



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



GCARC
GRAYSON CO. TEXAS USA

February 2023

Having Fun with Amateur Radio

Vol 29, No 2

Events Coming Up

Next Operating Club Event

**Perrin Field
Museum Special
Event**

May 20-28th

1st and 3rd & 5th Sunday Nets

Dates/Net Control:

2/19 – KI5NUI - Mike

3/5 – KW5CW - James

3/19 – KG5GMA - Marvin

Time: 8:00 PM Local

Repeater: 147.000+

Next Regular Club Monthly Meeting

Date: February 21, 2023

Time: 7:00-8:45 PM

Eats from 6:00-7:00 PM

Location

Grandy's Restaurant

Sherman, Texas

**Show 'n Tell
meeting**

Bring your Projects to
for show

**Hungry Hams
Breakfast
@ Grandy's
Saturday Feb. 25**

PRESIDENT'S QSO

Howdy Fellow Hams!

Greeting from the Ham Shack,

During our January meeting, Roy, AF5VA presented on Weather Spotting. He always does a good job of bringing us new information each year. Remember that the February Meeting is Show and Tell, so bring your latest Ham Radio Project.

Winter field day, held at Eisenhower State Park was a Huge Success thanks to all who played a part in any capacity. This was our first annual Chili Cookoff and awards will be given at the February Meeting for the Best Chili (Golden Spoon), 2nd and 3rd place plus the Wimpiest Chili. You will have to wait this Tuesday to find out who won what. We also had a door prize drawing for a Quad Band mobile radio that I donated. Everyone that came was entered, however you had to be present to win. Details on that at the meeting also.

Several of us camped Friday night and we begin to set up antennas Saturday Morning. We begin operating at 1300 hrs. from the Cabin, Michael KI5NUI from his shelter, Mark Miller from his Shelter. and at times Ralph KI5NUK and Glenn Willie operated under the trees. Later James Frank and his son came and set up in Ralph's shelter and was joined by a friend from Richardson. We had many visitors that stopped by and checked us out. We had directional signs and banners up and many hams at the park visited, along with a teenaged boy who was super excited to meet all of us as his new hobby is talking on his CB Radio.

Please take note of several Ham Fests coming up. You can look for their info in the newsletter, on our website or our Facebook page. I'm looking forward to the meeting and seeing what everyone is working on. 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 February meeting.

Regards and 73,

Ship - KI5BMN



2023 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 - James Frank - KW5CW - (editor@graysoncountyarc.org)

Club Address

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

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Minutes

01/17/2023

Secretary David Darcy—KF5LKG

At 19:08 Club President James Shiplet - KI5BMN began the meeting by welcoming everyone and then proceeded into the Pledge of Allegiance. Then he went into goals the club would like to achieve and talked about our repeaters and nets. He also talked about the Elmer mentoring program and introduced Bob Bytheway - K3DIO as the new VE coordinator. He also reiterated ideas on how to grow club membership. If any club member knows about upcoming amateur radio events going on, the club could go out and set up a tent to promote our club. James then went into club introductions. 22 members and visitors were present which included: Lee Sly - N5SLY, Andrew Bentley - KG5SKM, Roy Reed - AF5VA, Angie Reed - (Roy's Wife), Club Director in Charge / Newsletter Editor / Webmaster - James Frank - KW5CW, Club President James Shiplet - KI5BMN, Club Vice President - Ricky Jessen – KG5FDT, Marvin Schiavone - KG5GMA, James Johnson - KG5SJY, Club Treasurer - Ralph Jerome - KI5NUK, Club Secretary - David Darcy - KF5LKG, Cynthia VanSlogteren - K5EKA, Cindy Gordon, Doug Hotalen - KG5QPI, Brian Shaffer- KF5QEB, Bob Bytheway - K3DIO, Les Key - KI5TQK, Michael Higgins - KI5ZIQ, Club Photographer - Tamara Higgins - KI5ZIP, Cody Williams - KG5GFI, Kari Levstik, and Don Levstik - WD5JBC.

