



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



GCARC
GRAYSON CO. TEXAS USA

January 2023

Having Fun with Amateur Radio

Vol 29, No 1

Events Coming Up

Next Club Event Winter Field Day

**Eisenhower
State Park
Jan 27-28-29**

1st and 3rd & 5th Sunday Nets

Dates/Net Control:
1/1-No Net - Holiday
1/15 – Jim – KI5BMN
1/29 – No Net FD
Weekend
Time: 8:00 PM Local
Repeater: 147.000+

Next Regular Club Monthly Meeting

Date: January 17, 2023
Time: 7:00-8:45 PM
Eats from 6:00-7:00 PM

Location

Grandy's Restaurant
Sherman, Texas

Hungry Hams Breakfast

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

PRESIDENT'S QSO

New Year's Greetings!

I trust that this finds you happy, healthy, and well; may you be richly blessed in 2023. I just want to touch base with you to say thanks for a great year in 2022. Because of you and members of our club, we had a great year. We have several committees such as the Antenna Group, the POTA Group, the Solar/Emergency Power Group. Thanks again for being members. We had a great Christmas party on Dec. 20th. Everyone in attendance walked away with a nice gift including a dual band mobile and two Yaesu Handi-Talkies.

Remember that our next meeting will be on January 17, 2023, beginning at 1800 hrs. at Grandy's in Sherman, Roy AF5VA will present on Weather Spotting. Also coming up is Winter Field Day January 27-29 held at Eisenhower State Park. Please read about WFD elsewhere in this newsletter. We are having a Chili Cooking contest Saturday night and you are encouraged to bring your best Chili to share. You do not have to cook on site, you can bring your crockpot. The club will provide the other food so bring your lawn chair, your chili and what you want to drink and join us at 1600 hrs. Awards will be given for the Best Chili, 2nd and 3rd place plus the Wimpiest Chili.

Several of us are camping Friday night and will begin to set up antennas Saturday morning. Soooooooo, plan on joining us anytime Friday afternoon, for set up Saturday and then as we begin operating at 1300 hrs. I hope to see ALL of you at some point Friday, Saturday, or Sunday morning.

As your club president for 2023, 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 January meeting.

Regards and 73,
Ship - KI5BMN



2023 GCARC CLUB OFFICERS

President: James Shiplet – KI5BMN – (president@graysoncountyarcs.org)
Vice President: Ricky Jessen – KG5FDT – (vp@graysoncountyarcs.org)
Secretary: David Darcy – KF5LKG – (secretary@graysoncountyarcs.org)
Treasurer: Ralph Jerome – KI5NUK – (treasurer@graysoncountyarcs.org)
Director at Large: James Frank – KW5CW – (directoratlarge@graysoncountyarcs.org)
License Trustee: Rick Simmons – K5ECX – (rr52s@yahoo.com)

Webmaster

Newsletter Editor

Officer at Large: James Frank – KW5CW – (editor@graysoncountyarcs.org)

Club Address

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

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Since there was no formal club meeting in December because of the Christmas party, so there were no minutes taken. Minutes to be approved this month will be the November Minutes that appeared in the December newsletter.

News Regarding the Newsletter and Website

For the last several years, since 2017, I have been your newsletter editor. I am now beginning my 6th year producing it. Sometimes it's been a challenge to get it out on time. I found it difficult to get it out prior to the end of the month after the monthly meeting. Presently, the monthly newsletter is distributed out at the beginning of each month, and it will reflect the secretary and treasurer report of the prior month. Even with some challenges to get it out on time, I have been honored to be your newsletter editor and my intentions are to continue to do so. So, it's 6 years now and counting.

Regarding the Grayson County club website, if you haven't seen the website lately, you had a good reason. To put it bluntly, the website was broken. Links were broken and difficult to get to pages or information that was accessible previously. Most everyone who needed to find out information about the club usually would go to the Facebook pages of the GCARC. You are encouraged to continue to do so especially because there may be information on Facebook but not on the website, and conversely the Facebook page may not have information found on the website so check there too. It has been totally rebuilt, functional and now online. You are encouraged to read both and both will be available as the years go on. If you want to know more information on the new website, please attend the next club meeting on January 17th. I will go over the website and the upcoming changes to come. Visit the website and come to the meeting. Let me know what you think.

