

Amateur Radio Newsletter for the Panhandle

HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE!

This letter is intended to send out some information on what is happening in the Ham Community for the Texas Panhandle. It is a place for all of you to share with others what you are up to. Do you have a ham project or event you would like to mention? Would you like to share information, training, pictures, or anything else? Please let me know! I will post it in the next letter I send out. There is so much going on in the amateur radio community! My hope is to connect as many people as possible with the events and people of radio.

73,

Marci Rossiter KA5IRA – Amarillo

Upcoming Amateur Radio Events/Reminders:

- **12/2/2023 – SKYWARN Recognition Day**
Amarillo NWS office will be hosting.
<https://www.weather.gov/ama/skywarn>
- **1/27-28/2024 - Winter Field Day**
Several groups across the area will be forming. PARC will be ready!!!!
<https://winterfieldday.org/>
- **2/19-23/2024 - Natural Disaster Operational Workgroup (NDOW)**
Emergency Communications Exercise (COMMEX)
https://response.epa.gov/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=4907
- **5/28-31/2024 TDEM Conference –**
What it is, Where it is, and Why you might want to go.... Find out on the website!
<https://tdem.texas.gov/conference>

Resources and Information - The Amateur 411

- SLACK App Panhandle Amateur Radio Club parc-w5wx.slack.com
- Panhandle Amateur Radio Club www.w5wx.net
- West Texas Section of the ARRL <https://arrl-wtx.org/>
 - Calendar of Events - <https://arrl-wtx.org/about/calendar/>
- Texas State RACES <https://groups.io/g/TexasRACES/topics>

Local Voice Radio Nets:

Name	Day	Time	Freq. (MHz)	Tone
PARC PAIN Net	Sn	20:00	146.940 (-)	88.5
PARC Morning Two Meter Net	M-F	10:00	146.940 (-)	88.5
EmComm Net	T	20:00	Caprock Intertie	88.5
SKYWARN (Spotters)	TBA	As Needed	146.460	Simplex
SKYWARN (WX5AMA)	TBA	As Needed	444.200 or 146.940 (-)	88.5
NW Texas Emergency Net	Sn	08:00	3.950	LSB
Panhandle Traffic and Emergency Net	M-Sn	0 Zulu	3.933	LSB
Morning Texas Traffic Net	M-S	10:00	7.290	LSB
Daytime Texas Traffic Net	M-S	08:30	7.285	LSB
Daytime Texas Traffic Net	M-S	18:30	3.873	LSB
RACES Regional HF Net	1st Sat.	Noon	7.255	LSB

- **12/2/2023** Monthly RACES Regional HF Net - 7.255 LSB (Check in with your RACES Unit # and Call sign.)

Palo Duro Canyon Bike Race 2023

Summary

The Bike Race was a resounding success! This was excellent training for the emergency communications team. It was also a huge positive opportunity to share amateur radio with the people who were there. We came away from it with excitement for upcoming events and ideas for future possibilities. The innovation of the radio technologies we have at our disposal is developed from gatherings like this among amateur radio operators.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED MAKE THIS HAPPEN!!!!!!

Adair Winter – Thank you for all the work you put into this event. The presentation and explanation of who, what, when, where, why and mapping system on Google earth were key to the success of this year's event. Thank you for taking the time to show everyone the details and having the document already printed for everyone with the needed information.

Daniel Holcomb – Thank you for continuing to help the connections with the Bike Race staff and event coordinators. So much goes on behind the scenes months in advance that we never realize how much you guys put together for us. Thank you so much!

Thank you to everyone who helped out and showed up! This was great time and you guys are what made it happen!

Name	Callsign	Phone	Email	Time	Comment
Marci Rossiter	KA5IRA	806-670-1461	dro-01.ka5ira@pm.me		Net Control 1 Confirmed
Hans Jensen	KF7ZWJ	208-250-3455	hans@hansjensen.com		Alt Net Control - confirmed to be there not c
Aric Brown	KI5BMX	806-433-0782	aric@aricbrown.com		Confirmed
Tim Pillsbury	WB5BUL	806-340-8511	wb5bul@gmail.com		Confirmed, requests a non hiking location.
Aaron Brown	KI5RWR	806-626-2346	aaron@aricbrown.com		Confirmed
Rod Banister	KI5KGC	806-626-7541	ki5kqc@gmail.com		Confirmed
Easley Hunt	KJ5BXG	713-548-3496	easleyhunt@msn.com		Confirmed, Marshal 9 hike location
Cory Elliott	KD5ROK	806-418-1031	cory@kd5rok.com		Confirmed, driving van
James Pahoundis	KC6UCN	440-812-4927	kc6ucn@yahoo.com		Confirmed
Lloyd	KG5RHI	817-980-5521	aristat49@gmail.com		Confirmed
Roy	WY5PER	806-896-0000	77@wy5per.com		Confirmed
Derrick	KM6IVW	661-902-1428	cameryzdriver@gmail.com		Confirmed

