

W5AC Informational

Fall 2025

Take a seat anywhere!



Welcome!

Meeting Agenda

- **Introductions**

- **W5AC Mission (5m)**
- **Officer and Leadership Team (8m)**

- **Feature Presentation**

- Introduction to Amateur Radio (30m)
- Brief Demonstration (5m)

- **Semester Information**

- Event Schedule (5m)
- Where to find us (5m)

- **Closing**

- Q&A
- Group Dinner

Our Mission

“Promote amateur radio activity in the Texas A&M University community”

Who We Are:

- Established 1912
- Came from Signal Corps
- Majority students
- Various majors
- Passionate about radio

What We Do:

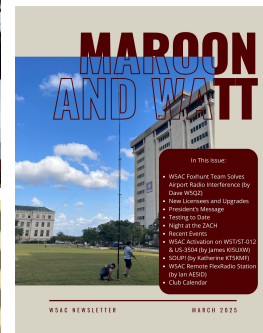
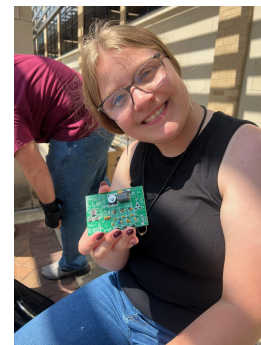
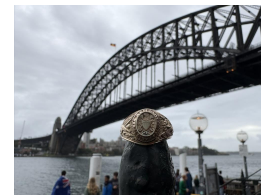
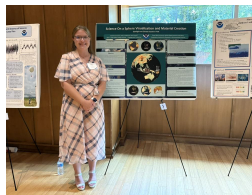
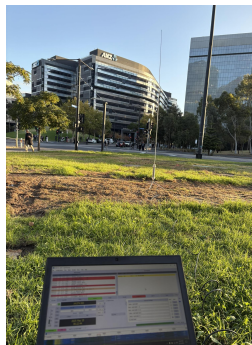
- Provide equipment
- Free license testing
- Hold workshops
- Collaborate with clubs
- Serve the community



2025-2026 Leadership Team

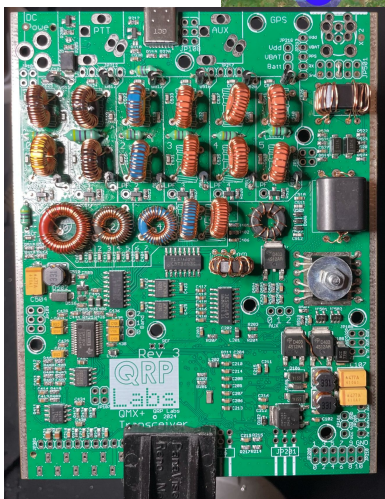
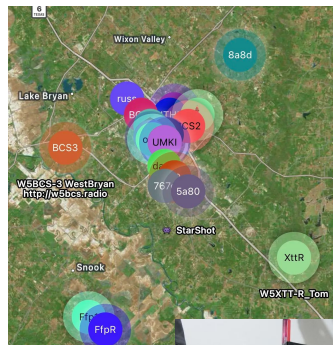
President: Katherine Forson (KT5KMF)

- Class of '26
 - Major in Meteorology
 - Minor in Climate Change
- Licensed July 2013
 - Upgraded to General June 2017
 - Upgraded to Extra July 2018
- W5AC President 2024-2025
 - Also the W5AC Newsletter Editor March 2025
- Radio Interests:
 - Ham radio abroad
 - Foxhunting
 - Helping others get started!



