



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS

October 2019

WWW.GRAYSONCOUNTYARC.ORG

Vol.25, No.10

**Next General Meeting Date Scheduled for Tuesday November 19, 2019
Mariachi's Mexican Restaurant
Sherman Texas at 7:00 PM**

The President's QSO

Hello GCARC,

Another meeting has come and gone. Our last Special Event – The Eisenhower Special Event, has come and gone. Lee – N5SLY will give his report on the event in this newsletter. What an amazing event he organized for the club this year. Our special event was like no other in the past. Our meeting was fruitful. This month, one of the big things that we had to do at our meeting was to nominate officers for 2020. Nominations for all officer positions were accepted. The nominations are not closed, so if you feel that you would like to help lead our club, come to the next club meeting and accept a nomination, for any of the positions. Be part of what it takes to make our club better. Also at the meeting we discussed the results of the Denison Fall Festival. The event generated some interest about the club and ham radio in general. So it was a success. Very special thanks go out to Roy Reed – AF5VA for all the effort he put into organizing the Denison Fall Festival event for the club.

Also we had an amazing presentation from Ron Witherington - WX5A about 'Parks On the Air', also known as POTA. I heard about this event in the past and was interested in doing it but I didn't know enough about it, but thanks to Ron's presentation, I definitely did learn some very interesting things about POTA. I hope to become involved with it soon. We discussed the upcoming Christmas dinner and the club voted to have it at Mariachi's this year. Unless the date changes for any reason, the Christmas Party will be on Tuesday, December 17th. Again, please remember at next month's meeting we will vote on electing our board for next year. Since Glen – KG5REK has accepted the nomination for President in 2020, we will still need to choose a new Director at Large, the person who will oversee the smooth transition of officers into the new year. Also, November is Ladies Month, and Lynda Tuma will make a statement regarding it. Also, I am also working on another presentation for next month that I think you will enjoy. The agenda for November will soon be announced on FaceBook and on the GCARC Website.

See everyone in November

73

Andrew Bentley - **KG5SKM**
President

Officers

President: Andrew Bentley – KG5SKM
Vice President Roy Reed – AF5VA
Secretary: Doug Hotalen – KG5QPI
Treasurer: James Frank – KW5CW
Director at Large Glen Davis – KG5REK
License Trustee: Rick Simmons – K5ECX
QSL Manager Lee Sly – N5SLY
Events Coordinator TBA

Meetings

When: 3rd Tuesday of each month
Time: 7:00pm (1900 hours)
Location: Mariachi's Mexican Restaurant
1909 Texoma Pkwy
Sherman, TX 75090

Mailing Address

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 642
Sherman, Texas 75091

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual: \$20.00/yr
Family: \$30.00/yr
Associate (non-Ham) \$15.00/yr

Newsletter

Published: Monthly via e-mail
Editor and Webmaster: James Frank – KW5CW
To submit news or
e-mail changes: KW5CW@arrl.net
Submission Deadline: **5 PM on first SATURDAY following each monthly meeting**
(Published on the following Monday or Tuesday)

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Address: www.graysoncountyarcc.org
Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/K5GCC

Club Email Address: graysoncountyarcc@k5gcc.org

Dues and Donations

Membership tenure now runs for 365 days from sign-up date. Donations to support the club are always welcome. Dues and donations may be paid by cash or check at any monthly GCARC meeting and by mail, or by using a credit or debit card online at the GCARC website.

GCARC, ARES, and SKYWARN Patches

GCARC club patches are available and may be purchased at each club meeting; cost is \$5.00 each. These are round patches with the club logo, and are great for wearing on vests and other non-club clothing, placing on equipment bags, go-kits, etc. ARES and SKYWARN patches may also be purchased at each club meeting; cost is \$4.00 each. If you choose to wear patches on your club shirt or jacket, we recommend ARES members place the ARES patch first on the right shoulder and any other patch (SKYWARN, RACES, CERT, etc.) should go below it. Since some members have tactical shirts with pen pockets on the left sleeve we do not recommend placing any patches on that side.

