



GCARC NEWS



Grayson County Amateur Radio Club

Volume 32

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Number 09

PRESIDENT'S QSO:



Jo VanSlogteren
K5EKA

Hello Hams one and all –

I do believe it is finally Fall! I've forgotten how to dress for such weather and I hate to put my warm-weather clothes away. We might be a little chilly at the Family Campout in about 3 weeks. Fun! If you're planning on staying the night, get your shelter reservations in for the Deer Haven Area of Eisenhower State Park!

Back in town, at the Eisenhower Birthplace, we had a successful Special Event – and in a new location in the park. Due to a recent addition of a big vendors tent, we were glad to be back by the parking lot where it was quieter! Thanks to all who came out to help make the event a success – and to those who kept making contacts throughout the week.

At the meeting this month we will be hearing via Zoom from Tim Duffy K3LR of DX Engineering about contesting. The Zoom call will start right at 7 for his east coast schedule so be there on time and we'll take care of other things afterwards. He's going to present for about 45 minutes.

The other things we need to take care of are voting to accept the Revised Constitution and ByLaws, which you were all e-mailed a copy. This is a long time coming and it will be good to get it behind us. If you have any questions or discussion, please contact me or another officer before the meeting as we will not hold a discussion there – too boring – and we've had plenty of opportunities).

Next we'll do our nominations for the new Board of Directors – that is, the officers of the club. The vacancies are President, Vice President, Treasurer and maybe, Director at Large. Talk it up and find good nominees who are willing to serve our fine club!

As always, be sure to make good use of our club website and Google Calendar.

See you at the meeting...!

Your President,
Jo K5EKA

All GCARC nets are on 2 meters 147.00

On the first and third Sundays

The ARES Info and Training Nets are on the second and fourth Sundays

All Nets begin at 2000hrs

We Need You To Be An Officer

Officer nominations are this month and the annual election will be held in November.

Please review the officers positions as outlined in our bylaws to see which position might be a good fit for you. We meet the first Monday of each month at First State Bank in Sherman and usually share a meal near the bank first.

Article III: Duties of Officers

Sec. 1] The President shall preside at all meetings, and conduct them according to Robert's Rules, as newly revised. He/she shall enforce due observance of this Constitution and Bylaws, decide all questions of order, sign all official documents adopted by the club, and perform all other duties pertaining to the office of President. The President will not have a vote in any matter unless a tie shall result. He/She shall then cast the tie-breaking vote.

Sec. 2] The Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President in his/her absence. In addition, he/she or his/her designee shall act as the Public Information Officer for public relations and media publicity concerning the club. He/she shall maintain close liaison with the ARES County Emergency Coordinator to further club participation in the ARES or the ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator if there is not an appointed ARES County Emergency Coordinator. The Vice President shall oversee the maintenance and inventory of GCARC assets to include but not limited to tents, antennas, towers and any other tangible property.

Sec. 3] The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, keep a roll of members, submit membership applications, carry on all correspondence, read communications at each meeting, and mail notices to members as required. The Secretary shall also be responsible for required filings and reports in relation to the Club's 501[c]3 status. At the expiration of his/her term he/she shall immediately turn over all items belonging to the club to his/her successor.

Sec. 4] The Treasurer shall receive and receipt all monies paid to the club, keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended, pay no bills without proper authorization (by the club or its officers constituting a business committee). At each club meeting he/she shall submit an itemized statement of disbursements and receipts. At the end of his/her term, he/she shall immediately turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the club to his/her successor.

Sec. 5] The Director at Large shall act as the liaison and coordinator to the other outgoing and incoming Directors. The Director at Large shall assume the duties of the activity director if there is not an activity director appointed by the board. Since this is a two (2) year term it affords continuity to the other offices.

Florida Hams Provide Communications Support During Hurricane Isaias

Amateur radio operators from Florida's Santa Rosa, Nassau, Lake, Pinellas, and Leon Counties played an important role in supporting emergency communications efforts during and following Hurricane Isaias, helping ensure that critical communication capabilities remained available throughout the storm.

In Santa Rosa County, volunteer amateur radio operators staffed the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the evacuation shelter at the Milton Community Center. These volunteers provided a communications link between the shelter and the EOC, relaying situational updates and maintaining readiness to support emergency communications should traditional systems become unavailable.

Amateur radio operators across the state also supported auxiliary communications efforts, providing additional capabilities to maintain contact with the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee if conventional communication networks experienced disruptions.

