

# **GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

GCARC
GRAYSON CO. TEXAS USA

**July** 2023

Having Fun with Amateur Radio

Vol 29, No 7

Events Coming Up

**President's QSO** 

# Next Operating Club Event

Eisenhower Birthday Special Event October 14-22

1st and 3rd & 5th
Sunday Nets
Dates/Net Control:
7/2- Jim Shiplet
7/16 – Ricky Jessen
7/30 – Jim Shiplet
Time: 8:00 PM Local
Repeater: 147.000+

Next Regular Club

Monthly Meeting

Date: July 18, 2023

Time: 7:00-8:45 PM

Eats from 6:00-7:00 PM

Location

Grandy's Restaurant

July Meeting
Presentation
Connections
Workshop – Learn
how to install
connectors on coax
and PowerPole
connectors on DC
power cables

FOXHUNT July 29<sup>th</sup> 9AM till Noon Howdy Hamsters!

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work! Our 2023 ARRL Field Day held at the Eisenhower Birthplace is in the books and from all indications it was a success! Our social media pages are buzzing with stories and photos from Field Day thanks to Tamara and Michael Higgins. Thanks to everyone that attended and took part in Field Day. Special thanks to Michael Coffman for serving as our 2023 Field Day Coordinator and Marvin Schiavone for serving as our Safety Officer.

Plan to join us at Grandy's Tues July 18<sup>th</sup>, in Sherman for our meal at 6:00pm and meeting at 7:00pm. We will have a workshop on 'Connections' where we will help all with PowerPole connections, Coax Connections, and Solar hook-ups, soldering etc. We've been getting crowded, so show up early to get a great seat.

Next up is our monthly Hungry Hams Breakfast, Sooooooooo.... Join us at Grandy's in Sherman on July 29<sup>th</sup> at 0800 for breakfast and the Emergency Power Group meeting. We will have a fox hunt after breakfast/meeting, so be sure you bring a handheld radio and a directional antenna if you have one. July 15th 2023, 0000z, through July 23rd 2023, 2359z is our Red River Bridge War Special Event. Please see all the related info in this newsletter, on our website, and on www.QRZ.com.

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 <a href="mailto:KI5BMN@gmail.com">KI5BMN@gmail.com</a> 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 – (<u>president@graysoncountyarc.org</u>)

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 - (<u>rr52s@yahoo.com</u>)

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

#### **Club Address**

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

#### SPECIAL NOTE

Everyone, please log into HAMCLUBONLINE.com and verify and update all information as needed, including your current email address so you can continue to receive notifications on your membership. Also, please renew membership on time.

Delayed Printing of the Secretary report of the May 2023 Newsletter follows:

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes for 5/16/2023

President James Shiplett - KI5BMN began the meeting at 19:04 by greeting everyone present and welcoming visitors and then went into the Pledge of Allegiance.

The April club meeting minutes were approved by all members present and Roy Reed-AF5VA and seconded by Lee Sly - N5SLY. The treasurer report was read off by James Shiplett. There was no old business to be brought up.

Winlink Wednesday is 5/17 and Sunday night 5/21 will be the ARES Training net.

New Business: Michael Coffman- KI5NUI, will be in charge of this year's summer field day we will be 3A this year, meaning three radios and using Battery and Solar power for the radios. He already has made signup sheets for it. He plans on giving some teaching talks about the use of Winlink and about FT-8. He will go into it more at the June meeting. James Frank – KW5CW has the club set up for us to be at Eisenhower Birthplace in Denison, so we can be there all night.

He has also has license testing set up next door in the 'Red Building' which has air conditioning next to where we will be set up under the pavilion. Bob Bytheway will have a team there to give out tests between 2PM and 4PM on Saturday.

The Hungry Hams Breakfast Bunch will get together this Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> at Grandy's. Then following it will be another Fox Hunt put on by Lee Sly-N5SLY. Lee says it will be in a public place and should be able to drive right up to the fox and find it. James Shiplett showed off his Pringles Can antenna for locating foxes.

James Frank- KW5CW said nothing was going on with the Antenna Group.

Lee Sly- N5SLY said the POTA group was still popular and having fun operating POTA. He, James Frank - KW5CW and Ricky Jessen - KG5FDT are having fun at the parks.