Emergency Communications

If anyone would like to be a part of the team, or if you would just like to learn more about being prepared and communications using radio, Please reach out. email Marci (DRO-01.KA5IRA@PM.ME) I will get your contact info and send you updates and information on our training and exercises.

There are SO many different groups that utilize Amateur Radio Operators – They all need our help. Many of us participate in several of these groups.

ARES – Amateur Radio Emergency Services

RACES – Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services

MARS – Military Auxiliary Radio Service

SATURN – Salvation Army Radio Network

AMSAT

FRS – Family Radio Service

GMRS – General Mobile Radio Service

AUXCOMM – Auxiliary Communications

CERT - Community Emergency Response Teams

RED CROSS

VOAD – Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster

EmComm Tasks:

- Print a copy of the Emergency Communications Roster and, in a folder, and have it available/ with you when you are responding to an incident. Be able to know who (names, call sign, RACES Unit number) of the emergency communications operators are for the affected area. Phones and internet will be degraded but the offline data on our phones still has important part to play in our response.
- Download the AUXCOMM app will have information you might need to reference as well.
- Use an offline mapping system capable of getting GPS coordinates without having cell phone service. Use the ICS-205 frequency list to link up on the air with hams in the disaster area who might be in the middle of nowhere. Be sure to get instructions from the requesting agency representative or local RACES operators as to who/what/where/when to respond in an event.

Send the following information to KA5IRA (DRO-01.KA5IRA@PM.ME)

1. Amateur Radio Class (Technician, General, Extra)
2. Radios and station equipment list
3. Station Capabilities: (Yes or no on Digital modes, HF, Satellite, mesh network, Winlink, GMRS, or any other station capabilities you have or are working on)
4. Name, phone number, title (if any) of your local emergency manager (or other person at the organization you will be helping out if there is an emergency in your town).
5. Answer yes or no:
 - a. Do you have 154.9500 programed into a radio? (TXCALLID – Direct TAC Channel)
 - b. Do you have a printed copy of the Interoperability Channels [TSCIP](#)?
 - c. Do you have a scanner that can listen to the local emergency radio traffic?
 - d. Do you have an [ARES Task Book](#)?

FOR QUESTIONS OR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Contact Marci (DRO-01.KA5IRA@PM.ME)

From Around the Community:

Joe Minshew - Amarillo:

(30NOV23) "No Requests at this time."

David Overton K5JDO – Midland

"NWS SKYWARN Recognition Day is December 2nd – 24 hours UTC. More info available at: <https://www.arrl.org/news/skywarn-recognition-day-is-ready-to-go>"

Roy Walker WA5YZD - Austin :

"All,

I would like to invite your agency to participate in the upcoming Natural Disaster Operational Workgroup ([NDOW](#)) Communications exercise (COMMEX) training being held at Lake Brownwood State Park, along with multi-agencies for a week of meet and greet, communication asset and capability familiarization, and a COMMEX to bring it all together."

James Pahoundis KC6UCN - Dalhart

"Well, we have 145.43 and 440.35 running north of Dalhart. They are linked to 147.14 and 444.6 kb8sem's repeaters. We are also working on 147.18 pl 100 to put up in Stratford after we are done with some testing. All to be linked together. That is 3 repeaters and a packet node."



Roy Devoll WY5PER - Pampa

“I have started ordering the pieces I need to remote my HF station, but that's about it. I am hoping to get it all up around or after new years.

I currently have it set up at my house with a DX Commander vertical antenna. There's a lot of noise though, and no NVIS. So I planned on switching to a horizontal NVIS wire antenna. From what I've read it should reduce the noise. I believe I can set it up with an antenna switch so I can use both. But that will require that I move the radio somewhere with more space for the 175' wire. And add a remote operated 120 volt plug, and remote on switch for the radio. Ideally also a computer on location with the radio, which I would log into if I wanted to use digital modes and take some of the load off of the internet connection.