At 19:18 Roy Reed - AF5VA began his weather presentation which was very informative. A site that can be found at <http://www.ready.gov> is a good site to go to and look up information concerning winter weather, severe weather, making an emergency kit and actually making a fillable form so that your family can plan quickly and easily for a weather event. Roy's presentation ended at 20:10.

A motion for Club minutes approval was made by Roy Reed - AF5VA and seconded by Cody Williams - KG5GFI. The minutes were approved by all present members. Club Treasurer Ralph Jerome – KI5NUK gave the Treasurer's report about what monies had been spent for 2022 and about what monies would be spent for this upcoming year events.



We now have 53 members that have paid club dues which is still only \$20.00 a member. This year's approximate budget will be \$940.00. Lee Sly -N5SLY made the 1st motion for approval followed by a 2nd motion by Roy Reed - AF5VA, all members approved the budget after Ralph Jerome KI5NUK gave a detailed report of upcoming expenses.

At 20:25 Club Webmaster -James Frank- KW5CW began his report about the newly redeveloped and rebuilt of the website and at 20:31 he ended his talk. Club President James Shiplet -KI5BMN spoke about the club buying an Icom-7300 for the club and selling the Kenwood TS-2000 for an even swap price of \$850.00 to get an easier radio to operate. Marvin Schiavone - KG5GMA made the motion to sell and buy the radios and Roy Reed - AF5VA made the second motion. By unanimous decision, all members of the club voted and approved the motion to sell and buy the radios.

Moving along President James Shiplet - KI5BMN brought up the idea about the club needing a club photographer and getting the members to take more pictures at our events. Tamara Higgins - KI5ZIP, the newest amateur radio operator and member in our club volunteered to be the club Photographer. President - James Shiplet-KI5BMN spoke about getting our club more known about so Roy Reed - AF5VA volunteered to be the club's Public Information Officer.

The February meeting presentation will be Show and Tell. Bring what you have to show.

The March meeting will be by James Frank- KW5CW doing CW while riding his bicycle around state parks for POTA.

The April meeting will be presented by Club President James Shiplet- KI5BMN will be presenting a Stop the Bleed course.

Club President James Shiplet - KI5BMN won the door prize which was a bundle of the really good tie wraps with the metal clip inside.

Congratulations go to Tamara Higgins – KI5ZIP who won the 50/50 raffle which was a Yaesu FT-4X handheld radio donated by Roy Reed - AF5VA, who won the radio last December at the Christmas party.

Club President James Shiplet - KI5BMN brought up the club's Winter Field Day to be held at Eisenhower State Park at Lake Texoma. The club and members have 4 shelters with Ike's Cabin being the main location, Cabin #35. Some officers and members will be going Friday afternoon and settling in and doing a POTA activation prior to the commencement of Winter Field Day. The officers and members will be setting up for WFD on Saturday morning and spending the night with take down on Sunday morning because of check out time to leave the park. There will be a Chili Cookoff Saturday night. Wear warm clothes, it's all outside even though under a screened in shelter. A cold front is forecast to be coming.



Treasury Report for January 2022 – by GCARC Treasurer Ralph Jerome

Grayson County ARC - Treasurers Report		Amount
January 1 2023		1,811.80
Bank Balance at time of report 1/30/2023		2,037.69
Income - Note PayPal payments don't include fees		
Drawing for Radio		97.00
Dues - PayPal	5	122.51
Hat Sales	5	70.00
Sale of Kenwood 2000	1	850.00
Total Income		1139.51
Expenses		
Accessories (Cable Antenna Tuner)		-49.95
GCARC Signs for Events		-133.67
Purchase IC7300		-850.00
Total Expenses		-1033.62
Cash on hand		70.00
Petty Cash		20.00
Hat Sales		50.00
Total Checks & other funds deposited		
Cash		167.00
Dues Paypal		122.51
Cash		120.00
Final Total at time of report		409.51



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. Remember, to continue to be a voting member, your dues must be paid on time. Yearly dues are good for 365 days from the day that you originally sign up.

