

IRVING AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Serving Amateur Radio Since 1955

WA5CKF REPEATERS:

146.720 - PL 110.9 TSQ

110.9 224.400 - PL110.9

442.675 + PL 110.9

442.375 + PL110.9

June 2025



May Meeting Information

The next in person Meeting will be on June 26th 2025 at the club Shack at Betcha Bingo hall on 2420 W Irving Blvd, Irving, TX 75061.

President's Corner

Ron Ford KF50MH

President, Irving Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

A lot of things are happening around the club. Mostly good stuff, but there's always some bad that goes along with the good.

The next CLUB MEETING is Thursday, June 26, at Betcha Bingo beginning at 7:00 PM sharp. Beginning at 6:00 PM the VE team will be available for anyone wishing to test for an upgrade or take the Technician exam. Our speaker for the evening will be Greg Mihran from Campbell California. Greg is the inventor of several antennas that are popular with POTA activators. Following are some links to information on many of his antennas.

- YouTube™ Interview with Michael Martens, KB9VBR -[youtube.com/watch?v=cClmWBYzNaE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cClmWBYzNaE)
- ARRL™ QST 2024 Antenna Design Competition - bit.ly/AntennaDesignCompetition
- KJ6ER Antennas Primer - bit.ly/KJ6ERAntennasPrimer
- PERformer 40M-6M Quarterwave Vertical - bit.ly/KJ6ERPERformer
- Challenger 20M-6M OCF Halfwave Vertical - bit.ly/KJ6ERChallenger
- Dominator 17M-10M EF Halfwave Vertical - bit.ly/KJ6ERDominator
- Dominator 17M-10M EF Halfwave 2-Element Vertical Beam - bit.ly/KJ6ERDominatorBeam

FIELD DAY is this coming Saturday, June 28 at T.W. Richardson Grove Park. Tom N5HYP and his committee of Bill N5BB, Kim N5KCB and Roger N5RCB have planned a great event. See information elsewhere in this newsletter and the detailed email from Tom this past week. Come out and operate for a while. This is a good time for Technicians and Generals to be able to operate on portions of the bands that they normally do not have privileges or to learn a new skill.

The Echolink node has been relocated to the shack. I not going to belabor that item because it has been covered in other communications. I do, though, want to recognize John KF5PFP, Ken N2VIP, and Will N5TLH for their hours spent making this move. Also, thanks to Bill N5BB for hosting the mode at his home for the past years.

As you may or may not be aware we had some electrical issues in the shack during the recent storms. Following the second incident the decision was made to have an electrician evaluate the service coming into the shack along with a couple of existing safety issues. The evaluation was completed this past week and the work schedule for this coming week. The board approved the expenditure at their meeting on June 22. Thanks to Ken N2VIP and John KF5PFP for troubleshooting the outages and getting the electrician scheduled.

President

Ron Ford KF50MH

Vice-President

Ron Tabb KC5HPO

Treasurer

Kim Bacak N5KCB

Secretary

John Cheyney KF5PFP

Directors

Will Turk N5TLH

Roger Bacak K5RCB

Barry MacGregor N5SMW

Shane Outlaw KI5GBU

Newsletter Editor

Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT

Web Master

Roger Bacak K5RCB

General Meeting: 26th June 2025 @ 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 for more details.

Contact Us

Irvingarc.org

P.O. Box 153333

Irving, Texas 75015-3333

Facebook:

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

Irvingarc.org

President's Corner Cont'd

DFW Ham Expo-IARC had a PIO and sales table at the event. Ken N2VIP was able to get both tables next to each other. Ken and John KF5PFP spent time manning the tables during the event. They were able to either sell or dispose of some equipment that the club had no need for. Also, thanks to Ken for hauling all the sale items to the event.

Speaking of things excess to our needs, there will be a box of items at the club meeting that will be free for the taking. If you don't come to the meeting you will probably miss out.

On May 30 and 31 a Scouting event was held in Bedford. Barry N5SMW assisted by Kirk N3KDP and Will N5TLH established a field station utilizing the club Go Box in order to demonstrate amateur radio to the attendees. See Barry's comments elsewhere in the newsletter.

Have you done something interesting in our hobby lately, built a new antenna, had a unique DX contact or anything that would interest the readers write up a short article and send it to our newsletter editor Jerry KB3RWT at jerry.aberdeen@gmail.com.