Vice President: Bailey Hollis (KJ5CPO)

- Class of '25
 - Major in Computer Engineering
 - Minor in Game Design & Development
 - Licensed September 2023
 - Upgraded to General October 2024
 - W5AC PR Director 2024-2025
-
- Radio Interests:
 - Digital Radio / Meshtastic
 - Equipment Management
 - Open Source



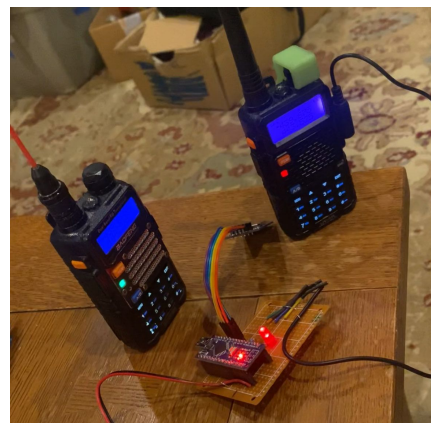
Secretary: Matthew Cadman (KJ5IIF)

- Class of '25
 - Major in Electrical Engineering
- Licensed October 2024
 - Upgraded to Extra June 2025
- W5AC Equipment Director 2024-2025
- Radio Interests:
 - DSP - Digital Signal Processing
 - Contest operation
 - Repeaters
 - Foxhunting
 - Runs weekly W5AC net at 21:00 Central on the 2m and 70cm FM W5AC repeaters.



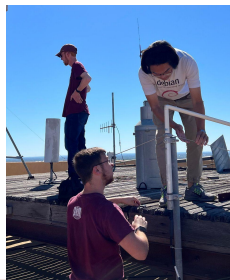
Treasurer: Joshua McMillin (KJ5DA0)

- Class of '25
 - Major in Computer Engineering
 - Minor in Math
- Licensed October 2023
 - Upgraded to General February 2024
- Radio Interests:
 - Tinkering
 - Setting up Antennas in Trees
 - Using Cheap Equipment
 - Meshtastic
 - 2 Meter Band



Repeater Administrator/Digital Infrastructure Director: Ian Duncan (AE5ID)

- Class of '24
 - Major in Electronic Systems Engineering Technology
 - Working at Siemens DISW as a Penetration Tester
- Licensed October 2022
 - Upgraded to Extra November 2022
- Radio Interests:
 - Running the Thursday night Insomniac Net
 - Maintaining Repeaters
 - Foxhunting
 - Parks on the Air (POTA)
 - Radiosonde Hunting



Director of Inter-Club Relations: Cam Ellis (WX5CAM)

- Class of '26
 - Major in Meteorology
- Licensed in April 2023
 - Upgraded to General in March 2024
 - Upgraded to Extra in October 2024
- Radio Interests:
 - Storm Chasing
 - Supervising Dumb Storm Chasers
 - Repairing Radios that Dumb Storm Chasers Broke
 - Getting Microwaved by an X-Band Weather Radar
 - Single Sideband
 - Radiosonde Hunting
 - Foxhunting
 - Installing and Removing Antennas (Against my will)
 - Unlocking O&M's Forbidden Floors



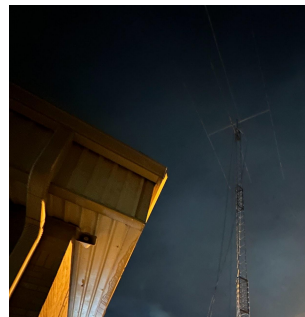
Public Relations Director: Nayab Warach (KI5YBE)

- Class of '26
 - Major in Electronic Systems Engineering Technology
 - Minor in Communications
- Licensed September 2022
 - Upgraded to General September 2023
- Radio Interests:
 - FM Broadcasting (KAGZ-LP)
 - Enforcing FCC Regulations
 - HF Operation
 - Trying to set up an indoor antenna in my apartment...
 - DMR Radios (Motorola User)
 - Collecting cheap (and not so cheap) HTs... I have ~15 now



QSL Manager: Sanjay Patel (KI5YAZ)