50 - 50 Raffle Christmas Gift Fund	Deposit to checking	Total
Beginning Balance	0.00	0.00
January	97.00	97.00
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
Ending Balance	97.00	97.00

New Club Email Address and Website Bulletin Board

The GCARC has acquired a new email address. The address is gcarclub@gmail.com. The old address can no longer be used. Anyone sending a proper email to this address whether it is just a query or to provide information to the club will receive a response. Stay in touch with the club. If you cannot make the monthly meetings and you have something the club should know about, such as ideas for upcoming meetings or upcoming events, let the club know. There will be various forms on the website on the new bulletin board that you can update available to members only. The Club Google Calander will also be included, and accessible by everyone.



Grayson County ARC Budget Items Calendar Year 2023	Budget Amount	Actual Expenses
Operating Events		
Winter Field Day 2023	200.00	0.00
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
Camping Spot		138.60
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		
Operating Events Total	400.00	138.60
QSL Management /Administrative/Finance		
PO Box Rental	165.00	
Web Domain	25.00	
QSL Management /Administrative/Finance Total	190.00	0.00
Christmas Party		
Christmas Party Expenses	150.00	
Christmas Party Total	150.00	0.00
Equipment Hard/Soft		
Accessories (Cable Antenna Tuner)	50.00	49.95
GCARC Signs for Events	133.67	133.67
Equipment Hard/Soft Total	183.67	183.62
Total Budget Approved	923.67	322.22
Estimated 2023 Income		940.00
Budget approved 01/17/23		



Tamara Higgins – KI5ZIP - New GCARC Club Photographer

After so many years, the Grayson County Amateur Radio Club has a dedicated photographer to memorialize in pictures, club activities and events. Within just 15 minutes of Tamara volunteering to become the club's photographer, she was up taking photos at the club meeting. Tamara has recently received her Technician Class license last month and then within a week decided to join our club, along with her husband, Mike KI5ZIQ. Posted on Mike's QRZ page is the following photo...



Needless to say, it's definitely a great shot of them both. If taking on the photographer roll from the club wasn't enough, she happens to be the second lady in a row in consecutive months to have won a radio at the club meeting. And wouldn't you know it, she won the radio that was donated by Roy Reed – AF5VA who donated it to the club that he won at the December Christmas party. A picture of her holding the radio is displayed on the next page along with her QRZ picture. It's been two months in a row now that a new member of our club, a lady who has just received her license, won a radio at our club meeting. Congratulations Tamara on the win.



