



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



GCARC
GRAYSON CO. TEXAS USA

December 2022

Having Fun with Amateur Radio

Vol 28, No 12

Events Coming Up

Next Club Event

Christmas Party
December 20th
Grandys
In
Sherman @ 6PM

1st and 3rd & 5th Sunday Nets

Dates/Net Control:
12/4 – Ricky – KG5FDT
12/18 – Jim – KI5BMN
Time: 8:00 PM Local
Repeater: 147.000+

Next Regular Club Monthly Meeting

Date: January 17, 2023
Time: 7:00-8:45 PM
Location

Grandy's Restaurant
Sherman, Texas

Hungry Hams Breakfast

Every 3rd Saturday of
each month..
8AM at Grandys

Winter Field Day

Eisenhower State
Park – Jan 28-29

PRESIDENT'S QSO

Howdy Fellow Hams,

We are gearing up for a great Club Christmas Party to be held on Dec 20th at Grandy's. Dinner and Drinks are on your own, with dessert provided. We have some really neat 'Presents' this year, which includes a Dual Band Water Resistant Mobile Radio, two Yaesu FT-4X Handi-Talkies and many other top presents. Plan to join us as we celebrate the Christmas season and recap the Club's year of service.

We met at Grandy's in Sherman for our November meeting. James Frank was to be the presenter on his 'Bicycle Mobile'; however he ended up being absent due to illness. It was annual election of officers, and the 2022 officers will stay for one more term. James Frank is the Director at Large and that position is up in 2023.

On Saturday the 19th, we met at Grandy's for our monthly 'Hungry Hams Breakfast'. We had a great time fellowship about Ham Radio, and we had our Solar/Emergency Power Group meeting where we discussed building a Wind Generator. We saw several videos that gave us some ideas of what to build.

Winter Field Day will be held on January 27 – 29, 2023 at Eisenhower State Park. We will set up at 'Ike's Cabin in the Deer Run Area, #35 on the map. We will arrive on the 27th, beginning at 1500 hrs. and operate beginning Saturday at 1300 hrs, through Sunday at 1100 hrs. This year we have added a Chili Cookoff, so bring your best pot, or cook onsite and have it ready for judging by 17:30 hrs. and serving at 1800 hrs. You can also just join us for a great Chili Meal and Fellowship. Ike's cabin sleeps 5, and you can reserve the shelter next to us and camp if you like.

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 October meeting.

73

James "Ship" Shiplet, KI5BMN
GCARC President – 2022



2022 GCARC CLUB OFFICERS

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

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

Secretary: David Darcy – KF5LKG - (secretary@graysoncountyarc.org)

Treasurer: Ralph Jerome – KI5NUK – (treasurer@graysoncountyarc.org)

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

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

Webmaster/Newsletter Editor/Officer at Large: James Frank - KW5CW (editor@graysoncountyarc.org)

Club Address

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

**

Grayson County ARC Monthly Meeting Minutes - November 15, 2022

By Secretary David Darcy – KF5LKG

Club Vice President Ricky Jessen- KG5FDT began the meeting at 19:01 by passing around a Net Control Sign-Up sheet this time and then proceeded into the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no new license upgrades and during club introductions we had one visitor which who our Club President - James Shiplet's – KI5BMN friend, Mac Mastroni introduced and is studying for his technician license. The following 10 members of the club's 49 members were here which included:

Club Secretary- David Darcy-KF5LKG, Club Vice President-Ricky Jessen-KG5FDT, Marvin Schiavone-KG5GMA, Andrew Bentley- KG5SKM, Club President-James Shiplet-KI5BMN, Michael Coffman – KI5NUI, Club Treasurer- Ralph Jerome-KI5NUK, Leslie Key Sr- KI5TQK, Lee Sly – N5SLY, Glen Willie-WW5GRW.

Vice President Ricky Jessen KG5FDT asked for the motion to approve the October Club Minutes, Leslie Key – KI5TQK making the first motion to approve and Marvin Schiavone-KG5GMA making the second, all members approved.

Club Treasurer Ralph Jerome- KI5NUK, gave the treasuries report and said some of the club money will be spent this upcoming weekend for the club Christmas Party to be in December.



