

IRVING AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Serving Amateur Radio Since 1955

WA5CKF REPEATERS:

146.720 - PL 110.9 TSQL 110.9

224.400 - PL110.9

442.675 + PL 110.9

442.375 + PL110.9



August 2023

August Meeting Information

The August meeting will be Thursday, 24 August 2023, at 7:00 PM. We will be meeting at the club shack, Betcha Bingo II, 2420 W Irving Blvd, Irving, TX 75061.

President's Corner

Ken Hansen N2VIP

Welcome to August! Is it hot enough for you! Whew, I don't know about you, but I'm looking forward to the weather cooling down to, you know, sub 100 degree days...

I'm sorry I missed the meeting last month – it was unavoidable, at the last minute I had to have a medical test and I just wasn't able to attend the meeting. I understand it went well, and a couple interesting things came out of the meeting – some forward motion on the 2023 Micro-Grant Program front, and an interest in forming a Portable Operating Group inside the club.

With the Micro-Grant Program we're making a concerted effort to get updates on several outstanding projects, and it looks like our efforts are bearing fruit – we've heard from several organizations and I'm hopeful we can clear the deck in the next month or two.

As for the Portable Operating Group, I don't know many details, but at a high-level I really like the idea – portable operating activities accomplish a few things: Portable Operations are great for putting the club (and our activities) out in front of the public, it helps to build stronger bonds among the club members, and gives HOA-bound club members a chance to operate on the HF bands. I look forward to hearing more about this idea at our meeting this month.

And speaking of our meeting this month, we're holding the August meeting at the Bingo Hall – Ron Tabb and John Cheyney have gone thru the "vault" and identified many items they feel are surplus to our needs. I understand some of the surplus items will be offered to the club members at the meeting. I have no idea what the items are, but there will likely be something you might have a use for – an odd bracket, a unique cable, etc. Who knows?

Last month we had two Baofeng tri-band HTs offered as alternative door prizes to our normal \$25 gift certificates – I understand we still have one to award this month, good luck! I bought one for the club to leave at the new repeater site, so we'll be certain to have a radio capable of testing all of our repeaters on all three bands – it's a nice little radio, especially if you want to try-out the 220 MHz band...

Did I mention the August meeting will be at the Bingo Hall? Because it will be!

I know it's hard to believe, but we are about to start planning for the 2024 Irving Hamfest, so put on your thinking caps and let's try and come up with some ideas to make this next one the best yet!



President

Ken Hansen N2VIP

Vice-President

Bill Byrom N5BB

Treasurer

Ron Tabb KC5HPO

Secretary

John Cheyney KF5PFP

Directors

Venzula Mathews KF5PJH

Ron Ford KF5OMH

Billy Geer KA5OZC

Andrew Harmon KD5RKO

Newsletter Editor

John Cheyney KF5PFP

General/Business Meeting:

24 August 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

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<https://www.facebook.com/Irvingarc.org>



Before I go, I wanted to share something I've been working on – after 25 years in the hobby, I feel it's well-past time to order up some QSL cards – it turns out the cards themselves aren't that expensive, about \$150 for 1,000 full-color photo QSL cards seems to be the going rate, making the cards cheaper than the postage to mail them! If anyone is interested, I'll share my findings with the club at the meeting.

I hope you can join us this Thursday for our August meeting at the Bingo Hall, we'll be meeting at 7:00 PM – it promises to be an interesting meeting.

Update on Shack Clean Up

John Cheyney KF5PFP

The first two Saturdays in August, Ron Tabb KC5HPO, Bill Byrom N5BB, and I spent time at the club shack doing an inventory/deep clean.

For those of you who don't know, the IARC has a an operating room and storage vault at Betcha Bingo II. which is at the southwest corner of W Irving Blvd and N Story Road. We have two operating stations, one UHF/VHF and one HF, and multiple antennas on the roof.

Ron, Bill and I went through both the operating stations and the vault, pulled most everything out, inventoried those items that we felt needed to be insured or had value, and rearranged things as best we could. We did throw away some things that were clearly broken or of no use, but we got rid of very little. Ron also did some document management of old records.

Our club meeting this week will be at the shack. We are going to show what we did and solicit ideas for the rest of Stage I, which is getting the shack in a position where people can walk in and operate. We will also start talking about Stage II, which is optimization and potentially adding new equipment.

We have a few boxes of old equipment that we are going to lay out for people to take. Before you get excited, these are things that we have determined don't have enough monetary value to sell, the club doesn't need, and may or may not even work.

So, please come by the meeting Thursday, see what we've done, and let's start talking about what we as the club want this to be.

