



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



GCARC
GRAYSON CO. TEXAS USA

Having Fun with Amateur Radio

March 2021

Vol 27, No. 3

Events

Coming Up

Perrin Field Special Event

May 15 – May 23, 2021



ARRL Summer Field Day

June 26- 27, 2021



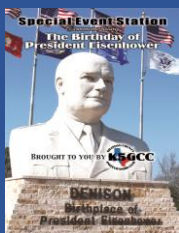
Red River Bridge War Special Event

July 17 – 25, 2021



Eisenhower Birthday Special Event

October 9 -17, 2021



PRESIDENTS QSO

Spring is here! Time to be aware of and prepared for potential severe weather. If you have not tested your equipment lately, now would be a great time to do so! Thank you to everyone that made it out to the club meeting in March, it was great to see such a big turnout. And thanks to Glenn Cate N4GRC for the presentation on lightening and grounding. It is exciting that the club voted to get a new antenna, and we are looking forward to the event at Doug's Hobby House to get it set up and show everyone how to use it! Thank you to Lee Sly and Glen Davis for agreeing to head up the event. Lee will be going over the TS-2000 and Glen will be leading the kick-off/design meeting for the Light Bulb QSO party. We look forward to seeing everyone at the event. Summer Field Day is less than 3 months away! We would like to have record turnout and results this year. Our new location is centrally located in the county to make access easier for everyone and help drive club publicity. Thank you to the City of Sherman, for waving the fees, as well as the City Ordinance and allowing us to operate in Pavilion #1 at Pecan Grove West park for the full 24 hours. More details will be emerging soon. Finally, we have the Perrin Field Special Event coming up May 15th – 23rd. We will announce details about the event at the April club meeting. I hope to see everyone there!

Ron Witherington | WX5A President | Grayson County Radio Club

Contact a Club Officer

President: Ron Witherington – WX5A (president@graysoncountyarcc.org)

Vice President: James Shiptet – KI5BMN (vp@graysoncountyarcc.org)

Secretary: Ricky Jessen KG5FDT (secretary@graysoncountyarcc.org)

Treasurer & QSL Mgr: Lee Sly N5SLY (treasurer@graysoncountyarcc.org)

Director at Large: John Love WD5IKX

(directoratlarge@graysoncountyarcc.org)

License Trustee: Rick Simmons K5ECX (rr52s@yahoo.com)

Webmaster/Newsletter Editor: James Frank KW5CW

(editor@graysoncountyarcc.org)

Contact or send the Club a QSL Card

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 642 Sherman, TX

Pre-Field Day

June 5th – 11AM – 3PM

Doug's Hobby House

KG5QPI

Antenna Set-up

TS-2000 Operational

Review (Lee - N5SLY)

Light Bulb QSO Design

Glen (N5LDO)

1st, 3rd and 5th

Sunday Nets

Dates/Net Control:

04/04 – **CANCELLED**

04/18 – N5LDO Glen

Time: 8:00 PM Local

Repeater: 147.000

Next Club Monthly Meeting

Date: April 20, 2021

Time: 7:00 – 8:45 PM

Location:

Mariachi's Mexican Restaurant

2nd, 4th

Sunday ARES Nets

Dates: April 11

& April 25

Time: 8:00 PM Local

Repeater: 147.000



Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting Minutes - by Ricky – KG5FDT

Four officers were present:

Ron Witherington	President	WX5A
James Shippet	Vice President	KI5BMN
Ricky Jessen (Zoom)	Secretary	KG5FDT
Lee Sly	Treasury	N5SLY

Meeting called to order.

President WX5A called meeting to order 7:00 pm at Mariachi’s restaurant.

26 Present Round Table Introductions

KG5GMA, N5SLY, AF5VA, KW5CW, WX5A, N5APJ, N5LDO, KI5BMN, KF5LKG, KG5QPI, K5QOI, N5SWG, KF5XBP, W5KZJ, KG5QYD, KF5KPR, WW5GRW, KF5JUO, KF5UZW, KI5IPH (Zoom; KG5FDT, N4GRC, W5KZJ, Greg Stratton).

Welcome interested visitors Linda Rice and Coleman.

Club Goals Review

- Have fun with Amateur Radio!
- Get more members on the air. Growing and sharing experiences.
- Community visibility and participation.
- Continue to grow club membership.
- Continue to improve club performance in events.
- Grow Social Media presence.
- Grow financial stability.

