

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 2024



February Meeting Information

Our next meeting will be Thursday, 22 February 2024, Senter Park East, 1100 Senter Rd, Irving, TX 75060. We will start the business meeting at 7:00 pm, and club meeting at 7:30 pm. Everyone is invited to all parts of the meeting.

President's Corner

Ken Hansen N2VIP

This past weekend we held another open house/work party at the Bingo Hall Shack, and we got a lot done – I'd like to thank all that stopped-by to help. We went through a lot of the inventory in the shack, and after consolidating some things, disposing of some other things, and marking some things to be gotten rid of at the upcoming Hamfest on March 2nd. But the best thing to happen is that we've opened-up a fairly substantial amount of storage space in the vault. In addition to opening up some much-needed space in the vault, we identified a few items for the club to purchase – an MFJ pole to support wire antennas and take the place of the Rohn steel push-up poles, and a collapsible wagon to help us deploy for portable events. There will be a fairly large collection of items offered by the club at the Hamfest, maybe there will be something you'd be interested in.



Speaking of the Hamfest, we've sold, as of Sunday morning, about 40 of our 70 tables for the event, and sold a few admission and raffle tickets – online sales are proceeding nicely, hopefully we can "sell out" before the end of February.

If you haven't already, please consider volunteering for the Hamfest – volunteers will receive free admission to the event, as well as be entered in a special, volunteer-only, drawing where we'll be giving away five fifty dollar Amazon/HRO Gift Certificates. If you'd like to volunteer for the event, please reach out to Randy Patterson, KE5JIT, at ke5jit@gmail.com and he'll help find a role you can help with.

Next Month, March, we plan on going up on the roof of the Bingo Hall and installing the MFJ Cobweb antenna that was donated to the club so many years ago. We'll hopefully identify a date (the third Saturday?) at this month's meeting.

If you haven't yet, consider trying out our initial remote station on remotehams.com – if you aren't sure how to access it, ask at the upcoming meeting – for members without an HF station it can be a great way to try out HF, and for those who hold licenses with HF privileges can get authorized to transmit.

If you haven't seen the club shack recently, you really should stop by and take a look. We normally open the shack on the third Saturday morning each month, as well as the occasional Thursday night for our on-air 2 meter club net. It really is a nice, comfortable place to visit, and thanks to John Cheyney for securing 4 new, comfortable chairs for the room.

President

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Directors

Venzula Mathews KF5PJH

Ron Ford KF5OMH

Billy Geer KA5OZC

Andrew Harmon KD5RKO

Newsletter Editor

John Cheyney KF5PFP

General/Business Meeting:

25 January 2024 @ 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>

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As you may be aware, we have a Volunteer Examiner group that provides testing for new and upgrading licensees – we're always looking for club members to help the effort. They provide testing at the Business Jet Center over by Love Field on the second Saturday morning, as well as at our upcoming Hamfest. If you're curious and want more information, you can stop by the VE testing at the Bingo Hall during the Hamfest, or reach out to our VE Coordinator, Roger Bacak.

As a reminder, the club elections are coming up soon, and at our upcoming February meeting we'll have the nominating committee put forth their slate of candidates for the open positions. When we left the January meeting the committee (Ron Ford) was in need of a candidate for one remaining Director position – if you are interested in helping lead the Irving Amateur Radio Club, please reach out to Ron and let him know of your interest. Once the list of candidates, either from the committee or a nomination from the floor, is finalized we'll have an on-line election to fill the open positions.

There's going to be a lot to do in support of the upcoming Hamfest, I hope you'll consider helping out – it's always a good time and a great way to give back to the local amateur community.

I hope to see you at the February meeting this coming Thursday, and at the Hamfest March 2nd.

Hamfest Volunteers Needed

Randy Patterson KE5JIT, volunteer coordinator for the Hamfest, wanted to let everyone know he still needs volunteers for the Midnight setup crew. This will get you entered into the special Volunteer Only drawing. If you are available please contact Randy at ke5jit@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor Wanted

John Cheyney KF5PFP

I would like to get someone to take over editing the newsletter. I am using a free online website called Canva, and it takes me one to two hours a month to create an edition. Whoever takes the role is free to continue what I have done or completely redesign it. If you are interested please contact me at jjcheyn@gmail.com.