James Shiplett -KI5BMN – will talk about the Wind and Solar Group at the Hungry Hams Breakfast.

Michael Higgins – KI5ZIQ put on a professional club presentation about Hazards around us. He puts on talks for companies dealing with OSHA Safety. Places he has been and things he has seen and done. His talk was amazing! He knows how keep an audience attention from the way he speaks and asks questions and keeps eye contact and by moving around the room. Yep, your neck will get a good exercise alright.

Topics were: Having an Exit Plan if something were to happen around you. Sheltering in Place, do you have a First Aid Plan in place? Chemical Awareness- Chemicals that pass by you every day. Do you know what that Triangle on the back of that big truck means when it's passing you? You might want to give it more room when you know what those numbers, symbols and colors mean!! Then he went into topics on Self Defense and our favorite topic of Communications.

Mike is also playing with Solar Power and has a Jackery Explorer 1000 unit for power backup.

Cynthia VanSlogteren - K5EKA was next and gave her professional presentation about Survival. She showed off what was out there to be bought to help you out in emergencies. Lots of useful things for your house or vehicle or when you are out and about hiking. She showed off her books of topics that are out there.

Spoke about the basic needs of Sheltering then food and water and fuels to use. She spoke about dehydrating foods and canning foods and offered to help anyone that wants to get into it. Her talk was very good and had everyone talking and giving ideas as well. Sat phones are expensive but great to have in a real emergency, especially if your way out in the middle of nowhere! That cell phone we all carry just might not work in the mountains.

James Frank- KW5CW won the door prize, an MJF-921, a 144 and 220 Mhz tuner. The prize was donated by Michael Whitten – KI5IPH, Andrew Bentley-KG5SKM won half of the \$90.00 of the 50/50.

Those present at the meeting were: Club Treasurer Ralph Jerome-KI5NUK, Cynthia VanSlogteren- K5EKA, Lee Sly - N5SLY, Andrew Bentley-KG5SKM, Roy Reed-AF5VA, Mike Whitten -KI5IPH, Marvin Schinvone-KG5GMA, James Johnson-KG5SJY, GlenWillie-WW5GRW, Club Director-at-Large- James Frank-KW5CW, Dora Caywood-KF5TDQ, Michael Coffman-KI5NUI, Club President James Shiplett-KI5BMN, Michael Higgins-KI5ZIQ, Tamara Higgins-KI5ZIP, Brad Lee-NI5EE, LesKey-KI5TQK, Club Secretary David DArcy-KF5LKG, Cody Williams-KG5GFI.

Club Meeting ended at 20:50.

Secretary David DArcy - KF5LKG



# Grayson County Amateur Radio Club 06/20/2023 Meeting Minutes

President James Shiplett KI5BMN began the meeting at 19:04 greeting everyone, then lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

All that were present announced who they were with their call signs going around the room.

There were no May meeting minutes submitted to approve at the June. The report will be available in the July Newsletter and voted for approval during the July meeting along with the June meeting minutes.

Club Treasurer Ralph Jerome KI5NUK gave the treasure report.

No old Business.

Winlink Wednesday is June 21st.

Upcoming presentations: the July Meeting will be about connectors and how to put them on. The August meeting will be North Texas Trauma Regional - Ham Radio usage includes 19 counties.

At the next meeting on July 18, there will be nominations taken for Director-at-Large, so have your names ready. At the August meeting on August 15, will be voting for a new Director-at-Large. James Frank-KW5CW who presently holds the position, will relinquish it as required. The newly elected Director-at-Large will immediately take over the position for the next 2-year term at the August meeting. It is important to elect good officers in a timely manner. Please attend this meeting so you can cast your vote.

### The group updates:

Antenna Group and CW Group no update because James Frank KW5CW is on his tour of driving the eastern side of the USA doing POTA.

POTA Group: Lee Sly N5SLY is out about doing POTA

Fox Hunting: Club Treasurer Ralph Jerome will be bringing the Fox unit to Summer field day to show it off.



The meeting presentation this time was about Summer Field Day 2023 which Michael Coffman-KI5NUI this year's leader in charge of it spoke about. He gave a great presentation about what he wants to teach and what the goals of the club will be to do for the event plus passed out signup sheets what we needed to bring. We are still going to be a three-radio system which means we will be on batteries and on solar, 3A NTX. This is a 1 pm Saturday to 1 PM Sunday contest.