James – KW5CW



Treasury Report for December 2022 – by GCARC Treasurer Ralph Jerome

Grayson County ARC - Treasurers Report		Amount
December 2022		2,704.21
Bank Balance at time of report 12/31/2022		1,811.80
Income - Note PayPal payments don't include fees		
Hat Sales		20.00
Dues Payment (5)		100.00
Dues Payment PayPal (1)		18.81
Total Income		138.81
Expenses		
Christmas Party Prizes		-529.82
Winter Field Day Camping Reservations		-138.60
GCARC Hats (10)		-199.80
ARRL Plaques		-49.00
Total Expenses		-917.22
Cash on hand		140.00
Hats for Sale	4	100.00
Total Checks & other funds deposited		120.00
Final Total at time of report		1,931.80



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
Gifts		-529.82
Gifts (hats)		-99.80
Ending Balance	573.00	-43.92



Grayson County ARC Budget Items Calendar Year 2022	Budget Amount	Actual Expenses
Operating Events		
Winter Field Day 2022	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	143.72
50/50 Raffle Money Spent	573.00	573.00
Christmas Party Total	723.00	+716.72
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
Hats for sale		99.90
Equipment Hard/Soft Total	644.00	698.37
Total Budget Approved	1,907.00	1,651.26

Budget approved 1/18/2022

The Grayson County Club held their Christmas Party this past December at Grandys in Sherman. This was the first time the club held their event at this location. Everyone who attended had a great time and went home with a prize. One of these people, the newest member at the time who had just joined the club that evening less than an hour before the drawing, won the main prize. Not only was this person extremely new to the club, but this new member had just passed the technician and general license exams a week prior in a single sitting.

The lucky person who has just joined our club at the Christmas party is Cynthia VanSlogteren. Her initial call was KI5YYW. Within a few weeks of passing her tests, she applied and received her vanity call – K5EKA.

Her prize was the TYT TH8600WP, a 25-watt waterproof radio. Talk about luck, she mentioned that she had prior plans to purchase a 2-meter/70cm radio soon, but now since she won the main prize, she doesn't have purchase another radio.

Congratulations Cynthia for winning the main prize at the Christmas party, and we are happy to have you as one of our newest members of the GCARC.



Cynthia VanSlogteren- K5EKA



QSL Managers Message

Filters

What are filters? Filters remove stuff we don't want. In your car you have Air Filters, Gas Filters, and Oil Filters. They remove dirt which would hurt your car.

Your radio has filters too. The filters on your radio remove sounds you don't want to hear. Common filters found on radios include...

NB – Noise Blanker. Removes the sound of spark plugs firing in your vehicle when the engine is running. This filter can be turned On when needed and is usually Off.

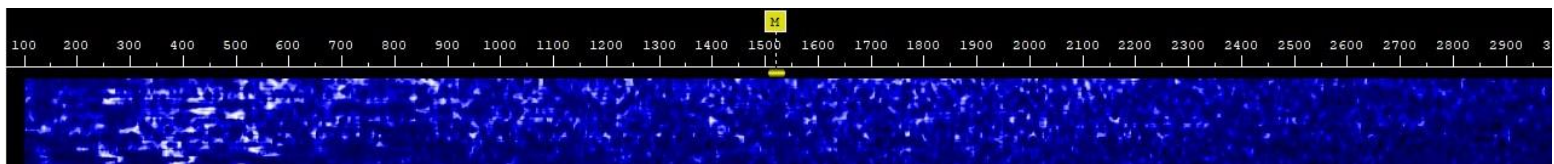
NR – Noise Reduction. Reduces overall background noise. This filter can be turned On when needed and is usually Off.

Notch. Reduces or removes noise close to the frequency you are on. I find this very useful to remove the tone when another station tunes up on the frequency your on. This filter can be turned On when needed and is usually Off.