Portable Operating Subgroup

John Cheyney KF5PFP

I am organizing a subgroup within the IARC that is going to focus on portable radio operations. This idea came out of a conversation I had with Shane Outlaw KI5GBU when he was helping me on my first POTA activation, as a way to get people more active in club events and radio in general.

What's portable operation? That's up to the group to decide. It could include:

- Parks on the Air (POTA)
- Summits on the Air (SOTA)
- Portable contesting (like the Rover contests)
- Foxhunting
- Or whatever else people are interested in

The group will have it's first meeting Monday 4 September, 7pm at the Bingo Hall. We will talk about what we want to do going forward. I will do a presentation on using Hamstick antennas.

I hope everyone can join us.

President

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Vice-President

Bill Byrom N5BB

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Irving RACES/ARES Report July 2023

Billy Geer KA5OZC

Total number of ARES members: 12
Change since last month: (-) __1__ or (+) ____ or same: > ____
Local Net Name: Irving RACES/ARES
Total sessions: 4
NTS liaison is maintained with the: DFW Traffic Net
Number of ARES drills, tests and training sessions this month: 3
--2 Dallas Training (18.7 hrs)
--1 Irving Training (10 hrs)
Monthly Warning Siren Check (3 hrs)
Person hours: 31.7
Number of ARES public service events this month: 0
Number of ARES emergency operations this month: 0
Total number of ARES operations/activations this month: 4
Total Person hours: 66.8

Thursday Club Net

IARC holds a net every Thursday night, except the fourth Thursday when we have our meeting. The net starts at 7:00pm on the 146.72 repeater or Echolink. Everyone is welcome, whether you are an IARC member or not. Net controls are:

- Bill Byrom N5BB
- Shane Outlaw KI5GBU
- John Cheyney KF5PFP

July Club Meeting Minutes

John Cheyney KF5PFP, Club Secretary

IARC July 2023 Meeting
Senter Park East, Irving
27 July 2022

Officers Present:

Bill Byrom N5BB Vice-President
Secretary John Cheyney KF5PFP
Treasurer Ron Tabb KC5HPO
Director Billy Geer KA5OZC
Director Ron Ford KF5OMH

Call to Order 19:09 pm by Bil Byrom N5BB
There were 9 members and 3 Guests

Pledge: Bill Byrom N5BB
Prayer: John Moss KI5WRQ

Introductions

New Applications:

- 1.KB6POE Richard Hernandez: Unanimous
- 2.KJ5BTK Donald Jordan: Unanimous



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Billy Geer KA5OZC

Andrew Harmon KD5RKO

Newsletter Editor

John Cheyney KF5PFP

Old Business:

Approve minutes from last meeting John Cheyney KF5PFP

Ron Tabb KC5HPO

Ron Ford KF5OMH

Unanimous

Treasurer report: Ron Tabb KC5HPO

\$46004.99 as of right now.

Bill Byrom N5BB

Roger Bacak N5VUJ

Unanimous

Microgrant Project Update: IARC has donated money to other 501(c)(3) radio organizations for projects that will help the general public. Groups have to be in Dallas County or any county that borders it. Not required for the club to put money on the project but we would like for them to if they can. Need to start the project for 2023. We still have a number of groups who have not completed their project.

1.2020: Denton County ARA Expanding AREDN Camera Network

2.2021: Mckinney ARC 5.8 Ghz Link

3.2021: Metrocrest ARS Carrollton EOC equipment refresh

4.2021: Plano ARK Remote Base for repeater

5.2021: Richardson RWK 440 repeater upgrade

6.2022: Denton County ARA and Lake Area ARK: Remotely Accessed weather stations

Plan for 2023:

Committee will attempt to contact the organizations that have not completed their efforts and produce report for club at September meeting. At that point the club will decide if there is a round for 2023.

Motion by John Cheyney KF5PFP

Second by Bill Byrom N5BB

Unanimous

Field Day Final Update:

~125 contacts

13 operators

Ideas for next event.

1.2M SSB station

2. Have people sign up for time slots for operation

3. YouTube Video or other event publicity

Fourth of July Parade: 13 club members and RACES/ARES members provided communication support.

Moon Day at Frontiers of Flight Museum: Tom Schuessler N5HYP was there with AMSAT.

New Business:

Ron Tabb KC5HPO was present with an award for all the work that he has done for the club.

Giveaways:

John Cheyney KF5PFP \$50 Gift Card

Kim Bacak N5KCB Baofeng Tri-Band Radio

Presentation on ECHOLINK by John Cheyney and Bill Byrom

Motion to Adjourn: Billy Geer KA5OZC @ 2100

Second: Ron Tabb KC5HPO

Unanimous

Submitted by IARC Secretary John Cheyney KF5PFP.