



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



GCARC

GRAYSON CO. TEXAS USA

Having Fun With Amateur Radio

August 2025 Issue

Events

Coming Up

1st and 3rd and 5th
Sunday Nets

Dates/Net Control:

August 3 - Marvin - KG5GMA

August 17 - Cynthia - K5EKA

August 31 - Open

NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS
TO DO THE SUNDAY NIGHT NETS

Time: 8:00 PM Local Repeater
147.000

Next Regular Club

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday - Aug 19th, 2025

Time: 7:00-9:00PM

Location

Texoma Council of Governments

1117 Gallagher Dr.

Sherman, Texas

License Testing at 6 PM

Hungry Hams Breakfast

Sat, August 30th at 8:00AM

Sweetberries Cafe

1835 Texoma Pkwy, Sherman TX

Dorector-at-Large
Elections

At the August Club Meeting

Club Meeting
Discussion Topic

The POTA Performer

by Greg KJ6ER

On a Zoom Call

Sherman Siren Test

Sept 3 - 8:45am on 147.000

PRESIDENT'S QSO

Exploring the Airwaves on the Road

Recently, my travels took me to several cities, including Houston, Tulsa, and Chicago. While each stop had its own highlights, Chicago brought a particularly interesting amateur radio experience.

While in downtown Chicago, I learned that the local radio club holds a net every night. I was intrigued and eager to join in. The repeater was only four miles away, but the buildings created a challenging RF environment. My handheld couldn't consistently reach the repeater directly.

Thankfully, I was able to connect using EchoLink. This tool allowed me to check into the nets and communicate with local operators. The experience was eye-opening—not only for the usefulness of EchoLink in urban conditions, but also for the friendly and informal nature of the nets. In a city as large as Chicago, I expected a more rigid format, but instead found genuine enthusiasm and a welcoming atmosphere.

This trip reminded me of the value in exploring amateur radio beyond our own backyard. Tools like EchoLink make it possible to meet new people, exchange ideas, and participate in nets anywhere in the world. I encourage each of you to give it a try. I plan on dropping in to some of those Chicago nets from time to time even when I'm at home here in Sherman.

Michael Higgins KI5ZIQ

President, GCARC

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Red River Bridge War Special Event - Final Results



GOLD RIBBON

KI5TXN for CW
KG5FDT for Digital
KG5FDT for Phone



SILVER RIBBON

KI5NUK for Digital
KG5GMA for Phone



BRONZE RIBBON

N5SLY for Digital
W5DRT for Phone

If you did not participate in the Red River Bridge War Event from July 19th through the 25th, you missed a fun on-the-air activity. But if you did participate, the competition in the event brought out the best of the participants this year. The activity was coordinated by Cynthia - K5EKA who put together the rules for acquiring one of the three ribbons and the final standings in each class are listed below. In total there were **1098** contacts made.

Congratulations go out to the following people who participated in the event this year.

Mark Miller - KA5TXN - 89 CW contacts

Ricky Jessen - KG5FDT - 328 digital, 178 phone contacts

Ralph Jerome - KI5NUK - 215 digital

Dave Turner - W5DRT - 101 phone contacts

Lee Sly - N5SLY - 36 digital - 7 phone contacts

Marvin Schiovione - KG5GMA - 120 phone contacts

Cynthia VanSlogteren K5EKA - 24 phone contacts

Amateur Radio License Exam Requirement

Goto the following URL to register with the FCC and apply for an FRN before arriving to take your test at 6PM prior to the general club meeting:

[CComission REgistration System for the FCC | Federal Communications Commission](https://www.fcc.gov/electronicmedia/publications/fcc-id-473001)

Access CORES: Go to the link - FCC's Registration System (CORES).. Register for an account. If you don't have one: Follow the prompts to create a username and password. Register for a new FRN. Choose Individual or Entity, then provide the required information. Complete the registration form, including contact information and, if applicable, your taxpayer identification number (TIN). Your FRN number will go to your email. **YOU NEED TO ACQUIRE THIS FRN BEFORE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE A TEST. If you already have an FRN, bring it with you to your exam session.**

Upcoming Meeting Discussion Topic - The POTA Performer by KJ6ER

If you haven't been living under a rock and have been fairly active on POTA Phone, you more than likely ran across **KJ6ER - Greg Mihran** who developed a vertical antenna called the POTA Performer. There are a few version of it, and Greg will speak at this months meeting on a Zoom call from his home QTH in California. The presentation will begin promptly at 7PM. It's your chance to learn about low-band vertical antennas along with the proper way to install them. What advantages do raised radials of a vertical antenna have over ground mounted radials? How can you get directivity using a vertical? What helps eliminate RF noise on a vertical antenna? What helps to increase your radiated power from a vertical? You **MUST** attend the

meeting to hear the answers to these questions.

Other Current Links to Information found on the GCARC Website

[Secretary Report - July 2025](#)

[Treasury Report – July 2025](#)

[License Testing at TCOG in Sherman, Texas](#)

Next Testing Date August 18, 2025 6:00PM

at Texoma Council of Governments prior to Club Meeting

Other Activities At Our Doorsteps

Special Elections for Director-At-Large by SECRET BALLOT at the August meeting.

October 11th thru the 17th - Eisenhower Special Event using W5I, W5K, W5E

October 21st general meeting - Officer nominations for 2026

November 18th general meeting - New Officers Elections - All Positions are available.

December - NO Meeting, replaced with the Christmas Party - DECEMBER 16th.

Summer Field Day 2025 Results

207 Contacts Made

With a multiplier of 2 that gives us 414 points. Our bonus points came to 950 with a grand total of 1,364. Last year we had 2,126 points total.

Grayson County ARES/RACES Frequencies**Grayson County Repeaters**

W5RVT (VHF Primary) : 147.000(+) MHz, 100.0 PL

W5COP (VHF Secondary) : 147.280(+) MHz, 107.2 PL on both TX and RX.

W5RVT (UHF): 444.750(+) MHz, 100.0 PL

WC5GC (UHF): 442.875(+) MHz, 100.0 PL (Link to W5RVT 147.00 during Skywarn)

Note: There is no courtesy tone on this repeater. For testing your radio, arrange for someone to meet you on this repeater when it's not linked. If all repeaters fail, we will move to 146.52 simplex and then move as necessary to other simplex frequencies depending upon the situation.

Grayson County Simplex Frequencies

146.52 (National Calling Frequency)

146.42 (ARES Primary)

146.46 (ARES Secondary)

146.700 (RACES Primary)

441.925 (ARES and RACES UHF Primary)

Club Officers

PRESIDENT	Michael Higgins - KI5ZIQ	president@k5gcc.org
VICE PRESIDENT	James Shiplet - KI5BMN	vp@k5gcc.org
SECRETARY	Cynthia VanSlogteren - K5EKA	secretary@k5gcc.org
TREASURER	James Frank - KW5CW	treasurer@k5gcc.org
DIRECTOR AT LARGE	Marvin Schiavone - KG5GMA	directoratlarge@k5gcc.org
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