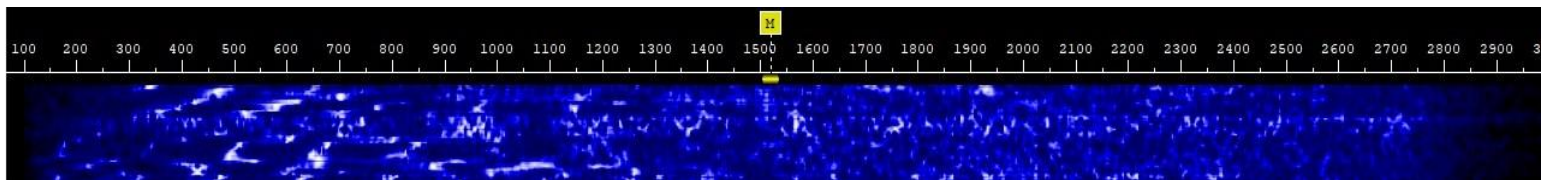
One filter that is always On and can't be turned Off is the Twin PBT – Pass Band Tuning – if you have an Icom radio. It is called DSP – Digital Signal Processor – if you have a Kenwood or Yaesu radio. This filter sets how much you can hear on the radio. It is set differently depending on what Mode you are using. Here are some examples...

