



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



GCARC
GRAYSON CO. TEXAS USA

Events Coming Up

Next Operating Club Event

Perrin Field Museum
Special Event
May 20-28, 2023

1st and 3rd & 5th

Sunday Nets

Dates/Net Control:

4/2 – Ricky – KG5FDT

4/16 – Tamara – KI5ZIP

4/30 – James – KI5BMN

5/7 – Ralph – KI5NUK

Time: 8:00 PM Local

Repeater: 147.000+

Next Regular Club Monthly Meeting

Date: April 18, 2023

Time: 7:00-8:45 PM

Eats from 6:00-7:00 PM

Location

Grandy's Restaurant

March Meeting Presentation

Stop the Bleed Presented by:

Trevor Reed
KG5BFI

Hungry Hams Breakfast (Grandys) & GCARC Fox Hunt

Saturday April 29

Having Fun with Amateur Radio

Vol 29, No 4

PRESIDENT'S QSO

Howdy Fellow Hams!

First, I want to say thanks to all of you for making this a great club! Without our members we could not do what we do as a club. We have several things on the horizon, such as the April meeting this Tuesday at Grandy's in Sherman. Plan to Join us for a meal at 6:00pm and meeting at 7:00pm. Our own, Trevor Reed will present on "Stop the Bleed" which will teach us how to care for someone majorly injured from a storm or otherwise.

Next up is our monthly Hungry Hams Breakfast, Sooooooooooooo.... Join us at Grandy's in Sherman on April 29th at 0800 for breakfast and the fox hunt will begin at 0900. Be sure you bring a handheld radio and a directional antenna if you have one. May 20th through May 28th, 2023 is re Perrin Field Museum Special Event. Please see all the related info in this newsletter, on our website, and on www.QRZ.com. We are already preparing for ARRL Summer Field Day (FD) for the last weekend in June. I have appointed Michael Coffman – KI5NUI as this year's FD Coordinator. Also, there are several Ham Fests coming up. You can look for their info in the newsletter, on our website or our Facebook page.

I am sad to say that I will miss this month's meeting at Grandy's. My Wife and I are traveling to Mexico for Dental Work. However, I will see you all at our breakfast on the 29th.

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

GCARC Meeting Minutes March 21, 2023

Five officers were present:

James Shiplet President - KI5BMN
Ricky Jessen Vice President - KG5FDT
Ralph Jerome Treasurer - KI5NUK
James Frank Director at Large KW5CW
David Darcy Secretary KF5LKG

Business meeting called to order.

- President James BMN called meeting to order 7:00 pm at Grandy's restaurant with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Reviewed club Goals
- Introductions.

18 Members + (2) Guests

N5SLY, KW5CW, KG5FDT, KI5BMN, KG5GMA, KI5NUK, KG5SKM, WW5GRW, WB5VCO, KN6OCD, KI5ZIP, KI5ZIQ, KG5SJY, KC5ZFX, KE5OFC, KG5TPY, KI5NUI, KF5LKG.

Guests; Susan Roberts, Blake

Minutes February 2023

- February 2023 minutes Approved.
 - o Andrew SKM, Seconded Lee SLY.
 - o Passed Unanimously



Treasurer's Report February 2023 (Ralph NUK reporting)

- Balance 2/1/2023 \$2037.69
- Balance 3/1/2023 \$2154.74
- 50/50 Christmas Fund \$176.00

Old Business

- No Old Business to discuss.

New Business

- ARRL Field Day (Summer) June 23-25 o Eisenhower State Park
- Texas State Parks 100 Year Anniversary April 15th o Bonham State Park
- It was made known the club's Antenna Analyzer is missing in action.

ARES News

- Winlink Wednesday 3/22, 2023.
- Training net March 26, 2023

Up-Coming Presentations

- April – *(Unknown at this time, James BMN will be out.)* James BMN Stop the Bleed.
- May – APRS Mike Coffman NUI
- June – Connector 101

Club Sunday night nets

- Special emphasis placed on net control sign-up. o Openings will be made known via newsletter, HCOL etc.
 - o Script available for new HAMS.
- Tamara ZIP signed up for 4/16/2023.
- Ralph NUK signed up for 5/7/2023.
- Michael NUI signed up for 5/21/2023.
- Michael ZIP signed up for 6/4/2023

Groups Report

- Antenna Group
 - o Meeting 3/1/2023 we reviewed loop antennas.
- Hungary Hams Breakfast/Solar Energy and Power
 - o Meeting Grandy's 3/25/2023 8:00 am. & Fox Hunt immediately following breakfast.
 - o Lee SLY in charge with Fox.