Every month John KF5PFP holds an Open Shack Saturday. Unfortunately, not many members take advantage of this opportunity to come in and operate with fellow club members or check out a piece of equipment or check out a book from our extensive library. On June 21 Barry N5SMW, Kirk N3KDP and I had a great time chasing POTA stations and West Virginia QSO Party stations then we went to lunch (not a requirement but adds to the fun). Come on out and participate.

13 Colonies Special Event – If you are looking for a fun event on SSB, CW and FT-8 this is a great opportunity. The event runs from July 1 through July 7. There are 16 stations, one in each of the 13 original colonies, one in Philadelphia, one in the UK and one in France. The objective is to work as many of the stations as possible. There is a certificate available for a small fee but it's really all about bragging rights. Click this link for more information -- <http://www.13colonies.us/>. At the Board meeting on June 22, they approved an intra-club event based around this special event. See an article elsewhere in this newsletter.

July 19 is POTA Support Your Parks weekend. IARC will be participating in the event as a club from Cedar Hill State Park. Look for more information on the club website and elsewhere in this newsletter. Questions can be directed to Roger N5RCB or Kirk N3KDP.

A new policy was introduced at the June 22 Board meeting whereby if a person tests and passes with our VE group prior to one of our meetings they will be offered a one-year free membership.

Come on out and get active with your club. There are a lot of opportunities to get involved.

73 Ron KF5OMH



President

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Vice-President

Ron Tabb KC5HPO

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Web Master

Roger Bacak-N5RCB

From The Desk Of the Secretary

May 2025 Club Meeting
Betcha Bingo II
Irving, Texas

Officers Present:

President: Ron Ford KF5OMH
Vice-President: Ron Tabb KC5HPO
Treasurer: Kim Bacak N5KCB
Secretary: John Cheyney KF5PFP
Director: Barry Mac Gregor N5SMW
Director: Will Turk N5TLH
Director: Roger Bacak N5RCB
Director: Shane Outlaw KI5GBU

Members Present:18

Guests Present:2

Meeting called to order by Ron Ford KF5OMH at 1900.

Pledge of Allegiance:Ron Ford KF5OMH

Blessing: John Moss KI5WRQ

Presentation: Karin Thompson KD4DXX from RT Systems

The discount code IARC2025 for 10% is good until 6/12/2025 on their site.

Treasurer's Report: Kim Bacak N5KCB

- Motion to accept: Billy Geer KA5OZC
- Second:Will Turk N5TLH
- Accepted unanimously

Secretary's Minutes: John Cheyney KF5PFP

May Business Meeting

- Motion to accept: Billy Geer KA5OZC
- Second: Ron Tabb KC5HPO
- Accepted unanimously

April Club Meeting

- Motion to accept: Billy Geer KA5OZC
- Second: Ron Tabb KC5HPO
- Accepted unanimously
- Accepted unanimously

The club has purchased a new camera for live streaming meetings and other events. We are using that camera tonight.

IARC used to be an ARRL Special Service club. That status has lapsed. Ron KC5HPO has contacted the ARRL and is working on getting it set up again.

Field Day Plans: Tom Schuessler N5HYP updated the club. Kim Bacak N5KCB has reserved the #2 and #3 Pavilions at TW Richardson Grove from 10am to 8pm. Tom has set up a Zoom meeting for Monday night for anyone interested in participating..

John Cheyney KF5PFP gave an update on the shack. The two new computers were installed and the remote radio is set up and working. In trying to set up Echolink we tripped a breaker. Ken, John, and Will are coming up Sunday morning to work on it again.



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From The Desk Of the Secretary

Ham Expo in Lewisville June 6 and 7, 2025. We have two tables, one for information and one for club sales. We need people to staff from Noon to 6pm on Friday and 9 to 3pm on Saturday. Club members can sell items but they need to be willing to work the table.

We still have the three old desktops and monitors. Those will either get recycled or taken to Lewisville.

After the meeting we need to go through the shack and look at things that can be taken to Lewisville Ham Expo to sell/give away.

Last month we had a presentation on NVIS.. The presenter was contacted by a club in Kansas who wants to partner with a club in the Metroplex to test out this method of passing welfare messages. The club isn't going to participate but if individuals want to participate they can contact Ron Ford KF5OMH for more information.