SSB – Phone

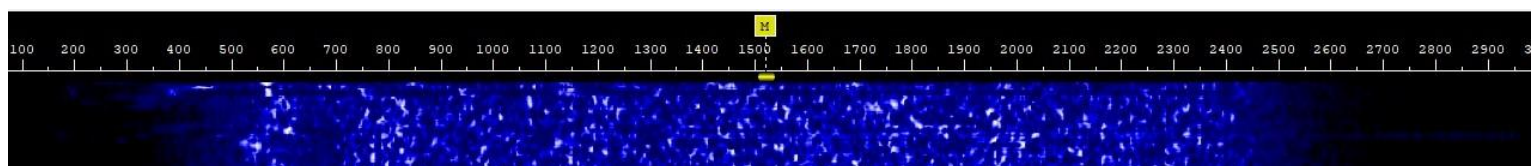
FIL1



FIL2

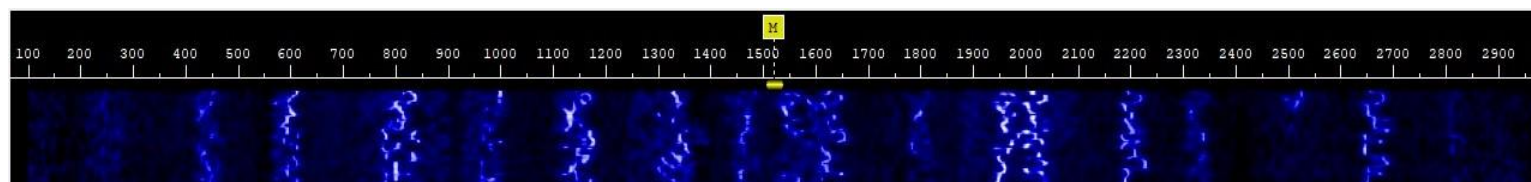


FIL3

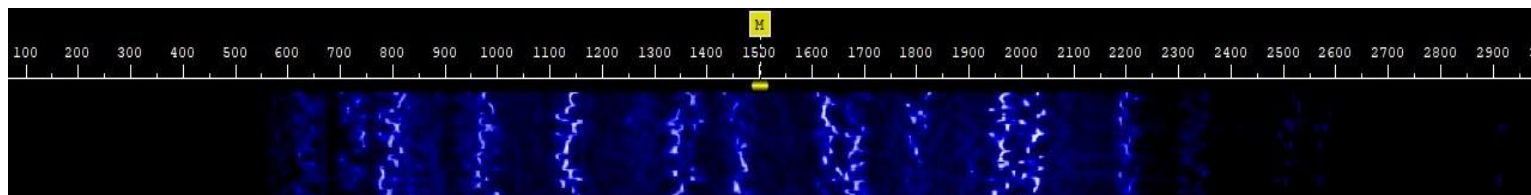


DIG – Digital Modes

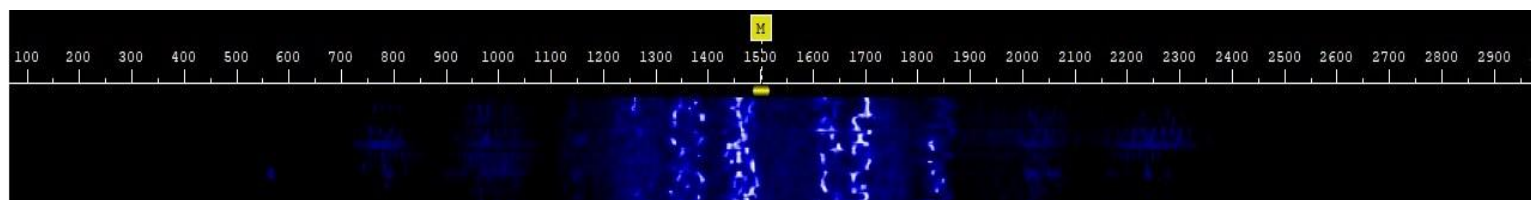
FIL1



FIL2

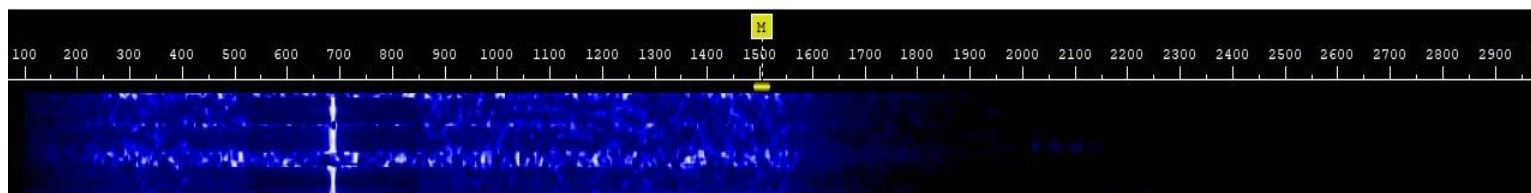


FIL3

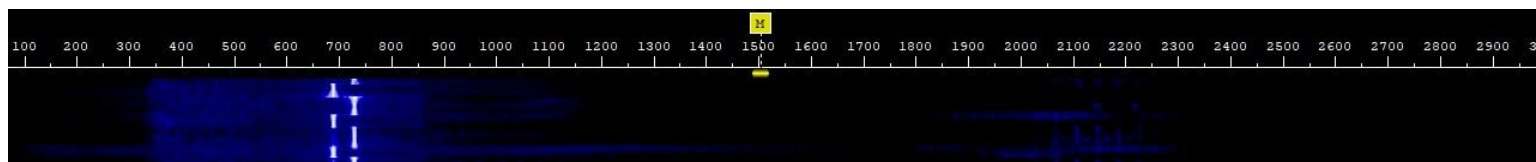


CW Mode

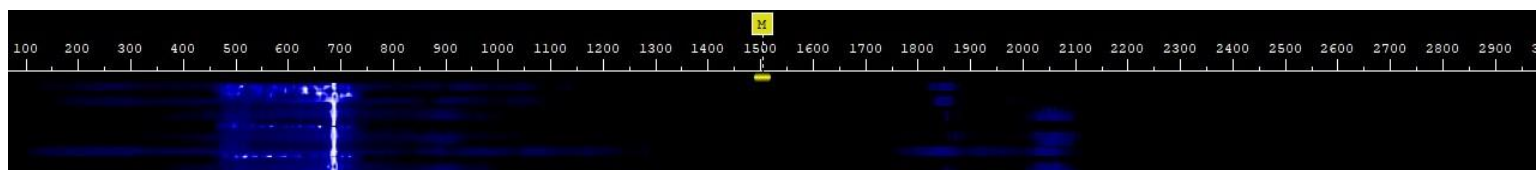
FIL1



FIL2



FIL3



The images above are the waterfall of the USB of my Icom 7300 radio. The upper side band is 3000 Hz wide. You can see that the widest signal is heard when FIL1 is selected. The signal is narrower when FIL2 or FIL3 are selected. You can manually adjust these filters...you can adjust the upper and lower settings and move the whole filter from left to right. These images are the default settings on my radio.

