

IRVING AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Serving Amateur Radio Since 1955

WA5CKF REPEATERS:

- 146.72 PL 110.9
- 224.40 NO TONE
- 442.675 PL 110.9

May 2022



May Meeting Information

The May meeting will be Thursday 26 May 2022, 7:00 pm, at Senter Park East.

The meeting program will be a demonstration of the SDRPlay RSPdx software defined radio, including using it to test three different HT/Antenna combinations, presented by John Cheyney KF5PFP.

President's Corner

Ken Hansen N2VIP

Ken is at the Dayton Hamvention this week. He doesn't have a President's Corner. He did send pictures. Some are below and you can see the entire album at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/WV5yAmLFAB5WiUDA9>



President

Ken Hansen N2VIP

Vice-President

Bill Byrom N5BB

Treasurer

Ron Tabb KC5HPO

Secretary

John Cheyney KF5PFP

Directors

Venzula Mathews KF5PJH

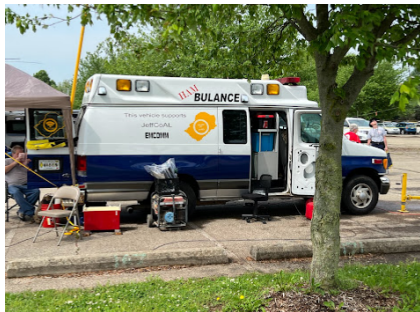
Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT

Billy Geer KA5OZC

Andrew Harmon KD5RKO

Newsletter Editor

John Cheyney KF5PFP



General/Business Meeting:
May 26 @ 7:00 pm

Weekly Meeting Nets:
7:00 pm each Thursday on the WA5CKF repeaters.

Contact Us

Irvingarc.org
P.O. Box 153333
Irving, Texas 75015-3333



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Shack Clean Up

Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT is trying to get a crew together to clean up the club shack at Betcha Bingo. He is tentatively planning on Sunday 29 May at 0900. If you can make it please contact him at jerry.aberdeen@gmail.com.

Radio In The Park, A Field Day Warm Up

Tom Schuessler N5HYP

The IARC held it's second Radio in the Park day this past May 7 (Sorry, no pictures taken, that I know of). 4 of us from the IARC, plus 2 from the Arlington ARC, spent a warm and breezy afternoon operating both HF and satellite from Shady Grove Trail Park in South Irving. This was a good opportunity for some of us to try some things out prior to ARRL Field Day. I discovered that I had a battery problem for my satellite pre-amps and also realized that it will be a good thing to populate an equipment to bring checklist, instead of packing on the fly.

The upcoming IARC meeting hopefully will give the club a good opportunity to talk about the logistics, and staffing of ARRL Field Day, 2022. The location will be at TW Richardson Grove Park, 161 and 635 in North Irving. The park has been home to several joint DARC and IARC events over the last 6 month, but this time, it will just IARC as we have the site for the entire FD weekend. WE do need to discuss not only equipment that will be brought, but also accommodations for food/water/facilities and overnight staffing. WE need your participation and willingness to get on the air with us to make this a fun and enjoyable time for all.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting, and especially at FD.

EmComm Training Organization Operation Ashfall

John Cheyney KF5PFP

On the weekend of 14 May 2022 I participated in Operation Ashfall, an emergency communication exercise from the EmComm Training Organization (ETO). ETO is a nationwide group of amateurs who promote Winlink usage. They sponsor a weekly Winlink Thursday training where participants send a message to specific regional clearinghouses. Each training has a specific goal and instructions.

Periodically the ETO sponsors weekend drills based on a potential emergency event. The event for this exercise was the eruption of a volcanic vent at Yellowstone National Park. The event had produced a cloud of volcanic ash several miles high, depositing ash across the United States. Each station was to send a Winlink Field Situation Report (FSR) form to their regional clearinghouse. The FSR allows the user to communicate the status of local infrastructure such as telephone, television, and utility structures as well as report an actual amount of ash.

The drill had two objectives. The first was to send a message to the clearinghouse using any Winlink method possible. I sent mine via KD5EOC-10 in Denton using VARA-FM from my house.

The second objective was to send another message using Peer To Peer (P2P) connection and VARA P2P. Winlink P2P is a direct connection from on station to another, to be used when the Internet is not available and normal email isn't functioning. The ETO provided a list of specific stations nationwide on frequencies in the 80, 30, and 20 meter bands.

I started at my house. Unfortunately because of my HOA situation my antenna is limited to 40 and 20 meters and 25 watts. Despite my best efforts I couldn't make and maintain a connection.

I then went up to the Irving Office of Emergency Management (OEM) radio room to use our Kenwood TS-480SAT and our HF antenna. Although this gave me more power and more frequencies I was still unable to complete a connection. I got one connection to a station in Ponca City, Oklahoma on 30 meters but it timed out before I could complete it.

Despite my disappointment, I did get my message out once, which was the primary goal of the exercise. I also got to spend some quality time with the OEM's Kenwood HF radio. This radio doesn't get a lot of work and it's not one I am very familiar with. I was able to meet my personal goals, even if I didn't get both messages sent.