Club Treasurer Ralph Jerome- KI5NUK, gave the treasuries report and said some of the club money will be spent this upcoming weekend for the club Christmas Party to be in December.

Old Business: discussion was brought up about if anyone wanted to make any new suggestions for names for the voting of new club officers, No one spoke up wanting to add any new names so that part of the process ended. President James Shiplet -KI5BMN, Vice President-Ricky Jessen- KG5FDT, Treasurer – Ralph Jerome KI5NUK, Secretary - David DArcy – KF5LKG would be the only ones to be voted on again into the present positions.

Marvin Schiavone-KG5GMA made the first motion and Lee Sly N5SLY made the second motion for the old business to be approved and the club approved.

New Business: Vice President Ricky Jessen – KG5FDT proceeded into the club voting process. It was determined that there were enough members present to proceed with the vote per club voting quorum rules. Glen Willie-WW5GRW made the first motion and Marvin Schiavone - KG5GMA made the second for the present officers to be in voted back into their present office positions again for the 2023 year all the present club members voted and approved.

Vice President Ricky – KG5FDT says there will be “NO” ARES meeting in November. The club’s Christmas Party will be here at Grandy’s again in December and says to bring deserts and for the members to bring whomever they want to bring.

The January meeting presentation will be made from Roy Reed - AF5VA doing his Skywarn weather presentation again, they say he has a new presentation so should be a good one. The February meeting presentation will be about club members Show and Tell Projects- Bring your Shows or Bring your pictures so you can talk about what you did or have. The March Presentation is still unknown- Anyone have any ideas?

Hungry Hams Breakfast Gathering Fun is this weekend Saturday the 19th at Grandy’s then Club President James Shiplet -KI5BMN will be a gathering for the Solar group and talking about a Wind Power Generator.

Group Updates: Club Director at Large – James Frank - KW5CW was not at the meeting but it was announced that the Antenna Group did not meet for their October gathering fun. Because he was not there, he was also unable to speak about the CW part of POTA. Lee Sly - N5SLY says look for him on Facebook for doing POTA adventures. Club Vice President Ricky Jessen - KG5FDT is doing POTA activations and Marvin Schiavone - KG5GMA announced he is a POTA Hunter. (A personal side note from me your secretary, I’m now wondering if I can Activate and Hunt at the same time from a tree stand, because it’s hunting season and some State Parks allow hunting when you get the permit. It’s just a play on SSB words after all).

President James Shiplet announced that Winter Field Day is coming up soon, so a delightful discussion was brought up with lots of ideas for places Including Ambrose again, The Civil Air Patrol at the Airport, Eisenhower State Park, and several of the Sherman City Parks, Tent Camping as well as shelter locations was talked about as well. Andrew Bentley – KG5SKM even suggested the radio station he works at could be used.



Marvin Schiavone - KG5GMA won the door prize, and he took the Flashlight- (good choice since it gets darker earlier now).

President James Shippet - KI5BMN won the 50/50 which was \$77.00 and donated his half back to the club.

Treasurer Ralph Jerome -KI5NUK and President James Shippet – KI5BMN announced that the Club's website would be going offline tonight 11/15/2022 temporarily for upgrades to it.

Vice President Ricky Jessen - KG5FDT, called for the meeting to be over at 20:15 and Andrew Bentley - KG5SKM made the first motion and Marvin Schiavone - KG5GMA seconded it and the club approved and rejoiced.

Upcoming Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Activities and Events

THE GCARC CHRISTMAS PARTY – December 20th at Grandys 6 PM
Terrific Gift Prizes to be Given Away – Read President's QSO message

Hungry Hams Breakfast– December 17th – Grandys at 8:AM

Club Information Net – December 18 – Net Control – James – KI5BMN

NOTE: Antenna Group meeting – December is cancelled – No invitations returned

**Next scheduled antenna meeting will be on January 4th
at**

The Sherman Municipal Airport on Dewey St. 7-9PM
(Meetings will ONLY take place if interested hams want to participate)