- Solar Energy and Power
 - No meeting this month.
- POTA
 - Lee SLY Ricky FDT and James KW5CW are active and all welcome to join.
 - Contact them if interested in dual activation.

Presentation

- James KW5CW reported on Bicycle mobile.
 - A great thank you to James for demonstrating his unique method of POTA.
 - Thanks for bringing your bicycle and equipment to display.
 - Thanks for showing us all that there are endless opportunities to make this hobby fun and different.

Drawings

- Michael NUI won both the Door prize and 50/50.
 - Mike graciously donated 50/50 all back to the club.

Business meeting Adjourned.

- Adjourned 8:45.

Minutes submitted by Ricky Jessen KG5FDT for current Secretary Dave KF5LKG.

73's everyone and God Bless...



Treasury Report for March 2023 – by GCARC Treasurer Ralph Jerome

Grayson County ARC - Treasurers Report		Amount
March 1 2023		\$2,154.74
Bank Balance at time of report 4/1/2023		\$2,380.39
Income - Note PayPal payments don't include fees		
PayPal Dues		141.81
Cash Dues		40.00
Total Income		181.81
Annual Dues Income - 2023	total	418.37
-	-	
Expenses		
Chili Cookoff Plaque	Ck #143	-15.16
Total Expenses		-15.16
Cash on hand		20.00
Petty Cash		20.00