**NEW
CLUB
PHOTOGRAPHER
TAMARA HIGGINS – KI5ZIP**



Tamara Higgins - KI5ZIP holding her prize



Tamara Higgins - KI5ZIP - QRZ picture



Winter Field Day Results

by Lee Sly – N5SLY

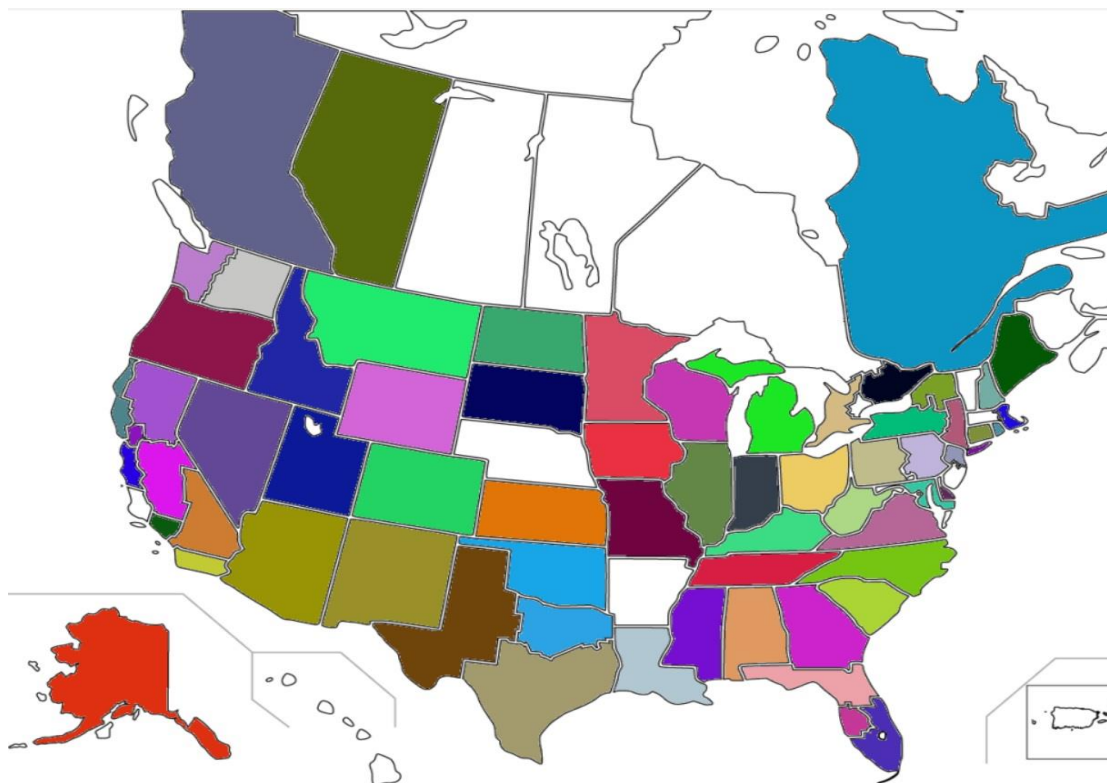
We had a great time during Winter Field Day at Eisenhower State Park. We made lots of contacts on the radio and had lots of club members and visitors attend. Fun was had by all!

I must admit that I messed up my log of the contacts I made, so only a few of the Phone contacts I made showed up. All my Digital contacts were lost. Lesson learned by me. Even so we had great results from everyone else...

Total Contacts by Band and Mode:

Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
80	6	5	0	11	3
40	162	41	0	203	61
20	82	14	0	96	29
10	0	25	0	25	7
	----	-----	---	-----	-----
Total	250	85	0	335	100

Here is a map of where the stations were located that we contacted...



I'm thinking that we'll have to hold another event at Eisenhower State Park this year as everyone really seemed to like it there. Summer Field Day would be perfect. Ike's cabin has AC so folks could go inside and cool off if the temp is hot and keep the mosquitoes away.



AWARD RECEIVED FOR PARTICIPATION IN WINTER FIELD DAY

Winter Field Day 2023

Certificate of Participation

presented to Amateur Radio Station

K5GCC

for their active and invaluable participation during the 2023 Winter Field Day Event. The WFDA, gratefully thanks you for your effort and recognizes your dedication to improving your operating skills, which may be crucial during an emergency event.

Contacts Logged: 335

Park: K-3005

Eisenhower State Park

WFD23

We passionately believe that Ham radio operators should practice portable emergency communications in winter environments as the potential for freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and other hazards present unique operational concerns. WFD is formatted to help increase your level of preparedness for disasters and improve your operational skills in subpar conditions.



Marvin Turner, President
Winter Field Day Association



The club event called Winter Field Day represents the kickoff of yearly events for the club. Lots of hard work and effort was put into the event this year. It was unlike any previous operating event from the past. What made it great was that the participants did everything it took to make it work and because of this, it was an assured success. Thanks to all who planned, participated, and contributed in their own way to make it work. More members need to show up and enjoy the event. And it wasn't all work. An extra bonus of fun was added to Winter Field Day this year, as the club had what mostly will be part of our field day events, especially Winter Field Day, and that's the Chili Cookoff. Some of the members that showed up for the event brought along their own recipe of Chili, and the named judges sampled the Chili and came up with a winner. The winner was Ralph Jerome, who made a tangy Chili recipe that ran away with the judge's votes. So, congratulations Ralph for your Chili submission. Look for the Chili Cookoff to return to Summer Field Day, which may also be at the Eisenhower State Park this year.