Winter Field Day! at the *Eisenhower State Park Pavilion*

January 28th and 29th, 2022

Information on next page



Grayson County Winter Field Day is the First GCARC Event in 2023

Lee Sly – N5QLY has reported on FaceBook that the club has rented Ike's Cabin at Eisenhower State Park for Winter Field Day, January 28 & 29, 2023. This will be a great place to operate for Winter Field Day. We'll have shelter if the weather is bad or it's cold. It's also a POTA park, K-3005. Plenty of room to set up a few radios and antennas. Please mark your calendars and join us that weekend.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CABIN WILL BE IN THE JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER



Treasury Report for November 2022 – by GCARC Treasurer Ralph Jerome

Grayson County ARC - Treasurers Report	Amount
November 2022	2,635.21
Bank Balance at time of report 11/16/2022	2,704.21
Income - Note PayPal payments don't include fees	
50-50 Raffle from November	37.00
QSL Card Donation	43.00
50-50 Donation David	38.00
Total Income	118.00
-	-
Expenses	
Award Printing	
Total Expenses	-49.00
Cash on hand	20.00
-	-
Total Deposit	
QSL Cards	43.00
50/50	75.00
Dues	0.00
Total Checks & other funds deposited	118.00
-	-
Final Total at time of report	2,704.21



50 - 50 Raffle Christmas Gift Fund	Deposit to checking	Total
Beginning Balance	0.00	12.70
2022		
January	30.00	30.00
February	46.00	46.00
March	41.00	41.00
April	34.00	34.00
May	68.00	68.00
June	95.00	95.00
July	33.00	33.00
August	84.00	84.00
September	33.00	33.00
October	34.00	34.00
November	75.00	75.00
December		
Ending Balance	573.00	585.70
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	0.00
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
ARRL Field Day	50.00	0.00
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Red River Bridge War Special Event	50.00	0.00
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Eisenhower Birthday Special Event	50.00	0.00
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Light Bulb QSO Party	50.00	0.00
Operating Events Total	300.00	0.00

QSL Management /Administrative/Finance		
PO Box Rental	140.00	156.00
LOTW Awards check#136	50.00	49.00
PayPal Fees	50.00	31.17
QSL Management /Administrative/Finance Total	240.00	236.17
Christmas Party		
Christmas Party Expenses	150.00	
Christmas Party Total	150.00	
Equipment Hard/Soft		
Radios "Fox"	120.00	155.00
Antennas	0.00	0.00
Accessories (Case for projector)	100.00	62.77
Accessories (Cable Antenna Tuner)	50.00	49.39
Accessories (New Computer)	350.00	306.97
Web Site & Domain Renewal	24.00	24.34
Equipment Hard/Soft Total	644.00	598.47
Total Budget Approved	1,334.00	834.64
Approved Budget Balance	499.36	

Budget approved 1/18/2022

The GCARC website – <https://graysoncountyar.org> went in Maintenance mode on Wednesday 11-18. Database reconstruction is taking place after data corruption occurred. Backup databases were also corrupt. When the website comes back online, everything should work, and all links should be accessible. When it comes back up, hopefully this week, it may have a different look, but all the links will work, and members are encouraged to write ham related articles that can be published.



QSL Managers Message

Why should I get involved with POTA?

POTA, or Parks On The Air, is a very popular activity in Amateur Radio right now. It is a program that anyone can participate in and it does make Hams better amateur radio operators. How does it do this?