My mobile radio is a Yaesu FTM-500. I have been trying to get the wires ran in my new vehicle for it. Trying to decide if I want to cut a hole in the roof of a new truck, lol.

HT I have been using a cheap Yaesu FT-4XR and an old Wouxun. But I have the Kenwood TH-D75 preordered, and I hear they are to be released in January.”

Cory Elliot KD5ROK

“A project box is a project box.”



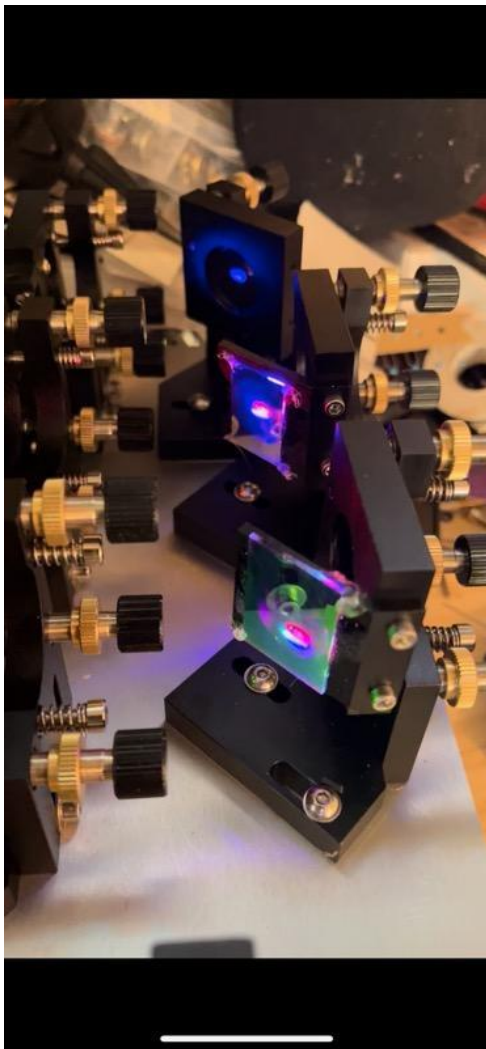
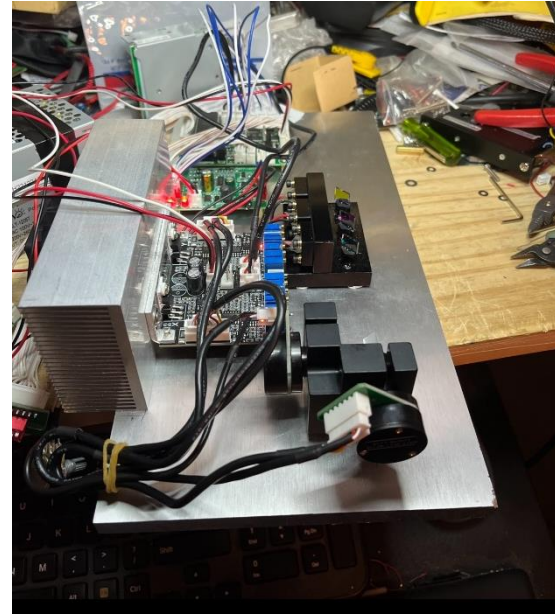
Johnny McCaslin KI5UQA - Tulia

“I been thinking about buying a few Baofengs and putting in them in both of my vehicle's get home bags and bugout bags. So that I will always have one available.”

David Ricketts KC5VGW -Amarillo



“This projector is running about 350-400mw. Yes it will cause instant damage to the retina.”



This one does the same stuff but lower power. 1/4 watt. Working on a third projector that says it's 1/2 watt. We shall see.”