The pavilion does have electricity so we can use our cooling fans. Overhead lights are available too so we won't be in the dark during the night. If you want to bring your radio and antenna you can, and we will try to help you out with it.

We are still going to Denison to Eisenhower's Birthplace and will be under the pavilion near the entrance to the place. Testing is right next to us.

Bob Bytheway-K3DIO spoke about his testing team, and they will be at Field Day from 2-4 on Saturday in the Red Building.

Lee Sly - N5SLY gave a talk about the benefits of being in our club.

The door prize was won by: ?

The 50/50 was won by James Johnson - KG5SJY.

Secretary David DArcy - KF5LKG



## GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB TREASURY REPORT - by Ralph Jerome

|  |          | Amount  |
|--|----------|---------|
| Bank Balance at time of last month's report 6/3/23 | 2,572.01 |         |
| Bank Balance at time of report 6/30/2023           | 2,707.58 |         |
|  |          |         |
| Income - Note PayPal payments don't include fees   |          |         |
| PayPal Dues  |          | 18.81   |
| Cash Dues (new members)                            |          | 40.00   |
| Cash Donation                                      |          | 110.00  |
| QSL Card Donations                                 |          | 13.00   |
| 50/50  |          | 77.00   |
| Total Income                                       |          | 258.81  |
| Annual Dues Income - 2023                          | total    | 602.91  |
| _  | _        |         |
| Expenses   |          |         |
| Field Day Food                                     |          | -85.24  |
| Donation, 50/50, to ARES (Cash to Wade)            |          | -38.00  |
|  |          |         |
| Total Expenses                                     |          | -123.24 |



| Cash on hand                         |   | 20.00  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------|
| Petty Cash                           |   | 20.00  |
| -                                    | _ |        |
| _                                    | _ |        |
| Total Checks & other funds deposited |   |        |
| Donations                            | _ | 123.00 |
| 50/50                                | _ | 39.00  |
|                                      | _ |        |
| Dues-Cash                            | _ | 40.00  |
| Dues-PayPal                          | _ | 18.81  |
| Final Total at time of report        |   | 220.81 |
| Checks Written                       |   |        |
| Ralph Jerome (food field day)        |   | 85.24  |
|                                      |   |        |
| Total Checks Written                 |   | 85.24  |

| 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                              | 58.00               | 58.00 |
| May                                | 46.00               | 46.00 |
| June                               | 39.00               | 39.00 |



| July   |                  |                    |  |
|--|------------------|--------------------|--|
| August   |                  |                    |  |
| September  |                  |                    |  |
| October  |                  |                    |  |
| November   |                  |                    |  |
|  |                  |                    |  |
| Ending Balance                                     | 378.00           | 378.00             |  |
|  |                  |                    |  |
|  |                  |                    |  |
| Grayson County ARC Budget Items Calendar Year 2023 | Budget<br>Amount | Actual<br>Expenses |  |
| Operating Events                                   |                  |                    |  |
| Winter Field Day 2023                              | 200.00           | 0.00               |  |
| Food, Drinks & Supplies                            |                  |                    |  |
| Camping Spot                                       |                  | -138.60            |  |
| Dawin Field Museum Cresial Frant                   | F0.00            | 0.00               |  |
| Perrin Field Museum Special Event                  | 50.00            | 0.00               |  |
| Food, Drinks & Supplies                            |                  |                    |  |
| ARRL Field Day                                     | 138.60           | -85.24             |  |
| Food, Drinks & Supplies                            | 50.00            |                    |  |
|  |                  |                    |  |
| Red River Bridge War Special Event                 | 50.00            | 0.00               |  |
| Food, Drinks & Supplies                            |                  |                    |  |
| Ficanhawar Birthday Special Event                  | F0.00            | 0.00               |  |
| Food, Drinks & Supplies                            | 50.00            | 0.00               |  |
| i ood, Dilliks & Supplies                          |                  |                    |  |



| Operating Events Total                       | 400.00 | -223.84 |  |  |
|--|--------|---------|--|--|
| 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                           |        | -573.46 |  |  |
|  |        |         |  |  |
| Estimated 2023 Dues Income 94                |        |         |  |  |

Budget approved 01/17/23



# GCARC Summer Field Day ReCap Michael Coffman KI5NUI

Hello GCARC members,

GCARC held Summer Field Day at Eisenhower Birthplace Sate Historic Site in Denison on June 24 and 25<sup>th</sup>. The Eisenhower Birthplace Park was a great venue and host for the field day activities. As usual, the North Texas summer weather was in operation, but the park and pavilion was a perfect location with plenty of shade to stay cool while operating. A special thank you is in order to James Frank KW5CW for securing the park after plans for the state park fell through due to road construction.

