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## Newsletter of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, K5FD July, 2019

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### Club Meeting July 9 to Hear KX5SP

The Big Bend ARC will meet Tuesday, June 11, at 7:30 pm in the Community Room of the West Texas National Bank building. The bank is located in downtown Alpine at 101 E Avenue E.

Following the business portion of the meeting, members will hear a presentation by Steve Posner, KX5SP about the use of amateur radio during emergencies in foreign countries. Steve works for the federal government as a communications consultant during emergencies.

The public is welcome to attend.

### Big Bend ARC Participates in Field Day

On the weekend of June 22 & 23, members of the Big Bend ARC gathered at the Double Diamond Ranch south of Alpine to participate in Field Day exercises. The event is an attempt to prepare themselves for communications emergencies.

This year the final score was about 6,300 points. The club operated four stations including CW, SSB, VHF and a Get On the Air station.

The CW station scored 796 QSO's despite their antenna being put together incorrectly. After they found out they took it down and fixed it. The SSB station score 888 Q's including the GOTA stations 51. On the VHF station, the operators had 73 Q's

all FT8. CW and Digital QSO's count two points each.

With bonus points the club's score is about 500 points less than last year.

### *Rare Grid Squares in Big Bend On the Air*

*by Marshall Williams, K5QE*

Hello to all interested in chasing grids on 6M. The K5N group is planning a grid DXpedition to three of the most wanted grids in the Big Bend region of Texas. We are planning to activate DL79, DL89, and DL88. Our plans are NOT completely final, but here is the best estimate that I can give at this point.

Arliss-W7XU, Bill-N5YA, and myself-K5QE will depart east TX on July the 2nd and drive to Study Butte, TX. We believe that we will arrive late on the afternoon/evening of July 3rd. However, it is quite possible that we will not get there until mid-day of the 4th of July. We will probably setup in the evening of the 4th, when it is not so hot. So, it is possible that we will be on the air the evening of the 4th. If not, we will finish setup on the 5th and then get on the air then. The RV park supposedly has WiFi, but I have been told that it is "spotty". That probably means that it does not work....HI.

Dan-N5TM is planning to drive over on the 5th,

but will not arrive until the evening. Kyle-KA5D and Ivan-KG5UNR will arrive on the evening of July 6th(Saturday).

After I am firmly established in DL89, Arliss and Bill are going to drive down to DL88 and put that on the air. There will be NO cell or Internet in DL88, so you will just have to watch out for them. I should be able to post when they leave, but I will not be able to tell when they actually arrive OR when they are able to get on the air.

I believe that Arliss and Bill will return to Study Butte on the 8th of July to help us pack and move to DL79. Again, this is NOT the final word on all this, it is just as close as I can estimate.

Assuming all of the above, we will move to Presidio, TX on the evening of the 8th. We will setup on the morning of the 9th. In Presidio, we will have Internet, either via the RV park or via an AT&T hot spot. On the morning of the 13th, we will tear down and begin the long drive home.

We have not decided on which calls we will use. Remember, we will have two stations on the air at the same time. While I have secured our traditional K5N call from July 6th to July 13th, we cannot use that call for both places at the same time, because there would be mass confusion about which grid folks were working. I have applied for the K5N call from July 3rd to July 5th, so we could use that call for the entire time we were down there. ARRL is being a bit slow on that, however. We have not decided on the frequencies we will use. Some have suggested that we just get into the pile and run FT8 on 50.313MHz. Others say that we should adopt a frequency close to that but not right on .313. Of course, we are hoping for a big Es opening while we are down there...most especially for Arliss and Bill while they are in DL88. I cannot speak for the DL88 crew, but when FT8 and Es are dead, we will entertain the troops with meteor scatter using MSK144, most probably on 50.260MHz.

This is the best that I can come up with right now. Things can and probably will change. Hopefully, the changes will be small.

73 es GL....the K5N Team

Arliss-W7XU  
Bill-N5YA  
Dan-N5TM  
Kyle-KA5D  
Ivan-KG5UNR  
Marshall-K5QE

## ***Restraint Urged in Response to 2-Meter Reallocation Proposal***

*Editor's Note: The original proposal was brought to the attention of this editor by Steve Ritchie, W5JSR with followup from Dale Durham, W5WI, the West Texas Section Manager. The below article is from the ARRL.*

Representatives of International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-societies in Europe are advising restraint in the wake of a proposal to consider the allocation of 146 – 148 MHz to the Aeronautical Mobile Service (AMS) at World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23). France recently raised the prospect during a European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations ([CEPT](#)) meeting in Prague, held in advance of WRC-19. A WRC-19 agenda item would call for studying a range of frequencies for AMS applications, including 144 – 146 MHz, and a decision could be made at WRC-23. The French draft resolution seeks studies of possible new AMS primary allocations in several bands in the range from 144 MHz to 22.2 GHz on a primary basis, “while ensuring the protection of existing services in those bands and, as appropriate, adjacent bands, and not constraining future development of these services.”