Club Clothing Orders

Several times each year, members have the opportunity to purchase club-related clothing (shirts, caps, jackets, etc.). These items have the GCARC logo and the member's name and callsign embroidered on them. An order form with instructions will be included in the newsletter each time orders are being taken.

"It shall be our purpose to further the exchange of information and cooperation between members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, and to so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community." From the GCARC Constitution

GCARC Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2019

All fours Officers Present:

KG5SKM	President	Andrew Bentley
AF5VA	Vice President	Roy Reed
KG5QPI	Secretary	Douglas Hotalen
KW5CW	Treasurer	James Frank

Meeting started at 7:00 PM at [Mariachi's](#)

Overview of Activities

Ron Witherington-Presentation POTA-Parks On The Air

GCARC Club Business

Approve Treasury Report

Review Old Business

Denison Main Street Festival

New Business

Nomination of 2020 Officers

Antenna Subgroup Activity-Jim McGlynn

Eisenhower Special Event-Lee Sly

Planning for Xmas Dinner in December 2019

POTA Presentation – Ron Witherington **WX5A**, made a presentation called “POTA or Parks On The Air Program where Ham Operators can set up in National or State Parks across the United States to make simplex contacts in many formats (CW, SSB, FT8) with any radio, a portable antenna, power can be AC or DC. It is good to operate in the General frequency bands for operators make as many contacts at many parks to get certificates. Best frequency bands used are 17, 20 and 40 meters depending on the time of day.

More information can be obtained at parksontheair.com, email to info@parksontheair.com or on Facebook.com/groups/parksontheair or at parksonthesair.slack.com. There are over 1500 registered users.

This is a great past time to visit parks and take in the beauty of mother nature and make contacts with fellow Ham Radio Operators.

GCARC Club Business

Treasury Report

James indicated \$100 was spent for the Denison Main Street Event for a setup space. On 8/20/2019 funds were \$1,555.05 making final monies of \$1455.05. Glen KG5REK 1st the motion and Roy AF5VA 2nd the motion to approve the treasury report.

Old Business

Denison Main Street - The GCARC Club setup an entertainment bounce house (Bungie Challenge) to attract customers and spread the word of what our club does throughout the year. Thanks to N5SLY Lee, KG5REK Glen, AF5VA Roy, KG5FDT Ricky and KGQPI Doug participating to make the event a success.

New Business

Nomination of New Officers for 2020

President-KG5REK Glen Davis nominated and accepted the nomination.

Vice-President-WX5A Ron Witherington nominated and accepted the nomination.

Secretary-KG5FDT Ricky Jessen nominated and accepted the nomination.

Treasurer-N5SLY Lee Sly nominated and accepted the nomination.

Next Month, elections will be held to finalize the Officer Positions including Director at Large.

Antenna Sub-Group Activity

The purpose of this activity is to repair and learn how antennas function. **K5QOI**, Jim McGlynn to hold an antenna activity every 2nd Tuesday of Every Month to build antennas to prepare for a Fox Hunt in the future or to assist others in their antenna projects at home. Also many requests are made get ham antennas repaired, but, never get executed. He would like to help all hams get their antennas repaired. Workshops will start at 10am and last for 2 hours at 117 Sunset Blvd in Sherman if no other antenna projects are scheduled. Jim had 10 hams work on the club's antenna to clean the surface and refit the clamps at the last workshop this month.

Eisenhower Special Event

N5SLY, Lee indicated we are using three call signs (W5I, W5E, W5K) for the event. Over 2,000 contacts have been made so far. The special event will finish 10/20/2019.

Planning for Xmas Dinner in December 2019

AF5VA, Roy indicated we need to see if the club wants a Xmas Dinner Event and if so where to have the event. Roy – AF5VA 1st, Jim – K5QOI 2nd motion to have Xmas Dinner and where to have it was motioned by Jim – **K5QOI** 1st and Ron – **WX5A** 2nd to have it at Mariachi's to finish the year and the new officers for next year will decide where to have meetings for 2020.

