

# IRVING AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## Serving Amateur Radio Since 1955

### WA5CKF REPEATERS:

146.720 - PL 110.9 TSQ 110.9

224.400 - PL 110.9

442.675 + PL 110.9

442.375 + PL 110.9

February 2023



## February Meeting Information

The February meeting will be Thursday, 23 February 2023, at Senter Park East, 7:00 PM. We will be talking about planning for the Irving Hamfest on 4 March 2023

## President's Corner

Ken Hansen N2VIP



Welcome to February, the shortest month of the year, so I'll endeavor to make this my shortest President's Corner of the year.

First up, the 2023 Irving Hamfest. As I write this, the Hamfest is two weeks away – yikes! Seriously, things are moving right along – table sales are brisk, and our door prizes are causing quite a stir among those that hear what we are giving away – we've got 5 different 2 meter radios from 3 different manufacturers, and each hour, one winner will choose from the remaining radios for their prize. At 9:00 AM, the winner will have their choice of one of the five 2 meter radios, the 10:00 AM winner will choose from the remaining four radios, and so on. But it's the Grand Prize that is really sparking people's interest – this year, instead of an Icom IC-7300 being our grand door prize we are giving away a Yaesu FTDX10 Hybrid SDR HF/6M transceiver. Last year we spent about \$2,600 on door prizes, and this year we are spending a similar amount (just under \$2,400) in the hope we'll attract attendees like we did last year when we ran out of admission tickets around 11:30 AM. This year I ordered 1,000 admission tickets and 800 "triple-packs" of additional door prize tickets (2,400 total, 800 x 3) – we should certainly have enough tickets this year! In addition, this year we are asking attendees to wear wristbands, we ordered 1,000 (one for each admission ticket) and I'm looking forward to seeing how people react to this.

The hamfest is only possible because of several things that make it possible – the space the Betcha Bingo Hall lets us use cost-free, our ability to offer great door prizes (we give away about 50% of our receipts away as door prizes), and our volunteers. Without the help of nearly everyone in the club we could never offer our popular hamfest year after year. PLEASE make an effort to help – I'll be soliciting your help at the February meeting and sending out a direct email this week to solicit your help. Again this year we'll have special volunteer door prizes again this year – we'll offer five \$50 gift cards, either for Ham Radio Outlet or Amazon, whichever the winner prefers. These gift cards are available only to people that volunteer for the Hamfest. Every volunteer will get exactly one special raffle ticket for this drawing, and the drawing will be held after the grand prize winner is chosen. Winners of the special volunteer door prizes do not need to be present to win.

Moving on, we're getting ready to select our 2023 Scholarship recipient, and we plan on donating \$5,000 to two local charities, Irving Cares and The Main Place at the Hamfest.

And speaking of volunteers, Jerry Aberdeen has been working on putting together a list of nominees for all the officer and director positions up for election in March – please consider running for an officer or director openings.

### 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:**  
February 23 2023 @ 7:00pm

**Weekly Meeting Nets:**  
7:00 pm each Thursday on  
the WA5CKF 2m repeater.

**Monthly VE Testing:**  
2nd Saturday of the month,  
Business Jet Center at Dallas  
Love Field. Check the IARC  
Calendar [here](#) for more  
details.

### Contact Us

[Irvingarc.org](http://Irvingarc.org)

P.O. Box 153333

Irving, Texas 75015-3333

Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/  
Irvingarc.org](https://www.facebook.com/Irvingarc.org)



Last month the club participated in Winter Field Day – we rented the newly renovated Heritage Center, and ran a couple HF stations, one running CW and another running SSB, and we had a good time. It was a casual effort, intended to be as much a play day as a contest event. The results were pretty good, and we learned a few things about the location: first, we needed to bring more coax (our antennas were too close to the building and too close to the public sidewalk just outside the building. Second, we needed to bring headphones – the hardwood floor and walls made the room an echo chamber. And finally, the building includes a nice kitchen, so maybe next time we could do some light food (Chili? Some BBQ meats and sides?).

Earlier today I participated in a Skywarn class on Greenville, and it reminded me that Billy Geer and the Irving ARES/RACES team he heads up can use your support. I encourage every club member to consider joining the two groups.

Also, every month our club helps the City of Irving Fire Department run their Siren Tests – we’ll discuss this at the club meeting, please consider helping if you can – the tests are at lunch time on the first Wednesday of every month, weather permitting.

