



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



GRAYSON CO. TEXAS USA

Having Fun with Amateur Radio

February 2022

Vol 28, No. 2

Events Coming Up

Next Operating Event 2022

Perrin Field Special
Event May 14
thru May 22

1st and 3rd

Sunday Nets

Dates/Net Control:

3-6 – Roy - AF5VA

3-20 – Ricky - KG5FDT

Time: 8:00 PM Local

Repeater: 147.000+

Next Regular Club

Monthly Meeting

Date: March 15, 2022

Time: 7:00-8:45 PM

Location

Mariachi's Mexican
Restaurant

March Monthly Presentation

Hamshack Hotline by

David Bodman
KD4CLJ



PRESIDENT'S QSO

As I write this, February is in the books. Our first event for the year was Winter Field Day January 29-30, held at Doug's Hobby House this year. We did well this year on making contacts. The bad news about Winter Field Day is I became sick with what I thought my wife was diagnosed with, which was bronchitis. Turns out it was mild kind of COVID. My apologies if you or your family contracted it. Thank you to Doug and his wife for letting us use the Hobby House once again. It is awesome place for Winter Field Day.

Thanks to Wade Graves and Rick Simmons for a very informative presentation on ARES and RACES at our February meeting. All area Hams are welcome to our March meeting on 3/15/22. We will have a presentation on Hamshack Hotline. You will want to see the presentation by KD4CLJ - David Bodman. We meet at 6pm at Mariachi's in Sherman for dinner and meeting at 7pm. Hamshack Hotline as I understand it was developed to provide backup/backdoor comms for ARES-RACES etc. They are found in EOC, NWS offices, net control operator stations, and now in hamshacks across the US and in EU. The system uses older VoIP phones to connect to other hams. My current HH phone is a Cisco SPA525G which has a color display and my first one was a B&W Cisco 301. I have checked into various nets and my most recent was in Scotland. Come and learn what all you can do with it.

Congrats to Les Key – KI5TQK for passing his Technician, and to Mike Coffman & Ralph Jerome for upgrading to General.

Don't forget the Irving Hamfest will be held March 5th, 2022 from 0800-1400. Here's the info:

<https://irvingarc.org/hamfest/>

As your club president for 2022, I have an open-door policy so contact me via cell phone/text at 903-818-2257 and via email at KI5BMN@gmail.com Please reach out to me or any board member anytime with any questions, comments, feedback or ideas. I look forward to seeing you and many new Hams at the March meeting

James "Ship" Shippet, KI5BMN
GCARC President – 2022

Contact a Club Officer

President: James Shippet – KI5BMN – (president@graysoncountyarc.org)

Vice President: Ricky Jessen – KG5FDT – (vp@graysoncountyarc.org)

Secretary: David Darcy – (secretary@graysoncountyarc.org)

Treasurer: Ron Witherington – WX5A – (treasurer@graysoncountyarc.org)

Director at Large: James Frank KW5CW (directoratlarge@graysoncountyarc.org)

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

Webmaster/Newsletter Editor: James Frank KW5CW (editor@graysoncountyarc.org)

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 642, Sherman TX 75091

Grayson County ARC July Monthly Meeting Minutes February 15, 2022**by David Darcy – KF5LKG**

Our meeting started at 19:00

President James Shiplet – KI5BMN started us all out with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The layout of the meeting room tables changed and not sure on how it will work out for our future meetings, or if it was set up hurriedly since we had to set out more tables considering we had 20 people present that night and we were missing some of our regulars.

Those that were there included: **James Johnson KG5SJY, (Club President) – James Shiplett KI5BMN, Les Key KI5TQK, Tim Brannan N5SWG, Robert Crook KI5BMP, Levent Kahveci KB5TMU, Lee Sly N5SLY, Michael Coffman KI5NUI, Roy Reen AF5VA, Ralph Jerome KI5NUK, Mike Whitten KI5IPH, (Club Treasurer) – Ron Witherington WX5A, (Grayson County ARES Coordinator) – Wade Graves KF5AUD, (Grayson County RACES Coordinator) Rick Simmons K5ECX, (Secretary – David Darcy – KF5LKG, David Anderson KD5KPR, Dorothy Anderson KD5TTV, Marvin Schiavone KG5GMA, Greg Stratton KD0ZWV – Bill Pierce J5XBP.**

Les Key KI5TQK had just passed his Technician test and joined our club. So **“Welcome Les”**.