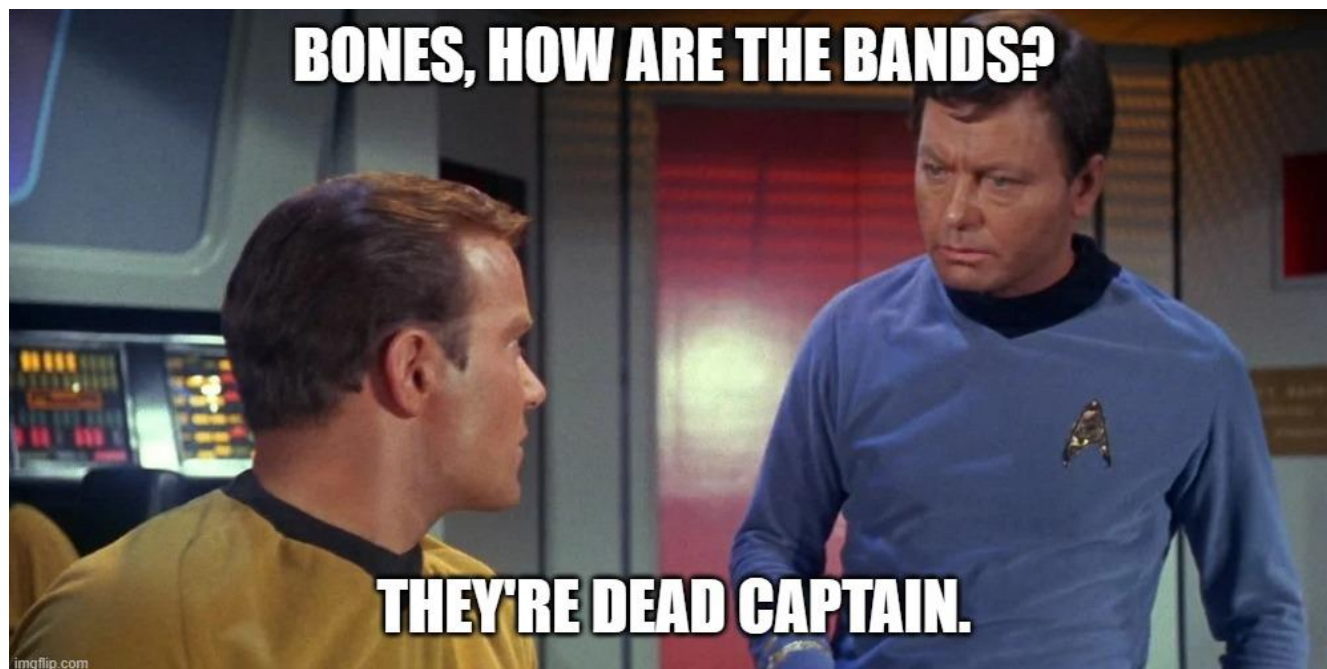


April 2023	Having Fun with Amateur Radio	Vol 29, No. 4
Total Checks & other funds deposited		
Dues-Cash	-	40.00
50/50	-	59.00
	-	
	-	
Dues-PayPal	-	141.81
Final Total at time of report		240.81
50 - 50 Raffle Christmas Gift Fund	Deposit to checking	Total
Beginning Balance	0.00	0.00
January	97.00	97.00
February	79.00	79.00
March	59.00	59.00
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
Ending Balance	235.00	235.00
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

April 2023	Having Fun with Amateur Radio	Vol 29, No. 4
Perrin Field Museum Special Event	50.00	0.00
Food, Drinks & Supplies		
ARRL Field Day	138.60	0.00
Food, Drinks & Supplies	50.00	
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	-166.00
Web Domain	25.00	0.00
QSL Management /Administrative/Finance Total	190.00	-166.00
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	
Total Budget Spent		-488.22
Estimated 2023 Dues Income		\$940.00

Budget approved 01/17/23

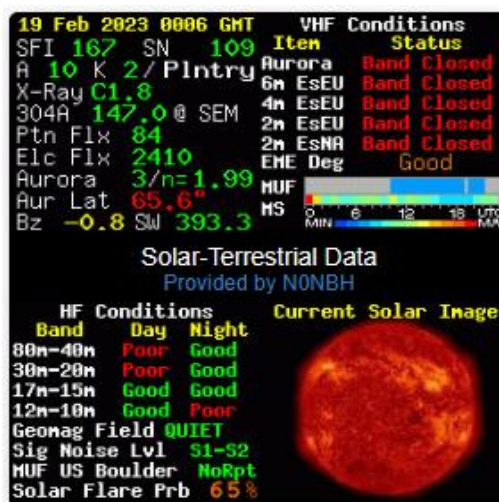
QSL Managers Message



I normally don't pay attention to folks when they tell me the bands are dead or the bands are open. What I usually do is turn on my radio and listen. If I can hear another station, I can usually contact them. To me the bands are never really dead. I'm able to make a contact somehow, some way, no matter what anyone says.

Like everything else in Amateur Radio what you want to do plays a role in this. Personally, I'll make contacts with anyone, on any band and using any mode...so I can always contact folks no matter what the band conditions are. If, on the other hand, you are only interested in contacting certain stations, on certain bands using only one mode, then the band conditions may be much more important to you.

You have probably seen this before...



What does it all mean? A very detailed explanation can be found at...

[HF Propagation and Solar-Terrestrial Data Website \(hamqsl.com\)](http://hamqsl.com)

Those of you that know me, know that I like simple.

A simple explanation is that the SFI and SN numbers are better when they are high. The A and K numbers are better when they are low.

The SFI, Solar Flux Index, goes from 0 - ?. A value of 160 or higher means you'll have reliable communications on all the bands.

A value below 35 means you'll have poor to fair conditions.

The SN, Sun Spot Number, goes from 0 - ? Larger numbers are better.

The A Index has a range of 0 -400. The A Index number is the average of 8, 3 hour K Index values. Lower numbers are better.

The K Index has a range of 0 – 9. Lower numbers are better.

So, for those of you that just love all the scientific stuff have fun studying HF Propagation and Solar-Terrestrial Data.

For those of you that are like me...just turn on your radio and see what you can hear.

Have fun!

73

Lee N5SLY

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.

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.



Online BBS to Become Active Very Soon

To give everyone a taste of what's to come, one of our club members, Michael Higgins – K15ZIQ will be working with me to produce an outstanding BBS with some neat things that should be of great interest to many of our members. As far as I know, there's nothing like it in the DFW area, but it's something that hams used years ago. But times have changed, and now there are things like Facebook, Twitter, and other big social sites that anyone across the country can use. Those two are used by members worldwide. But for our little hobby, and for local interest, the local BBS still can provide ample ability to do many of the same things that those big boys do today but cater to Amateur Radio, and in specific, the GCARC.

