

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



November 2023

November Meeting Information

This month's meeting will be Thursday, 16 November 2023, at 7:00 PM, Senter Park East, 1100 Senter Rd, Irving, TX 75060. We will start at 6:00 pm with some antenna testing, business meeting at 7:00 pm, and club meeting at 7:30 pm. Everyone is invited to all parts.

President's Corner

Ken Hansen N2VIP

Welcome to November! We've got a lot going on, so let's get to it.

As you are likely aware, our November General meeting will be a week earlier, on the third Thursday of the month, because, well, the fourth Thursday is Thanksgiving. We will be meeting at Senter East Park, our usual meeting place, but our meeting will be anything but usual! Earlier today a couple other club members and myself met to organize the club equipment needed for our Winter Field Day practice.



As discussed at our last meeting, we will be setting up a couple antennas, setting up one of the club's IC-7300 HF radios, and hopefully figure out how to set up our antennas to minimize interference between the two. We will be setting up a vertical and an OCF Dipole, hopefully we'll get some benefit from the two different polarities and physical distance. I hope you'll be able to join us and help us figure this out. As always, our meeting will start at 7:00 PM, with the "Radio Play" occupying the start of the meeting.

Our December meeting will also be earlier in the month to avoid any conflicts with holiday plans. Our meeting will be on Tuesday, December 12th, again meeting at 7:00 (I believe, we will confirm the time at the meeting later this week). As we did last year, we'll have several door prizes to offer - I am again asking each club Director and Officer to select one door prize (value up to \$75) and every attendee will receive a number of tickets equal to the number of door prizes offered, allowing everyone to distribute their tickets as they see fit.

Since our last meeting, John Cheyney, KF5PFP, took up the task of designing and ordering a new club banner, we'll have it on display at our upcoming meeting - thanks to John for undertaking this effort, as well as the others that helped by contributing ideas and suggestions. The new banner was very affordable at under \$75 and will find use at upcoming club events.

We will be forming a nomination committee soon (January, 2024) to fill four club positions - two directorships and two officer positions - if you would like to help participate in the leadership of the club, now is the time to step forward. We'll have more details at the upcoming meetings.

Well, that's about it from here - I hope you'll be able to join us this Thursday, at 7:00 PM for our November meeting and our test run for Winter Field Day in January, 2024.

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:

16 November 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

P.O. Box 153333

Irving, Texas 75015-3333

Facebook:

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

Recognizing Our Veterans

For Veteran's Day, we'd like to recognize members of IARC who served. Thank you for all you have done for our nation.

- Billy Geer KA5OZC (United States Air Force)
- James Comer KB5FVS (United States Air Force)
- Ron Tabb KC5HPO (United States Army)
- Kent Jordan KJ5BTK (United States Marines)

Portable Operating Subgroup

John Cheyney KF5PFP

We have formed a subgroup that is focusing on portable operating. We've had meetings on various subjects: hamstick antennas, logging for POTA, and we had a very successful Radio in the Park in October. We took club equipment out to Cottonwood Creek Park in Irving to make sure it all still works.

For November our event will be at the club meeting. We will be doing antenna testing of the Senter East Park site to see how it will set up for for Winter Field Day in January.

As we move into the new year, if you have any ideas for events please let me know. You can email me at jjcheyn@gmail.com.

Irving Christmas Parade 2023

The IARC and the Irving RACES/ARES team will again be providing communications support for this year's Irving Christmas Parade. The parade is Saturday 2 December 2023 at 6:00 pm. Volunteers will need an HT that operates on 2 meters and a high visibility vest. The club has vests available if you don't have your own.

If you are available please contact Ron Tabb at ronalddtabb1955@gmail.com.

Winter Field Day 2024

John Cheyney KF5PFP

Winter Field Day is an annual event that promotes operations in austere/field conditions. It is held on the last weekend in January. This year's event is January 27th and 28th. The IARC will be doing a sprint event, operating on Saturday the 27th from 1:00 pm to dusk.