"While traditional communications systems have become significantly more reliable over the years, amateur radio continues to serve as a dependable auxiliary communications resource," said Arc Thames, W4CPD, Santa Rosa County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Program Manager. "When disaster strikes, our volunteers are trained, prepared, and ready to step in wherever we're needed. It's another layer of resiliency that helps protect our communities."

Thames also serves as the ARRL Northern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator and the Amateur Radio Liaison to the Florida Division of Emergency Management, supporting the coordination of amateur radio and auxiliary communications resources statewide.

"During tropical weather events impacting Florida, our Auxiliary Communications team provides volunteer operators to monitor amateur radio communications at the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee," Thames explained. "This ensures that if someone is unable to reach emergency officials through traditional means, we have another way to receive and relay critical information. We always hope we're not needed, but we're glad to be there just in case when all else fails." — Thanks to ARRL Northern Florida SEC Arc Thames, W4CPD, for the above



Club Information Page

1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday Nets

Dates/Net Control:

November 01 - Marvin KG5GMA

November 15 - OPEN

November -29 OPEN

Time: 8:00 PM Local

Repeater: 147.000 - 147.280 = Backup

Echolink node: 436088 KG5SKM-L

Next Board of Directors Meeting

Date: November - 02, 2026

Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

First State Bank, Sherman

Next Regular Club Meeting

Date: October 20, 2026

Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

License Testing

Date October 20, 2026

Time: 6:00-7:00 PM

Location

Texoma Council of Governments

1117 Gallagher Rd.

Sherman, Texas

Hungry Hams Breakfast

Saturday October 31 at 0800 hrs. at

Salty Heifer 2418 W. Morton in Denison

Click the links below for the following reports.

Meeting Minutes

<https://graysoncountyarcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/Minutes-2026-September-GCARC-Meeting.pdf>

Board of Directors' Meeting

<https://graysoncountyarcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/Minutes-2026-October-BOD-Meeting.pdf>

Treasurer's Report

<https://graysoncountyarcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/GCARC-Financial-Report-Sep-2026.pdf>

EVENTS

Fall Campout - November 6th-8th.

FCARC HamFest at Bonham Trade Days

November 14th, 2026

Christmas Party - December 15 Mariachi's Mexican

Our Calendar:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/r/month>

GCARC 2026 OFFICERS

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

ADDITIONAL ROLES

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

Local Repeaters and Nets

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
444.750 +5 MHz PL 100.0 W5RVT OPEN FM
441.325 +5 MHz PL 82.5 KG5SKM OPEN FM
ECHOLINK node - 436088 KG5SKM-L / ALLSTAR node - 534770

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

Join us for our Board Meetings



The GCARC Officers Board Meetings are 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, and we eat at Tracks Restaurant 109 N. Woods, Sherman at 1745 Hrs. prior to attending the meeting..

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>

eBay Restricts Listings of Radio Equipment, but Exempts Ham-Band-Only Gear

ImageOnline marketplace eBay has imposed new restrictions on listings of radio transmitting equipment in response to new FCC rules that took effect this week, but responded to ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® that its new policy will not apply to gear that operates exclusively on amateur radio frequencies. The FCC's rules are intended to use its equipment authorization program to protect against "national security threats to the communications supply chain" and cover a wide variety of products.

In its Third Report and Order issued on July 23, 2026, the Commission makes clear that online marketplaces share in the legal responsibility to assure that unauthorized RF devices are not offered for sale on their platforms. The rules took effect on October 13. Moving forward, equipment subject to FCC authorization must have its FCC ID number submitted to the marketplace and posted with its listing. There are exemptions for posts already online, "small sellers," and used equipment, but initial messages to sellers from eBay suggested that an FCC ID would be required in order to post a listing for any equipment that transmits RF energy.

In response to a request from ARRL for a clarification relating to amateur radio equipment that does not require FCC authorization, an eBay spokesperson provided the following statement:

eBay allows the sale of devices capable of operating only on frequencies that the FCC has allocated for use by Amateur Radio Service licensees. As these devices do not require FCC equipment authorization, FCC IDs will not be required for these listings as an amateur licensee may use his or her license to operate such radios.

However, two-way VHF/UHF radio equipment capable of operating outside of the amateur frequency bands cannot be imported, advertised, sold, or operated within the United States, including on eBay, without an FCC equipment certification.

If eBay inadvertently takes action against listings for devices that don't require FCC IDs and are otherwise authorized, the affected seller should inform eBay and we will assess whether to remove restrictions from the listing.

It should be emphasized that the FCC did not change its underlying equipment authorization rules. Amateur radio equipment, except for commercial HF amplifiers, continues to not require FCC authorization.