Old Business

- February meeting cancelled due to weather. No meeting, no minutes.
- January Meeting minutes and Treasure’s report approved with a unanimous vote.

Marvin K5GMA made the motion and Mark KF5UZW seconded.

Presentation

- Special Thanks to Glenn Cate N4GRC – Lightning and Grounding
 - Great presentation concerning Lightning

and its destructive power coupled with proper grounding techniques.

- His most powerful statement; “it’s only a matter of time”.
- He graciously left his presentation for us to review.

<<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FTovFe0V3jeDrYjUCZTSXGXbA2p-cDE/view?usp=sharing>>

New Business

- Next Up-coming Special event 2021 Special Event
 - Perrin Field (May 15-23)
- Treasure’s Report
 - Beginning balance \$1911.66; Closing balance \$2034.08
 - Christmas fund 50/50 \$153.10
- ARES News
 - Winlink test 3/17 KF5VO
 - Possible weather event later tonight

Club Purchases New Equipment

- Motion made, seconded, and passed unanimous to purchase much needed equipment for club events.

- Club to Purchase

Eagle One Antenna	\$205
Tuner	\$149
Coax	\$120
Shipping	\$ 35

Approx. Total Cost \$509

- Scheduled 2021 Club Meetings Presentations
 - April – Mac Cody AE5PH – Satellite Demo
 - May – Dr. Ed Fong - Antennas
 - June – Field Day Planning
 - July – Glen Davis – N5LDO – DMR
 - August – Steve Lott Smith – KG5VK

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting Minutes - by Ricky – KG5FDT (continued)

Miscellaneous

- Net control Schedule for 2021

Jan	Net Control	Feb	Net Control	Mar	Net Control	Apr	Net Control	May	Net Control	Jun	Net Control
3	KNX	7	N5SLY	7	KF5JUO	4	KW5CW	2	AF5VA	6	KF5UZW
17	AF5VA	21	KG5QPI	21	K5XBP	18	N5LDO	16	KG5FDT	20	CNX FD
31	KNX FD							30	N5APJ		
Jul	Net Control	Aug	Net Control	Sep	Net Control	Oct	Net Control	Nov	Net Control	Dec	Net Control
4	CNX	1	N5LDO	5	KG5FDT	3	AF5VA	7	WX5A	5	KW5CW
18	KD5KPR	15	WX5A	19	N5LDO	17	KF5JUO	21	N5APJ	19	KG5GMA
		29	K5QOI			31	CNX				

- Summer Field Day (June 26-27)
 - New Location, Pecan Grove Park (West) Sherman (Confirmed!)
 - Pavilion #1, Fees waived, Stay overnight approved.
 - Advantages: Better turnout, more public interest, more dignitaries to visit, reduced noise floor, antenna location spread.
- Winter Field Day Recap
 - 375 Contacts
 - Contacts down due to Radio/Coax issues
- Up-coming Club Gatherings
 - Pre-Field day (June 5th) Doug’s Hobby House (KG5QPI)
 - 11:00 am
 - Antenna Set-up
 - TS2000
 - Operational review (Lee N5SLY)
 - 12:30 Lunch
 - 1:30-3:00
 - Light Bulb QSO Design (Glen N5LDO)

- Light Bulb QSO (July) Glen’s backyard (N5LDO) More details coming.
 - July – antenna build.
 - August - Contest.

Door Prize and 50/50 Drawing

- Lee Sly N5SLY won the door prize.
- Marvin Schiavone won the WFD prize.
- Andy Barnes W5KZJ won the 50/50.
 - Andy graciously split winnings between Ares and the Club.

Meeting Adjourned

- Motion made and seconded.
- Meeting Adjourned approx. 8:45.

73’s everyone and God Bless...