“I know that doesn't sound like much power, but it's coherent light. And I have lit a few cigs with them, and a few burns on the hands and the bench”

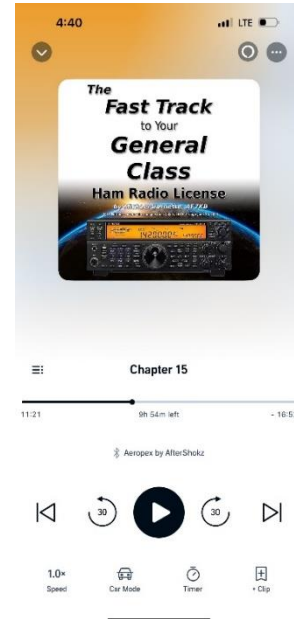


Brian Holloway KC5TPU - Perryton

“Well I don't have any photos at this point but a friend and I are going to put in a GMRS repeater north west of Perryton (at my house). Hoping to have it up early January. I don't know which repeater channel yet though.”

Lou Tarango KI5ESP – Guymon

“Yes ma'am I'm a member of the club in Perryton & a member of ARRL & RACES (just wish I was more active) & yes ma'am when I went to Ballenger I had my Yaesu-FT60R w/ mag mount antenna. I just wish I did more & had more to put in it as far as equipment & knowledge right now I can't do much on the equipment side but I can do a whole lot better on the knowledge side for sure I need to get my General ticket to get my manpack & base station set up w/ the 2 FT-857Ds up & going & from there get into MARS. Thank you ma'am I've been using this but it was the last edition before this one Jim & Bobette said it should still be good enough because they only changed like 72 questions in the question pool I just have it on Audible”



Brian West KC5GDF -Tulia

“Yes you could say something about the radio. It's called Tulia talks. It's ever Tuesday morning on KDHN radio the twister 1470 am. And tomorrow night I'm putting 5 of my grandkids on the Santa net 3.316.00 they are going to be operating out of my home station. We start at 7 pm tomorrow night. Their names are Brinley Bryce, Alley Mae Jensen, and Orin.”

Jim Lear N5LNR – Perryton

“Ochiltree County CERT with the Ochiltree County emergency management Wayne Floyd emergency manager Top of Panhandle amateur radio club Working on a new repeater at Darrouzett 443.800+ 88.5pl. We have most of the components still need antennas. Possibly have feed line. Will need help climbing tower.”

Jerry Overby N5JRO - Gruver

“I was able to get in touch with the Mayor and let him know about the RACES operators and the Action Plan for the area if they are needed. Put him in contact with the District Radio Officer and made sure he got all the information he needed. Other than that, I have not been up to much. We did get some snow last week and the home brew Antenna Gauge said we got a little over 2 inches.”



Darrel Williams KI5IJM – Fritch America

“POTA is an enjoyable challenge that encompasses testing our personal skills and abilities to operate the radio in a portable environment. It requires keeping track of information that is submitted as in our EMCOMM responsibilities. Internet is usually unavailable. It takes motivational effort to get the equipment setup and test it in all types of challenges including weather.

Getting off the beaten path takes away conveniences such as access to food and bathroom facilities. It requires navigation and takes away our comfort zone. One will see landscapes and wildlife that are not available any other way. I highly recommend it as a test zone. You will truly enjoy the great outdoors and learn to respect Mother Nature.



Date	Callign	CW	Data	Photos	Total QSOs
2023-09-22	KISGTR	0	0	68	68
2023-08-29	KESET	0	0	97	97
2023-07-14	K5KTM	0	0	20	20

I posted on Slack the SAR picture. You are certainly welcome to use it and my ramblings above. I have pictures from 8 states on that visit to my son's house. Thanks Marci”

TECHNICIAN LICENSE

DARREL WILLIAMS KI5IJM

You expressed interest in getting your Technician License. I am providing you with the study links so that you can be successful in this endeavor. Enjoyed talking with you. And as hams say when they finish their contact 73.