1. **The Go Kit.** What do you need to operate a portable radio station? You need a radio, a power supply, and an antenna. All radios are good. Which one you use is personal preference. I'd like to suggest that you only use a battery while operating portable...commercial power will not always be available. The antenna you use is completely up to you. My choice is an antenna that is very easy to set up and does not require anything external to operate and can operate on all the HF bands. I do not want to put wires in trees, wires on the ground or be required to pound stakes in the ground. I use the Eagle One antenna...it's nothing more than a EFLW antenna.
2. **Keeping The Log.** POTA has Activators, hams that go to the parks and setup their radio stations, and Hunters, hams that operate from anywhere and contact Activators in the parks. Hunters are not required to keep a log of the contacts they make. Activators must submit their logs of the contacts they make to the POTA folks so Hunters will get credit for the contacts they make. There are awards for everyone in the POTA program. Many Activators keep a log on paper while they are operating portable. A paper log is more reliable than using a computer, which can fail at any time. If a computer is used, a paper log should always be used as backup. Logging programs on the computer are many and which one you use is your personal preference. My choice is Amateur Contact Log by N3FJP. Very popular and easy to use. Regardless of the log you use, you'll need to learn how to accurately copy the Call Sign of the other station to put in the log. You know everything else that needs to be put into the log. A quick note regarding Signal Reports. Everyone wants to get a Signal Report, but do you realize that Signal Reports are not required to get a Confirmation of a contact that was made? The log you submit to POTA must be in ADIF format, so you'll need a computer logging program to do this. You can enter your contacts one at a time from your paper log if you have the internet available (not my favorite way of doing it).
3. **Overcoming MIC Fright.** Most new hams are afraid to get on the radio because they don't know what to say...they suffer from MIC Fright. Listen and learn how other operators are making contacts. Practice writing down Call Signs. Start by hunting. It's easy and you'll quickly earn some POTA awards for making contacts in different parks. When you are comfortable Hunting...try Activating a park. Put your Go Kit together along with your log and get out in a park.
4. **Practice Makes Perfect.** The first time you do anything you are not very good at it. You must do something many times before you get good at it. The same goes for operating your radio. You must do it many times before you are proficient. I'll never forget the first time I went to Activate a POTA park. Put my stuff in the car, drove out to the park, got my antenna set up, got my radio all set up, only to discover that I left the battery at home. Take everything down, drive home, get the battery, drive back to the park and set everything up again. My suggestion is to put everything in your car, drive about 5 or 10 feet and stop, set everything up and make some contacts while you are still at home. When you can do this without a problem then go to the park.

Are you interested in **ARES**? If you are then you should be very interested in POTA because you'll be doing all the same things...except that you'll be doing it when there isn't an emergency or disaster. POTA is for everyone...Technicians, Generals and Extras.

And, most important of all, it's FUN...at least a lot of hams think so. If you would like to learn more about POTA, please let me know, or talk to James, KW5CW. He is very active in the POTA program.

73 ... N5SLY lee.n5sly@gmail.com



Upcoming 'Information Net' Control Operators in 2022

December 4 – Ricky – KG5FDT

December 18 – Jim – KI5BMN

Special Interest Groups Update

Note: The December 7 Antenna Group meeting has been cancelled.

There hasn't been much activity surrounding Special Interest Groups within the last 90 days. I suspect that with the upcoming holidays, that there will be little if any activity throughout the rest of this year except for the following...

Two of the groups, the Solar Power Group and the Antenna Group are still active, and meeting for Solar may take place before the end of the year. Jim Shiplet will inform the club when and where the solar meeting and demonstration can be held if scheduled.

The meeting scheduled for the Solar Group led by President James Shiplet was to be on November 12, starting at 9:00AM at Pecan Grove Park in Sherman but that commitment cannot be met and has been cancelled.

The next antenna group meeting was scheduled on Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at the Sherman Municipal Airport on Dewey Street but NOW IS CANCELLED. Notices were sent out via HamClubOnline and FaceBook explaining that the November and December meetings at the Airport have been cancelled. A questionnaire has been sent to all club members via Hamclubonline in the past 30 days. Only one response was received. We will continue holding antenna group meetings when the interest picks up after the holidays.

Special Interest Group updates will now appear on the GCARC website that will be back online soon. I apologize that it has been down for some time now, but there was data corruption that took quite a bit of time to remove. It will be running again before the Christmas Party.



Paying GCARC Club Yearly Dues

Just as a reminder, you can renew your yearly dues at <http://hamclubonline.com>. At that URL, you will find the amateur radio management system that can be used to pay your dues to the GCARC. Yearly dues are good for 365 days from the day that you originally signed up.

***Important* Note about VEC – Ron Witherington – WX5A**

Ron will not be able to continue testing as the VEC for Grayson County as of January 1, 2023. He is asking for a qualified person that could take over the responsibilities of Volunteer Examiner Coordinator for the County. To this date, no one has contacted Ron. This person must be a ham that is an Extra Class Operator. If you feel that you can perform in the capacity of an ARRL VEC for Grayson County, then please contact Ron Witherington – WX5A at either his email address or phone number listed below. He will explain the responsibilities and the duties of this position and determine if you are qualified.