Doug Hotalen **KG5QPI**

GCARC Secretary

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club
October Treasury Report
10/24/2019

ENDING BANK BALANCE as of September 30, 2019 **\$1,455.04** MD=Manual Deposit

No Deposits for October 2019 **\$0.00**

Misc WITHDRAWALS TOTAL as of October 24, 2019 **(\$22.00)**

Expense owed to Roy Reed - Denison Festival

Funds paid in cash by Treasurer to Roy at meeting

Funds returned to the Treasurer from Account

Operating Fund Balance as of October 24, 2019 **\$1,433.04**

Available Equipment Funds \$0.00

Equipment Fund Balance \$0.00

ENDING BANK BALANCE as of October 24, 2019 **\$1,433.04**

James Frank - KW5CW - Treasurer

2019 OPERATING BUDGET

POST OFFICE BOX-DUE MAR 1

80.00

WEBSITE

125.00

SPECIAL EVENTS

Perin Field

50.00

EisenHower

50.00

RR Bridge War

50.00



October SET and some cold weather/Autumn reminders

We dusted off a really old emergency plan from the late 1960s or early 1970s for our Fall Simulated Emergency Test on October 5th. The plan was to go to various government facilities in Grayson County and simulate emergency traffic. We modified the plan to go to the various Post Offices in Grayson County and transmit simplex. This drill gave us some very interesting information as we logged who we could hear directly and who we couldn't. Relays are going to be a necessity if we ever have to move messages across the county or into the surrounding areas via simplex. We used 146.460 MHz simplex for this test since it does not get a lot of use around here. I would like to thank the club members who participated in the SET -- both from the Club booth in Denison or from the various Post Offices before going down to the booth in Denison for a shift.

We are getting close to the time when we need to set our clocks back on Sunday, November 3rd. Please don't forget this is a good time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors, emergency flashlights, change out your clothing, food, and water in your Go Kits. With colder weather on the way, it's also a good time to check the anti-freeze in your cars and make sure you have some warm clothes or blankets (or both) in your car in case you're caught out in some winter weather.

Looking ahead to February -- our Skywarn training will be held on Thursday, February 20 from 6-9pm at the Grayson College Center for Workplace Learning Auditorium in Denison. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Thanks again to the Club for your continuing support of ARES here in Grayson County.

73

Wade

Wade Graves, KF5AUD
Grayson County ARES EC

QSL Managers Message

Two topics this month. First I want to talk about my Reflections from the Past and then I'll have a final report about our Eisenhower Birthday Special Event.

Reflections from the Past...I'll never forget when I first got my amateur radio license and joined our club. I only knew enough to pass the test and had no clue about anything else in the hobby.

Shortly after joining the club it was announced that they were having a "Special Event" on Saturday. I had no clue what a "Special Event" was and thought it was special because it was on Saturday. So I show up on Saturday and there are a number of club members there and they are setting up a radio and putting up an antenna. Since I didn't know what I was doing I just did what I was told. When they got done with set up one of the club members got on the radio and started calling CQ. Everyone else was just socializing. I sat and observed the guy on the radio...but I really didn't have any idea what he was doing. I asked a couple of questions but the operator told me "You should know that because you passed the test ". He made about 30 or 40 contacts and then turned to me and asked if I wanted to operate. I told him I really didn't know what I was doing and he told me..."Just do what I did" and walked away to spend time with everyone else. I listened on the radio but didn't make one contact. Needless to say I left that day very frustrated.

A month or so later it was announced that the club was participating in Field Day. Again, I had no clue what Field Day was...but showed up just in time to be a "gofer" again....Lee go for this and go for that. Again one of the club members got on the radio and starting making contacts, but this time they were telling people some strange code. I asked one of the club board members what Field Day was all about and what this strange code meant and he told me "I don't know". I couldn't believe it. Again I left very frustrated.

I went home and searched the internet about Field Day and Special Events and learned a little about what they are all about. I was really disappointed in the club leadership for not teaching us newbies about what the heck they were doing.