How you set these filters on your radio is just personal preference.

For me I do SSB – Phone and DIG – Digital Modes. I always use FIL1. When doing Phone Modes voices just sound better to me using FIL1. FIL2 makes voices sound a little funny and FIL3 makes it very difficult to understand the other station. When doing Digital Modes the software I use will filter out all of the stations except the one I want to have a QSO with. Therefore, I want to use FIL1 to ensure that I'm hearing everyone that is on frequency.

James, KW5CW, can tell you all about CW, but as you can see, you can set the filter to only hear a small portion of the SSB signal. This will make it much easier to hear only the station you want to have a QSO with.

You should also realize by now that setting the Twin PBT, or DSP filter incorrectly can make it impossible for you to hear what you want on the radio.

It is important that you learn how to use all these filters on your radio. I hope that you'll find this information useful.

Thanks.

73

Lee N5SLY



Upcoming Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Activities and Events

1st Club Information Net for 2023 – Jan 15 – Net Control - Jim – KI5BMN

**January 17, 2023 – Grayson County Club General Meeting
Speaker – Roy Reed – AF5VA – Topic: Weather Spotting**

**Hungry Hams Breakfast– Saturday January 21 at Grandys
Cowtown Hamfest – Ft. Worth – January 20-21**

Scheduled is the Hungry Hams Breakfast at Grandys. Come and meet up with Jim Shiplet and others before heading over to the Fort Worth Hamfest.

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

January 27th, 28th and 29th, 2023

Holiday Reflection – James – KW5CW

Well, how time flies. The day before yesterday felt like Christmas. We just took down the Christmas tree. New Year's Eve felt like yesterday, and it is already time for Winter Field Day. This tells me certain things in life. We don't have a moment to waste. We as amateurs especially do not have much time to waste. There is so much to do in this hobby of ours and it seems to change daily. Not long ago when I joined the club, I felt like I had blinders on. Since the 1960's when I received my Novice ham license, I've only worked CW. Just recently it seems that I graduated into Digital and Phone, something I said I would never do. I started with JT65.

Who in the heck now does JT65? Maybe Lee – N5SLY, as he's the most diehard digital guy that I know. Since then, FT8 became the worldwide digital mode of choice.

For all of us, we as a ham radio family also need to experience something new. This year, the club will be participating in Winter Field Day at Eisenhower State Park. Just 2 weeks to go. This is a first for the club in the park and everyone, all amateurs in the GCARC, along with others that are not members, should come by and see what's going on and participate if you care to. It starts out on Saturday night with the Chili cookoff (bring along your favorite chili recipe). The main operating event commences on Saturday afternoon and runs throughout the night until Sunday afternoon. To find Ike's cabin, follow the signs to the location at the park or ask for a map at the entry station.



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

As reported last month, the club is participating in Winter Field Day. This year, the club has decided to take part in the yearly event running from the Eisenhower State Park located at

50 Park Road 20
Denison, TX 75020-4878

The park may be reached by taking U.S. Highway 75 out of Dallas; take Exit 72 to State Highway 91 North to Denison Dam to FM 1310 West, and travel 1.8 miles to the Park Road 20 entrance. Once arriving at the park, follow the road signs to get to the field day site.



As an added note regarding Winter Field Day, the club will also concurrently run a Parks-on-the-Air event. Now is your time to witness POTA operators in action having more fun than you can hardly imagine.