Winter Field Day Was A Cool Event For IARC

John Moss KI5WRQ

On Saturday, January 27 the Irving Amateur Radio Club once again met at Irving's Heritage Park to participate in Amateur Radio Winter Field Day. This year we were designated a "3I" station, meaning we operated Three radios simultaneously and were in an Indoors facility - away from our homes. The weather for the day started out cloudy and breezy, with cool temperatures in the 40s.

The Yellow House at Heritage Park is a very good example of the City of Irving's emphasis on providing Irving's citizens with excellent park facilities. The Yellow House is heated, has a full kitchen, has good bathrooms and has plenty of room for our Club members to spread out and operate radios. It is used by various civic groups for meetings throughout the year. We were fortunate to be able to reserve it again this year for our Winter Field Day activities.

The three radios we used included the Club's ICOM 7300 located in the back room of the house, where several club members took turns working SSB on 15 and 20 meters. N5BB - Bill Byrom - was located in the main room, working CW on several different bands. N5HYP - Tom Schuessler - set up his radio and antenna in the gazebo outside the building and worked 10 meter phone in that area with a group of Club members. All Winter Field Day contacts were made using the Club's WA5CKF call sign.

On Saturday morning the team set up the Club's new RadioWavz Off Center Fed Dipole and used it with the ICOM 7300. That antenna performed very well all day - so thanks to N2VIP for purchasing it for our Winter Field Day use! The team also set up the Club's portable vertical antenna for Bill, and set up Tom's personal antenna for his group. We began operating right at the Winter Field Day's 1900 UTC start time, and we operated continuously until we shut down around 2330 UTC that evening. All together the group made approximately 116 contacts across the US and Canada.



We were very happy to have several of our Club's new members participate, and we also had a few prospective members at the Winter Field Day event this year. We even had one prospective member, a teenager named Nate, participate in his very first Amateur Radio QSO. It was an exciting time for him - and for all of us.

Special thanks go to KI5GBU - Shane Outlaw - who stayed up most of Friday night in order to smoke excellent pulled pork for our Saturday lunch. He provided us with pulled pork sandwiches and chips, and the food was excellent!

Once again Winter Field Day proved to be an excellent event for the Irving Amateur Radio Club. A fun time was had by all, and we all tried to meet the Winter Field Day organization's objective of learning new things in order to make ourselves ready and able to operate remotely in any situation.

Thanks to KF5PFP - John Cheyney - and to the rest of his Winter Field Day organizing committee. Everything went as planned, safety was observed throughout the day, and we all had lots of laughs, good food and fellowship. What more could you ask for? We look forward to many more remote events with our Club members in 2024.



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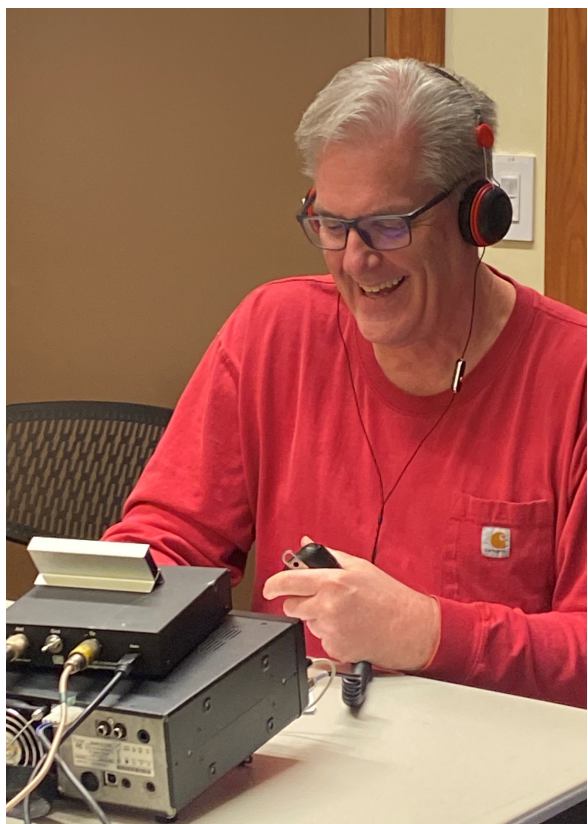
Ron Ford KF5OMH

Billy Geer KA5OZC

Andrew Harmon KD5RKO

Newsletter Editor

John Cheyney KF5PFP



Open Shack Day February 2024

John Cheyney KF5PFP

The February Open Shack Day was another success. We went through the vault and pulled out items that will be put up for sale or to give away at the upcoming Hamfest.

