



# GCARC NEWS



Grayson County Amateur Radio Club

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Volume 32

March 2026

Number 03

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## **PRESIDENTS QSO:**



**Jo VanSlogteren**

## **Hello Everyone,**

I just blew in with the March winds to write a little something to all you hams. We had a very productive Board of Directors' Meeting in the very luxurious and quiet Conference Room of our bank, First State Bank. We felt very elite and professional. The Family Campout dates have been selected and are posted on our GCARC Google calendar. Spring Family Campout will be held April 24 through 26th and Fall Family Campout will be held November 6th through 8th. Both will be at the Deer Haven Shelters in Eisenhower State Park. Since the April Hungry Hams Breakfast falls on the 25th, we will have it at the campout.

We have a pretty good line-up of Education Programs planned for the year but we still need volunteers to help present or prepare: [Thanks to Roy Reed AF5VA for teaching us about reading radar maps at the February meeting!]

March – A Review of the top radios – by Steve Ollmann KC5NK

April – Outfit your car, truck or boat with a radio set-up

May – “All” about antennas – send us pictures of your antennas and how they are mounted, please.

June – Car Show – show off your vehicle radio set-up – prizes!

July – Programming radios on the go using the menus

August – POTA

September – CW

October – DX Engineering will provide a topic

November – Kit Building, Go-kits or radio and supplies

December – Party

We are working on fine-tuning our plans for a Course for the Technician License. Stay tuned and volunteer to help, please. Our first Community Event will be the Sherman Arts Fest on September 19th., So we have a lot cooking on our stove. We also want to continue planning events with other nearby clubs.

As always, we welcome your input, feedback, ideas and constructive criticism.

Jo VanSlogteren K5EKA  
President, GCARC

## ***ALERT: Our Monthly Nets Have Changed***

1st Sunday Information Net = 147.00 +.6 MHz 100 PL tone

3rd Sunday Information Net = 147.280. +.6 MHz 107.2 PL tone

5th Sunday Information Net = 444.750. +5 MHz 100.0 PL tone

*The ARES Info and Training Nets will still be on the second and fourth Sundays*  
All Nets begin at 2000hrs

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## **GCARC SPRING 26 FAMILY CAMPOUT**

Our Spring family campout will be held at Eisenhower State Park at Lake Texoma on April 24-26, 2006. There will be plenty of ham related things to do such as POTA and a couple of Fox Hunts along with some hiking, fishing, pot luck meals etc.



## ARRL Annual Field Day



***It's not too early to gear up and get ready for ARRL Field Day!***

Field Day 2026 takes place June 27 – 28 and will bring together more than 30,000 amateur radio operators for one of the most popular on-the-air events in the US and Canada. This year's Field Day theme is "Amateur Radio: A National Resource." Combined with the ARRL Year of the Club, it provides the perfect opportunity for radio clubs to set up stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill, and service to our communities and our nation. All of the information we need to get started can be found on the Field Day web page, including how to join the ARRL Field Day Facebook Group, where we can share your plans, tips, and tricks for a successful Field Day.

The overall objective for Field Day is to contact as many stations as possible on the 160-, 80-, 40-, 20-, 15- and 10-meter HF bands, as well as all bands above 50 MHz, and to learn to operate in less than optimal conditions. Many clubs choose to set up in camp-style fashion with portable equipment, temporary antennas, and off-grid power sources. We will conduct FD operations in Denison at the Eisenhower Birthplace State Historic Site.

Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2 (North and South America). DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries. Each claimed contact must include contemporaneous direct initiation by the operator on both sides of the contact. Initiation of a contact may be either locally or by remote.

For more information about ARRL Field Day, visit [www.arrl.org/field-day](http://www.arrl.org/field-day).

## Club Information Page

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### 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Nets

#### Dates/Net Control:

March 29- James -KI5BMN

April 05- Les KI6LES

April 29- Marvin KG5GMA

Time: 8:00 PM Local

Repeater: 147.000 - 147.280 - 444.750

Alternating.

#### Next Officers Meeting

Date: April 06, 2026

Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

First State Bank, Sherman

#### Next Regular Club Meeting

Date: April 21, 2026

Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

#### License Testing

Date: April 21, 2026

Time: 6:00-7:00 PM

#### Location

Texoma Council of Governments

1117 Gallagher Rd.

Sherman, Texas

#### Hungry Hams Breakfast

Saturday Mar 28<sup>th</sup> at 0800 hrs. at

Sweetberries

### Treasurer's Report and Meeting Minutes

Click the links below for these reports.

<https://graysoncountyar.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/GCARC-Financial-Report-February-2026.pdf>

<https://graysoncountyar.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Minutes-2026-February-GCARC-Meeting.pdf>

### 2026 Club Events

Spring Campout - April 24th- 26th

Ham Radio Car Show - June 16th

ARRL Summer Field Day - June 27th & 28th

Fall Campout - November 6th-8th.