Ralph KI5NUK and Michael KI5NUI passed their General tests in Ft. Worth at the Cowtown Clubs' clubhouse (K5COW) so were able to use it for our Winter Field Day just 2 days earlier. WAY TO GO GUYS!!!

Wade Graves KF5AUD gave a presentation about Skywarn and what it is all about here in Grayson County. He let us know that we do have a backup plan for the repeater if something was ever to happen to the repeater we use. The reason we operate in ARES mode verses RACES mode is for simplicity for allowing all radio operators to get onto the system when reporting, instead of posing restrictions and making it more difficult.

Rick Simmons K5ECX gave a presentation about RACES and its involvements and if activated, what would happen. RACES gets activated under government guidelines for a National Emergency. Usually working with the county and the state and FEMA, you must be prepared for lots of paperwork when activated. The most likely scenario would be to use two different frequencies if activated and each operator would have to figure out which organization we wanted to volunteer under.

ARES Mode is basically for services and **RACES Mode** is more Government focused. You do not have to be a member of the ARRL to be a member of either ARES or RACES. **If interested, please contact Wade Graves – KF5AUD or Rick Simmons – K5ECX for application forms.**

The club thanked **Glen Davis N5LDO** for stepping in and running the Sunday night net when it was not his time. He managed to do it on battery power, using his cell phone for lighting. Now that's a "Git R Done" Go Box!

EchoLink is still down and the issues still exist needing repair, but other ideas are being considered.

The March meeting will be about Hamshack Hotline, which is an IP based phone system that hams have been playing with.

The April meeting will be on Go Boxes and Solar, so bring what you have to show. James Frank – KW5CW will be showing what new stuff he is playing with for POTA for his new bike-mobile system.

James Shiplet KI5BMN asked for the minutes to be approved, **Ron WX5A** seconded and the club approved. **Ron WX5A gave the Treasurer's report** and an updated Treasurer report will be coming in the April report because several more renewals came in from club members after his last report was posted in the January 2022 newsletter.

Lee Sly N5SLY spoke about the Winter Field Day held at Doug's Hobby House in Whitesboro.



Meeting Minutes Continued...

Lee mentioned that we did not have as many contacts as we did in 2021, but the final tally was a total of 347 contacts, 200 on phone, 67 of CW and 77 on digital.

The **50-50 raffle funding** is being changed to 25% towards the Christmas Party raffle, 25% to the club (to build up more funds for incidentals) and 50% to the winner. It used to be 50% to the winner and 50% for the Christmas Party.

The proposed idea of buying a new radio for Field Day events was scraped, but instead the club has decided to **purchase a new laptop computer due to the recent problems experienced during past field days** with the present computer. The computer is old, very outdated, locked up allot and failed many times.

Ron WX5A made a motion to allow spending for a new laptop computer of \$350.00.

Marvin KG5GMA seconded the motion for Lee – N5SLY to search and purchase a new computer, and to motion was unanimously supported by the club members. Lee would also load all necessary software on the new laptop for club events.

James Johnson – KG5SJY will donate a 19" monitor to hookup to the new computer for easier viewing of multiple screens of information.

The door prize was won by Ralph KI5NUK which was a Stren Flashlight.

Ron WX5A won the raffle, so 25% goes to club funds, 25% goes to the Christmas party and Ron also donated his 50% to ARES.

An idea was suggested to create an **Amazon link** on our newsletter. Other clubs do it to bring in small funds.

I forgot to put down what time the meeting ended, but it was around the normal time, prior to 9PM.

David Darcy – KF5LKG
GCARC Club Secretary



Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Treasurer's Report – February 2022
Ron Witherington – WX5A

Grayson County ARC - Treasurers Report	Amount
February 2022	
Beginning Bank Balance	1,744.22
Income - Note PayPal payments don't include fees	
Income - Note PayPal payments don't include fees	
Donations from Eisenhower SE QSL cards	2.00
50-50 Raffle from January meeting	60.00
Donation - From Glen Davis - Cash	100.00
Donation - From Glen Davis - PayPal	9.22
	0.00
Renewal membership – James Johnson - KG5SJY - Check	20.00
Renewal membership – David Anderson - KD5KPR - Check	30.00
Renewal membership - Thomas Kraemer - K5TPK - Paypal	18.81
New membership - Mark Miller - KA5TXN - Paypal	18.81
Renewal Membership - Ralph Jerome - KI5NUK - Paypal	18.81
Renewal Membership - Robert Crook - KI5BMP - Paypal	18.81
Total Income	296.46
-	
Expenses	
Domain Renewal for .org ck#133	24.34
PO Box Renewal ck#134	156.00
Total Expenses	180.34
Ending Bank Balance	1860.34
-	



**Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Treasurer's Report
50-50 Raffle / Christmas Fund / Budget – February 2022
Ron Witherington – WX5A continued...**

Cash on hand	20.00
Total cash on hand	20.00
-	
Checks & other funds to be deposited	
Donation from Glen Davis	100.00
Membership payment from David Anderson	30.00
Total Checks & other funds to be deposited	130.00
-	
Final Total at time of report	2,010.34
Submitted by Ron Witherington WX5A 2/9/2022	

50 - 50 Raffle Christmas Gift Fund	Cash on hand	Deposit to checking	Total
Beginning Balance	0.00	0.00	12.70
2022			
January	0.00	30.00	30.00
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			
Balance		30.00	42.70
Gift Purchases			



Grayson County ARC Budget Items Calendar Year 2022	Budget Amount	Actual Expenses
Operating Events		
Winter Field Day	50.00	0.00
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Perrin Field Museum Special Event	50.00	
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
ARRL Field Day	50.00	
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Red River Bridge War Special Event	50.00	
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Eisenhower Birthday Special Event	50.00	
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Light Bulb QSO Party	50.00	
Operating Events Total	300.00	0.00
QSL Management /Administrative/Finance		
PO Box Rental	140.00	156.00
LOTW Awards	0.00	
PayPal Fees	50.00	13.46
WS Incoming Bureau	0.00	
ARRL Outgoing QSL Service	0.00	
QSL Management /Administrative/Finance Total	190.00	169.46



Budget Items Continued...

Christmas Party		
Christmas Party Expenses	150.00	
Christmas Party Total	150.00	
Equipment Hard/Soft		
Radios	120.00	
Antennas	0.00	
Accessories	0.00	
Web Site & Domain Renewal	24.00	24.34
Equipment Hard/Soft Total	144.00	24.34
Total Budget Approved	784.00	193.80
Approved Budget Balance		590.20

Budget approved 1/18/2022





Hands On HF Radio Class

When...Saturday, March, 26, 2022, 10 AM until 2 PM...other times by appointment.

Where...Eisenhower Birthplace State Historical Site in Denison, TX...
609 S. Lamar Ave.



Pick your topic..

Using the Kenwood TS-2000 radio
Logging contacts
Dealing with a Pile-Up, copying Call Signs
Digital Modes...
FT8, FT4
PSK 31, 63, 125
RTTY
POTA...Parks On The Air

Contact...Lee, N5SLY @ 903-818-7463 or email, n5sly@arrl.net





WINTER FIELD DAY RESULTS!

Who can believe that our first Club Operating Event is already in the books. Winter Field Day was already a month ago, held again this year on January 29-30 for third time unless I lost count, and as usual, **our host, Doug Hotalen – KG5QPI** graciously let the club use his hobby house. We were provided all the comforts of home, but away from home.

From the CW chair which I manned throughout the event, it was obvious that the band conditions on the CW bands were not up to par, but when you operate during the crazy sun-spot cycle that we are experiencing in this day and time, anything goes. Also, there were some local station interference issues between Phone and CW that contributed to my low score achieved this year. As reported by Lee – N5SLY at the February meeting, it wasn't the club's best year for making contacts during the event. Lee mentioned that we did not have as many contacts as we did in 2021, **but the final tally was a total of 347 contacts, 200 on phone, 67 of CW and 77 on digital.**

But if you were there as I was, you would know that the people that attended had lots of FUN, and the food was great, cooked by the one and only James Shiplet – our club president. A big shout-out goes to Jim for preparing the fine food again this year for dinner on Saturday and Breakfast on Sunday.