- Class of '26
 - Major in Electrical Engineering
 - Minors in Business & Math
- Licensed September 2022
 - Upgraded to General September 2024
- Radio Interests:
 - SDRs
 - Packet Radio/Telemetry
 - Community Service w/ Ham Radio
 - POTA/SOTA
 - Radios on unique platforms (vehicles, airplanes, etc)



Club Historian/Shack Director: Dave Gent (W5QZ)

- Class of '75
 - Major in Electrical and Computer Engineering
 - Club Elmer
 - Professional Engineer
 - ECEN Advisory and Development Council
 - Honors Mentor
- Licensed
 - Extra as far as ULS goes back



Faculty Advisors

Dr. Kevin Nowka

- Primary Advisor
- Professor of Practice, Electrical & Computer Engineering



Dr. John Bosshard (AD5RN)

- Secondary Advisor & License Trustee
- Lecturer, Electronic Systems Engineering Technology



We are recruiting for directorships!

We are recruiting for several positions.

No license is required for most, but we will help you get licensed if you join the team :)

If you are interested, please reach out after the presentation or DM one of the officers on our discord!

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 - Event Schedule (5m)
 - Where to find us (5m)
- Closing
 - Q&A
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Introduction to Amateur Radio

First, an introduction to W5AC:

- W5AC is an amateur radio club! (also called “ham” radio)
- One of the oldest organizations on Campus
- We have a room in Wisenbaker (WEB 169) (called a “shack” in ham terms)
- We manage equipment across campus and hold social events



It's a License to Learn!

Amateur radio is a licensed hobby which primarily consists of building and operating radio systems

“From DC to Daylight”

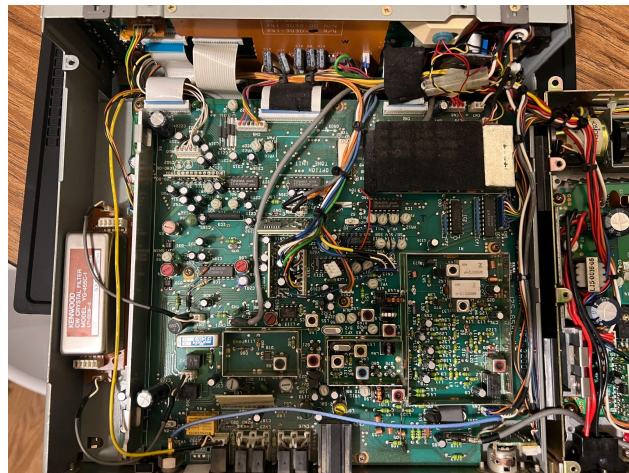
Amateur radio is full of opportunities!

- Talk with people all over the world without the internet
- Experiment with radio technology and techniques
- Join a community dedicated to mentoring and learning
- Get hands-on electronics and engineering experience
- The “Aggie Network” is real, and so is the “Ham network”

“A Hobby of Hobbies”

For Engineers and Tinkerers:

- **Homebrew Radios:** Design and/or assemble your own radio and push your electronics knowledge
- **Space Communication:** Talk to satellites, the ISS, and bounce signals off of the moon!
- **Digital Communication:** Sending text, images, and data without the internet
- **SDR** - Software Defined Radio: Using computers to produce and interpret signals
- **Modeling and Simulation:** Using design software to understand and test the mechanics of wave propagation



“A Hobby of Hobbies”

For Everyone:

- **DXing:** Collecting contacts from all countries (gotta catch em all!)
- **Contesting:** Competitive radio operation with strategy and teams
- **QSL Cards:** Exchanging postcards with art and contact information
- **POTA** - Parks on the Air: Using radio as an excuse to go camping and hiking, alone or with a group
- **Nets:** Scheduled social events on Ham frequencies



Amateur radio is a mile wide and a mile deep. No matter your background, I guarantee you someone in amateur radio is doing what you're interested in.
(And they're probably in this club)

For Us:

The activities we spend most of our time on are:

- Radio Operations (setting up, talking on air, tearing down)
- Social Events
- Contests
- Managing Equipment (Repeaters, shack, etc)
- Nets (W5AC Weekly net, Insomniac net)

What we Offer

- Repeaters
- Weekly net
- Flex
- Meshtastic
- Shack
- Study help
- Equipment checkout
- Lit Discord
- Knowledge classes don't cover



Brief Demonstration

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Semester Information

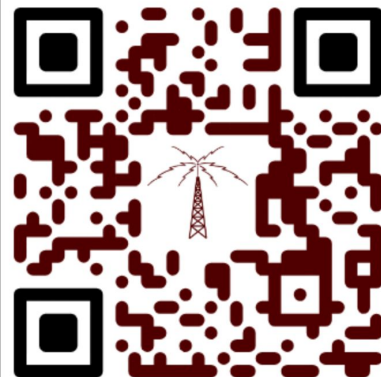
Upcoming Events

- License Testing - Friday, September 12th
 - 3pm - 7pm in ZACH 264
 - Reach out for more information!
- Group Foxhunt - Saturday, September 13th
 - 2pm - 5pm, starting in E-Quad
 - Bring your own handheld, or borrow one from the club!
- Keep an eye out for more announcements on Discord
- **Next Meeting - Thursday, September 25th**
 - Meeting start at 7pm
 - License testing before at 6pm
 - WEB 236C (This room)
- Join our calendars
 - Events - w5ac.tamu.edu/w5acevents
 - Repeater/Nets - w5ac.tamu.edu/w5acrepeater

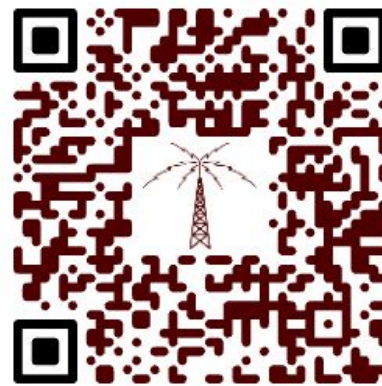


Where to Find Us

- Linktree
 - Website
 - Social Media
 - Discord (we post all of our announcements here!)
- Flywire Store
 - Membership Dues
 - In person - talk to Josh
 - Merch coming soon... stay tuned!

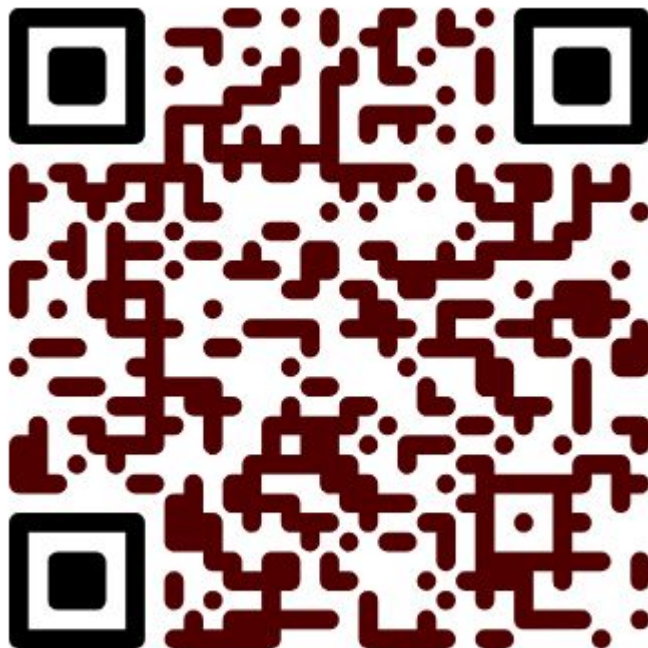


<https://linktr.ee/w5ac>



tx.ag/duesw5ac

W5AC Fall 2025 Questionnaire



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Questions?

Gig 'em and 73s!

(Best Wishes)



Dinner Time
See y'all at McDonald's!