

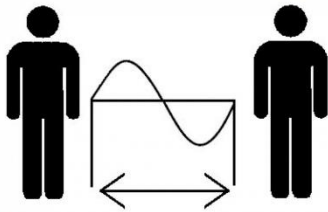


F O U R S T A T E S AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Texarkana, USA • www.4SARC.org

November 05, 2020

Social Distancing



**Keep one wavelength
apart at 146.52 MHz**

We are looking for more Net Control Operators!! If you are willing, please let me know.

The Net Control Operator tonight is Clarence Shilling WB5BYV. Pre-net visiting and early check-ins start around 7 PM and the “formal” part of the Net starting with Prayer and Pledge at 7:30 PM.

Here is the rotation for net control. This is subject to change and most the time without notice! If you cannot fulfill your duties on your night, please contact the next weeks net control operator.

Nov 12 - Eric Richards
Nov 19 - David Jackson
Nov 26 - Clarence Shilling
Dec 03 - Eric Richards
Dec 10 - David Jackson
Dec 17 - Clarence Shilling
Dec 24 - Eric Richards
Dec 31 - David Jackson



New Ham!

A new Technician was born on October 29th!!
Congratulations goes to Sidney Bayless, KI5LVL.
He has already been on the radio!

Welcome 2 new club members, Sidney and Karen
Houston, KM5A.



We are excited to share that on Saturday, December 5th, the National Weather Service in Shreveport will host Skywarn Recognition Day virtually. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will not be able to welcome you inside of our office this year. However, this opens up a great opportunity to host both our Skywarn Spotters and our amateur radio operators virtually over GoogleMeet from 9:00-10:30 a.m. We invite all of our Skywarn Spotters to attend. This will be a part of a larger, national Skywarn Recognition Day event that runs from 6:00 p.m. on Friday, December 4th to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 5th. That morning, we will have a presentation reviewing the high impact weather events for our area in 2020 and we will also recognize the 2020 Skywarn Spotter of the Year (2019 Spotter of the Year- Steven Carter, Haworth, OK). Please pass this along to any Skywarn Spotters and HAMs within your network.

If you plan to attend, you must first register at: Skywarn Recognition Day Registration by Tuesday, December 1st. The GoogleMeet information will be shared with registrants on December 2nd.

Amateur radio operators that want to set up and operate from the office parking lot from 6:00 p.m. on December 4th until 6:00 p.m. on December 5th may do so, however please

	<p>understand that due to COVID-19 restrictions you will not be able to come into our office or access our restrooms. Those that set up outside in the parking lot are expected to social distance or wear a mask when that is not possible. If you plan to set up in our parking lot, please make sure you include that in the notes of the registration form. Also, please note that if you are setting up outside during the GoogleMeet you'll need to watch it outside from a laptop or phone.</p>
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Nationwide Red Cross Emergency Communications Drill, Joint Exercise with ARES

The Nationwide Red Cross Emergency Communications Fall Drill is a joint exercise with ARES set for November 14, an evolution of the highly successful Spring Drill that had hundreds of participants from some 40 states and Puerto Rico.

The Fall Drill will be a Winlink-specific event with the following goals: (1) pass traditional Red Cross (ARC) forms from as many states and as many radio amateurs as possible to one of six Divisional Clearinghouses, and (2) bring as many radio operators as possible up to a "basic" level of Winlink proficiency. To prepare, there is a twelve-week series of Winlink Workshops held each Thursday at 0100Z on Zoom. (Actual local time is Wednesday, 7:00pm!! We are 6 hours behind Zulu time.)

Join the [SEC-ARES group](#) for announcements and discussions. Include your name and call sign when registering on SEC-ARES.

Winlink Proficiency Goals have been written, a Winlink Technical Support Team has been formed, and Metrics for Drill Success have been developed. The proficiency goals are established as a training guideline and references online

training resources. Many hams new to Winlink should find these resources helpful.

Over 300 radio amateurs have signed up for the event and more than a hundred were on a Briefing Call on October 5. There will be one other Briefing Call, in early November. This event is open to all radio amateurs; if interested in more information, contact [Mike Walters, W8ZY](#), for ARES-related questions or [Wayne Robertson, K4WK](#), for Red Cross-related topics.



MEETING NOTICE!

November Meeting

The November 7th meeting will be held on-the-air on 146.62 PL tone 100 at 9:30am.

The Covid stuff sure has really messed things up! According to the news the Covid seems to be getting worse again. The majority of our members are in the high-risk group. This club is not immune to the virus and has claimed some members as well.

Steve Rogers, Captain of Nash Fire Department and a leader of the Covid guidelines recommends not having a meeting in an enclosed area. In searching for another venue, David Glenn has contacted the Parks department and was informed that the park is already full for that weekend. The club president, Charles Mackey, has contacted the board members this week regarding the November meeting. For the safety of our members, they recommend an on-the-air meeting. I know this is election month, however, the voting can proceed by a roll call of the due paying members that checked in. So, make sure you check in with net control.

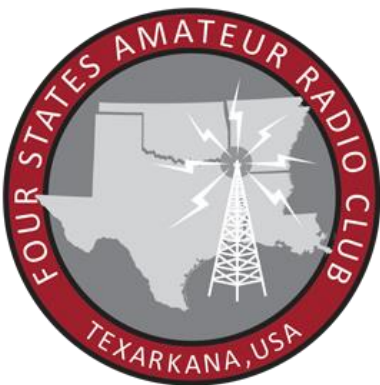
Bell Ringing, Angel Tree, and the Christmas Party are other events that need to be discussed.