Eisenhower Birthday Special Event - Oct 10-16  
(Formal Celebration at Birthplace on Oct 11)



Click here for more info.

## GCARC 2026 OFFICERS

- President: Jo VanSlogteren K5EKA - [president@k5gcc.org](mailto:president@k5gcc.org)
- Vice-President: Steve Ollmann KC5NK - [vp@k5gcc.org](mailto:vp@k5gcc.org)
- Secretary: Mark Armstrong KJ5LKN - [secretary@k5gcc.org](mailto:secretary@k5gcc.org)
- Treasurer: Matt McClellan KJ5HTD - [treasurer@k5gcc.org](mailto:treasurer@k5gcc.org)
- Director-At-Large: James Shplet KI5BMN [directoratlarge@k5gcc.org](mailto:directoratlarge@k5gcc.org)

### ADDITIONAL ROLES

- License Trustee for K5GCC: Rick Simmons, K5ECX
- Public Information Officer: Steve Ollmann KC5NK - [vp@k5gcc.org](mailto:vp@k5gcc.org)
- Activities Director: - Summer and Winter Field Days
- Field Day Coordinators: All Officers - [officers@k5gcc.org](mailto:officers@k5gcc.org)
- Net Manager: Matt McClellan - KJ5HTD - [treasurer@k5gcc.org](mailto:treasurer@k5gcc.org)
- Club Asset Manager: Steve Ollmann KC5NK - [vp@k5gcc.org](mailto:vp@k5gcc.org)
- QSL Manager: James Frank KW5CW - [qsl@k5gcc.org](mailto:qsl@k5gcc.org)
- ARRL VE Team Leader and Testing Coordinator: Ricky Jessen - [testing@k5gcc.org](mailto:testing@k5gcc.org)
- Newsletter Editor: James Shplet - KI5BMN - [editor@k5gcc.org](mailto:editor@k5gcc.org)
- Webmaster: Jo VanSlogteren - K5EKA - [president@k5gcc.org](mailto:president@k5gcc.org)

## Local Repeaters and Nets

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### Local Area and Regional Nets

#### North Central Texas Connection

Radio link system covering a large portion of North Central Texas  
<http://www.nctc.info> Thursdays at 2000hrs. on 443.750+ PL 100

#### North Central Texas 2 Meter Simplex Net

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1239747529713248>  
Fridays @ 8PM on 146.580 +/-

#### North Texas 1.25m Simplex Net

Every Friday night after the 2m Simplex Net, by 9:30pm, you can test your 220 MHz rig on FM simplex. We start the Net on the 220 Texas Link System repeaters, get a list of check ins, and then QSY to 223.500 to see who can make simplex contacts. *There's not a linked 220 MHz repeater in our area yet, however you can talk simplex when conditions are right.*

#### List of repeaters located in Sherman

147.000 +0.6 MHz PL100 W5RVT OPEN FM  
147.280 +0.6 MHz PL 107.2 W5COP OPEN FM EchoLink  
444.750 +5 MHz PL 100.0 W5RVT OPEN FM  
441.325 +5 MHz PL 82.5 KG5SKM OPEN FM  
ECHOLINK node - 831760 / ALLSTAR node - 53477

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#### Other Area Repeaters

W5DWH Denison 145.330 -600kc offset PL 100 Transmit and receive  
WD5U Rosston 145.490 -600kc offset PL 85.4  
K5FRC VHF Bonham 145.470 -600kc offset PL 100  
NCTC UHF Bonham 443.750 +5 Mhz offset PL 100  
KF5SOX UHF Bells 444.950 +5 Mhz offset PL 88.5  
N5MRG UHF Tom Bean 441.625 +5 Mhz offset PL 100  
N5MRG 220 Tom Bean 223.840 -1.6 Mhz offset PL 100

## Board Meeting Location Change



The GCARC Officers Board Meetings are now held at First State Bank in Sherman on the First Monday of each month at 1900hrs CST. Located at 2315 N. Hwy 75 Sherman, TX 75090. All members are welcome to attend, however please eat prior to attending the meeting.

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### Want GCARC Apparel?

GCARC logo ball caps are available at monthly meetings, other logoed items such as shirts, jackets etc. are available from

<https://www.hamthreads.com/clubs>

## Have a "topic" that you would like to present?

We are looking for amateur radio, preparedness, or related presentations for our monthly meetings. If you have a topic or an idea for a presentation please contact James-KI5BMN or Jo-K5EKA. We can assist you with preparing your presentation

### Proposed topics (thus far)

March – Radio Reviews – pros and cons of different radios

April – Outfit your car with a radio and antenna

May – Antennas (kinds / purposes, build, etc)

June – Ham Radio Car Show

July – Programming on the go – using the menus (trouble shooting on the air)

August – POTA –

September – CW – (Mike Mitchell ?)

October – DX Engineering – Contesting Station

November – Elections and Go Kit building

December – Christmas Party