Ricky – KG5FDT – Secretary - GCARC

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Treasurers Report
Plus 50/50 Raffle for Christmas Gift Fund – by Lee – N5LSY

Grayson County ARC - Treasurers Report	Amount
March 2021	
Beginning Bank Balance	1,911.66
<i>Income - Note PayPal payments don't include fees</i>	
New Member - Michael Coffman, KI5NUI - PayPal	19.12
Donation - Angel, N5APJ - PayPal	9.41
New Member - Ralph Jerome, KI5NUK - PayPal	19.12
Donation - Glen, N5LDO - PayPal	9.41
Membership renewal - Linda, KF5JUO - PayPal	19.12
New Member - Rick Staples, KI5OEY - PayPal	19.12
Membership renewal - Terry, KU5Q - PayPal	19.12
Total Income	114.42
Expenses	
eQSL Bronze Membership - PayPal	12.00
Total Expenses	12.00
Ending Bank Balance	2014.08
Cash on hand	20.00
Total cash on hand	20.00
Checks & other funds to be deposited	
Total Checks & other funds to be deposited	

Final Total at time of report	2,034.08
Submitted by Lee Sly, N5LSY, on March 12, 2021	

50 - 50 Raffle Christmas Gift Fund	Cash on hand	Deposit to checking	Total
Beginning Balance	0.00	0.00	2.64
2021			
January	10.00	102.82	112.82
February - Meeting Cancelled		18.82	18.82
March		18.82	18.82
April			0.00
May			0.00
June			0.00
July			0.00
August			0.00
September			0.00
October			0.00
November			0.00
December			0.00
Balance	10.00	140.46	153.10
Ending Balance			153.10

Grayson ARC Budget Items Calendar Year	Budget Amount	Actual Expenses
2021		
Operating Events		
Winter Field Day		
Food, Drinks & Supplies	50.00	0.00
Perrin Field Museum Special Event		
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
ARRL Field Day		
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Red River Bridge War Special Event		
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Eisenhower Birthday Special Event		
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Light Blub QSO Party	50.00	
Witches Around The World	50.00	
Operating Events Total	150.00	0.00
QSL Management /Administrative/Finance		
PO Box Rental	92.00	118.00
eQSL Bronze Membership	12.00	12.00
LOTW Awards	50.00	
QSL Card printing	100.00	
W5 Incoming Bureau	15.00	15.00
Paypal Fees - Jan - Feb 2021	30.00	11.74
QSL Management /Administrative/Finance Total	299.00	156.74
Christmas Party		
Christmas Party Expenses	150.00	
Christmas Party Total	150.00	0.00
Equipment Hard/Soft		
Radios	0.00	
Antennas	0.00	
Accessories	0.00	
Web Site - 3 year lease & Domain Renewal	230.00	252.17
Equipment Hard/Soft Total	230.00	252.17
Total Budget Approved ***	829.00	408.91
Approved Budget Balance		420.09
*** Budget approved at club meeting on January 19, 2021		

QSL Managers Message



By Lee – N5SLY

I have been having a lot of fun for over a year now with the **Parks-On-The-Air** program. It's a real thrill to contact all the different operators who are set up in different parks all over the country and all over the world for that matter. This event goes on every day of the year, every year, and not a day goes by where I don't make a few POTA contacts.

For new hams this is a perfect activity to get involved with. You'll learn how to operate your radio really quickly by "Chasing" the different operators at all the different parks. They will be operating on many different bands and using different modes so you'll be very busy learning how to change bands and modes on your radio...as well as learning how all the different filters work so you can hear those stations that are weak.

The majority of your contacts will be made using Phone and SSB. Many operators also use CW, but for new hams this is probably not a mode you'll be using. Do get involved with the Digital modes because these are becoming more popular in the POTA program. FT8 is the most popular mode, but I also make contacts using FT4, PSK31, RTTY and JS8.

There are a great bunch of videos that have been created for the POTA program and these tell you almost everything you'll need to know. Please invest the time to watch these...you won't regret it. Here is a link to the videos...

[\(4\) POTA - Hunters Course - YouTube](#)

After spending some time Hunting you may get the bug to Activate a park. Here is a link to the Activators course...

[\(4\) POTA - Activators Course - YouTube](#)

The POTA web site has everything you'll need. Here is a link...

[Parks on the Air | POTA | Parks program for amateur radio.](#)

Club members that are active POTA participants.... Lee, N5SLY...James, KW5CW...Ron, WX5A...Marvin, KG5GMA. These are your go to guys for your POTA questions._Have fun!

73 de Lee N5SLY
n5sly@arrl.net



Winter Field Day Report

By James – KW5CW

The Grayson County Club participated in 15th Winter Field Day activities on January 30-31, 2021 at the old school in Ambrose, Texas. The first winter field day was back on January 14, 2007. The tally of contacts totaled approximately 375. It happened to be my first winter field day without being with the GCARC since the club started working the event, as I was with my son Christopher – K5KDE as we worked a Father-Son Field Day event together. But even though we were not there in Ambrose Texas with the club, we contributed our contacts for the benefit of the club, as working remotely away from the main GCARC website during the Covid-19 Pandemic was allowed if you used your own call for the separate event. But at the end, my son and I were able to send our contacts in the name of the GCARC to help with the club score.