Director's Updates:

Barry Mac Gregor N5SMW will be asking for help for committees:

- Scholarships
- Charitable Donations
- Micro-grants
- Bylaws Review

Will Turk N5TLH:

The current 2M repeater has an older and limited controller. We have two new controllers to install. Will will work with Ken and John to get the new controllers at both repeater locations after the EchoLink node is moved.

Roger Bacak N5RCB:

Tom Schuessler N5HYP has set up a Zoom meeting on Monday, 26 May to talk about Field Day June 19th is Support Your Parks Weekend. There is another one in October. We have Cedar Hill State Park Pavilion rented for those events. He is looking for people to manage them. He is working with Shane Outlaw KI5GBU to get the Fox Hunt active on a monthly basis.

Ron Tabb KC5HPO has talked to Spring Creek about setting up the Christmas Party. He is still gathering more information.

Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT will start working with Roger on the VHF contest.

New Business

We were contacted by an organization called Bodies Race that put on 5k/10k races wanting to know if we would be interested in doing communications for their events. There is one race here in Irving. This is October 18th. We are expecting to need 10 people. That is the same day as the POTA event. Ron will let them know we are not available for that weekend.

Ken Hansen N2VIP: Proposed we purchase a wattmeter(s) that can be loaned out to members. He made the motion to spend up to \$250 to buy meter(s), cable, case

Second: Kirk Hooks N5TLH

Unanimous



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From The Desk Of the Secretary

Roger Bacak N5RCB: Propose we buy a small gasoline generator to power things like fans, charge batteries/phones. This was discussed as well as purchasing a battery unit that could be used for the same purposes. After discussion by the club, Will Turk N5TLH suggested that people bring out their units and test them at Field Day in June. Ron Ford KF5OMH will bring his Jackery unit to Field Day for a trial. The issue will be discussed again after that event.

Raffle for \$25 Mastercard Gift Cards. After this we will go back to Amazon or HRO gift cards.

- Tom Schuessler N5HYP
- Austin Littman N4AKL

Billy Geer KA5OZC reminded everyone of the Siren Test the first Wednesday of each month.

Motion to adjourn: Ron Tabb KC5HPO

Second: Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT

Meeting Adjourned at 2120

IARC June 2025 Business Meeting

22 June 2025

Meeting via Zoom

Officers Present:

President: Ron Ford KF5OMH

Vice President: Ron Tabb KC5HPO

Treasurer: Kim Bacak N5KCB

Secretary: John Cheyney KF5PFP

Director: Barry MacGregor N5SMW

Director: Roger Bacak N5RCB

Director: Will Turk N5TLH

Members:

Kirk Hooks N3KDP

Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT

Meeting called to order at 18:33 by Ron Ford KF5OMH

9 members present

Old Business:

Kim Bacak N5KCB:

Looking at new door prizes from Harbour Freight. She will go Wednesday and pick them up.

Ron Ford KF5OMH got emails from PayPal when Kim went into PayPal. Asked Kim to check the email and make sure it's going to the Treasurer email.

Ron Tabb KC5HPO:

Talked about Honor Roll and ARRL Service Club status. He contacted the ARRL and is getting more information. He is working on the documentation.

He has Spring Creek BBQ in Irving for the Christmas Party, 18 December 2025 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.



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From The Desk Of the Secretary

Roger Bacak N5RCB:

Field Day: Tom Schuessler N5HYP has sent out communication to the club about Field Day Plans. Roger and Kim Bacak will be taking responsibility for the food.

POTA Support Your Parks Weekend is 19 July 2025. The team will discuss that once Will Turk N5TLH gets back, Kirk Hooks N3KDP will take the lead. This will be in place of the Open Shack for that weekend.

Fourth of July Parade: Carrye Johnstone reached out to the club to see if anyone was interested in assisting. Ron Ford and Roger Bacak have attempted to contact her and she has not responded. We will wait until Carrye contacts us for more information. Roger discussed the potential for operating various events, such as patrolling at Halloween or at the Irving Mall during Christmas. Concern was raised about legal liability for the club if members have accidents. Ron Ford to talk to Ken Hansen N2VIP about what our insurance would do.

Ron Tabb to talk to his church in Euless about the potential for using his church or another location for a monthly ham sidewalk sale/flea market.

Barry MacGregor N5SMW:

Outstanding Microgrants. He has the documentation from Bill Byrom. Still seven outstanding although two of them may be satisfied. The Arlington club has purchased the antenna they wanted. Mansfield club wanted their 220 MHz replaced. He believes that has happened but will confirm. Barry is working on following up with the clubs that are out there. Moving forward he would like to have a couple of people on a committee to help the process.