QSL Managers Message #2

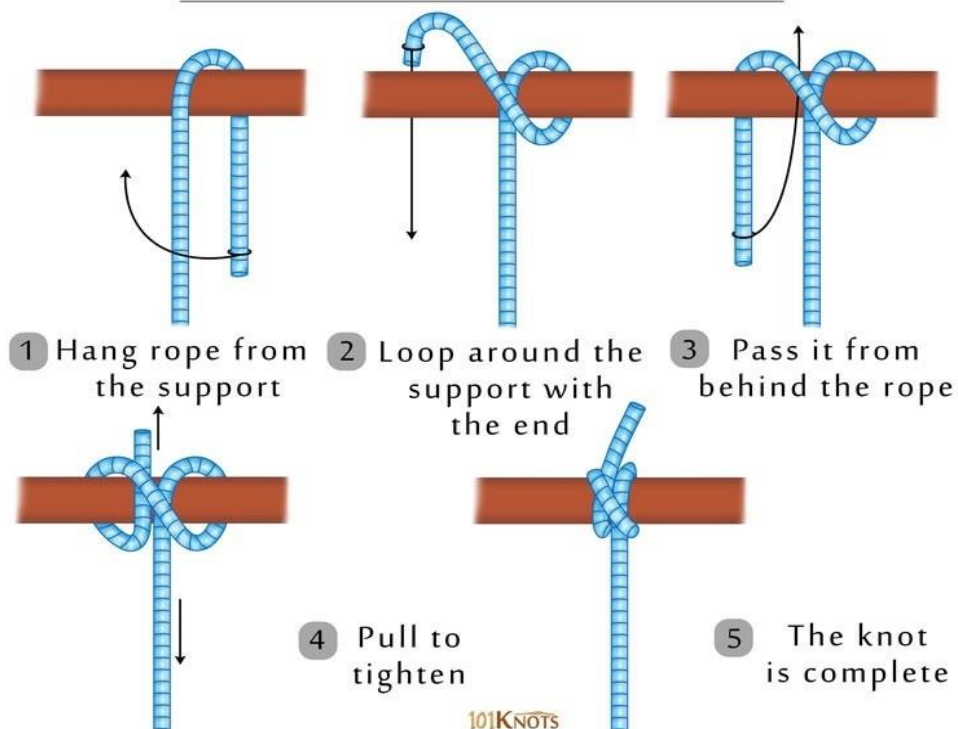
Knots

Bad Knot

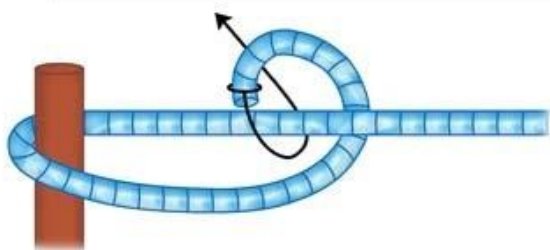


Good Knots

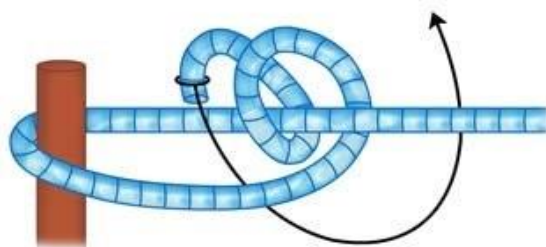
Clove Hitch Tutorial



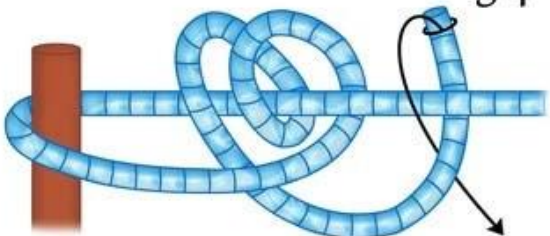
Taut Line Hitch Instructions



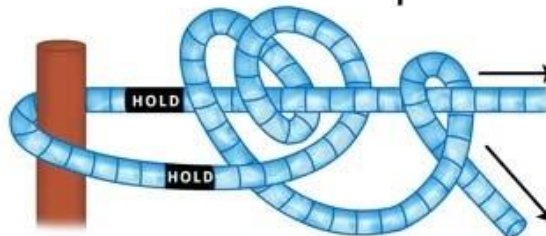
1 Loop around the support and wrap the end around the standing part



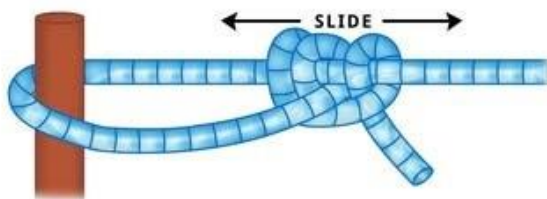
2 Wrap it once more and bring it out of the loop



3 Wrap it again



4 Hold and pull to tighten



5 Slide to adjust the tension

101KNOTS

You will have an opportunity to demonstrate your mastery of these knots during Winter Field Day. See you at Eisenhower State Park on January 28, 2023.