The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) released a [statement](#) this week, in part pointing that as proposed, the French resolution “is not an eviction or re-allocation of amateurs, but

nonetheless is unwelcome and presents significant challenges. Unlike some other bands where amateurs do share, aeronautical applications are amongst the most difficult due to the altitudes and long free-space distances involved.”

Any consideration to allocate additional services in a band that’s already allocated on a primary basis to an incumbent service — Amateur Radio, in this case — must begin with a sharing/compatibility study. The IARU has expressed “grave concern” to any proposal that would include 144 – 146 MHz in a WRC agenda item and has pledged to make every effort to fully protect Amateur Radio interests and seek the support of regulators.

At the Prague meeting, only Germany opposed the proposal, which has been carried forward to the higher-level CEPT Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) meeting in August. Support from at least 10 CEPT administrations and fewer than six in opposition would move the issue forward as a CEPT resolution, making it highly likely that it would appear on the agendas of WRC-19 and WRC-23.

In a post to the Moon-Net news group, Deutscher (German) Amateur Radio Club (DARC) Frequency Manager Bernd Mischlewski, DF2ZC, stressed the importance that Amateur Radio speak with a single voice and asked the Amateur Radio community to refrain from contacting individual administrations or the EU.

“This would weaken our position and take away power and vigor from the systematic approach by IARU and country Amateur Radio societies,” Mischlewski said. “This particularly applies [to] online petitions.” One frantic petition that’s collecting both signatures and donations calls on hams to “Stop the 2 Meter Band (144 – 146 MHz) being taken away from Radio Amateurs,” which is not what the draft French resolution would do. Mischlewski speculated that the primary reason for the scant opposition at Prague was the revised

French proposal’s last-minute arrival. “Consequently, most other European countries had no time for internal discussions, let alone formulating their position,” Mischlewski said.

With the support of regulatory experts among its member-societies, IARU “is intensively working on executing their influence within the current process and trying to keep the 2-meter band as it is now,” Mischlewski said. He pointed out that funding for these activities comes from IARU member-societies. “So, those who left their country’s Amateur Radio society should perhaps reconsider their decision,” he added. “Without the commitment and the funds, the Amateur Radio community would have little influence in that process, let alone could be present at the relevant meetings.”

RSGB VHF Manager John Regnault, G4SWX, in a related Moon-Net post, said the flood of “fake news” on the issue propagated via social media and online petitions does not help Amateur Radio’s position.

“All IARU member societies have been briefed on a common position and messages for Amateur Radio,” Regnault said. “This message is not helped by the many wrong messages abounding on social media. IARU represents Amateur Radio in the various CEPT forums and ITU, and [it] will fight to maintain the best position it can for Amateur Radio. Progress will be slow, but I am hopeful that, in the end we will get a good result.”



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# BIG BEND EMERGENCY NET REPORT

From WA5ROE

Date	Net Control	Check-ins	Length	Remarks
06/02/19	WA5ROE	32	35	
06/09/19	WA5ROE	36	38	
06/16/19	WA5ROE	36	33	
06/23/19	W5NPR	46	30	Field Day
06/30/19	WA5ROE	33	30	W5DBF, SK

Remember – the BBEN meets every Sunday on 3922 KHz at 8:15 a.m. Central time (either CST or CDT). Visitors are always welcome. Early check-ins are welcome beginning around 8:05 a.m. on 3922 kHz or on the BBARC repeater system or on EchoLink.

## 2-Meter Net

Our 2 meter net meets EVERY Wednesday at 8:00 PM (local time) on the clubs repeater system network. These are good training grounds for potential emergency situations as well as helping new hams in the area to have an easy way to get use to "talking on the radio"!

Our club website ([www.bigbendarc.com](http://www.bigbendarc.com)) has all the information about our 2 meter net. This includes the Net Control members schedule, the "script" (supplied only as a guide to insure that the important information is given out weekly - you can use it anyway you see fit) and a list of the recent check-in members.

If you have an interest in joining the NET CONTROL STATIONS as an operator, please call me (432/837-2257) or holler during the Wednesday Net. We could really use a couple of extra hands to be NCS! The script and "check-in roster" are both posted on the club website for you to download and use as a NCS!