No further local testing in Grayson County will be scheduled until a new VEC has taken the position. Someone in our Club may want to step up.

Contact Ron Witherington - WX5A, at

rwitherington@verizon.net or at: (214) 394-7950

CALL FIRST



Election of Officers for 2023

The present GCARC officers were all re-elected to continue their duties in 2023.

<p>President – James Shiplet – KI5BMN Vice President – Ricky Jessen – KG5FDT Secretary – David Darcy – KF5LKG Treasurer – Ralph Jerome – KI5NUK</p>

DECEMBER 2023 CONTESTS

The ARRL 160 Meter Contest from Dec 2 through December 4 (Concluded)

The ARRL 10 Meter Contest from December 10 through December 11

The ARRL Rookie Roundup – CW on December 18

ARRL Straight Key Night – January 1, 2023 (0000-2359 UTC) Not a contest

As listed above these are the contests for December. Sometimes you may wonder why the bands seem to be so crowded and other times they are not. Contesting plays a big factor throughout the year. Also there seems to be a lot of confusion of the time changes throughout the year which adds a confusion factor to the start time. But help is on the way.

The U.S. Senate unanimously passed the Sunshine Protection Act on March 15th of this year and starting in November 2023 the United States may remain on Daylight Savings Time. But the U.S. House of Representatives still has not approved of permanent DST as of yet. It is not entirely certain that the U.S. House would approve of the changes because the Republican Party will take control of the chamber on January 3rd. Presently we are on Central Standard Time. Detailed information can be found [here](#).





A week before Winter Field Day is a Hamfest located in Forest Hill, Texas. The Cowtown Hamfest takes place on the 3rd Weekend of the month in January. It will be located at the following address...

6901 Wichita St, Fort Worth, Texas 76119, United States
TALK IN 146.94 TONE 110.9

Be advised that the Website (www.cowtownhamfest.com) is not updated with 2023 dates. As of this printing, the website has 2022 dates. The dates stated above are the actual dates. More information regarding this Hamfest will be provided in the 2023 Newsletter – January edition.



Local and Regional Repeater Systems in and near Sherman Texas

List of repeaters located in Sherman

<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Offset</u>	<u>Tone Up / Down</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>Modes</u>
147.0000	+0.6 MHz	100.0 / 100.0	Sherman	Grayson	W5RVT	OPEN	FM EchoLink
147.2800	+0.6 MHz	107.2 / 107.2	Sherman	Grayson	W5COP	OPEN	FM EchoLink
441.3250	+5 MHz	82.5 / 82.5	Sherman	Grayson	KG5SKM	OPEN	FM EchoLink
444.7500	+5 MHz	100.0 / 100.0	Sherman	Grayson	W5RVT	OPEN	FM

Make note of the **KG5SKM Open repeater**, owned, and operated in Sherman by one of our club members – Andrew Bentley – KG5SKM. The repeater has been recently activated. It is located at Sherman Radio Station KQDR, 900 E Pecan Grove Rd, Sherman, Texas 75092. It contains an Allstar Node – 53477 and an Echolink Node 831760. The antenna is located just 20 feet off the ground and has a 35 mile range.

Other repeaters accessible from Sherman are as follows:

W5DWH Denison
145.330 -600 offset
PL 100 Transmit and receive

WD5U Rosston
145.490 -600 offset
PL 85.4

K5FRC VHF Bonham
145.470 -600 offset
PL 100

NCTC UHF Bonham
443.750 +5 offset
PL 100

KF5SOX UHF Bells
444.950 +5
No PL at this time



Grayson County Amateur Radio Club General Info

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

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

1. Visit the GCARC Website www.graysoncountyarc.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	
Last _____				Polo Shirt* sm M L XL \$30
Call _____				Camp Shirt* sm M L XL \$36
Payment _____				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 _____

Make checks Payable to: GCARC

Rev 02-12-18