The weather was pretty decent and a few guests that I invited did show up and actually made a few contacts on their own to help the club. My son Chris – K5KDE made some digital contacts and my good friend **Steve Chepey – K5SJC** showed up to pound the brass for a while. A big shout out goes to our Treasurer – WX5A for again for the 3rd year in a row to allow me to use his superior Bengali key paddle during the event. I'm already looking forward to Winter Field Day 2023.

FIRST SPECIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR – The Perrin Field Museum Special Event

Our next event that will take place is the clubs first special event of the year. The first event is the Perrin Field Museum Special Event that will be held from May 14, 0000z thru May 22, 2059z. Just a few months to go and that event will be in the books to. The day seems far away, but who would have thought that it's almost Easter already. The point I'm trying to make is that we have no time to waste in trying to determine what each and every one of us should do to make this club better. I have a few thoughts of how this club can become even better than it is today, and the one ingredient necessary in everything that we do is to have FUN! I would like to share these ideas with the club at the next meeting and I'm sure there may be others who agree with me. Maybe it's time to expand our thinking within the club, in a way to get more people active within it. I'll share my idea with the officers at the next officer meeting.



THE EISENHOWER SPECIAL EVENT - 2022

The big special event of the year is the last special event each year. For this year, the club will celebrate the event from October 8, at 0000z through October 16, 2359z. The club will be using 10 different call signs throughout the event. If you would like to be assigned a call for that event, let Lee – N5SLY know that you are interested and he will reserve a call for you to use. **It's never too early to volunteer to operate in this event.** As Lee mentioned in the prior newsletter, no operator was successful in making a 'clean sweep' of stations last year. If you do plan to use one of the 10 different 1x1 calls during the event, then plan to operate as much as you can during the event, so that the stations that are worked have a decent chance to qualify for the 'clean sweep'.

As I mentioned a minute ago, it's never too early to plan such events, especially this one. But just in case someone already has acquired a call that you may want to use, maybe everyone involved should look at the opportunities that are presented with us as we use 10 different call signs again this year. In our club, we have interests within our organization that expand the entire realm of amateur radio. Some of us, like me are interested in CW. Some of us are interested in Voice Communications, and some are interested in Digital communications. Somehow the organizers of the event should come up with a plan to make sure that the operators who work special event calls have a decent chance in making that 'clean sweep'. We should try and work as many modes as possible using each callsign. It's just another idea that I have. What ideas do you have? If you have ideas that you would like to share with the club, then attend the next club meeting and we can collaborate our ideas.

Events coming up to take note...

1st Event



Details at : <https://irvingarc.org/hamfest/>

Saturday March 5, 2022 – 8AM to 2PM

At Betcha Bingo

2420 W. Irving Blvd, Irving TX.

Hands-On HF Radio Class

Saturday, March, 26, 2022, 10 AM until 2 PM

Any volunteers to do a Car-Pool?



2nd Event***Hamshack Hotline*****presentation by David Bodman – KD4CLJ****March 15, 2022 7PM****At****The Monthly Club meeting**

At our next club meeting on March 15th, the club presentation will be about 'Hamshack Hotline' by David Bodman – KD4CLJ. To make it simple, there is even still another medium that we can use to communicate with amateurs around the world. Have you ever wondered if there was another way to help communicate with others when RF conditions deteriorate throughout the day? For me, sometimes it's frustrating when you start a communication on whatever mode at a signal strength of +20db over S9 and then the signal fades so fast that you have a hard time continuing with the communication.

What if there were a way to communicate with people when propagation deteriorates like it so often does these days in our crazy sun-spot cycle?

If you want to learn about what the answer is, then come to the next club meeting, that will be held on March 15, 2022. David Brodman – KD4CLI will be the host to explain the work-around with fading signals.

3rd Event**NEXT Amateur Radio Testing in Sherman is April 7, 2022****Location: Grayson County College in Denison Texas****Time: 7:00PM**

Sherman testing is held on the first Thursday of each EVEN-numbered month (Feb, Apr, Jun, etc.) at the Grayson County College, Center for Workplace Learning Seminar Room C, 6101 Grayson Drive, Denison TX 75020 at 7:00 PM. Watch here for any changes or cancellations.

For more information contact:**Ron Witherington, WX5A,****rwitherington@verizon.net or at (214) 394-7950. Call first!**

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-gcsrc/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 sizes + \$5

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





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

First Name _____ (as you want on clothing)	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			

Last _____

Call _____

Payment _____

Make checks Payable to: GCARC

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