Pictures from GCARC Winter Field Day – 2023 – K5GCC 3A NTX
Location: Eisenhower State Park - January 27, 28, and 29



WELCOME TO THE GCARC WINTER FIELD DAY



Campsite Fire - Keeping Warm!



Mike - KI5NUI Eagle One - Mobile



Ship - KI5BMN - Grill Used to Warm up the Fixins', Breakfast and Chili





KI5BMN - Ship - Tent INSIDE His Cabin ?



Glen – WW5GRW – 10-meter station



Some G0000000DDD Cookin'



Chris - K5KDE and Steve - K5SJC



Ricky - KF5FDT and Glen - WW5GRW
operating the SSB and Digital Station

IKE's Cabin



Glen - WW5GRW working 10-meter Radio



Chameleon Magnetic Loop Antenna
used with CW QRP Station





Chris - K5KDE and Glen – WW5GRW



Radio Shack 10-meter Radio



David - KF5LKG and James - KW5CW



Upcoming Presentation at the March General Meeting March 21st 2023 by James – KW5CW

I know it's early to make the announcement, but I'm excited to inform the group of the upcoming presentation of my own bicycle mobile at the March meeting. I will explain how everything works and will have a presentation video completed of me making CW contacts from the bike while riding working POTA in the park. I only use QRP while riding, but I'll make a video from a helmet cam as I circle around Bonham Lake State Park. You will get a first-hand glimpse of what it's like to run CW from a bike while in motion. Later in the year, I will make a presentation on how it's possible to make CW contacts without touching a key or a keyboard for that matter. By then I will have a video on how I activated a park with CW not touching a keyboard or paddle.

The Revival of my Column – The CW Corner by James – KW5CW

One of the things that I miss while writing articles for our club is my own column called the CW Corner that I wrote in the past. Recently I was contacted by a very close friend of mine – Kurt Zoglemann – ADOWE. If you are not familiar with Kurt's writing or his CW website Called "Morse Code Ninja", then you are missing something. He also has an excellent QRZ column which accents his writing abilities and his love for CW in our hobby. Ironically enough, Kurt and I became friends from a short digital FT-8 contact made years ago. When I work people on the air, I will often go to their QRZ page and read about them. Some of the articles found on QRZ are written with deliberation and you can learn so much about people by just reading their QRZ page. Kurt's page is one of those pages for me. Don't take my word for it. Go there and check it out. What really caught my interest of course was his strong desire to learn CW and excel in this mode in ways that you can hardly imagine.

But what I'd like to make known to anyone who reads this specific column of the CW Corner, is that available to them is all the hard work given by Kurt, in his Morse Code Ninja website that contains CW courses, CW practice sessions of all speeds and so much more. If you ever wanted to learn morse code, then you need to go to his website. Don't take my word for it.

The following is an article that **Kurt – ADOWE** has just published, and I have his permission to reprint it in our newsletter, and install it on our website. Not many members of our club are involved in the mode of CW in their Amateur Radio ventures, but hopefully once you go to Kurt's website, you may want to give the mode of CW a try. The following is Kurt's submission in its entirety.

Morse Code Ninja:

The Morse Code Ninja website (<https://morsecode.ninja>) provides a comprehensive resource for everyone interested in Morse Code, from beginners to experts. It has been described as a gigantic CW superstore containing anything you could be looking for related to CW — especially CW training resources, including Software, Online Training, On-the-air Practice, Hardware, Books, Instruction, and Advice.

Check out the Advice and Learn pages for those who are just beginning to learn Morse Code.

Advice: The Advice page is structured with advice for beginners at the top of the page. It gets more specialized for those seeking expert advice on mastering QRQ speeds. When



getting started, the Do's and Dont's section at the top of the page is essential reading. This is to avoid making beginner mistakes that are difficult to unlearn, such as counting dits and dahs. A short distance further down the page, The Morse Code Speed vs. Proficiency essay has been a compass for those planning their Morse Code journey, providing deep insight, and putting into words what expert CW operators have had difficulty articulating as they master Morse Code.