The month of June we had four (4) Wednesday's, and it went this way:

Date	Check-ins	Net Control station
June 5	22	KA5PVB - Chuck
June 12	8	KI5ANQ - Scott
June 19	18	KG5LMG - Marvin
June 26	20	KA5PVB - Chuck

\*\*\*\*\*Total of 68 check-ins for the month of June! \*\*\*\*\*

If you don't have the time to check-in to the net and participate in the round-table discussion, take a minute of your time and check-in as an "in-and-out" (you're in for the head count, but not participating in the actual net). ALL participation is appreciated and encouraged!

During the month of June we had check-ins from the following hams on the Echo-Link System as follows:

- W5RHN - Bob from Crystal Falls, MI. (summer home) (3 times)
- K5FRN - Fran in Crystal Falls, MI ( 3 times)
- KG5DW - Don was in Oklahoma
- KE7BEN - Ben from Draper, UT.
- KD5ITD - Radar was aboard the USS Lexington in Corpus Christi, TX.

I would like to thank KG5HEJ - Al in Terlingua for keeping up apprased of the Echo-Link activity during our net times! VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!

I want to specifically thank our six (6) Net Control stations for all of their efforts on behalf of the club's 2 meter net for the entire year. It just wouldn't have happened if you were NOT there! Our Net Control Stations are:

- KF5KMA - Dan, KG5BMK - Chuck, KG5LMG - Marvin, N5BBJ - Bruce, and W5RHN - Bob, and KI5AXS - Scott

When you see them, thank them for all their efforts for the 2 meter net!

73,

Chuck Dobbins - KA5PVB  
2 meter Net Manager

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**BBARC Club Officers**

President – Bill Smith, K5WSA  
Vice-president - Stephen Cook, KE5WCP  
Secretary - Billy Roberts, W5NPR  
Treasurer - Angie Otoupol, N5MVV

**THE BARK**

**Newsletter of the BBARC**

Big Bend Amateur Radio Club  
1402 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
Alpine, Texas 79830

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**BIG BEND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

<http://www.bigbendarc.com>

Meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at the West Texas National Bank Building in Alpine, 7:30 P.M. CST/CDT. ARRL Affiliated Club

**MEMBERSHIP AND NEWSLETTER**

**SUBSCRIPTION**

**2019 Dues are due**

Annual membership is Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 each year. Dues are \$36 per year for individual or individual & spouse.

Membership allows you to participate in all club activities and vote at the monthly meetings.

Dues can be mailed to Bob Ward, WA5ROE at 1402 N. Fifth Street, Alpine, Texas 79830.

Newsletters are available by e-mail for members, subscribers, and interested recipients. Send your e-mail address to [bill.ke5og@gmail.com](mailto:bill.ke5og@gmail.com) to be put on the list.

**ABOUT THE BBARC**

Founded December 17, 1974

ARRL affiliate since 1986

The BBARC is a 501(C)3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

**Big Bend Emergency Net, 3.922 MHz**

Founded September 18, 1977

Meets every Sunday morning at 8:15 A.M. CST/CDT

Controlled net format. Welcomes new participants and visitors.

Established by Bob Ward, WA5ROE.  
Net Manager, Bob Ward, WA5ROE, [wa5roe@juno.com](mailto:wa5roe@juno.com)

**Big Bend 2-meter Net**

Founded July 9, 2008

Meets every Wednesday evening at 8:00 P.M. CST/CDT

Controlled net format. Welcomes new participants and visitors.

Established by Bob Ayer, KA1AAJ (SK)

Net Manager, Chuck Dobbins, KA5PVB,  
[charles\\_dobbins@yahoo.com](mailto:charles_dobbins@yahoo.com)

**BBARC Repeater System**

All standard offsets. All repeaters require 146.2 Hz PL tone encoded on your transmit signal. All repeaters are linked.

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|----------|---|
| 147.120+ | Shafter, Cibolo Creek                     |
| 147.020+ | Elephant Mt. south of Alpine. System hub  |
| 146.620- | Ft. Davis located at McDonald Observatory |
| 146.720- | Alpine, Pearce Mountain                   |
| 146.820- | Terlingua, Study Butte                    |
| 146.920- | Glass Mountains, Alpine / Ft. Stockton    |
| 145.230- | Emergency Repeater                        |

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**Big Bend ARC  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

July 9 – Big Bend ARC Club Meeting at 7:30, at the  
Community Room of West Texas National Bank.

IARU HF World Championship, 1200Z, Jul 13 to 1200Z,  
July 14, 2019