For example, there will be discussion groups on a wide variety of board topics, such as For Sale/Trade, License Testing, an Elmer Connection, Radio Reviews, Handheld discussions, mobile radio and digital radio discussions, an FCC update section, Skywarn, ARES and Weather topics, ARRL information, Club news, and of course Parks on the Air. Many forms including food signup sheets and operator sign up sheets for any event the club participates in will become available.

Club participation is for all members, and as an example, it would be nice to have an operator sign up sheet for people that would like to participate in an event as an operator. You would be able to update the sheet with the time you can be available to operate a radio in whatever mode that's available for the event. That would be a great reason for you to stop by and be part of the event.

If you are interested in learning just a little more about the BBS project, come to the next meeting, as Michael and I will give a little more insight as to what's to come.

Upcoming Perrin Field Special Event - W5P

May 20th, 0000z, through May 28th, 2359z, 2023

Modes of Operation - CW Phone Digital

Bands of Operation - 80 - 60 - 40 - 30 - 20 - 17- 15 - 12 - 10 - 6 - 2

The club will be operating this Special Event for the entire week. You are encouraged to search for us on all the bands at no specific time. If you would like a commemorative QSL Card, please include a SASE along with your card and one will be mailed to you after the event. Donations are always appreciated and help pay the cost of stamps and envelopes for folks who don't send us their SASE's. We also QSL via LOTW.

W5I

PERRIN AIR FORCE BASE MUSEUM SPECIAL EVENT
STATION



Visit: www.perrinfield.org



Fox Hunt

Saturday, April 29, 2023

Starting point...Grandy's, Sherman, TX

Start time...9 AM

End time...12 AM

Frequency of Fox...146.565 Mhz

Difficulty...on a scale of 1-5, 5 being the most difficult.

2

Clues...Denison, TX & 34

A HT and a Tape Measure Yagi antenna are perfect for a Fox Hunt. A Attenuator, or Pringles Can Antenna, can be very helpful when you are close to the Fox by reducing the strength of the incoming signal.

Here are some instructions for making a Tape Measure antenna...

theleggios.net/wb2hol/projects/rdf/tape_bm.htm

&

some information about Attenuators...[Fox Hunting - 3rd Planet Solar / KC9ON](#)



Last Month's Bicycle Mobile Presentation

By James – KW5CW

I just wanted to thank everyone who came to the last meeting and watched the bicycle mobile presentation that was very fun for me to do. Maybe most of the people that showed up at the last meeting came there just for the camaraderie of amateur radio and some may have been there to see the CW station on bicycle wheels. Since then, I've modified the bicycle to include an ALL-Band HF radio, to include SSB along with CW. It's all made possible by a dear friend who makes the 3D parts that fit just about anything I want to install on the bike. Below are a few pictures taken by our club photographer, Tamara Higgins, that I'd like to share with everyone in this newsletter.

As I gave my presentation, I tried to include other things to keep my audience (you guys) awake, because I was sure most if not all in attendance were not interested in my mode of communication which is CW. I was flattered to have been asked to give the presentation. In the future, I plan to put together a GO-Kit backpack that I will use while walking making contacts on CW and SSB and Digital, my way of creating a new way to activate a POTA park. No further need to set up in the park, i.e., put up an antenna, or set up on a picnic table to operate. It also would afford me the exercise that I need to continue to stay healthy, especially at my age. A presentation on this should be available sometime after summer. So again, here's a few pictures taken during my presentation last month of my bicycle mobile... Courtesy of our Club Photographer – Tamara Higgins – KI5ZIP



Bicycle Mobile - KW5CW





Bicycle Mobile Presentation Lecture



QRP LABS 20 Meter CW Transceiver

The Revival of my Column – The CW Corner (update)

by James – KW5CW

As stated in last month's article regarding my CW Column, there were members of the club who thought that it would not be a good idea to put an article called 'The CW Corner' in the newsletter each month. Likewise, there were no members since that last article about the column that stated they would like to continue to see 'CW Articles' in this newsletter.

So, I see no reason why I should take up space in the newsletter for an article that most people in our club would not be interested in reading. I understand that and I take no objection to it. But from time to time, I will include an article about CW on the website. There are others outside of our club that may be interested in CW and would like to have access to the 'CW Corner' articles, so I'll publish them there unless the club membership suggests they would like to see those articles in the newsletter.