At the bottom of the Advice page, you will uncover a QRQ white paper that provides a structured, self-paced approach to achieving QRQ speeds within a year. I co-authored this white paper with Jack (AA0IZ) and Terry (WBOJRH). To our knowledge, this is the first-ever such course.

Learn:

The Learn page provides several resources for those aiming to learn Morse code.

1) A Morse Code Course and guide are provided for those seeking to learn the characters. The course materials are available on YouTube, direct download, and through podcasts. The course is structured, so you can begin copying words and call signs as soon as you have mastered the requisite characters. The order of the characters mirrors the CW Academy's course enabling the course to stand on its own or be used as a complement to the CWA's curriculum.

2) Spoken Letter-by-Letter practice is provided as a diagnostic tool and an aid to those struggling to master the mental dynamics necessary to follow a ragchew. ICR (Instant Character Recognition) is not enough to learn to head copy sentences. It also requires developing the cognitive dynamics to follow letter-by-letter to form words and then build up sentences and infer meaning. If one's ICR is too slow or consumes mental/conscious bandwidth, then there is not enough room to determine words, sentences, and meaning. If you find these practice sets easy but struggle to copy a sentence in Morse code, you must focus on improving your ICR proficiency.

While working with someone who has dyslexia, I realized that head-copying involves two skills and not just one: ICR and the mental dynamics of following letter-by-letter to form words, sentences, and meaning. If you find this practice difficult, you may find it more efficient to spend some time practicing with these practice sets compared to struggling to learn both skills simultaneously.

3) The Taste of IWR Course is an innovative system that introduces you to IWR (Instant Word Recognition). It is the first course to provide a structured approach to building up your vocabulary of word sound patterns and ease you into head copying at QRQ speeds.

This course can accelerate your learning of ICR (Instant Character Recognition). IWR and ICR are similar. Rather than recognizing the sound patterns of individual characters in ICR, you hear the entire word as a complete sound pattern and instantly identify the word in IWR. You can start this course even if you haven't mastered ICR or started learning the characters! Don't be intimidated by the 40-wpm speed! It is entirely doable.

Why 40 wpm? This is fast enough for beginners not to recognize characters and fast enough that even the longest word can be learned as a sound pattern. (ABOUT takes 1.17 seconds to send at 40wpm, while WOULD requires 1.08 seconds to send. These are the two longest words in the course; ideally, words are easiest to learn when they are one second or shorter.) 40wpm is also a middle-of-the-road speed. IWR is easiest between 35 and 50 wpm for most people. Beyond 50 wpm, the sound pattern tends to sound muddled because Morse code loses its signature tone and takes on more of a pulsating sound. To accelerate the learning process, all Morse Code Ninja courses and practice content use a format that provides immediate feedback. A key aspect of learning efficiently is knowing whether you got something right or wrong and knowing the answer. Here are a couple of quick tips. 1) If you use the Ninja YouTube videos, you may want to turn on closed captioning. Visual reinforcement helps and adds clarity to the spoken word. 2) After hearing each character/word/sentence sent in Morse code, you may want to pause the practice and immediately send what you heard. This will build your sending skills while learning to copy.



Practice:

The Practice page is helpful for anyone seeking to improve their Morse Code proficiency. As of December 2022, there are 281 unique practice sets of incremental difficulty at speeds of 15 to 50 wpm! I have strived to ensure that there is something for everyone, no matter your current proficiency level.

Because there are so many practice sets, finding the one that is most helpful for you can be difficult. I approached resolving this issue in two ways. First, there are filters. These buttons dynamically reduce the list to a particular kind of practice set. For instance, the Contest filter reduces the list of practice sets to those related to contests. Second, I created a Recommendation Engine. If you choose this option, you will be guided through a series of questions. As you answer questions, the list is updated and constrained to those relevant to your answers.

If you find yourself struggling to master Morse Code Ninja incrementally and cannot find a practice set to help you, there may be a gap in the available practice sets. If you need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me. About half of the practice sets came into existence because someone reached out to me with a problem or an explicit request to create a particular practice set. For effective progression, you want to strike the right balance in choosing the next step to reach your Morse Code proficiency goal(s).