For more information on the ETO you can visit their Groups.IO page at <https://emcomm-training.groups.io/g/main>. If you are interested in more Winlink training you can also participate in WinlinkWednesdayNTX, which also has a Groups.IO page at <https://groups.io/g/WinlinkWednesdayNTX>. Both provide a great way to train on a mode you don't have a reason to use every day.

Monthly Siren Testing
John Cheyney KF5PFP

The Irving ARES/RACES team and Irving Amateur Radio Club team up to help the Irving Office of Emergency Management (OEM) monitor the monthly warning siren tests. The tests occur on the first Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm, unless there is inclement weather. Each test lasts three minutes. The monitoring involves driving to a siren location, monitoring the test, and reporting your results to net control on the IARC 2m repeater.

We will send out an email with the priority sirens. If you are available please reply so we can assign you a siren. We will be on the repeater starting at 12:30 if you become available the day of the event. If you do, check in and we will assign you a location.

The May test will be Wednesday, 1 June 2022. If you can assist please contact John Cheyney KF5PFP or Billy Geer KA5OZC.

Irving ARES/RACES Report April 2022
Billy Geer KA5OZC

Total number of ARES members: 143
Change since last month: (-) __1__ or (+) _____ or same: > _____

Local Net Name: Irving RACES/ARES
Total sessions: 5
NTS liaison is maintained with the: DFW Net

Number of ARES drills, tests and training sessions this month: 4
1 Dallas Training
1 Irving Training
Siren Monthly Test
Person hours: 67.5

Number of ARES public service events this month: 0

Number of ARES emergency operations this month: 1
1 Skywarn Net
Person hours: 11

Total number of ARES operations/activations this month: 5
Total Person hours: 78.5



- President**
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- Vice-President**
Bill Byrom N5BB
- Treasurer**
Ron Tabb KC5HPO
- Secretary**
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Billy Geer KA5OZC
Andrew Harmon KD5RKO
- Newsletter Editor**
John Cheyney KF5PFP



April Meeting Minutes

John Cheyney KF5PFP

Officers Present:

President Ken Hansen N2VIP
Vice President Bill Byrom N5BB
Secretary John Cheyney KF5PFP
Treasurer Ron Tabb KC5HPO
Director Billy Geer KA5OZC
Director Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT

Call to Order 7:09 pm by Ken Hansen N2VIP

There were 15 members present.

Prayer

Greg Graham AI5EQ

Pledge of Allegiance

Ken Hansen N2VIP

Old Business

Meetings from the previous meeting.

Motion to Accept: Max Perry N5BSA

Second: Bill Byrom N5BB

Approval: Unanimous

Treasurer's report

Published in newsletter. Hamfest expenses and deposits are in the account now.

Motion to Accept: James Shugart N5BKL

Second: Max Perry N5BSA

Approval: Unanimous

Officers need to go to the bank and sign new signature cards and get Ron a new debit club, Ken also wants to get the officers and directors together next week.

Micro-Grant Update

Update from Bill Byrom N5BB. Committee met and made recommendations.

Grant the following applications;

- AARC (Arlington Amateur Radio Club) for \$615 (emergency power generator)
- DCARA & LAARK (Denton County Amateur Radio Association & Lake Area Amateur Radio Klub) for \$4,800 (remote weather stations)
- SARA (Sachse Amateur Radio Association) for \$638 (70 cm backup UHF repeater)

Reject the following applications

- MARS (Metrocrest Amateur Radio Society) for \$700 (Sponsorship of youth testing fees for Amateur license)
- PCARC (Park Cities Amateur Radio Club) for \$1,500 (70 cm repeater system)
-

Approve: James Shugart N5BKL

Second: Max Perry N5BSA

Accepted Unanimously

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Repeater site Update

Still need to buy open racks and some cables. Third Yaesu DR2X repeater was ordered after the last meeting.

North Central Texas Connection.

Ken reached out to them with our plans. We have been welcomed into their network. They want us to link in via AllStar. They need to have the ability to shut down the link from their side. Technical details to be determined. This will be the club's second 440MHz repeater pair.

New Business

New member: Patrick Crawford WN5RNW

Motion James Shugart

Second Ron Tabb

Accepted Unanimously

Bingo Hall Shack: Ken and Jerry went to the shack and cleaned up. Reboxed Dennis Riise estate equipment. Ken proposed bringing the remains to a meeting and then everything not taken will get thrown away.

James Shugart is working on a non-penetrating mount for a cobweb antenna. Antenna is 17ft per side. Antenna can be located in the center over the dipoles. Could be put on top of Betcha Bingo I. James has found a mount from Rohn and found a metal worker who can extend legs to allow cinderblocks to be added.

Motion to approve \$1300

Motion Bill Byrom

Second KA5OZC

Accepted Unanimously

Amazon Smile is set up for donations.

Ken asks for help with recruitment. Ron Tabb KC5HPO volunteered to assist.

DFW Ham Radio Expo. DFWHAM.COM June 11 2022 at Music City Mall in Lewisville. Trying to grow it from previous events.

Dennis Brady Estate is working to dispose of his equipment. May put together an event at Shack to help get rid of that.

Meeting Adjourned at 2115

Motion to Adjourn: Bill Byrom N5BB

Second: John Cheyney KF5PFP

Accepted Unanimously

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