We are tentatively planning on setting up at Senter East Park, which is where we have our regular monthly meetings. Before the club meeting on 16 November, starting at 6:00 pm, we will be setting up some antennas and doing some testing for antenna placement,

Winter Field Day is a great event to operate. There will be a huge number of people all across the nation participating. Different from ARRL Field Day in June, FT4/FT8 are not allowed (although other digital modes are). That pushes people to voice and CW. Contacts are fast and there are plenty of pile ups to practice on.

We will have control operators so everyone can operate, regardless of class.

We will have more details as they come out, but mark that weekend on your calendar and don't miss a great radio event.



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Help Wanted

Repeater Committee:

Looking for a club member to assist in overseeing the IARC Repeater infrastructure, both the repeaters on “the hospital” and at “the EOC site”.

The ideal candidate would have an interest in managing the repeaters the club relies on to provide coverage across the area. Responsibilities will include investigating and resolving issues with any of the club repeaters (employing outside resources to resolve outstanding issues beyond their abilities), implementing technology and procedures to remotely manage club repeaters, and evaluate, design and implement new technologies in the repeater infrastructure. Potential projects include AllStar, Broadcastify streaming, Digital Modulation (C4FM/Fusion, etc.), and other enhancements as the club membership may desire.

The candidate selected for this position will be required to obtain required City of Irving and Baylor Scott & White Hospital Identification credentials to ensure access to either repeater sites

Hamfest Committee:

Looking for a club member to assist in overseeing the 2024 IARC Hamfest this coming March. The ideal candidate will have an interest in planning, coordinating, and overseeing the Hamfest, and possibly taking a more significant role in future Hamfests. The work is not hard, it will not occupy more than a few hours of your time per month. Responsibilities will include alerting Ham Publications and websites of the planned event, determining door prizes, printing the admission and door prize tickets, overseeing ticket and table sales, Bingo Hall set up and take down, as well as oversight during the event and reporting to the club the results of the Hamfest (attendees, ticket/table sales, revenue generated, and so on)..

Club Station Committee:

Looking for a club member to assist in overseeing the club radio station (“shack”) at the Betcha Bingo II bingo hall. The ideal candidate will take charge of the space, keep it clean/organized, and be responsible for opening the shack to fellow club members interested in operating the club station during pre-arranged, or scheduled, times throughout the year. Projects the Club Station Committee will consider and, if approved, will execute on will include, but not be limited to upgrading the EchoLink computer system and relocating the equipment to the shack, upgrading the VHF/UHF operating position to support “weak signal” SSB operation, configuring the HF operating position for remote operation by club members, and possibly even establishing a basic satellite station with a small “Sat Pack” antenna array on an Az-El rotor. The ideal candidate must be willing to make themselves available – at a minimum – to open the shack for a few hours several times a week (including weekend mornings), or arrange a fellow club member to take on this responsibility.

Interested club members are encouraged to let their interest be known to Club President Ken Hansen, either at the October Club meeting or via email at ken@n2vip.org.

RSVP for Events

John Cheyney KF5PFP

HamClubOnline has a feature that allows us to send out email notifications prior to a meeting and allows you to RSVP. I am going to start using this for as many of our events as I can. When you get the email please try to remember to RSVP. It’s OK if you say yes and don’t make it, but this will help us in planning and logistics.



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Irving RACES/ARES Report October 2023

Billy Geer KA5OZC

Total number of ARES members: 12
Change since last month: (-) _____ or (+) _____ or same: >__X____
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: 4
--2 Dallas Training (22.5 hrs)
--1 Irving Training (8 hrs)
Monthly Warning Siren Check (1 hrs)
Person hours: 33
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: 31.5

October Club Meeting Minutes

John Cheyney KF5PFP, Club Secretary

IARC October 2023 Meeting

Betcha Bingo II, Irving

26 October 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 Ron Ford KF5OMH

Call to Order 19:04 pm by Ken Hansen N2VIP

There were 10 members and 1 guest

Pledge: Ken Hansen N2VIP

Prayer: John Moss KI5WRQ

Introductions of club members and guests.

Business Meeting:

Repeater Update: All are working fine with no issues. The Fire/Training site the road next to the shack by the tower is under construction. Still have the training center 2M repeater on the alternate tone.