John Cheyney KF5PFP made a motion that we stop trying to find out what happened to the outstanding projects.

Roger Bacak N5RCB seconded the motion.

Vote was Unanimous for the motion.

The Scholarship Committee will be Bill Byrom N5BB and Ron Tabb KC5HPO. Barry would like one more person, Roger Bacak N5RCB also volunteered to be on that committee.

He is working on forming a Charitable Donations Committee to manage that process.

Will Turk N5TLH:

No updates. Ron Ford KF5OMH asked that he form a Repeater Committee. Ken Hansen N2VIP, John Cheyney KF5PFP, Bill Byrom N5BB and Ron Tabb KC5HPO, possibly others. Will will get this started when he gets back.

John Cheyney KF5PFP:

Ham Expo: Ken Hansen N2VIP sold/gave away a lot of club surplus. Total profit was \$50.

Echolink has been moved to the shack using the equipment in Bill Byrom's house. Next step is to move that from the old computer to something newer.

Ken Hansen N2VIP met with an electrician at the shack. We have a proposal to rewire the vault including removing an old outlet, rehanging the lights, and putting in a new outlet. Estimate was \$500.

Motion from John Cheyney KF5PFP for \$750 for electrical work on the shack.

Roger Bacak N5RCB seconded the motion. Vote was Unanimous for the motion.

Ron Ford KF5OMH would like to start the Bylaws review in August. All officers should have their input and then it will be moved on to the membership.

He also asked for job descriptions from all the officers



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From The Desk Of the Secretary

New Business:

Kirk Hooks N3KDP gave a wrapup of the event at the DFW Trade-O-Ree.

Ron Ford KF5OMH asked Roger Bacak N5RCB for an update on previous discussions about the N2DFW repeater. Roger asked that be tabled for further notice.

John Cheyney KF5PFP made a motion that the club hold a contest around the upcoming 13 Colonies Special Event. The member that made the most contacts to 13 Colonies stations will win a \$100 prize. In the event of a tie there will be a drawing at the next club meeting from those people. There were no objections. John to send information to Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT for the newsletter.

Ron Ford KF5OMH talked about a contest for members who attend club related events. The winner would get drawn at the Christmas party.

John Cheyney KF5PFP suggested that officers and directors not be eligible. Roger Bacak N5RCB suggested weighting the events so that some events got more tickets.

Barry Mac Gregor N5SMW asked if other clubs did the same thing. The Dallas club last year did a year long contest where people who participated in certain events got tickets. Ron will further define his plan and bring it back to the officers.

Roger Bacak N5RCB suggested that we do a free first year of membership to people who pass their test with us. This was discussed and there were no objections.

Motion to Adjourn: Roger Bacak N5RCB

Second: Barry MacGregor N5SMW

Meeting adjourned at 20:14.

Submitted by Secretary John Cheyney KF5PFP



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Powerpole Adapter for the ICOM IC-7100

John Cheyney KF5PFP

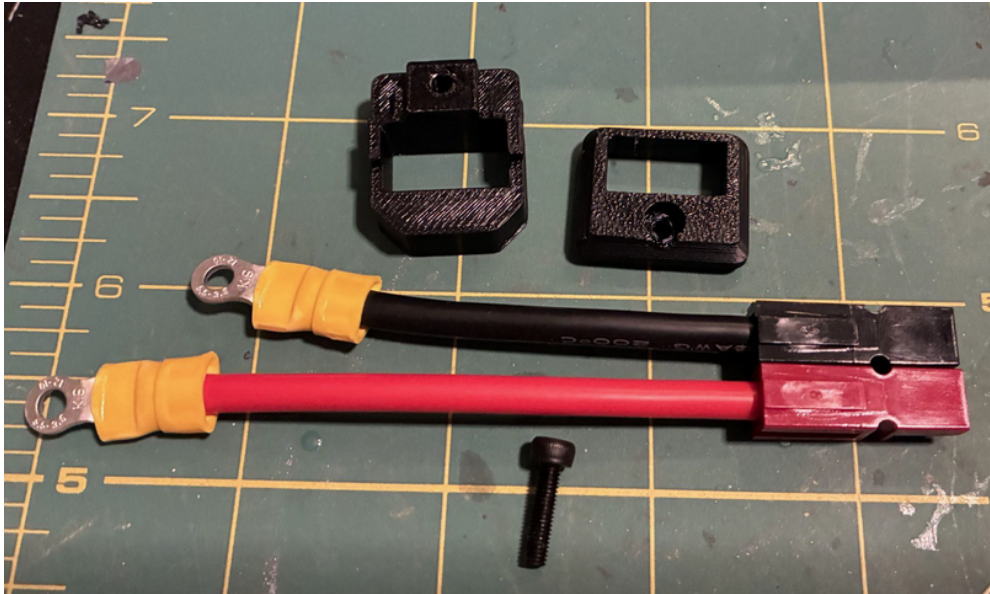
Anderson Powerpole connectors are widely used in amateur radio. They make it easy to interchange radios and wiring--just plug and play. One place we haven't typically seen them is on the back of radios themselves. Most radios still come from the factory with proprietary power connectors, which means users often need to create a short jumper cable between the radio's power input and a Powerpole-equipped extension. One ham, Jason Wang NØBOY, has addressed this for the ICOM IC-7100 by designing a simple and effective Powerpole adapter kit.