Finally, the new repeater site is plugging along fine, I had hoped to have a “footprint” check before this next meeting, but I just didn’t have time. If you get the chance, please add the new repeater to you UHF radio (442.375. +5 MHz offset, and 110.9 PL tone), monitor/include the repeater to your scan list, and if you hear someone calling out on the repeater, respond! Of course, there’s nothing stopping you from simply keying up the repeater and finding out if anyone else is monitoring it.

As I wrap this up, I want to point out that after a delayed start, we will be offering Micro-Grants to 501c3 tax exempt clubs in and around Dallas county. If anyone asks, we are planning on offering them again this year, similar to previous years. At the club meeting we will also discuss the upcoming Trinity River Roundup, the planned 2025 Hamfest planned to fill the hole left with the end of HamCom a few years ago.

This month our meeting will again be held at Senter East Park on Thursday, February 23rd at 7:00 PM, and our topic of discussion will be final preparations for our upcoming hamfest – I hope you can join us!

## Winter Field Day

**John Cheyney KF5PFP**

The Irving ARC participated in Winter Field Day on Saturday 28th of January. We operated out of the newly renovated, and very nice, Heritage Park Building in Downtown Irving. Set up started at 11:00 am and we were ready to go at 1:00 pm when the event kicked off. We operated two stations. Bill Byrom N5BB had his Icom 7610 and I brought the Kenwood TS-480 owned by the City of Emergency Management and my ARRL Field Day Kit antenna (EFHW on 40/20/15/10).

Operators made a total of 66 contacts across the three hours we operated:

- 39 CW contacts
- 20 Phone contacts
- 7 Digital contacts

We had several guests hams come by, and were also visited by Jason Carriere, Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Irving and his son. Special thanks to the OEM for also helping us reserve the location.

As Ken noted above, we learned quite a bit about operating out of this location that will be useful for ARRL Field Day, which will be 24-25 June 2023.

Mostly, we learned it's air conditioned and heated and has bathrooms. Please join us in June for Field Day.

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# Winter Field Day Pictures

Bill Byrom N5BB and John Moss KI5WRQ



- President**  
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# Scholarship Update

**Bill Byrom N5BB**

During the Irving Net last night, John Moss KI5WRQ asked for an update on the IARC Irving Schools Foundation scholarship project. I had received an email on Feb 1 stating that the process was being delayed due to some failures in their automated system, but nothing after then. I sent an email to Crystal Scanio, and received a reply from Kay Branch with a link to a manually filtered group of 6 students which they thought met our criteria. Then late last night I received the email below which explains the delay and resets the deadline for us to turn in our choices to Tuesday, Feb 28. So we have 11 more days to work on the six students whose information I just received via a website.

My personal schedule is very full this weekend. I'm a National Space Society special award judge at the Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair on Saturday at Fair Park in Dallas. I just got power at my new house today, but the smoke detectors aren't set up correctly so they are alerting continuously and I had to turn off the power until the electrician has time to fix them. My new house project will keep me very busy until the end of February, since my plan is to move into the new house by Feb 28.

I will try to find some way for all of you to view what I can already view online - the six student applications. I might just have to give all of you my login credentials, but that might mean that only one person can log in and look at the student information at a time. My plan is to get this figured out by Monday and send all of you an update so we can get started on the student reviews.

Thanks for volunteering to help judge for the the IARC scholarship. More to come in a couple of days.

## Irving RACES/ARES Report January 2023

**Billy Geer KA5OZC**

Total number of ARES members: 13

Change since last month: (-) \_\_\_\_\_ or (+) 1\_\_\_\_\_ or same: >\_\_X \_\_\_\_\_

Local Net Name: Irving RACES/ARES

Total sessions: 3

NTS liaison is maintained with the: DFW Net

Number of ARES drills, tests and training sessions this month: 3

--2 Dallas Training

--1 Irving Training

Person hours: 34.8

Number of ARES public service events this month: 0

Person hours: 0

Number of ARES emergency operations this month: 0

Person hours: 0

Total number of ARES operations/activations this month: 3

Total Person hours: 34.8



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John Cheyney KF5PFP

# January Club Meeting Minutes

John Cheyney KF5PFP, Club Secretary

IARC January 2023 Club Meeting

Senter Park East, Irving

26 January 2023

## 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** 19:13 pm by Ken Hansen N2VIP

There were 10 members and 3 Guests

**Pledge:** Ken Hansen N2VIP

**Prayer:** John Moss Ki5WRQ

Presentation: Non-Resonant Wire Antennas by John Cheyney KF5PFP.