Plan is to move ECHOLINK back to club shack. This will be coordinated after the start of the new year.

Microgrant letter is sent out and is available on the website. Bill Byrom N5BB attended the North Texas Club roundtable held by the ARRL section and talked about it.

Bill Byrom N5BB and Tom Schuessler N5HYP attended the National AMSAT meeting last weekend in Irving.

HamClubOnline donation for \$100 has been made.



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Second Irving School Foundation grant: John Moss KI5WRQ talked to head of Irving Schools Foundation. They have three options for donating for staff education:

- College tuition for IISD teachers getting a Master's degree
- Paraprofessionals who want to get their Bachelor's degree in teaching
- Applicants who want a grant for continuing education

Motion from Bill Byrom N5BB to donate \$1000 to the ISF Staff fund to be used as they see fit.

Second by Billy Geer KA5OZC

Unanimous

Club Holiday party. Traditionally either don't have a December meeting and have a Holiday Party or both. Members voted unanimously to have a party this year.

This will be in place of the December meeting. First choice of date is December 14th.

Bill Byrom N5BB will work to get Spring Creek Barbeque.

The club voted unanimously to participate in Winter Field Day. John Cheyney KF5PFP will lead.

The club voted unanimously to hold a Hamfest in 2024. Ken Hansen N2VIP will lead with help from Ron Form KF5OMH.

Billy Geer KA5OZC is planning on leaving his Radio Officer position first quarter of next year. He has not secured a replacement within the current group. The club will need to appoint the next Radio Officer.

Business Meeting adjourned.

Club Meeting:

Presentation by John Cheyney KF5PFP on Anderson PowerPoles

Kevin Grantham N5KRG has a friend going to Paramedic Training and a friend who has lost her job.

Bill Byrom N5BB's brother is back in the hospital

Pledge Ken Hansen N2VIP
Prayer: John Moss KI5WRQ

13 Members, 2 Guests

The club will continue to have business meetings at 7:00 pm with member meeting starting at 7:30 pm

Old Business:

Approve minutes from last meeting as published in the newsletter.

Motion to Accept: Ron Ford KF5OMH

Second: Ron Tabb KC5HPO

Unanimous

Treasurer report: Ron Tabb KC5HPO

Motion to Accept: James Shugart N5BKL

Second: Billy Geer KA5OZC

Unanimous

The banners the club currently have are out of date. We would like to have a new one for Winter Field Day.

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Winter Field Day will be the last weekend in January. John Cheyney KF5PFP will lead.

Discussed possible locations:

- Centennial Park Downtown
- Garden and Arts Center
- Senter East Park

John will contact IPAR to see if Senter East Park is available.

Irving Christmas Parade: Ron Tabb KC5HPO and Billy Geer KA5OZC will coordinate for the club.

Hamfest: Ken Hansen N2VIP is looking for someone to take this over for 2025. Ron Ford KF5OMH will assist this year.

Portable subgroup update: Next event will be tentatively be 3 December 2023.

Ken Hansen N2VIP is looking for people to fill the following positions. Descriptions were posted in the newsletter.

Shack Manager: Ron Tabb KC5HPO and John Cheyney KF5PFP volunteered.

Repeater Manager: We have four repeater pairs, with multiple repeaters. The person who takes the position has to get access to the EOC and the Hospital.

Request from a member to move the monthly meeting to the Bingo Hall. Discussed but members had concerns about the smell from smoking. Also concern about the way people are spread out at the Bingo Hall. After discussion the decision was made to continue meeting at Senter East Park.

Discussion was had about adding virtual component/web meeting component to the monthly meeting. Club members expressed concerns about the amount of work it would take to do this without knowing how much it would be taken advantage of.

Other clubs have weekly social functions. Ken Hansen N2VIP put out the question that the club used to have a weekly breakfast during the week. Asking people to think about this and whether it's something we want to do.

Motion to Adjourn: Billy Geer KA5OZC

Second: Ken Hansen N2VIP

Unanimous @ 21:04

Submitted by IARC Secretary John Cheyney KF5PFP.

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