



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



GCARC

GRAYSON CO. TEXAS USA

Having Fun With Amateur Radio

Events Coming Up

PRESIDENT'S QSO

**Red River Bridge
War Special Event**
W5B
July 20-26, 2024

Howdy Everyone,

What a successful summer we have had so far! It is not unusual for us to have a busy June, with Summer Field Day, but add a car show and all the community excitement of the 4th of July, we have been busy!

A big congrats to Michael Coffman! By just a few votes he took home the first-place prize for Best in Show for the car show. He won a \$50 gift certificate from Main Trading Company in Paris, Texas. MTC (www.mtcradio.com) and donated the prize to the GCARC, so a big shout out to them for their support!

We also want to recognize Michael Coffman for pulling together what is arguably the premier Summer Field Day event the club has experienced to date! We had at least 60 members and/or guests come by to participate. There were 5 educational programs, great food, multiple activities, a nighttime movie, and of course, non-stop radio action! Thank you to the Eisenhower Birthplace Park for accommodating us once again!

We will slow down just a little bit so everyone can take a breath and get ready for the upcoming events in the Fall! We have a lot to talk about, so I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting in July!

Michael Higgins – KI5ZIQ

GCARC President

**1st and 3rd
Sunday Nets**
Dates/Net Control:
7/7 – Cynthia – K5EKA
7/21 – Ricky – KG5FDT
Time: 8:00 PM Local
Repeater: 147.000+

**Next Regular Club
Monthly Meeting**
Date: July 16, 2024
Time: 7:00-9:00PM
Location
Texoma Council of
Governments
1117 Gallagher Rd.
Sherman, Texas

LADIES NET
Monday July 22nd 7PM
147.28 Repeater

CW CLASS
July 18 & August 1

Meeting Presentation
**Surviving
Outages or
Becoming Self-
Sufficient**
by Cynthia
VanSlogteren
K5EKA

July 2025 Focus of the Month – Max Phipps – AA5KK

Max Phipps AA5KK is our focus ham club member this month. What a cute and symmetrical call sign, Max! Great for CW, too — dit-dah dit-dah dit dit dit dit dit dah-dit-dah dah-dit-dah. I love it! (It sure beats your first call sign: WB5VCO)

Max, whose first name is Donnie, was licensed in 1974 when his high school electronics teacher helped him and 2 other friends get their ham licenses. Max is an active member of our club and we are glad to have him, his winning personality and his ham radio knowledge! Get to know him when you get a chance. Talk his ear off.



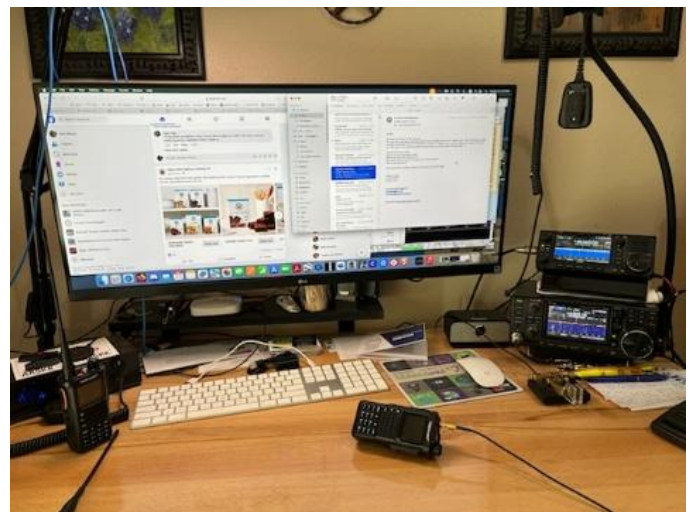
Max has a renewed interest in CW and has joined the North American QRP CW Club — the NAQCC.

Cool! I'd never heard of it and am interested in looking into it myself.

Max likes learning all the different aspects of our hobby and is especially interested in emergency communications. He likes the camaraderie in our club — a common feature we all seem to like.