I first learned about this solution on the Temporarily Offline YouTube channel, hosted by Steve

McGrane KM9G (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxAllmuXSHw&t=352s>).

Jason's kit includes four components

- A set of Powerpole connectors, already crimped onto wires that attach directly to the radio's main board.
- A two-piece 3D-printed adapter that holds the Powerpoles securely in the radio's rear panel.
- A screw to fasten the two halves of the adapter together



I ordered the adapter from Jason directly. Since he runs this as a one-man operation, it's not quite like ordering from HRO or DXEngineering. He batches orders, assembles the kits, and contacts buyers for payment--Venmo in my case. From order to delivery, it took about three weeks. The total cost was \$30.30, which includes shipping.

The build quality is excellent. While I'm not sure what material the adapter is printed from--possibly PETG--the print quality is high. Jason either uses a well-calibrated 3D printer or works with a commercial printing service. The wiring is cut to the proper length and the crimps are solid.

Installation is straightforward. After removing the radio's case, the existing power cables can be detached from the main board with screws. The trickiest part is removing the factory connector, and that's where the YouTube video proves helpful. The two-piece 3D-printed housing sandwiches the Powerpoles and fits into the rear panel. Small stanchions inside the radio align with grooves in the connectors to hold everything in place. Once the wires and grounding clip are connected to the board, reassemble the case--and you're done. The whole process took me about 10 minutes, including a quick YouTube refresher to make sure I had it right.



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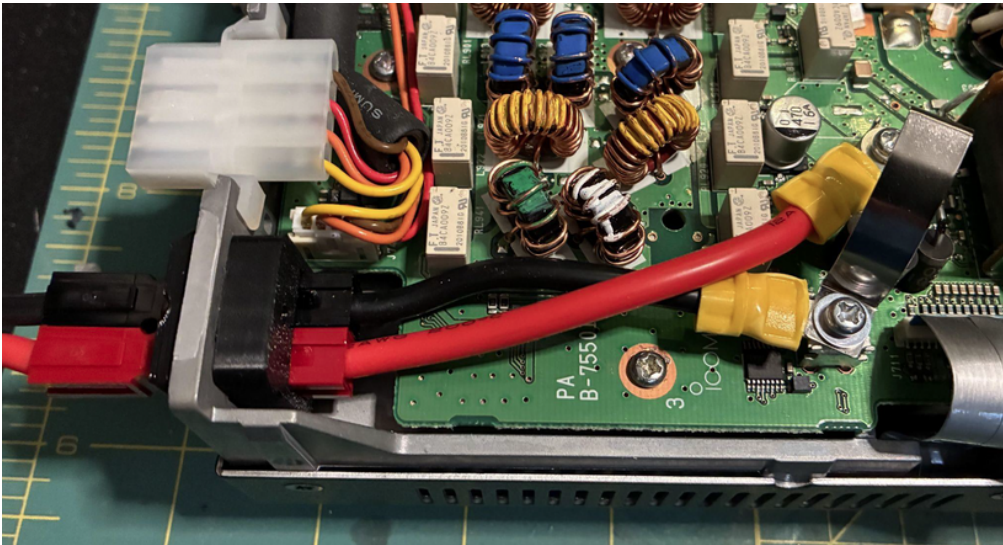
Jerry Aberdeen KB3RWT