Operating - Field Day preparation started at 10am on Saturday with many members present to set up all the equipment needed for a successful event. At 1pm operations started with the club using the K5GCC call sign operating as a 3 Alpha North Texas station. Antennas in operation were the club Eagle One Vertical, an 80-10M EFHW, Wolf River Coil by Mark Miller KA5TXN, and an impressive 40-20M dipole with portable mast supports by David Darcy KF5LKG. Marvin Schiavone KG5GMA was our field day safety officer and did a tremendous job making sure we had a safe field day. The transmitters in operation were two lcom 7300's and one Yaesu FT-891 operating on battery and solar generation. Participation was good with many members working to keep all three transmitters busy with phone and digital communications.

Contacts and Points - The club made 60 digital and 125 phone contacts which earned the club 490 points. This year the club made great progress with the bonus points section. 100 points were earned for each of the following categories: public location, information booth, message to ARRL section manager, natural power QSO"s completed (solar power), site visit by elected official, site visit by served agency official, educational activity, safety officer, and social media. This earned the club 900 bonus points for a total of 1,390 total field day points.

Activities – One of the best parts of field day is the interaction between the club members, visitors, public, and officials that visit. The event this year seemed to always have an activity going on. Ralph Jerome KI5NUK prepared a delicious lunch that was a cowboy cook Kent Rollins franks and beans recipe. Bob Bytheway K3DIO and the Volunteer Examiners team held a two-hour testing session with several people earning their initial or upgrade licenses. Educational activities were how to assemble Anderson Power Poles and Winlink over HF operation.

An APRS station was in place beaconing the entire event with the club repeater information and field day location, as well as an i-gate on site. A weather station and shortwave radio were set up and operating near the information and welcome tent. The solar power ice cream event in memory of KG5HQV helped cool off the Texas heat. This year it encountered a motor failure that required "manual" power. Many thanks to Cody Williams KG5GFI and James Shiplet KI5BMN for helping overcome the issue and providing the "manual" power to finish the ice cream. A special thank you to KI5ZIP Tamara Higgins and KI5ZIQ Michael Higgins for accepting the role of social media captains. If you are on Facebook, you may have seen the many posts and pictures that were shared throughout and after the event. Dinner on Saturday was a fish fry with catfish filets prepared by James Shiplet KI5BMN and Ralph Jerome KI5NUK. Breakfast on Sunday was breakfast burritos also prepared by James Shiplet KI5BMN

Visitors – Along with several public visitors who visited throughout the event, the club was honored that several officials accepted our invitation to visit the field day site. Grayson County Judge Bruce Dawsey and his wife Jackie visited to tour operations and talk about how amateur radio benefits the county. He was especially thankful for how we serve with Skywarn nets and interested in the equipment used. The Salvation Army visited and demonstrated their canteen vehicle that is used in disaster relief operations.

Many thanks to all those who participated in this year's summer field day event. The response from so many club members for food and operating signups was overwhelming. Thank you to the experienced operators who were willing to share their knowledge and experience, and thanks to all the new HAMS who generated excitement. A special thank you to Lee Sly N5SLY for managing the contacts and for guiding me through the submitting process with ARRL. I am grateful for all the help and support from the club officers who helped organize and navigate the process for planning this year's summer field day event. I hope everyone who had the opportunity to attend enjoyed the event as much as I did, and I look forward to our next adventure in learning more about this great hobby we all share.

73

Michael Coffman KI5NUI



## **QSL Managers Message**

This month I want to talk about Ham Radio logging of the contacts you make. There are 6 things that every 3<sup>rd</sup> party QSL provider requires. Anything else is extra and ignored. Who are the 3<sup>rd</sup> party QSL providers?

