanent ARRL West Texas Section Manager Bill Roberts from Alpine when he attended the K5WPH auction on August 20<sup>th</sup>.

73,

Paul AE5OJ

## EC's Bulletin

The first topic I would like to briefly touch on is Spectrum Efficiency. Spectrum pressures are going to grow especially in metropolitan areas where spectrum space is at capacity. As a result there are waiting lists for repeater owners to get their repeaters on the air. At some point the FCC will probably have to put limits on repeater owners, and limit the amount of bandwidth their repeaters can use. This is already happening in the Public Safety community. At the present time they are still around 12.5 KHz. They are required to get their bandwidth down to 6.25 KHz to accommodate additional users.



D-Star offers improved spectrum utilization. It took the lead in the amateur radio community and reduced it's bandwidth to 6.25 KHz. By better utilizing the spectrum we get more functionality from the system. With 6.25 KHz bandwidth and 10 KHz channel spacing we can sandwich a D-Star repeater between two analog repeaters. If a repeater owner would replace an analog repeater with a D-Star repeater we could put three D-Star repeaters on the air in that same space.

Analog repeaters are not going to go away just yet. People are looking for ways to integrate newer digital technology, and blend it with existing digital technologies such as APRS, IRLP, WL2K, RTTY and other modes.

The second item is...in the September 2007 issue of QST the ARRL CEO K1ZZ's editorial on pg 9 said in part:

"...the traditional role of the Amateur Radio Communicator no longer matches what the Emergency Management Officials is looking for. Replacing their missing telephone is no longer enough..."

If there was ever a reason to give you cause is that the standard analog FM capabilities we have today have served us well. But, if somebody can pick up a Smartphone and do something we have to ask ourselves a question. How is amateur radio better than what somebody can buy off the shelf? In many ways our competition for the future is going to be in people who can run out and buy an FRS/GMRS

radio, and provide the same voice only communication that we are currently able to provide in amateur radio. So if amateur radio is going to stay vital and participate in emergency communications we are going to have to be willing to step up to the plate, and be able to start providing capabilities that are above and beyond what somebody else is going to provide using standard FM radio. If we don't start embracing other technologies in amateur radio we're going to end up at the bottom of the pile with all the others. Amateur radio should be setting the standards for all of the other EMCOMM followers.

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

ARRL Emergency Coordinator – El Paso County

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

Phone: (915) 449-5277



## Electronics Class

### Friday August 12

Paul, AE5OJ is now using the gadgets and equipment provided by the ARRL Teacher's Institute along with some of the teaching aids he utilizes at Western Technical Collage.

The first session was attended by about 10 people and covered much of what you had to learn to get your license.

Handouts and sample tests were distributed. Please let Paul know if you plan to attend so that he can print up enough of them.

The next session will be at 6:30 PM on 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2011, just prior to our regular meeting

For more information please contact Paul, AE5OJ at: [oldwils@gmail.com](mailto:oldwils@gmail.com)



## Events:

September 3rd through 5th Labor Day Weekend – The annual Balloon Bash will be held in Alpine. Communication support will be supplied by Big Bend ARC.

September 17th – Midland ARC will host a Tailgate

Party at the Midland Clubhouse from 7:00 AM until everyone is finished. Coffee and doughnuts will be served early and chili dogs at lunch. Everyone is invited.

September 17th and 18th – CycleFest bicycle event will be held in Fort Davis. Communication support will be supplied by Big Bend ARC.



### Special Event Station K5B – Plano Balloon Festival

September 16, 2011 – September 18, 2011 – Plano, Texas Celebrating the 31<sup>st</sup> annual Plano Balloon Festival, members of the Plano Amateur Radio Klub (PARK) and area amateur radio operators will be QRV as K5B during the festival. Frequencies plus or minus QRM: 7.255, 14.255, 21.355 and on the club repeater, WD5ERD on 147.180 + PL 107.2 and via Echolink at K5PRK. QSL with SASE to K5PRK.

More information will be available on our website at [www.k5prk.net/](http://www.k5prk.net/), [AE5NO Ron]



## Alamogordo, New Mexico

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### 27th Annual HAMFEST

Date: Saturday, September 3, 2011  
Location: Otero County Fairgrounds  
Time: 7AM to 2PM  
Admission: FREE



Talk-in K5LRW Repeaters: 146.800, +, 100 Hz  
Pre-Registration tickets: \$5.00 (Pick up pre-paid tickets at event)  
Prize tickets at the door --- \$6.00.  
Reserve Swap Meet Tables ----\$5.00

Registrations received by Sept 1, 2011 are eligible for the Pre-Registration Prize.  
Pre-registration prize -- To be announced  
Main door prize -- To be announced  
2nd door prize -- To be announced  
3rd door prize -- To be announced  
4th door prize -- To be announced

Food Available at the Fairgrounds and it's close to White Sands Mall  
All Facilities Are Air Conditioned - Ample Parking Space  
Hourly Prizes

Ham Radio License Exams  
ARRL Forum  
Traffic Net Forum  
MARS Forum

Hamfest 2011 Dinner

The Hamfest dinner will be held 6:00 pm, Saturday September 3rd at the Golden Corral.

For additional information, please contact:

Dave Pote, AE5OV

(575) 446-4441

Or visit us at: <http://www.qsl.net/k5lrw>

Pre-register by mail:

Alamogordo Amateur Radio Club  
HAMFEST  
P.O. BOX 1191  
Alamogordo, NM 88311-1191

Vendors Note: Vendors are welcome to arrive on Friday, September 3 anytime after 1430 hrs. We'll have the fairgrounds open from that time until the last vendor arrives and gets unloaded, and we will have a small contingent of folks on hand thru the night to provide off-loading assistance and security at the fairgrounds.

Open to the public: The gates will be opened to the public promptly at 0700 HRS on Saturday morning. There will be drawings for small prizes approximately every hour. The drawings for the big door prizes will be prior to 2 pm in the afternoon.

# SEPTEMBER 2011

## COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Sept. 3, 2011</b> <b>Alamogordo Ham fest</b> Doors open at 07:00 Otero County Fairgrounds Admission is FREE						
<b>4</b> WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at W/SES 28.440 MHz	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Basic electronics 6:30 8:00 PM Regular meeting W/SES	<b>10</b> No Host Ham Breakfast at 08:00 at Tejas Cafe, Dyer
<b>11</b> WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at W/SES 28.440 MHz	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 7:00 PM K5WPH Program Night 3709 Wickham	<b>17</b> QCWA – 2:00 PM MEETING, Golden Corral 4610 Woodrow Bean
<b>18</b> WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at W/SES 28.440 MHz	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Tech Night at W/SES Mexican Cuisine Program: Peter Rivera – UTTP OLLI program	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> WAE Certificate group meets at 0900 at W/SES 28.440 MHz	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:00 PM El Paso Prospectors Club, 2100 San Diego	<b>30</b>	