Web Master

Roger Bacak-N5RCB

Powerpole Adapter for the ICOM IC-7100

John Cheyney KF5PFP



This project is a great example of hams helping hams--combining ingenuity, problem-solving, and modern tools like 3D printing to improve our gear and share useful solutions with the community. If you are interested in one of these kits you can contact Jason at elumspe@gmail.com. Article for Club Newsletter

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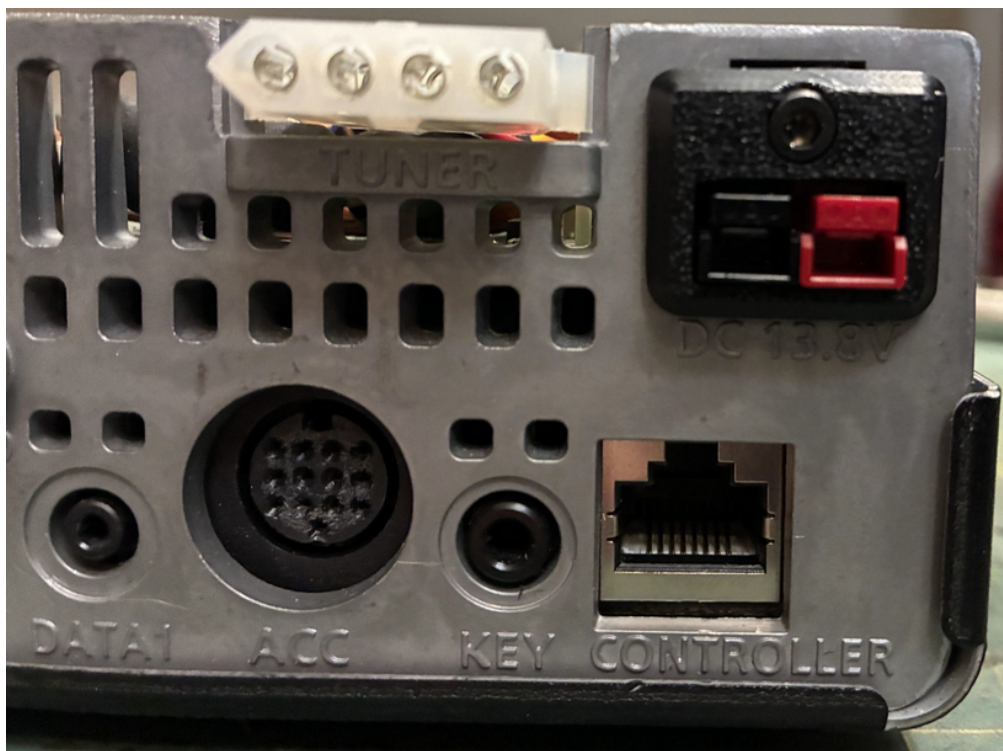
Shane Outlaw KI5GBU

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Roger Bacak-N5RCB





ARRL Field Day

Next Saturday is ARRL Field Day and we at the Irving Amateur Radio Club invite you to participate with us. Our event will be a Saturday only affair to be held at TW Richardson Grove Park in North Irving. <https://irvingtx.gov/index.php?section=park-facilities&projectsection=13&project=69>. We will start setup at 10:00AM with the contest beginning at 1P. We will operate until evening with the goal of being out at around 8PM or close to Sunset. The site above has a map and address for you to locate.

There will be food and water/beverages available both at mid-day, and in the evening as well.

We have two of the three pavilions, the larger one is very close to the parking area and the second one is about 500 feet further in. There will be plenty of room for the three station positions planned for the event. We will be running an HF SSB, HF CW and 6 meter Digital mode/SSB station (Free transmitter) for a class of 2A.

The club will be providing much of the infrastructure for our activities, but that does not mean that if you have an antenna or radio that you would like to test out in a "Field" environment, you could not bring it along. If an antenna, you need to bring along coax and methodology to get it deployed. If a radio, we need to know what and when so we keep the number of transmitters on the air the same.

If nothing else, bring yourself, kids/grandkids, friends or co-workers to demonstrate some of what ham radio is all about.. We would love to get you/them on the air.

The annual 3 Colonies Special Event

The annual 3 Colonies Special Event is coming up soon. There are 16 stations, one for each of the original 13 US Colonies, one for Philadelphia, and one for England and France. This year it runs from 1 July 2025 0900 ET through 7 July 2025 23:59 ET.