Resources:

If the Morse Code Ninja practice materials don't fit your needs to learn and master Morse Code, there are far more options out there! The Resource page provides a curated list of Software, Interactive Online Resources, On-air Practice, Hardware, Books, Instruction and Advice, and Games! Please explore the breadth and depth of what is available. If you discover a helpful resource that needs to be listed, please let me know, and I will add it to the page!

Under the Interactive Online Resources, you will find references to the CW Academy and Long Island CW Club Training. Both are excellent options for those seeking online guidance and mentorship. Most people find it practical to leverage one of these options and supplement it with self-study options.

Epilogue:

After documenting my journey and sharing my experiences on QRZ, I quickly realized that comprehensive resources were lacking for those who wanted to learn Morse code. And it didn't take long for me to outgrow my QRZ page. There was only so much I could put on one page! So, with a stroke of inspiration and creativity, the Morse Code Ninja website was born.

The website has become a place where people come to find all the information they need to get started with Morse code, as well as ongoing support and encouragement as they progress in their learning. From beginner guides and practice resources to advanced tips and techniques, this website is a one-stop shop for all things Morse Code. The website is a celebration of the art and skill of Morse Code. It is also my way of helping others discover the depth and breadth of our fantastic hobby and passion.

If you're ready to join the Golden Age of Morse code and dive in, let's get started!

73 my friend,

Kurt Zoglmann — ADOWE



Four Special Groups Still Active

Within the last year, the club implemented the idea of promoting special interest groups. They are designed to accent club members interests and to help further their experience in the operation or ideas that they love the most. The GCARC is one of the only clubs that promotes the idea of helping members better achieve their dreams within a specific facet of the hobby they are interested in.

Presently, there are **4 groups** that are truly active. The first group is the **GCARC Solar Group**. The group meets when it is possible, and the topic is creating power from the sun. The use of Solar cells and batteries and controllers are used, and the people in the group helps each other better understand how solar charging actually works. There is another meeting of the Solar group to take place directly after the Hungry Ham's Breakfast on **February 25, at 8:00AM at Grandy's**. Discussion regarding solar most likely will take place after the breakfast inside the restaurant, but demonstrations may take place outside if the sun decides to cooperate.

The second group that is active is the **GCARC Antenna Group**. There is a meeting to take place on **Wednesday, March 1st, at the Grayson County Municipal Airport, commencing at 7PM**, and ending around 9:00PM. The topic of the meeting will be magnetic loop antennas. I have been active using these antennas for several years now, and recently, I've purchased a Chameleon Magnetic Loop Antenna that is tuned remotely using a controller. It uses a cable that runs from the antenna to the controller, which is located at your operating location, so there's no need to go out to the antenna to tune it when you change bands or move from the presently tuned resonant frequency. These antennas are quite expensive, so before purchasing the antenna, I was using a homebrew magnetic loop that literally didn't cost me a thing. I put it together with items found in my garage. This antenna will be present also, and I will hook each one up at the meeting and explain how they work and make a few contacts. Those with limited or no space at all can put up one of these devices inside their shack and have an antenna that really works.

The 3rd group is the **GCARC POTA Group**. This group of club amateurs participate in POTA outings, and recently activated the Eisenhower State Park prior to Winter Field Day. Also, contacts that were made during the WFD event were credited towards POTA totals, since they were made from the park. Since then, Lee and Ricky and myself have activated a few parks. Of course, I usually activate a CW session, but occasionally I will activate using SSB or digital, running FT4 and FT8. Before the end of the day, it's easy to make a few hundred contacts from the park in a short period of time. It's easier than Field day I may add.

The 4th group is the **GCARC CW Group**. As you may have guessed, there aren't too many members interested in CW these days from our club, therefore, not many if any of our members will go out and try to run CW or activate a park using that mode. But everyone knows in the club that I would be willing to mentor anyone who wants to learn. So the group does not meet regularly, but since it's my thing, it will always be around for anyone that would like to learn or tag along at a POTA event. I use several types of antennas, including the magnetic loop. If you really want to see how these antennas work, then tag along during a POTA activation.

