

# The **HOTLINE**

Official Newsletter for the  
**Heart O' Texas Amateur Radio Club**  
Waco, Texas

**MARCH 2024**  
**VOLUME XLV, NUMBER 3**

## ***Meeting Notice***

HOTARC will hold its monthly *Meeting of Members* at 7:00 PM on Thursday March 28, 2024 **in person at 921 Lake Air Dr.** and via the Zoom Video Conferencing Platform. Please check your email or the Members Only section of the website for login information.

Dear HOTARC Members,

My name is Aaron Gustafson, and it is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as the President of HOTARC for the year 2024. I am excited to embark on this journey alongside each of you as we work towards our shared goals and aspirations for the club.

Allow me to provide a brief overview of my background and our objectives for the year ahead. In addition to serving as President of HOTARC, I am the managing partner of Computers N' Stuff of Waco, a company I founded in 2010 and have operated ever since. Through my experience in business management and entrepreneurship, I have developed a strong sense of leadership and a passion for fostering growth and innovation.

As President of HOTARC, my primary goals for this year revolve around increasing our club's presence and impact within the community. Specifically, I aim to enhance our participation in key events such as the Wild West 100, Bearathon, and Winter Field Day. By actively engaging in these events, we can not only showcase the talent and dedication of our members but also attract new enthusiasts to the world of amateur radio.

Furthermore, I am committed to laying the groundwork for a lasting legacy that will propel HOTARC forward for years to come. Through strategic planning and collaboration, we can establish initiatives and programs that promote growth, inclusivity, and camaraderie within our club.

In addition to our overarching goals, I am excited to share some upcoming events and initiatives on our schedule for this year:

- March Meeting: Discussion on Eclipse events April: Solar Eclipse Post Mortem
- May: Field Day Prep Day
- July: Ice Cream Social
- August: Wild West 100 Prep Day
- October: Club Cookout at the Office (if agreeable to all members)
- December: Elections and Annual Christmas Luncheon

Lastly, I am eager to utilize my expertise in technology to benefit our community of amateur radio operators. I look forward to deploying Winlink and APRS nodes, as well as an AllStar node at the Lake Air Office Tower, to facilitate communication and connectivity among our members.

I am deeply honored to serve as your President and am committed to working tirelessly to advance the mission and vision of HOTARC. I invite each of you to join me in this endeavor as we embark on an exciting and rewarding year ahead.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to working with all of you to make 2024 a memorable and successful year for HOTARC.

Warm regards,

Aaron Gustafson  
President, HOTARC



# HOTARC Meeting of Members

## February 22, 2024

Secretary Mike Davis NA5X called the meeting to order at 7:00PM in person and in the ZOOM Meeting Room. Bill Feltenberger KD5UEW gave the invocation.

Secretary Mike Davis NA5X led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 10 members present and 5 visitors: Ryan Dirker KI5EAB, John Chamberlain AC5JC, John Trankovich N5JJT, Brian Konzelman KF5TPY, and Don Gray N5SGJ.

Jim Jud KA5QKL moved and Jeb Leutwyler KG5WHS seconded to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented in the HOTLINE. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: The Treasurers Report for January 2023 as published in the HOTLINE was filed.

Committee Reports:

No reports.

Bill Feltenberger KD5UEW has filled out the official request for Cameron Park for Field Day and has submitted it. Steve Bosshard NU5D reported a jammer in our area. Targeting GMRS currently. Also Tuesday and Thursday night CW net on 7.045.

Bearathon is on. Contact Mike Davis NA5X for more info.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business

New Business: Bill Feltenberger KD5UEW moved and Jeb Leutwyler KG5WHS \$119 for six Baufeng radios paid out of Radio Fund.

Meeting Adjournment: Secretary Mike Davis NA5X adjourned the meeting at 07:13 pm.

After the meeting: Ryan Dirker presented emergency plans for the upcoming Eclipse.

Submitted by Mike Davis NA5X  
HOTARC Secretary

## The Treasurer's Report

Heart o' Texas Amateur Radio Club		
Treasurers Report: February 29, 2024		
<b>Starting Balance</b>	<b>February 1, 2024</b>	<b>\$ 12,199.95</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Cash for dues 22 Jan	\$	60.00
<b>Total received</b>	\$	60.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$	60.00
<b>Expenses</b>		
Pay Pal	\$	2.18
6 New Radios	\$	119.06
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$	121.24
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>February 29, 2024</b>	<b>\$ 12,138.71</b>
CD	\$	7,000.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>February 29, 2024</b>	<b>\$ 5,138.71</b>
Mike Ross New Ham Radio Fund	\$	180.94
Flower Fund Total 2/29/2024	\$	287.47
Submitted by Bill Feltenberger KD5UEW		

# McLennan County A.R.E.S.

by Paul Collins KG5DHS  
McLennan County Emergency Coordinator

Hi HOTARC!