He is running an Icom-7300 and an Icom-705. He feeds an AH tuner into 130 feet of wire up and over a tree in his back yard. He also has a bunch (and I mean “a bunch”— see the picture) of handhelds. He says it's getting a little ridiculous— he has more than pictured!!

Max's logbook on qrz.com reveals that he has been making contacts using SSB, FT8 and CW — ta dah!!! — mostly on 20 meters. He has contacted Italy and Canada, too. Go, Max!



[Other Focus of the Month articles <Read Here>](#)

Elmer's Corner – July 2024 by James Frank – KW5CW

At the present time, the Intermediate Class CW Course is already half-way completed. Classes are on Thursdays, but two of the classes were cancelled because of the 4th of July holiday and of a prior commitment I had for July 11th. Classes will commence this week on July 18th. The classes should be completed in August, in time for either a first ever Advanced CW Class or another Basic Class.

If you are interested in either of these future classes, state your desire at the next meeting to help me decide which class is to be next, or you can drop me a note and send it to gcarccourses@gmail.com. But, as a moment of preference, I may not hold another class this year, depending on this response, but continue working on an online course that I have been putting together for some time. It is quite extensive and fairly different from other courses out on the web. Since we all have different learning skills and a desire to use methods of learning in a different way than others, and just because we have the freedom to do so, I have decided to incorporate both the Koch and Farnsworth methods within my on-line courses. Your choice! These methods will be used to learn code and progress with all 3 levels of the present FCC licensing, the Technician, General and Extra Class licenses. [Click <HERE> to continue reading...](#)

The Fun Continues at the GCARC

Winter Field Day and Summer Field Day 2024 are now in the past. So now, what's in the future? The Red River Bridge War Special Event is next on the agenda in July sporting a new call – W5B , but the year is slightly more than just half over. Each monthly club meeting promises to have a great presentation for the attendees, and our fearless leader Michael Higgins seems to have an abundance of ideas for the club. Our Secretary, Cynthia – K5EKA, will be giving her presentation on 'Surviving Outages and Becoming Self-Sufficient'. Meeting attendance seems to be growing, along with club membership. Records are being set this year, as we are heading to have double the members as we did since January 1, 2024. There were more attending Summer Field Day this year than in any other previous year on record, while this club is celebrating its 30th year since it was founded. Other activities at Field Day consisted of learning about the club radio, and some built an end-fed antenna. Some had their first lesson on Winlink. The car show after last month's meeting was the first for the club, and it will not be the last. Members bring their friends to the club. License testing has been very successful this year, and the thought of teaching theory courses for the different classes of Amateur radio licenses is also on the horizon. A Ladies Net along with the Bi-Weekly Sunday Information net are gaining traction, with more people checking in.

If you are having problems keeping up with the fun at the GCARC, just move over to the club website and see all these activities listed on the newly functional [GOOGLE CALENDAR](#) or come to a club meeting for the latest scoop. There is also a link in the menu items at the top of the club web page to access the calendar. You came to the right place when you joined the GCARC to have FUN with Amateur Radio.

Current Links to Information found on the GCARC Website

[Treasury Report – June 2024](#) **Latest**
[Secretary Report – June 2024](#) **Latest**
[Ladies Net on FaceBook – June 2024](#)
[Focus of the Month – July 2024](#)
[The Elmers Corner July 2024](#)
[ARRL SUMMER FIELD DAY](#) **Recap**
[License Testing at TCOG in Sherman, Texas](#)

[An Intermediate CW Class commenced on Thursday, June 6th. The remaining sessions will commence next week on July 18th.](#)

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER FOR THE 3 PEOPLE WHO SUCCESSFULLY PASSED THEIR HAM TEST LAST MONTH ON June 18th at a GCARC Test session. The FCC is a bit slow this month so the new call signs for Technicians are still not known.

David Older – KI5TWM - General
Tammy Lindsey – Technician
Michael DeHaven – Technician

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