Bottom line is I promised myself that I would not do that to new members of the club in the future. So as the years have gone by I have tried to do what I can do to teach new hams about operating on the radio, Special Events, Field Day, logbooks, QSL's, etc.

At tonight's meeting I was asked a question by a new club member and as I look back on what I told him I'm afraid I did exactly what was done to me years ago. I'm sure he left frustrated that I really didn't give him what he was really looking for. For that I am truly sorry. I will try very hard not to do that in the future, but if I do please call me on it. Just say "Lee...don't give me that BS...tell me what I want to know so I can understand it". You won't hurt my feelings.

Lee – **N5SLY**

Eisenhower Special Event for 2019

All I can say is "WOW". It was fantastic. This year I decided to try something new...I added some additional call signs and recruited some guest operators. We used 3 call signs...**W5I**, **W5K** and **W5E**...get it? The last letters spell IKE. What a fun event this was. It turned out to be the best Special Event our club has ever had.



During the Red River Bridge War Special Event Dave O'Neil, **NG5E**, joined as a guest operator and joined the club. He is an avid operator and made a ton of contacts. And he did it again in this event. This time, he even recruited some additional operators to participate. Dave operated as **W5K** during this event as are the other operators he has recruited. Half way thru the event they have over 900 contacts in the log. Dave, **NG5E**, lead the **W5K** team and they contributed a grand total of 2,479 QSO's during the event



Another guest operator is Tod Farrell, **WE5TR**. He assisted Dave using the W5K call sign. Tod found out he had to make a last minute business trip to Japan during the special event week, but...this is amazing...he operated remotely while travelling and making contacts for our event from Japan. Fantastic!!!