Volunteers needed!! On Monday April 8th the Waco / McLennan County EOC is looking for a couple of volunteers to operate the radios. Please contact Ryan Dirker (KI5EAB) at 254-750-5911.

Lampasas is also looking for volunteers for the event. Please contact Melissa Husel (KM5R) at radi0chick@gmail.com.

Spring SET for North Texas, April, 2024. The Spring SET will coincide with the Full Solar Eclipse and will start on April 7, 2024 and conclude on April 9. Much like the Fall SET, the Spring SET is a communications exercise, but will be real world. There will be multiple reporting periods where your teams will be asked to gather the status of your infrastructure and resources before and after the event. As we get closer to that event, we will provide a better picture for what will be expected.

As always the ARES team is ready to deploy if needed. Thanks to everyone who is part of the team!

If you are interested in becoming a member of McLennan County ARES, go to the HOTARC Web site under the frequently asked questions and download the application.



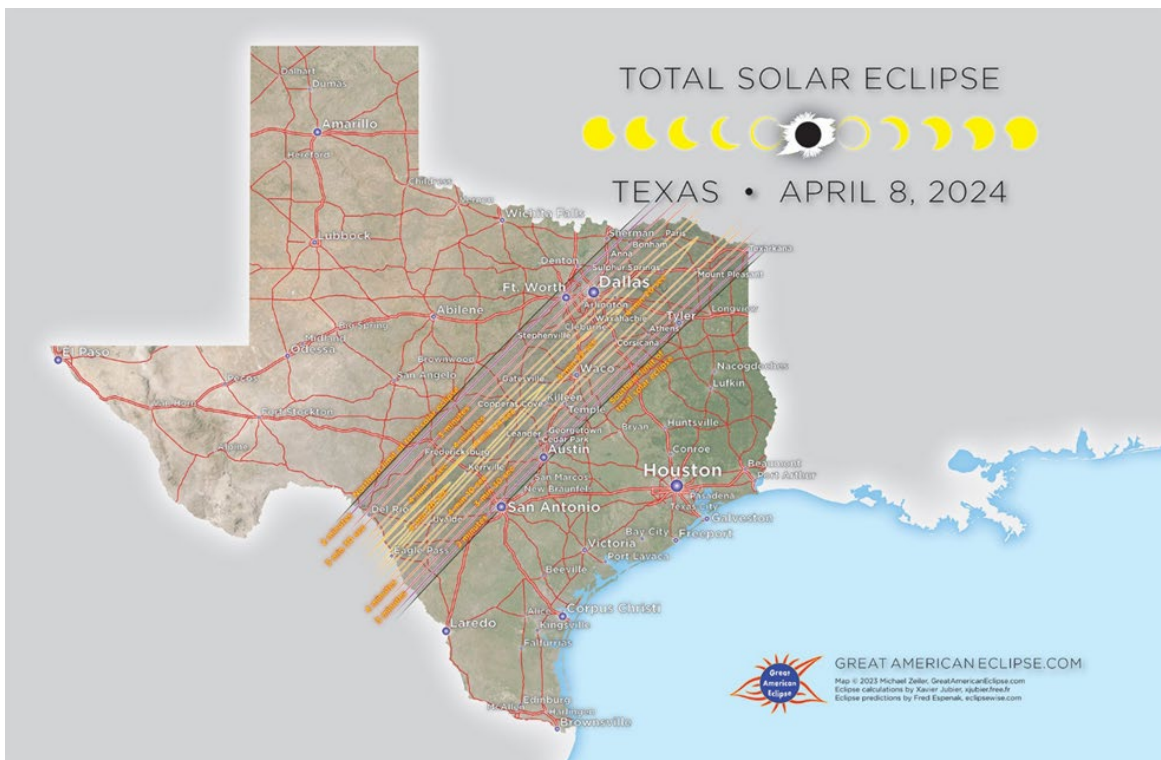
**Baker's Dozen counties**

E-mail or mail the completed application according to the instructions listed at the bottom of the application. Your application will be processed and you will receive an ARES ID Card. As always, the ARES team is ready to deploy if needed. Thanks to everyone who is part of the team!

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

73,

Paul KG5DHS



# Texas RACES District 11 News

by Mike Davis NA5X  
Texas RACES DRO-11

Texas RACES in unison with local ARES operators are preparing for the Eclipse event. We are planning for operators at Waco/McLennan County EOC, TDEM EOC, and Aaron has volunteered his office as a third location with 2m/70cm capabilities as well as a fiber network node. The week of March 25 will finalize plans after meeting with the TDEM District Coordinator. Please reach out if you would like to volunteer for this event. My unofficial recommendations to you would be to fill up on gas by Friday and hit the grocery store as well. Traffic could be something quite unlike what we are used to.

If you wish to join Texas RACES, the applications can be found at <https://www.tdem.texas.gov/response/races> There are two separate forms. Please fill out and return to me: [mike@na5x.com](mailto:mike@na5x.com).

## INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN (ICS 205)

<b>1. Incident Name:</b> Texas Total Eclipse-Comms			<b>2. Date/Time Prepared:</b> Date: 12MAR2024 Time:				<b>3. Operational Period:</b> Date From: 8APR2024 Date To: 8APR2024 Time From: 0800L Time To: 1800L			
<b>4. Basic Radio Channel Use:</b>										
Zone Grp.	Ch #	Function	Channel Name/Trunked Radio System Talkgroup	Assignment	RX Freq N or W	RX Tone/NAC	TX Freq N or W	TX Tone/NAC	Mode (A, D, or M)	Remarks
01		Hill County	Primary & Relay		146.78	123	146.18		A	Hill Co. primary and relay from McLennan Co to DEC command
02		Bosque	Primary and Relay from Evant Comm.		147.180	123	147.780		A	Bosque Co. relay from D-23 and Lampasas Co.
03		McLennan County	Primary		145.150	123	144.550		A	
04		D-23 RACES & Lampasas Co.	Primary		147.060	100	147.660		A	Shared county with ARES and RACES
05		Bell County	Primary		146.720	88.5	145.120		A	
06		Coryell County	Primary		145.170	162.2	144.570			
07		Johnson County	Primary & Relay		145.490	88.5	144.890		A	Relay down I-35W and from Somerville County Hospital
08		K5SOC (State)	HF Primary-voice HF Winlink (email)		7.255 7.112		7.255 7.110.5		LSB USB-D	TX State RACES - voice Winlink Email & P2P
<b>5. Special Instructions:</b>										
<b>6. Prepared by</b> (Communications Unit Leader) Name: <u>Irish DEC6/DRO11C, Jud ADEC/DRO11B</u> Signature: _____										
<b>ICS 205</b>			<b>IAP Page</b> _____			Date/Time: 15APR2024				

## ***Bearathon After Action***

All in, we had 4 operators in action, NA5X was net control with access to the McLane Stadium EOC, KA5DAH and KE5UBO were on course, and KI5PCQ was the Race Director's shadow on site. Present in the EOC were members of Baylor DPS, McLennan County Sheriffs Dept, BSW Southwest Sports Medicine, and AMR EMT.

All in all there were 1,223 finishers, and the first place male completed in 1hr 11 mins and the first place female completed in 1hr 24 minutes.

We had we had 1 runner collapse at finish line, she was revived on scene, and transported to Hospital for treatment. I was informed around 1230 that the runner was stable and doing well. We had 1 Runner transported FROM the course to McLane Stadium via EMS, we had 1 runner transported from course via Chase Car (No injuries) to McLane Stadium, and we had one walk up injury to the EMS tent.

We had several people throw up at the finish line.

All in all given how few operators we had, HOTARC showed up and showed out on this event and Tanner indicated he was DEEPLY pleased with how efficient we were at relaying communication and getting ambulances to the right locations. So kudos to Mike as he was the big guy in the sky relaying information.

Bearathon utilized Zello VoIP PTT App to eliminate the costly radios and it seemed to do rather well though they still had issues in the park, so I don't see us being replaced by cellular any time soon.

A more in depth report can be found on the HOTARC Discord.

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The HOTLINE is the monthly newsletter of the Heart O' Texas Amateur Radio Club (HOTARC), Inc., a nonprofit corporation, chartered by the State of Texas and principally located in Waco. It is permissible to use any of the original material contained herein provided proper credit is given to the source.

Edited and Published by Mike Davis NA5X, [mike@na5x.com](mailto:mike@na5x.com)

## ***HOTARC 2023 Board of Directors***

**President:** Aaron Gustafson, KI5PCQ

[President@hotarc.org](mailto:President@hotarc.org)

**Vice Pres:** Drew Dickenson, KE5UBO

[VicePres@hotarc.org](mailto:VicePres@hotarc.org)

**Secretary:** Mike Davis, NA5X

[Secretary@hotarc.org](mailto:Secretary@hotarc.org)

**Treasurer:** Bill Feltenberger, KD5UEW

[Treasurer@hotarc.org](mailto:Treasurer@hotarc.org)

**Past-Pres.:** Seth Boren, KI5QEH

[PastPres@hotarc.org](mailto:PastPres@hotarc.org)

**Director (2025):** Jason Fedlam, KQ5UX

[Director1@hotarc.org](mailto:Director1@hotarc.org)

**Director (2024):** Barbara Leutwyler,

[Director3@hotarc.org](mailto:Director3@hotarc.org)

**Director (2026):** Kevin Mullins, K5KTM

[Director2@hotarc.org](mailto:Director2@hotarc.org)

### **Club Repeaters**

145.15 MHz (input at -600 kHz, tone 123 Hz)

146.98 MHz (input at -600 kHz, D-Star)

442.875 MHz (input at +5.0 MHz, tone 123 Hz)

## ***VE Testing***

Contact HOTARC at [hamradio@hotarc.org](mailto:hamradio@hotarc.org) if you would like information on our next testing session.