- 1. LOTW Logbook of the World from ARRL
- 2. eQSL.cc
- 3. QRZ.com
- 4. and there are others including POTA, Parks On The Air

#### The 6 things required in your log are...

- 1. Your callsign
- 2. The call sign of the station you contacted
- 3. Date
- 4. Time Zulu, Universal or GMT time only
- 5. Band don't need exact frequency
- 6. Mode

Wait a minute...what about a Signal Report? Even though everyone wants one it is not required for you to get confirmation of a contact you make from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party QSL provider. The Signal Report is often called the RST – Readability, Signal Strength, Tone. It is represented by a series of numbers; for example – 599. Here is a description...

## Readability

- 1--Unreadable
- 2--Barely readable, occasional words distinguishable.
- 3--Readable with considerable difficulty.
- 4--Readable with practically no difficulty.
- 5--Perfectly readable.



#### Signal Strength

- 1--Faint signals, barely perceptible.
- 2--Very weak signals.
- 3--Weak signals.
- 4--Fair signals.
- 5--Fairly good signals.
- 6--Good signals.
- 7--Moderately strong signals.
- 8--Strong signals.
- 9--Extremely strong signals.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> number is only used for CW so I won't bother explaining that because so few of us use CW.

So, when you contact another operator they will ask you for their Signal Report, RST. Based on the definitions above you'll give them your subjective judgment. A set of numbers based on how you are hearing the other station. If a station is very strong and you have no difficulty understanding what the operator is saying, you'll give them a Signal Report of 59. If a station is weak and you have a hard time understanding what they are saying, you'll give them a Signal Report of 33. The RST is totally subjective, and it is not verifiable. What is 59 to you may be 47 to someone else. Your 33 may be 11 to another person.

Because it cannot be verified it is not required by anyone.... except maybe the sponsor of a contest. Often the contest provider will require something else...your name, member number, state, Grid Square, serial number, etc.

So, you don't have to send a Signal Report to the 3<sup>rd</sup> party QSL provider to get confirmation of a contact you made. Don't believe me? Send your 3<sup>rd</sup> party QSL provider a small log file with no signal reports for the contacts you made. They will accept it and I'll bet you'll still get confirmations.



Please remember the 6 things that are required and always send them to your 3<sup>rd</sup> party QSL provider.

But, don't worry about the Signal Report – it really doesn't mean anything to anyone – except maybe the other station you contacted.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

lead the GCARC in a direction you favor.

73

Lee N5SLY

lee.n5sly@gmail.com

903-818-7463

## **Director-At-Large Nominations at the Next Meeting**

This year at the upcoming meeting this month, nominations for a new Director-At-Large is required to take place per our Constitution. The holder of this office can only hold the position for a period of 2 consecutive years. So, yours truly, James – KW5CW will relinquish that position next month. The election of the new Director-At-Large will take place at the August meeting. The lucky winner will immediately assume his/her position of Director-At-Large.

## **New Officer Positions for 2024**

All regular officer positions, including President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer will be up for grabs in 2024. Start thinking about it if you would like to take the next step with the club and become a leader. Some will say it's a thankless position, but the gratification you receive by being a leader in this organization is rewarding in its own way.

Again, give it some thought and contact one of the officers if you feel it's your turn to step up and serve as an officer of the club. It's your chance to

# Fox Hunt Saturday, July 29, 2023

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

Start time...9 AM

End time...12 Noon

Frequency of Fox...146.565 Mhz

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

Clue...EM13or

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

&





## Very Important: Paying GCARC Club Yearly Dues

Just as a reminder, you can renew your yearly dues at <a href="http://hamclubonline.com">http://hamclubonline.com</a>. At that URL, you will find the amateur radio management system that can be used to pay your dues to the GCARC. <a href="Remember">Remember</a>, 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 <a href="gcarcclub@gmail.com">gcarcclub@gmail.com</a>. 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. The bul

## Once Again, Excellent work by the ZIPZIQ Duo

Last Month at the Summer Field Day, the ZIPZIQ Duo did it again. Tamara took many interesting pictures that also ended up on the club FaceBook page. Some of the shots are immediately below. Her husband Michael, the second part of the Duo, was one of the Social Media Captains that helped make the event memorable for the club, an activity that will be hard to forget. Also, all the pictures taken will be viewable on the new subdomain of zipfotos.graysoncounty.arc.org. If you enjoyed the pictures, give a shout out to Tamara and Michael, and your comments will be published in the next newsletter.