And Ken, **KD2KW**

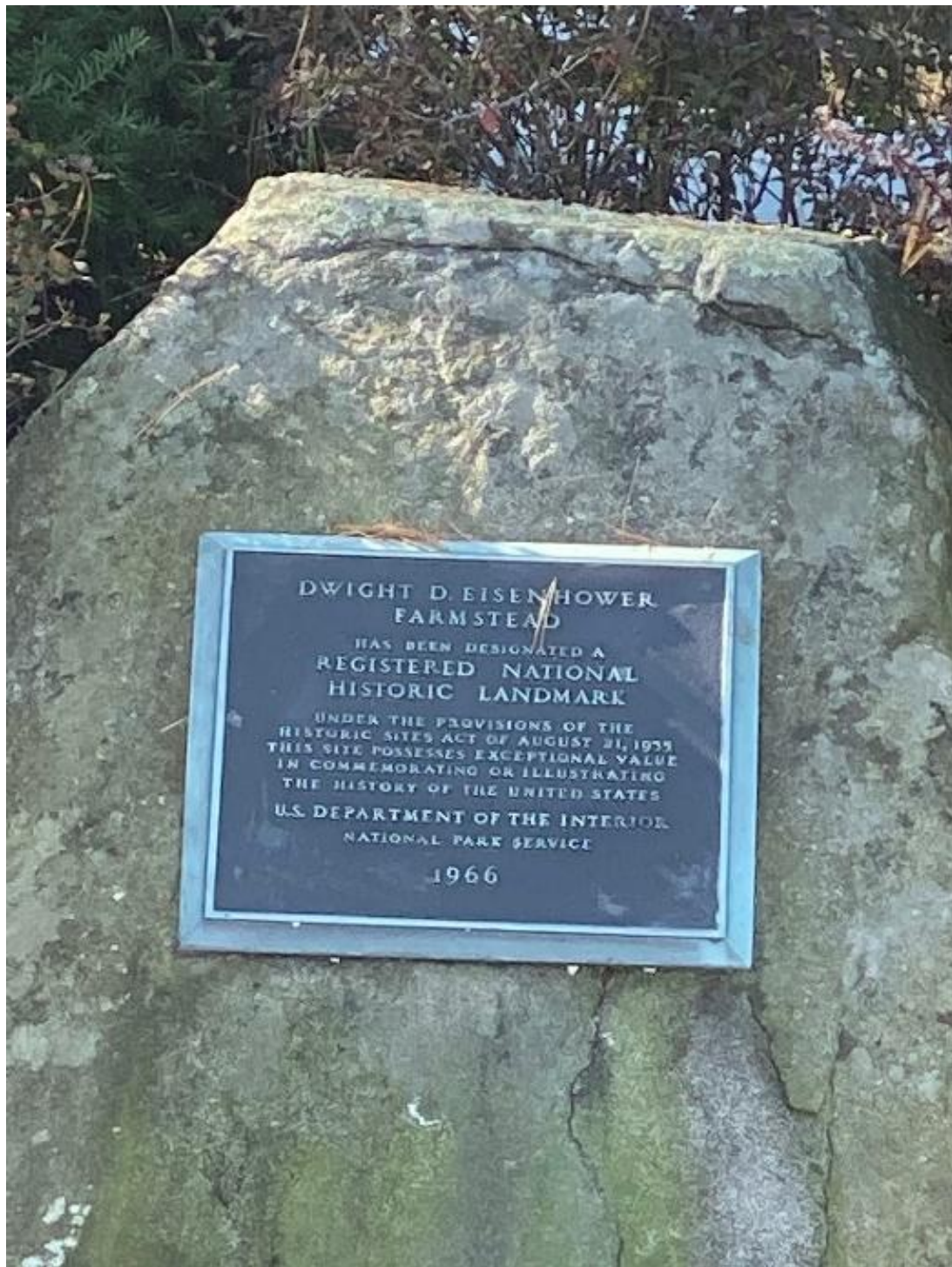


Another guest operator is Kerry Lynn Wright, **KB3WAV**



She lives in Maryland but is very close to the Eisenhower home in Gettysburg, PA. She recruited additional operators in her area and they also used the **W5E call sign**. This last Monday, October 14th, Kerri and her husband Ray, **KC3RW**, operated from the Eisenhower NHS in Gettysburg. Others in her team that helped out were Greg - **N3ARS** and Mike - **N3VOP**. Their total score was 1,107 QSO's.

Here are some of the photos contributed by Kerry from around the Eisenhower home in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania,,,





Here in North Texas we used the **W5I call sign** and our members were...

Glen, **KG5REK**

Lee, **N5SLY**

James, **KW5CW**

Jesse, **AC5OY**

Andrew, **KG5SKM**

We contributed 1,209 QSO's.

That's a total of 4,795 contacts made during the Special Event. That is amazing. That is a long way for us to come from when I first joined this club. My thanks to everyone for a job well done. All of you are the "Most Valuable Players" for this Special Event. Without you it would not have happened.

Let's do it again next year!

I'll be busy the next week or so going back and forth to the Post Office to get all of the QSL cards that will be coming in for us.

PARKS ON THE AIR (POTA)

Ron, **WX5A**, gave a presentation at the club meeting about the Parks on the Air program. Excellent presentation by the way. FYI...Kerri, **KB3WAV** is the #1 Activator this year in that program and #2 Life Time. She's amazing. I checked and it turns out I have more contacts with Kerri than anyone else...and she has always been in some place new.

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Have fun!

73 de Lee **N5SLY**

n5sly@arrl.net

CW CLASSES – James KW5CW



My apologies go out to everyone who have been patiently waiting for CW classes to start. I've taken on more than I can chew it seems when it comes to the CW classes, because I haven't had the time with all the personal stuff going on with my family to be able to get the classes started in the last several months besides a logistics issue that I haven't had any real time to address. I've been in New Orleans for at least a week and returned after my great niece was born on October 2nd. Her name is **Alina Isabella Mendoza** and here she is. I am a very proud great Uncle. I'll just bet at this moment she is thinking about learning CW when she gets older!!