<https://jgweb.us/ham/resources/>

<https://jgweb.us/ham/resources/2022TechPoolGuide.pdf>

<https://jgweb.us/ham/resources/Wavelenthsandcallsigns.pdf>

<https://jgweb.us/ham/resources/QuestionswithOhmsLawdiagrams.pdf>

<https://jgweb.us/ham/resources/Glossary.pdf>

EMCOMM CALENDAR REV 10-04-23

DARREL WILLIAMS KI5IJM

- NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER FREQUENCIES <https://w4ehw.fiu.edu/w4ehw-contact.html>
 - DAILY 24/7 P2P PRACTICE WINLINK CENTER FREQUENCY 7091.5 NU5D CORYELL COUNTY OR CENTER FREQUENCY 7119 & 3581.5
N5MDT MARK TAYLOR ALSO WA5EOC, Vara Winlink, 500hz, 711200 WA5EOC, ARDOP Winlink, 7101.80 WA5EOC, Pactor 1-2 Winlink, 7091.80 WA5EOC, Pactor 3, Winlink, 7103.80 FLORIDA WINLINK NET <https://w4akh.net/>
 - DAILY 6PM CST OR 7 PM CDT PANHANDLE TRAFFIC AND EMERGENCY NET 3.933
<https://www.arrl.org/resources/nets/client/netdetail.html?mfind=1832>
 - MONDAY-SATURDAY 00:30 UTC CENTRAL GULF COAST HURRICANE NET 3.935
<https://cgchn.cahaba.net/>
 - MONDAY-SATURDAY 8:30AM TEXAS TRAFFIC NET 7.285 <https://ttn7285.net/>
 - MONDAY-SATURDAY 10AM-12PM TEXAS TRAFFIC NET 7.290 <https://www.7290trafficnet.org/>
 - MONDAY-SATURDAY 1PM TEXAS TRAFFIC NET 7.290 <https://www.7290trafficnet.org/>
 - MONDAY-SATURDAY 6:30PM TEXAS TRAFFIC NET 3.873 OR 3.877 <https://ttn7285.net/>
 - MONDAY NOON WINLINK MONDAY <https://iowawinlink.net/>
 - MONDAY 6:30PM FIRST MONDAY PARC EMMCOMM @ RED CROSS 1800 S Harrison, Amarillo, TX
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82360634220?pwd=cWdBZkgwc0ROMEN6UmNreTITam90QT09>
 - MONDAY 7:30 PM TEXAS ARES NET 3.873 https://wiki.radioreference.com/index.php/Texas_ARES
 - TUESDAY WINLINK TUESDAY WTX ARES <https://www.hamradioelpaso.com/emergency-coordination>
 - TUESDAY 8PM EMMCOMM CAPROCK INTERTIE <https://caprockintertie.org/> AMARILLO 444.20
PAMPA 444.40 USE NET LOGGER
<https://www.netlogger.org/> USE THIS NET SCRIPT https://parc-w5wx.slack.com/files/U01SEJG0MNJ/F03UMKETE48/cri_emcomm_net_script_08162022.pdf
 - WEDNESDAY WINLINK WEDNESDAY <https://winlinkwednesday.net/>
 - WEDNESDAY WINLINK WEDNESDAY <https://sites.google.com/view/winlink-wednesday-ntx/home>
 - WEDNESDAY 1PM ZOOM MEETING <https://tdem-texas-gov.zoom.us/j/83583011270?pwd=ZHF1R3llTXFpWldxSE1DQ0dHRU9ndz09>
- JOIN GROUPS.IO AFTER YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY ASSIGNMENT NUMBERS
<https://groups.io/g/TexasRACES> EMAIL JOHN NEWMAN
n9jn@etecs.org
- WEDNESDAY 8PM ARES RATPACK ZOOM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2128884758?pwd=eVZ6VDZDc2kwWnFDVE41QlkrV1FKQT09>

About the DSHS (Department of State Health Services):

They have a treasure trove of radios that they do not know how to operate. They asked us to come take a look at their gear and see if it was still mission capable. Most of it was. There were 2 extra go kits for HF/UHF/VHF Amateur radio complete with antennas and power supplies. They had multiple HT's and antennas. There were also business band radios and SAT phones. They said they may need our help in the event of an environmental disaster.

From the Amarillo EOC:

Derrick Green and several members of the CERT team have taken care of regular radio checks on the amateur radio station that is set up there.

January CERT Meeting: Join us for our next CERT meeting on January 25 at 6:30 PM at 808 S. Buchanan, Simms Building Basement. If the weather permits, we will be discussing and planning activities for the new year. Also, for all recent graduates, you will be able to get your CERT ID!

From the Red Cross: Betsy is grateful for the help of the amateur radio operators in taking care of the Chapter House and assisting with Red Cross events when we can. They are always looking for volunteers. The radios that are set up at the Chapter House need some tuning up and the computer could use some updates.

From the Caprock Intertie System: Jerry Overby N5JRO and Jim Lear N5LNR are assisting George Reust with the North Half of the intertie. Chip Andrews N5LTZ is in charge of the South Half.

Updates on which nodes are up and which ones are not up can be found online at WWW.CaprockIntertie.org