Tuesday morning breakfast has changed to B and J Downtown Diner! Located at 422 N. Stateline Avenue just behind the courthouse.

Friday Morning breakfast at Johnny B's. They now open at 6am!

Bring a mask!!



Website and Tower Update

There are a couple of things that needs attention.

1. A computer monitor has been donated!
2. Our club website is comprised of a lot of different modules (plug-ins) written by different companies. I created the website about 5 years ago using free plug-ins.

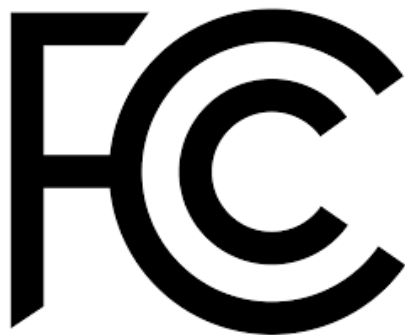
However, over the years, there is one company that has started charging for their plug-in. This plug-in is the Paid Membership Pro. This plug-in allows people to have unrestricted access to the members only section and allows members to use PayPal to create or renew their account instantly. The version of the plug-in we have will continue to be free. We have not lost any functionality. However, this plug-in is 5 years old and needs to be updated. There has been a lot of security added and updates since we started using it. There are several more functions in this plug-in that we could advantage of.

There are quite a few members that either do not live here or not able to attend meetings but still supports the club by paying dues via PayPal.

This is a very critical function of our website. The plug-in is regular \$340. They have promotions from time to time for around \$240. I suspect they may have another promotion around Thanksgiving or Christmas.

Since this is a new cost to the club, this needs to be voted on at the next meeting.

This is separate from the website hosting which is paid every 2 years. The webhosting will be due in March at \$240. I believe David Glenn mention this in the September Meeting and was passed by the club.



FCC Wants to Re-instate Fees

What used to be free, the FCC is now proposing a \$50 fee for Technician, General or Extra upgrade. This is on top of the ARRL fee of \$15. ARRL strongly recommends filing a complaint with FCC. [To file a complaint go here.](#)

Read more about it.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-proposes-to-reinstate-amateur-radio-service-fees#:~:text=%5BUPDATED%202020%2D09%2D01,rules%20it%20proposed%20this%20week.>



Steve Ogelsby, KX5FUZ, has been appointed as the ARRL ARES Emergency Coordinator for Bowie, Cass, and Morris Counties.

If you would like to join Bowie County ARES, submit the form at

http://www.4sarc.org/?page_id=1074



We don't always have a radio with us all the time. But most of us don't leave home without our cell phones.

This has become very useful. Since I am in direct communication with the meteorologist at the National Weather Service, I usually know about pending weather before it is publicly broadcasted.

There have been a few times where this was useful when non-weather related information needed to be disseminated quickly.

If you would like to be added to this group, email me at KF5VWN@windstream.net.



Northeast Texas Club Websites

ARRL North Texas Section

<http://arrlntx.org/>

Four States Amateur Radio

<https://www.4sarc.org/>

Radio Amateurs of Cass County

<http://www.raccradio.org/>

Wichita Amateur Radio Society

<https://www.sachseradio.org/>

Central Texas Amateur Radio

<http://www.ctarc.org/>

Denton County Amateur Radio

<http://dcara.net/>

Grayson County Amateur Radio

<http://www.graysoncountyar.com/>

Dallas Amateur Radio Club

<https://w5fc.org/>

Nacogdoches Amateur Radio

<http://w5nac.com/>

Sachse Amateur Radio Association

<http://www.sachseradio.org/>

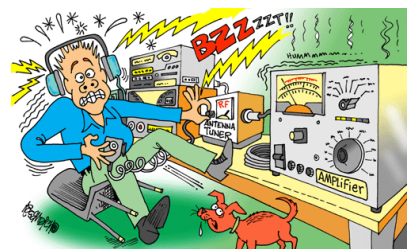
Springhill Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.springhillhamradio.com>



Ready for your Technician or upgrade to General, or Extra?

Email us at exam@4sarc.org! It's that easy!



Got NET?

Sunday	8:30	Daingerfield	145.230 / 151.4
Sunday	9:01	Nashville	147.045 / 107.2
Tuesday	8:00	Atlanta	145.390 / 100
Wed day	8:30	Longview	147.340 / 136.5
Thursday	7:30	Texarkana	146.620 / 100
Thursday	8:00	Shreveport	145.390 / 100

The Shreveport net is on the Freedom Link. You may check the [Freedom Link map](#) for a repeater near you.



2020 Club Officers

President: -Charles Mackey KF5VAA
Vice-President: -Carl Nyman AA5VE
Secretary: -Robert Ward N5TXK
Treasurer: -David Glenn KF5VAE
Director 1: -David Teague (2022) N5GTE
Director 2: -Richard Arthur (2020) N5RGA
Director 3: -Clarence Shilling (2021) WB5BYV



If you have any news worthy items you would like to include in the newsletter, email it to newsletter@4sarc.org before Tuesday.

Four States Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 7810
Texarkana, TX 75505