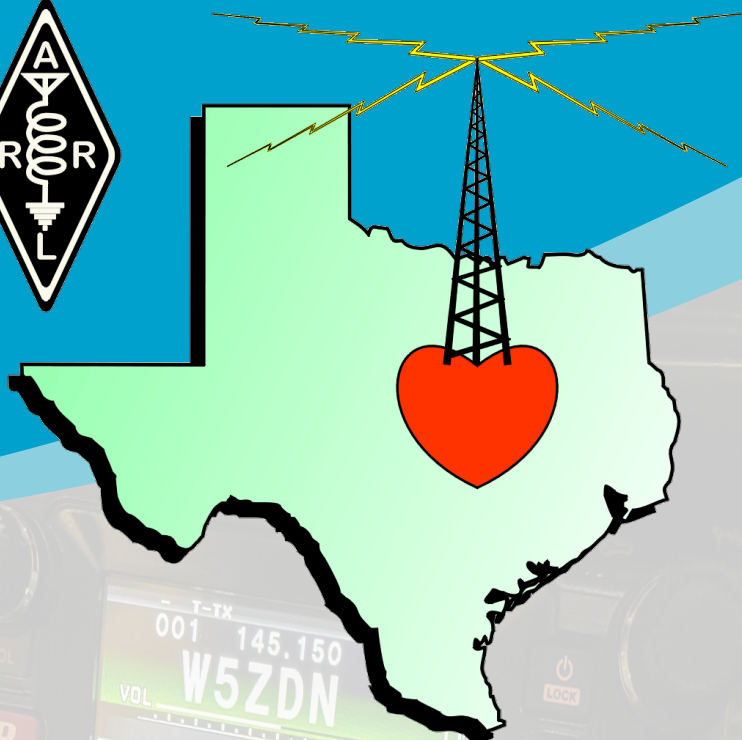




The **HOTLINE**

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

AUGUST 2026
VOLUME LI, NUMBER 8

Meeting Notice

HOTARC will hold its monthly *Meeting of Members* at 7:00 PM on Thursday August 27, 2026 **in person at Uncle Dan's BBQ, 1001 Lake Air Dr., Waco, TX 76710** and via Video Conferencing. Please check your email or the Members Only section of the website for login information.

From the President

Hello HOTARC Members and visitors,

It has been a good month, and I hope everyone is doing well and staying safe in the heat.

A lot has happened since our last meeting. The generator is back and ready for service. Jim Schmaus, KB5TEA, dropped it off at the repair shop and picked it back up for us. It will be back on the trailer this weekend.

The air conditioner was also replaced, but unfortunately it failed within a few days. I received the replacement unit and installed it again, and there have been no issues since. It has been cooling perfectly since the install.

Waco Wild West, coming up on September 13, 2026, is approaching fast. We have already had many people sign up, and the Baylor club will also be joining us for the event. I appreciate and thank everyone who has volunteered so far. We still have some spots open. Jim Jud, KA5QKL, is coordinating the event. Anyone interested in participating should contact Jim or me for more information or to sign up.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

73,

Dave McClure, N3DMC

President, Heart of Texas Amateur Radio Club (HOTARC) – W5ZDN



The Sweetest Ride In Texas!

HOTARC Meeting of Members

July 23, 2026

President Dave McClure N3DMC called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. 10 members and 2 guests were in person and in the ZOOM Meeting Room. Bill Feltenberger KD5UEW gave the invocation.

Bill Feltenberger KD5UEW moved the last meeting's minutes be accepted as read, J Jim Schmaus KB5TEA seconded. Motion carried

Webpage – Still working on domain transfer

Repeaters – 12th St was down for 12 hours during storm. Added a wireless modem on the PC

Trailer – HVAC in this week, old one has been pulled. Generator overhaul around \$800 and HVAC another \$1000-1500. Jim Schmaus KB5TEA is checking on pricing for propane conversion.

Old Business - None

New Business – Waco Wild West coming up, need operators. New full member application, Brad Lay KJ5FLL.. Bill Feltenberger KD5UEW moved to accept him as new member, Drew Dickenson KE5UBO seconded. Motion carried.

Suggestion made for on-demand license testing.

President Dave McClure N3DMC adjourned the meeting at 7:21PM.

Submitted by
Mike Davis
NA5X
HOTARC Secretary

The Treasurer's Report

Heart o' Texas Amateur Radio Club			
Treasurers Report: July 31, 2026			
Starting Balance	July 1, 2026	\$	15,872.68
Income			
Transfer in from Edward Jones Account	\$	3,000.00	
Cash Dues			
Interest Income			
Total received		\$	3,000.00
Total Income		\$	3,000.00
Expenses			
Total Expenses		\$	-
Ending Balance	July 31, 2026	\$	15,872.68
There is one outstanding check -54.38			
Current Edward Jones CDs balance		\$	11,000.00
Checking balance		\$	4,872.68
Mike Ross New Ham Radio Fund	\$	180.94	
Flower Fund Total 7/31/2026	\$	284.47	
Submitted by			
Bill Feltenberger			
KD5UEW			

Hi HOTARC!



Central Texas is currently experiencing intense, triple-digit summer heat, but long-range forecasts from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center indicate that a looming "Super El Niño" will dramatically reshape the region's weather into a wet, stormy, and highly volatile fall and winter.

Winter 2026–2027 El Niño Outlook

As the seasons change, the NOAA Climate Prediction Center forecasts a 95% probability of a record-breaking "Super" El Niño. For Central Texas, this introduces a highly active subtropical jet stream—essentially a multi-lane highway for Pacific storms:

Wetter-Than-Normal Patterns: NOAA predicts a 40% to 50% higher likelihood of above-average winter rainfall. Central Texas will likely see frequent, widespread Gulf low-pressure systems bringing heavy rains and occasional thunderstorms.

Drought Relief vs. Flood Risks: This shift provides a high-probability opportunity to recharge parched local aquifers and reservoirs. However, repeated back-to-back storms will raise the risk of localized flash flooding.

Temperature Swings: While overall average seasonal temperatures may sit close to normal, the region will face extended periods of dense cloud cover and raw, chilly days.

Wintry Mix Potential: Local meteorologists warn that when rapid Arctic air blasts push south and collide with the intense El Niño moisture, Central Texas will face an elevated risk of severe winter weather outbreaks, including ice storms, sleet, or freezing rain.

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.

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

HOTARC 2026 Board of Directors

President: Dave McClure, N3DMC

President@hotarc.org

Vice Pres: Jeff Fortenberry, KI5MGL

VicePres@hotarc.org

Secretary: Mike Davis, NA5X

Secretary@hotarc.org

Treasurer: Bill Feltenberger, KD5UEW

Treasurer@hotarc.org

Past-Pres.: Drew Dickenson, KE5UBO

PastPres@hotarc.org

Director (2026): Jeb Leutwyler, KG5WHS

Director2@hotarc.org

Director (2027): Jim Jud, KA5QKL

Director3@hotarc.org

Director (2028): Jeff Fortenberry, KI5MGL

Director1@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 or visit HamStudy.org for testing practice and possible testing dates and times.