The logistics issue involved the tentative classes at local colleges. I've had issues trying to find a place for a weekly 2 day class. My goal was to get a day during the week set up at the colleges besides a weekend class, but that's not feasible with class availability during the week at the schools. So I will eventually arrange it for a one day per week class on Saturday at the colleges, but it will have to be extended to instead of 6-7 weeks, most likely it will be a 10 week course. If there are classes to be held now at either school, whether it be Grayson County in Denison, or Collin County College in McKinney. The classes will have to wait until 2020 since the holiday season is just about upon us. In the meantime, study assignments and homework via an online course is being setup and will be sent via email or links setup online. Only students signed up for the online course would receive it.

I will be contacting all people who showed interest in the classes at the colleges and they will be able to signup for the online course. Amateurs from three different clubs, the Richardson ARC, the McKinney ARC and the Grayson County ARC have shown interest. All members from each club will be contacted via email so that all members have an opportunity to learn CW. As previously mentioned for the classroom course, the \$20 fee would still apply to the online course. If the course is not completed, the \$20 refund will be donated to a radio club of choice. One advantage for taking the online course is that students could easily schedule time for studies and the course could be taken day or night, any day of the week at the students' discretion.

A new signup form will be sent via email will be sent shortly to all who expressed interest in a online - CW course.

The Grayson County Information Net

Remember that the Grayson County Information net meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday on 147.000+ (100.0 PL)

The backup repeater for the net is 444.750.

All are encouraged to participate in the bi-weekly net.

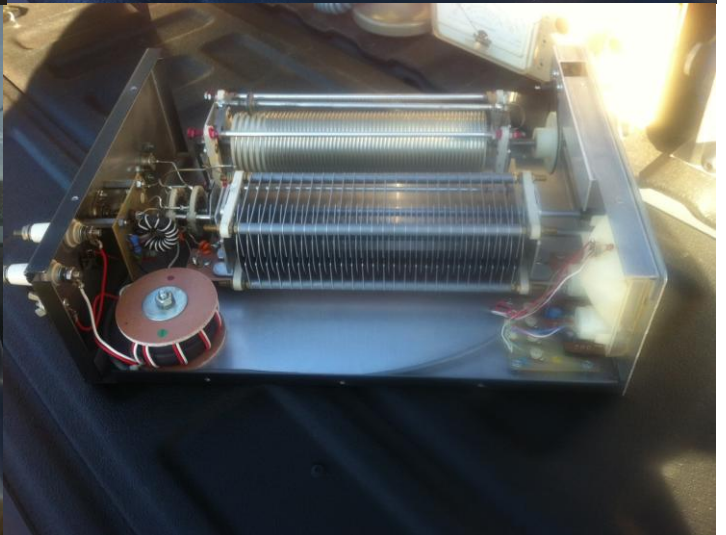
Anyone wishing to become a control operator for the net can contact one of the officers and let them know. A net script is available on the GCARC website.

The Grayson County ARES Net

The Grayson County ARES net meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month on 147.000+ (100.0 PL). This is a directed information net used for training.

Equipment for Sale by K5CBL - 3KW Antenna Tuner and Multimeter

Contact Troy - K5CBL@yahoo.com



LOCAL RADIO NETS

Daily

Texas Slow Net (CW only)

Daily 7:45pm CT on 3.570 MHz

This is a training net for operators interested in building proficiency in CW and learning about handling procedures for CW traffic nets.

Weekly

South Texas Section ARES Net (HF)

Mondays 7:30pm CT on 3.873 MHz LSB

This is an information net open to South Texas (STX) Section ARES members. Other Amateur stations are welcome to listen in.

Durant ARA Weekly Net (UPDATED)

Sundays 7:30 pm CT on the 147.390+ (118.8 PL) repeater.

Fannin County ARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays 8:00 pm CT on the 145.470- (100.0PL) repeater. (Replaces 147.200 repeater). 444.525 links into 145.470 full time.

McKinney 6 meter AM Net

Wednesdays 10:00pm CT on 50.400 MHz

McKinney ARC Info Net

Sundays 8:00pm CT on the 146.740- (110.9 PL) repeater.

Grayson County ARC Information Net

1st & 3rd Sunday at 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater.

This is an informal information net and buy/sell/swap net.