Upcoming is a new way to find out when these activities will be taking place, and that will be online within the **newly created BBS board** that soon will contain announcements, Sunday net schedules, Special event notices, Food lists for upcoming events including a sign-up sheet that will list the hours that you may be available to work an event. These will also be highlight in a newly created GCARC Google Calander that will be updated in real time.

A **swap and shop section** will be available to allow you to create and update your own equipment for sale and a section to put in what you're looking for. For updating any of the forms would require you to acquire an ID and a password so that you can update any page you are authorized to update.



Irving Texas Hamfest – March 4th 2023

Mark your calendars for the return of the Friendliest Hamfest in North Texas. The Irving Amateur Radio Club, in association with the Dallas Amateur Radio Club, is proud to announce we will again be partnering to host the 2023 Irving Hamfest!

Saturday MARCH 4TH, 2023 – 8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
At Betcha Bingo
2420 W Irving Blvd, Irving, TX

[GET DIRECTIONS](#)

- 70+ Vendors
- Full Service Snack Bar
- VE Testing from 9:00am – 12pm
- Hourly Prizes

VE TESTING

This year, VE exams will be administered by the Dallas and Irving ARC Joint Exam Team from 9am – 12pm. To pre-register [click here](#). Walk-ins are also welcome!

VOLUNTEERS

For those interested in volunteering please contact Ken Hansen at hamfest@irvingarc.org

\$5.00 admission for adults 18 years old and older, children 17 years old and under get in FREE!

ADMISSION TICKETS
\$5.00ea

Each Ticket includes 1 Raffle

RAFFLE TICKETS
3 for \$5.00

Increase your odds!

RESERVE A TABLE
\$10.00ea

Quantities can be adjusted in the cart after selection.

****Online ticket & table sales will end at midnight Thursday, March 2nd.****

Tickets and Table reservations purchased online will be held at the Will Call table and available for pickup on the day of the event. Table reservations do not include any admission tickets, everyone entering the Hamfest must have their own admission ticket. (Children 17 and under admitted free)

Vendors may begin setting up their tables as early as 2:00 AM Saturday morning, doors open at 8:00 AM.

Any special requests regarding table reservations, or any questions regarding the Hamfest should be directed to Ken Hansen, Hamfest Chairman, via email –

Hamfest@irvingarc.org

GRAND PRIZE!

Yaesu FTDX10 100W SDR Transceiver!



MAJOR Hourly Prizes!

ICOM IC-2300 | ICOM IC-V3500

Yaesu FT-2980 | Yaesu FT-3100

Alinco DR-135 TMKIII

GRAND PRIZE!

1:00PM – Yaesu FTDX10!

You must be present to win ALL door prizes EXCEPT the Grand Prize!

TaleGate Swapfest – April 28th Texarkana, Texas

4 States Amateur Radio Club

TAILGATE SWAPFEST

Buy Sale Trade

April 29, 2023

Gate opens at 8AM. FREE admission. No set up fees.



Sportsman's Cove
Lake Wright Patman
Texarkana, TX



Coordinates: 33.347, -94.1709 Talk-in on Texarkana 146.62 repeater



Food and Drinks available (Donations welcome)

Freedom Link fundraiser Raffle Antennas for testing radios

License testing



Bring your own tables and chairs.

Watch the website for updates!

WWW.4SARC.ORG

For more info: ahuggins6@gmail.com



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
<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 +AllStar
<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 100.0

NCTC UHF Bonham
443.750 +5 offset
PL 100.0

KF5SOX UHF Bells
444.950 +5 offset
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>

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.



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>				Tactical Shirt sm M L XL \$45
				Jacket* sm M L XL \$45
				*Shirts/Jackets- (2x to 4x +\$5)
				Shipping \$2.00 per item
				Total

Rev 02-12-18