73 – Lee N5SLY

Five Band Worked All States Award

One of the neatest things that topped of the year for the club was to receive yet another award for the operating excellence of the GCARC. The club received the 'ARRL 5BWAS Worked All States Award' on December 23, 2022. It was a really neat way to top off the year for the club. As the award states, the club was able to make and have verified that contacts with all 50 states were made on the following bands of 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. This award can also be viewed on the club website with all of the other awards received throughout the years. Congratulations to the club for acquiring such a prestigious award from the ARRL.



More Upcoming Events

The Fort Worth Hamfest – January 20th and 21st



The 13th Cowtown Hamfest is sponsored by the Cowtown Amateur Radio Club in Ft. Worth Texas. This happens the weekend before Winter Field Day.

Information regarding the Hamfest can be found online at <http://cowtownhamfest.com>. It is also the spot for the ARRL North Texas Section Convention. It is suggested that maybe the hams from Sherman can carpool over to Ft. Worth if desired.

TALK IN 146.94 TONE 110.9



Special Interest Groups Update for January 2023

Antenna Group - The antenna group will have its first meeting in February of 2023. The tentative date is Wednesday February 1, 2023, only two days after Winter Field Day. The topic at the meeting will be discussed at the next general meeting, but suggestions are: Magnetic Loop Antennas, both homebrew and commercial, continued discussions on end-fed antennas, dipoles, or any type of wire antenna, quad antennas, or beam antennas. Another note will be sent to all previously interested group members that may be interested in continuing with the antenna group. A HamClubOnline notice will be sent out to all members of the club inviting them to attend. If you are interested in attending, please send a return note to antennagroup@graysoncountyarcs.org specifying what type of antenna you want to learn about at the next antenna group meeting. Previously, I wanted to have an antenna group session on magnetic loop antennas, as this is my preference, but I'm open to suggestions. I have a motorized Chameleon magnetic loop antenna and a homebrew loop antenna to show that I'll be using at Winter Field Day and can hold a class on magnetic loops just a few days later at the Sherman Municipal Airport. Both antennas will be displayed at the Antenna Group meeting at the Sherman Municipal Airport on Dewey Street in Sherman from 7:00 PM to 9:30PM on Wednesday - February 1, 2023 only if the membership wants to see them and learn a little theory about magnetic loop antennas.

The **Solar Group** will be scheduling a meeting soon. In the meantime, keep a lookout for Jim's solar setup at Winter Field Day. If you are interested in Solar, Jim - K15BMN would answer any questions you have about this method of charging batteries at WFD.

Updates from the **POTA Group** will be provided by Lee – N5SLY when available. But for anyone interested in POTA (Parks-on-the-Air), there will be a park activation during Winter Field Day. Lee will demonstrate how to make POTA contacts using sideband and the digital modes. He is always willing to mentor others in the subject of POTA. Lee most always mentions his activations at parks on the GCARC Facebook page as they occur.



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.

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>
<u>147.0000</u>	+0.6 MHz	100.0 / 100.0	Sherman	Grayson	W5RVT	OPEN	FM EchoLink
<u>147.2800</u>	+0.6 MHz	107.2 / 107.2	Sherman	Grayson	W5COP	OPEN	FM EchoLink
<u>441.3250</u>	+5 MHz	82.5 / 82.5	Sherman	Grayson	KG5SKM	OPEN	FM EchoLink
<u>444.7500</u>	+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://graysoncountyar.org/membership/>

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

1. Visit the GCARC Website www.graysoncountyar.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





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
<small>Make checks Payable to: GCARC</small>				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