This year the IARC will hold a contest for members. The member who contacts the most 13 Colonies event stations will win a \$100 gift card, they can choose to whom. Please send an official 13 Colonies log sheet to John Cheyney KF5PFP at secretary@irvingarc.org by no later than 5:00pm on 14 July. In case of a tie we will draw at the July club meeting.

For more information check out <http://13colonies.us/>

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Shack Update



IARC Lending Library

The club has purchased a library of books from the ARRL. These books are in the shack and available for check out by club members only. We are working on a way for club members to get to them. For now you can check them out at any shack event, or by contacting Ken, John, or Kim and setting up a time to meet. Please only keep each book two weeks at a time.

- ARRL Technician, General, and Extra class manuals
- ARRL Handbook
- ARRL Antenna Book
- Basic Antennas
- RFI Book
- Understanding Basic Electronics
- Basic Digital Electronics
- And many others

Club Equipment for Loan to Members

The club has several pieces of equipment that members can borrow for testing their stations, or for use at events. If you'd like to use some of this you can pick it up at any shack event, or make arrangements with John or Ken.

- Rig Expert AA-600 antenna analyzer
- IFR Service Monitor
- Anderson Powerpole crimp kit (you have to supply your own connectors)
- Soldering equipment
- Several desktop power supplies
- MFJ-557 Morse Code practice oscillator (for practicing CW)
- Multiple sets of HT's and tape-measure Yagi antennas for fox hunting
- 25 watt Retevis 2M mobile radio in an ammo can (great for events like the parades)

In addition we can lend out the UHF/VHF go box (contains two radios), the IC-7300, the PowerWerx battery box, and a number of antennas and coax runs to support special events or for testing.

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RACES/ ARES Corner

The Irving RACES/ARES group is always looking for amateur radio operators willing to join them in community service to the city of Irving, all you have to do is be a licensed amateur radio operator, and either work or live within the city of Irving. If you are interested feel free to contact Carry Johnstone KD5RFB.

Siren Test

Reminder to all,

Both the IARC and Irving RACES ARES group have committed to support the monthly Irving siren (ENS -Emergency Notification System) test.

Irving has 26 sirens located through the City, on City property. All sirens rotate and make a LOUD siren type noise, with the exception of the one that is located on top of the Irving Convention Center that does not rotate.

There is always a monthly test that occurs on the first Wednesday of each month at 1:00 PM and lasts 3 minutes. There are two types of tests, a full function test, siren and rotation (if it is designed to rotate), and a silent test (rotate only if it is designed to rotate). The silent test is only done if there is any possibility of a weather threat, or any other reason the OEM (Office of Emergency Management) feels it may confuse the citizens.

We will only monitor the test for full functionality, NOT the silent test. I will notify all that has a siren assignment if the test is silent (usually before noon on the day of the test), and get confirmation you received that notification.

The individual effort will take only around 5 minutes at the location, but may take a total of 15-45 minutes, depending on travel time to and from. You MUST be close enough to your assigned location to see it rotate and sound for the full 3 minutes (ear muffs and/or ear plugs are recommended).

A list of all the sirens with the ones needing to be observed identified to choose from will be sent to all the IARC and Irving RACES ARES group members the weekend before the test. You will need to notify me of your choice, and I will conform it is yours to observe, or request you to pick another because somebody else has picked it.

We, as Amateur Radio Operators, enjoy this hobby, and this is one way we can give back to the community. This is one of the reasons the FCC has allowed us to have assigned frequencies/bands to operate on, as HAMS, to enjoy and have the skills needed to support any government entity if needed, or during times of a national emergency. It is a GREAT and fun hobby.

Regards,
Billy KA5OZC

Note: Volunteers are needed to help test the Irving city siren system every first Wednesday of the month. If you are interested in helping, please contact Billy KA5OZC at (214) 587-8729 or via email: wgeer@verizon.net



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From the Desk of the editor

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Let me take the opportunity to thank all our contributors to the current and past editions of the IARC club newsletter. I am always looking for articles that are ham related for the newsletter.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please email your contribution to me at jerry.aberdeen@gmail.com, with the subject "IARC Newsletter and your callsign" e.g. IARC newsletter -KB3RWT

Going forward, I would like to have all articles for the newsletter sent to me on or before the Sunday of the week in which our in-person meetings are held. This gives me the opportunity to organize, create and send out the newsletter in a timely manner. Thanks.

De KB3RWT