The following are pictures that were taken from Winter Field Day in Ambrose Texas.





The CW Corner – March 2021

by James – KW5CW



KW5CW Straight Key

While staying mostly at home because of what is called the new normal, I'm finding more time to enjoy the hobby of amateur radio. Now that the website move to the new host has been completed and Winter Field Day has passed, I'm spending a bit more of my time on CW with POTA. Adding a new twist to the mode, I'm running QRP (low power), at a maximum of 20 watts. I'm using a Chinese SDR radio, the Xiegu G90, which is absolutely the most fun radio I've ever had the pleasure to use. I constantly work stations that run anywhere from 100 to 500+ watts of power with super antenna systems, and I'm only running up to 20 watts from an HOA lot with a simple dipole or vertical antenna. Adding buried radials is really paying off. It's really gratifying that you can still operate this hobby with low power, even with the low sunspot cycles that we are experiencing here in 2021. It's very true that working low power on digital is so much more popular now and easier to accomplish. For the longest time, when I first had the taste of digital, running JT65, JT9, then FT8, FT4 and PSK31 thanks to Lee – N5SLY, I've enjoyed worked other modes besides CW. Working other modes definitely expanded my experience in the hobby and made the journey allot more fun. But now I find myself pursuing my roots once again, operating CW with more intensity, now that I've had the chance to compare it to the digital modes. CW is still my favorite mode and always will be.

Starting in February, my goal is to continue yet another part of my journey with amateur radio, and that's working POTA CW. I was introduced to POTA by Ron – WX5A and Lee – N5SLY. I've only activated 2 parks to date, one in Texas and one in Kansas, both being Eisenhower entities, but starting now and through the fall, I'll be sure to activate several parks. So, in March and April, my goal is to work allot more CW, with QRP at only just 10 Watts to conserve even more battery power at a handful of different parks each month. To date, I have only worked one Texas POTA site as an activator, and that is the Eisenhower birthplace known by POTA operators and the world as park K-6553 even though it is not technically a park. During one of my last outings there on March 26th, I made over 100 CW contacts with just 10 watts in approximately 4 hours, running strictly CW. The hobby of amateur radio has so much to offer. There is absolutely no reason why you should be sad staying at home with all that you can do in our hobby. You can safely travel to a park alone and work POTA while staying safe, whether it be with CW, SSB, or Digital. 73 and have FUN with your hobby.