Semi-

Grayson County ARES Net

2nd & 4th Sunday at 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater.

Monthly

This is a directed information net used for training.

RACES Command Net Check (HF)

2nd & 4th Sunday at 2:00pm CT on 7.255 MHz LSB

This is a RACES Command Net check for statewide RACES Command Net members ONLY. All other Amateur stations are welcome to listen, but DO NOT check in!

Ladies Net (RUNNING AGAIN AS of February 21, 2019)

**Every 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 8:00 pm CT on the 147.00+ repeater

North Texas Section ARES Net (HF)

2nd Wednesday at 8:30pm CT on 3.860 MHz LSB

This is an information net open to all ARES members in the ARRL North Texas (NTX) Section.

Monthly

McKinney ARES Net

2nd Sunday at 9:00pm CT on the 146.740- (110.9 PL) repeater.

AREA REPEATERS (UPDATED 11-30-2018)

Sherman TX – 444.750+ MHz (100.0 PL) W5RVT
147.280+ MHz (107.2 PL) W5COP
147.000+ MHz (100.0 PL) W5RVT

Allen TX 145.350 – MHz (100.0 PL) N5GI

Bonham TX 145.470 – MHz (100.0 PL) K5FRC
443.750 – MHz (100.0 PL) K5FRC
~~147.200+ MHz (100.0 PL) K5FRC~~

Denison TX 145.330 – MHz (100.0 PL) W5DWH

Durant OK 147.390+ MHz (118.8 PL) K5KIE

Gainesville TX – 147.340+ MHz (100.0 PL) WB5FHI

McKinney TX - 146.740- MHz (110.9 PL) W5MRC

Melissa TX - 443.200+ MHz (100.0 PL) W5MRA

Paris TX 146.760- MHz (203.5 PL) WB5RDD

Rosston TX - 145.490- MHz (85.4 PL) WD5U

Van Alstyne TX - 443.800+ MHz (103.5 PL) W5VAL

Whitesboro TX - 442.875+ MHz (100.0 PL) WC5GC

147.255+ MHz (114.8 PL) K5CGE

2019 Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Dues Form

Instructions: Print this form, fill it out, and bring it with your dues payment to a club meeting. If you cannot make the meeting, please mail this form and payment to:

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club

**P.O. Box 642
Sherman, TX 75091**

Today's Date: _____

Yourself:

_____ First Name	_____ Last Name	_____ Call Sign
_____ Street Address	_____ City	_____ State + ZIP
_____ Phone Number	_____ E-mail Address	_____ ARRL Y/N

Additional Family Members:

_____ First Name	_____ Last Name	_____ Call Sign	_____ Class Held
_____ First Name	_____ Last Name	_____ Call Sign	_____ Class Held
_____ First Name	_____ Last Name	_____ Call Sign	_____ Class Held

Dues:

Individual Membership \$20.00/year – 365 day membership

Family Membership \$30.00 year (2 or more hams/same family)

Associate (non-ham) Membership \$15.00/year – 365 day membership

Cash or Checks accepted. No cash in the mail. Payable to GCARC.

(NOTE: Sign-up Online. Go to www.graysoncountyar.org)

Pay via Paypal or Stripe



K5GGC Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Apparel Order Form



Tactical Shirt \$45

Mic loops on shoulders and front placket, dual pen pockets
2x-4x sizes + \$5

Prices plus shipping and all items have K5GCC Club Logo, your Call and first name embroidered

Polo Shirt* sm to xl \$30
Camp Shirt* sm to xl \$36
W Left pocket
Caps \$17
Jacket* sm to xl \$45



First Name _____ (as you want on clothing)

Last _____

Call _____

Payment _____

Make checks Payable to GCARC

	Men/ Ldy	Qty	Ext
Polo Shirt* sm M L XL			\$30
Camp Shirt* sm M L XL			\$36
Caps			\$17
Jacket* sm M L XL			\$45
Tactical Shirt sm M L XL			\$45
*Shirts/jackets- (2x to 4x +\$5)			
Shipping \$2.00 per item			
Total			