The March Open Shack Day will be an antenna work day. We need to send a team up on the roof to inspect our antennas and guying system and to install the MFJ cobweb. I'd like to have at least four people on the roof in two teams, one to take care of the current antennas and one to install the cobweb.

We also need multiple people on the ground to test the antennas, help organize the build, and provide safety spotters.

Please join us, Saturday 16 March, 2024 at 9:00 am.



January 2024 RACES/ARES Report

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: 3
NTS liaison is maintained with the: DFW Net
Number of ARES drills, tests and training sessions this month: 3
2 Dallas Training 21.3 Hours
1 Irving Training 9 Hours
Monthly Outdoor Warning System Check 2 Hours
Admin Work (Travel Time, Reports, Documenting) 4.5 Hours
Person hours: 36.8
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: 36.8

Comments:> I will be retiring from my positions on March 31, 2024

January 2024 Meeting Minutes

John Cheyney KF5PFP, Club Secretary

IARC January 2024 Meeting
Senter East Park, Irving, Texas

Officers Present:

Ken Hansen N2VIP President
Secretary John Cheyney KF5PFP
Treasurer Ron Tabb KC5HPO
Director Billy Geer KA5OZC

Business Meeting

Call to Order 1908 by Ken Hansen N2VIP
There were 12 members and 3 Guests

Pledge: Ken N2VIP
Prayer: John KI5WRQ:

Introductions of new members and guests

Cowtown update from Ken Hansen N2VIP: Twice as many presales as previous year.

Winter Field Day: Saturday 27 January

Treasurer report from KC5HPO.
During the Dallas club yearly audit they found a check for \$850 from the IARC for the 2022 Hamfest. The check was never deposited. We issued them a replacement check.
Motion to approve: Billy Geer KA5OZC
Second: Ken Hansen N2VIP
Unanimous

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Microgrant Update: Committee has not made final approval on all of them. Garland was asked a question and has answered back.

The club gave a scholarship to a person last year through Irving Schools Foundation. The recipient has asked if we will give her more money for her next year of college. Membership decision was not to do this. Bill Byrom N5BB to respond.

The club made the following donations at Hamfest last year.
\$5000 to Irving Cares
\$5000 to The Main Place
Ken Hansen N2VIP makes a motion that we do the same this year.
Motion: Billy Geer KA5OZC
Second: Ron Ford KF5OMH
Unanimous
Ken will look to see if Great Days of Service still exists as a possible donation recipient.

New Member: KG5EIU Dave Cappello
Approved.

Shack Update:
John KF5PFP Requested \$400 for new chairs for the shack
Second: Will Turk N5TLH
Feb 19 clean up and get ready for Hamfest. March or April antenna maintenance and installation of new antennas. N2VIP asked to replace the current printer with a new LaserJet printer, asked the club authorized \$200 for a new printer.
Motion: Ron Ford KF5OMH
Second: Billy Geer KA5OZC
Unanimous

VE Testing (January 6 2024): Eight people tested, one did not pass.

Repeater issue. Information coming in through the repeater wasn't being transmitted across the controller to the transmitter. Was fixed with a reboot.

Hamfest:
Online ticket sales are up. Some tables and tickets have been sold
Email sent out to all clubs in the NTX section and asked to include it in their newsletter
Ad has a coupon that if you bring it in you get an extra raffle tickets.
Email to everyone that bought a table or ticket online.

Last year we had someone approach us about giving us a number of small computer size fans as a donation. Ken will reach out to him and see what we can get.

At Cowtown there was a local author who set up there to sign a book that she wrote. She promoted their Hamfest on her page. No objection from the club to invite her and give her a comped table.

We have a club sales table. Club members can put things there to be sold. Ken proposes that we do not charge a percentage for club members who sell. No objections.

Door prizes are purchased. Tickets have been ordered.

Volunteers. Ron Ford KF5OMH is doing ads and Randy Patterson KE5JIT will be getting volunteers.



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Winter Field Day
Saturday 27 January 2024
Setup 10:00 AM
Contacts start at 1:00 pm
Takedown approximately 5:30 pm

Elections: Nominating committee to meet to put together a list of people for the slate in February and then vote is in March. Ron Ford KF5OMH is head of the nominating committee.

Motion to Adjourn: Ken Hansen N2VIP
Second: Ron Ford KF5OMH
Unanimous @ 9:13 pm
Submitted by IARC Secretary John Cheyney KF5PFP.



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