STATION - OF - THE - MONTH**March 2021****Glen Davis – N5LDO**

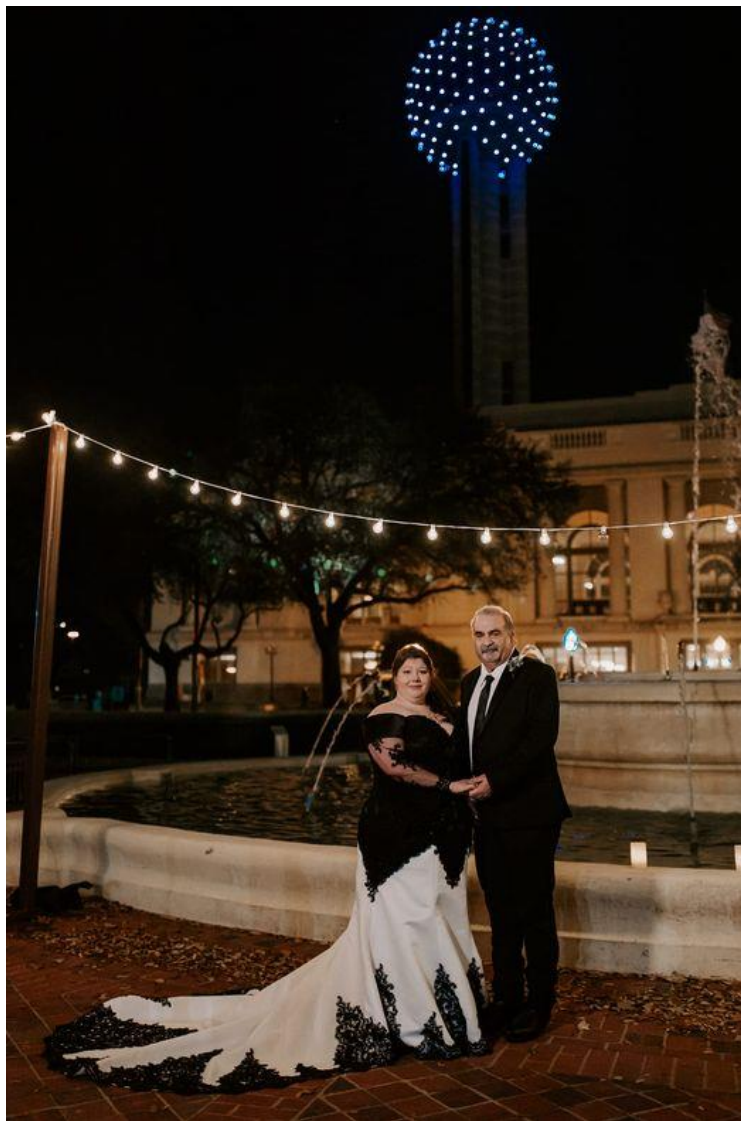
Our station of the month is Glen Davis – N5LDO. This is his second publication of his station of the month. He has recently moved his shack to a building outside of the main residence. Glen is also pursuing a newly built satellite antenna tracking system. Please checkout the article about his station now located on the Grayson County ARC website, located at this address... <https://graysoncountycarc.org/2021/04/03/station-of-the-month-n5ldo-march-2021-2/>

Congratulations

are in order for one of our Club Members

Angel Staten

became the bride of Joseph Maenza on March 14, 2021



The Grayson County Amateur Radio Club wishes Angel and Joe a very prosperous and happy marriage.

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club General Info

Become a Member of the GCARC click here: <https://graysoncountyarcc.org/membership/>

✚ 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday GCARC Information Net Control Schedule: <https://graysoncountyarcc.org/about-gcArc/net-control-schedule/>

1. Visit the GCARC Website www.graysoncountyarcc.org

✚ Visit the GCARC Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/k5gcc>

✚ Submit articles for GCARC newsletter to: editor@k5gcc.org

✚ E-mail change updates @ <http://hamclubonline.com>

Donate

Be our HERO - and Click here to Donate to GCARC Club

Club Patches and Clothing Options:

Option 1. From Ham Threads: <https://www.hamthreads.com/> get a large variety of clothing styles with GCARC, ARES and or Skywarn Logos, Call Sign and Name. See Examples Below:



Option 2. Order from the club Treasurer using the form below. Additionally, you can order premade ARES and Skywarn patches for \$4.00 each and GCARC Club Patches for \$5.00 each.



K5GCC

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Apparel Order Form



Tactical Shirt \$45
Mic loops on shoulders and front placket, dual pen pockets
2x-4x ~~www~~ + \$5



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			

Rev 02-12-18



Note regarding State Lifted Mandated Orders from Governor Abbott concerning Covid-19

(opinion of the editor)

On July 2, 2020, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order 29 creating the mask mandate in the State of Texas. I have been providing updates in the newsletter each month. As you should know by now, the mandate has been lifted by the governor. Everyone seemed to be tired staying at home, from being kept from their jobs and now you have the option to not wear your mask if you don't want to. Medical doctors seem to think that it's not ok, but Governor Abbot knows more than the medical doctors when it comes to Covid 19. Really! The majority of Americans have not received their initial dose of the Covid vaccine. We all have our options, and I disagree with the governor's opinion to lift the mandate because we are far from 'herd' immunity when it comes to Covid-19. This note is about everyone's belief regarding the vaccine and what we should do for one another. I'm sure that many of you believe that it was time for the mandate to end. When I come to the meetings, I always enter the meeting wearing my mask, until it's time to partake in that great food at Mariachi's. At our last meeting, I was the only member wearing a mask. By the time I attend our next meeting, I will have received my second dose of the Pfizer vaccine, and personally, I will feel safe from everyone who hasn't received the vaccine and that takes a large load off of my mind at age 69. I know many of you plan not to get the vaccine and that's your right. But instead of being selfish, it's my opinion that everyone in the club should get the shot, if not to protect themselves, but to protect others, including their family and friends.