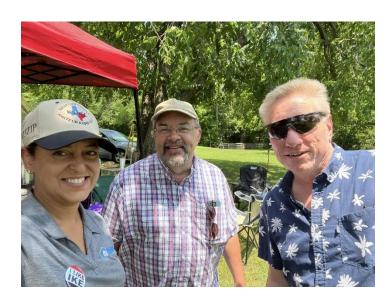
Some Memories from the First GCARC SUMMER FIELD DAY 2023

June 24 and 25 at the Eisenhower Birthplace – Denison, Texas (Grayson County)

NOTE: GCARC SUMMER FIELD DAY 2024 is Already Scheduled at the Birthplace























































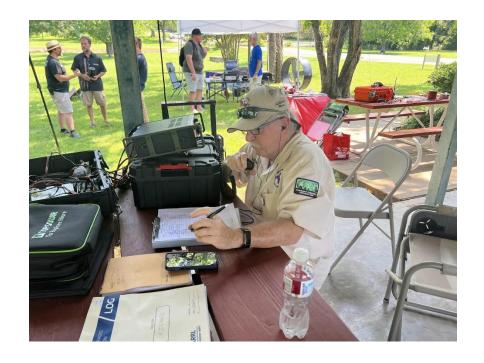




















hobby.

## Last Thoughts about Summer Field Day

All can agree, at least within the GCARC that Summer Field Day is what everyone looks forward to each year. It's an event that doesn't begin the year with the club or end the year with the club. But it's lots of fun when it happens. Our Field Day was a complete and total success. Some of us could not be there to celebrate the fun shared at this event, but there will be more to come. Those who made it really had fun at field day. The Eisenhower Birthplace has already been reserved for next year for Summer Field Day 2024.

Everyone is in the belief that Summer Field Day always follows on the last weekend in June. Well, that's what I thought until I looked at the 2024 calendar, and it is already time to reserve the birthplace for next year. It just so happens that in 2024, there are 5 weekends in the month. That doesn't happen often, and it usually depends on what day the month starts on. In 2024, June 1 is on a Saturday, so that pushes out the rest of the calendar to show that there will be 5 weekends in June next year. Now comes the tricky part. If you come out to our field day on the last weekend of the month of June in 2024, you will not be able to experience the fun because Field Day would already be over. So, the fact is, that Field Day is not celebrated on the last full weekend of the month in June every year. FIELD DAY IS ALWAYS ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> WEEKEND OF THE MONTH OF JUNE. With that said, in 2025, 2026 and 2027 and 2028 there are only 4 weekends in June, so it will be on the last weekend of the month in those upcoming 4 years, except 2024. But again in 2029, there will AGAIN be five weekends in June, and we must remember this golden rule..

Again, always remember that Summer Field day is ALWAYS on the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in the Month of June. So next year in 2024, Summer Field Day weekend will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23th of June. In 2029, it will be on the 23 and 24<sup>th</sup> of June.

A big shoutout goes to Michael Coffman – KI5NUI who coordinated Field Day this year.

## Connectors on COAX and Power Cables to be Demonstrated at the next meeting.

At the next meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the presentation will be a work group session to assist and demonstrate how to install coaxal connectors on coax and power cables. There are several ways to install connectors on cables but there is always a better way to do things, and this is what this demonstration/class is for. If you have cables and connectors that you would like to put together, bring them along to the next meeting and stay after the general meeting to learn how to be proficient in putting connectors on cables. It's important to know how to do this in our

## Local and Regional Repeater Systems in and near Sherman Texas

| <b>Frequency</b> | <u>Offset</u> | Tone Up / Down | <b>Location</b> | <b>County</b> | <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                   |
| 441.3250         | +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



## **Grayeon 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: <a href="https://graysoncountyarc.org/about-gcarc/net-control-schedule/">https://graysoncountyarc.org/about-gcarc/net-control-schedule/</a>
- 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: <a href="https://www.hamthreads.com/">https://www.hamthreads.com/</a> get a large variety of clothing styles with GCARC, ARES and or Skywam 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.