Treasurer laptop is now working. Ken Hansen N2VIP and Ron Tabb KC5HPO working to update the financial statements.

Balance approved.

Motion to Approve: Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT

Second: Billy Geer KA5OZC

## Old Business

New repeater site: New repeater site. Ken/Bill/John/Billy The following IARC members have access to the site:

- Ken Hansen N2VIP
- Bill Byrom N5BB
- Billy Geer KA5OZC
- John Cheyney KF5PFP

Procedures in place for notifying Radio Tech on call that are required whenever someone goes onsite. New repeater up on the 442.375 pair. Running at 50 watts. Currently has a UHF control frequency. Ultimately will have internet control.

AREDN radios are up. One sector is not working.

Next is to install 220 and current 440cm repeaters with different PL tones.

Richardson club member donated a server for us to use.

Currently have 4 duplexer cans for 2M that are not connected. Ken Hansen N2VIP to get Andrew Koenig to put them together and connect and tune them up.

Irving Schools Foundation: Agreed to give them \$1000 for a scholarship. Will soon start getting information on the students who have applied. Bill Byrom N5BB, Ken Hansen N2VIP, and John Moss KI5WRQ and Ron Ford KF5OMH will be the committee to make the analysis.

Microgrant project needs to be started. Committee to get started. Bill Byrom N5BB will lead. Ron Tabb KC5HPO, Ken N2VIP, Billy Geer KA5OZC, Ron Ford KF5OMH. Bill also waiting to hear back on status of the last rounds of grants.



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## New Business:

Nominating Committee: These officers are up for election (elected in 2021)

- President Ken Hansen N2VIP
- Vice-President Bill Byrom N5BB
- Director Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT
- Director Venzula Matthews KF5PJH

Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT will run the nominating committee for the next elections

New SK item Policy: We have a large amount of old crap at the shack. New club policy is that any donation has to be approved by the leadership and there has to be a plan to get rid of it.

Winter Field Day: Saturday 28th. Heritage Park 11am Operation Starts at 1:00pm. Runs until 6pm. Will have drinks. 2 HF Stations and the club Go Box.

Hamfest: give away money. Irving Cares, the Main Place and historically Great Days of Service.

Last year it was \$5000 to Irving Cares and The Main Place.

Motion to continue \$5000 to Irving Cares and The Main Place

Motion: Bill Byrom N5BB

Second Billy Geer KA5OZC

Unanimous

Bill Byrom N5BB to contact John Cheyney KF5PFP with info to contact the recipients.

Ron Ford KF5OMH has created an ad that has been spread out to other clubs for publicity.

Door prize budget: Last year the club spent a lot of money on door prizes but we also sold a lot of tickets. That may not happen this year

Proposed list of door prizes from Ken Hansen N2VIP

Yaesu FTdx-10. \$1400

FTM-3100 2 m

FT2980 2m

IC-2300 2m

Alinco 2M

Icom 2M

Each hourly winner gets to pick from the 2M radios that are there.

Total is \$2300.

Ken proposes \$2500 for prizes and \$250 for miscellaneous costs

Motion: Bill Byrom N5BB

Second: Ron Ford KF5OMH

Committee is Ken Hansen N2VIP, Ron Tabb KC5HPO, Ron Ford KF5OMH, and Bill Byrom N5BB

Large club sale table.

Need a photographer.

Need to buy door prizes before tickets.

Trinity River Roundup. ARRL is looking for a place for attendance and parking and tailgating.

They found a spot in Mesquite convention. Cost is approximately \$50,000. They are expecting start in 2025. Ken Hansen N2VIP is proposing the Irving club sponsors the training rooms. If the club gives them money to help book the event it's possible we will lose the money if it doesn't go off. We would give them \$2000 to make the difference to get them over the hump. Ken is going to reach out to our Section manager and let them know we will vote in February on this.

Motion to Adjourn: Billy Geer KA5OZC

Second: Bill Byrom N5BB

# Hamfest

- 70 Tables for Vendors and deals
- Hourly Door Prize Drawings
- Testing Table (Test before you buy)
- VE Testing
- Full Service Snack Bar

<https://irvingarc.org/hamfest>

## Irving Amateur Radio Club Annual Hamfest

March 4, 2023 8:00AM-2:00PM

ADMISSION \$5.00 (UNDER 12 FREE)

TABLES \$10.00 EACH

DOOR PRIZE TICKETS 3 FOR \$5.00

GREAT DOOR  
PRIZES

Betcha Bingo  
2420 W. Irving Blvd.  
Irving, TX 75061



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