There are 2 people in the GCARC that are genuinely interested in learning CW and want to become active using that mode. So, for those people that are interested in CW, I'll be inviting them from time to time to CW POTA events, but as far as having a CW Special Interest Group, that idea may be a little over-rated, even if it's one group I personally wished would really pick up some steam. Anyone going to a POTA event can alert others that they are going to a park, like what a few hams do in the club presently on the GCARC Facebook page. There will be a discussion group on the GCARC BBS with a group chat regarding CW, maybe Solar and the other groups can participate in their own chat group if they care to start the online chat group of their topic of interest.



Summer Field Day – 2023 June 24th and 25th

As the ARRL states on their website, “Field Day is ham radio's open house. Every June, more than 40,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933 and remains the most popular event in amateur radio. This is a regular annual event that the GCARC sponsors each year is the ARRL Summer Field Day for its members. For this year, circle off the dates of June 24th and June 25th on your calendar if you plan to participate or to just stop by and visit. This year, the club will be operating from 4 different cabins located in the park, the very cabins that were used for Winter Field Day this past January. It worked out so well for the club that the officers decided to hold the summer event there this year. One cabin, affectionately called “Ike's Cabin” will be the place where you can go and escape from the heat or grab a cold drink. The cabin has air conditioning and other conveniences that will make it very enticing to stay and participate in the event. It will also be the cabin for the Sideband and Digital Stations that will be operating. This event officially welcomes in the summer season.

Mike Coffman – KI5NUI has volunteered to coordinate the summer event this year for the club. With his help, the event should run smoothly and be a very exciting one to participate in. Contact Mike if you have any questions.

Now if you really want to see a glutton for punishment operate a radio in the heat, stop by and watch me run CW. You can also operate the CW station for field day if you would like to give it a shot. Anyone can. All you must do is give it a try. I'll be operating the radio around the clock, throughout the night on Saturday going into Sunday. Anyone is welcome to operate one of the stations. There will be a Sideband Station, a digital station, and a CW station. The CW cabin does not have air conditioning, as it is not an enclosed building that contains air conditioning or heat. I'd love to explain how CW operates during field day to people that want to know and give a few live lessons while operating the event. If you attend such an activity, you will witness how simple it is to run a CW station during Field Day or POTA for that matter, and recognize the fact that ANYONE, literally anyone that is not very literate in CW can operate a CW station during these events. Let me give you a real hit about CW Field Day operators. Many of them send faster than they can copy. Who knows why, but in a real CW contest, some wouldn't have a chance. But Field Day is not a contest activity, so you can operate at your own leisure or speed, or whatever speed you feel comfortable with. Interested in finding out how it's done? Just plan to stop by my cabin next to 'Ike's Cabin' and just watch. Of course, anyone that would like to use the station themselves is welcome to do so. Also, if the station is not in use at any time, you can use it to run any mode you like. Even if it's in use, all you must do is ask and you can run any mode you like. Again, ALL modes will be available for use from the CW station. Everyone will have a chance to operate if they want to.

More information will be available at the May and June meetings and the event will be discussed at the next meeting this month. Sign-up sheets will be available on the club BBS very soon.



TaleGate Swapfest – Saturday - April 29th 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



Hamvention 2023

Sponsored by Dayton Amateur Radio Association

May 19-21, 2023

When is the show?

Friday	May 19th	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Saturday	May 20th	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sunday	May 21st	9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Where is the show?

Greene County Fair and Expo Center
210 Fairground Road, Xenia 45385
Coordinates are 39.702 N – 83.9420 W

HAMVENTION TICKETS

Tickets include all three days.

Free Admission Sunday requires a free ticket obtained at ticket trailer.

<https://hamvention.org/>



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
<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://graysoncountyarcc.org/membership/>

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

1. Visit the GCARC Website www.graysoncountyarcc.org

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

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

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

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

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



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

Item	Men/ Ldy	Qty	Ext
Polo Shirt* sm M L XL			
Camp Shirt* sm M L XL			
Caps			
Jacket* sm M L XL			
Tactical Shirt sm M L XL			
*Shirts/Jackets- (2x to 4x +\$5)			
Shipping \$2.00 per item			
Total			

First Name _____ (as you want on clothing)

Last _____

Call _____

Payment _____

Make checks Payable to: GCARC

Rev 02-12-18

