



July 2025

Upcoming Events

- 12 Jul - WCARC Monthly Meeting
- 19-20 Jul – Hunt Dog Trials
- 26 Jul - Mesa County ARES Mtg
- 9 Aug – WCARC HamFest
- 23 Aug – Mesa County ARES Mtg
- 13 Sep – WCARC Picnic
- 27 Sep – Mesa County ARES Mtg
- 11 Oct – WCARC Monthly Meeting
- 23-26 Oct – HAMCON 2025
- 25 Oct – Mesa County ARES Mtg
- 8 Nov – WCARC Monthly Meeting
- 22 Nov – Mesa County ARES Mtg
- 13 Dec – WCARC Monthly Meeting

Ham Lunches

Wednesdays, 11:00 am

Ham Breakfast

Third Friday, 9:00 am

More Details Below

A Note from the President

Greetings fellow Hams!

Just a quick note. Field Day was a success due to the hard work of many folks who provided equipment and/or support. I have submitted our entry, and it has been received so now we wait. We had a few non-hams stop by with questions. Some stayed and really spent time with club members learning about amateur radio. Maybe we'll see some new members in the future. We also had a lot of club members come by. It was great talking to each one of you. More to follow at the upcoming meeting on Saturday, 12 July.

Randy KD0NSP

Monthly Club Meetings

The Club holds its monthly meeting on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 0930 at the First Christian Church, 1326 N. 1st Street, Grand Junction, CO. The meeting location is fully handicap accessible and everyone is welcome to attend! We discuss club business, upcoming events and have an interesting presentation at each meeting. Come a little early for social time - coffee and donuts are provided. There will also be a table available for swap/sale items from 0900-0930.

New this month we are going to begin providing the option to join our Monthly Meeting remotely via Google Meet. Watch for an email with a video call link for the meeting.

Don't forget to peruse the Club Website and look over last month's Meeting Minutes before the meeting.

For questions regarding the Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Please email: info@W0RRZ.org

We would love to have club member input for newsletter content. This could include ham-related content and photos for general knowledge and education that could benefit our members.

For next month, I would love to see photos of everyone's "Go Boxes".

Whether it's what you use to support the races, gear for Field Day or a POTA backpack.

Send me your photos. Maybe your set up will inspire someone else.

Let me know what you think of the Newsletter or submit a tidbit to add to the next newsletter by emailing membership@W0RRZ.org

The Social Side of Things

Ham Lunches are every Wednesday at 1100. The location changes each week & is announced on the Oatmeal Net Wednesday Morning then posted on W0RRZ.org

Ham Breakfasts are held the third Friday of each month. Currently we are meeting at 0900 Pufferbelly Station 337 S. 1st St. Grand Junction

Oatmeal Net is conducted Monday – Friday except Holidays 0730-0800 on the Club Repeaters. Open to all licensed amateur radio operators

Radioactive Net - Every Tuesday at 1930 on the club repeaters & the WestCo Repeater Systems. This is the place to ask questions and discuss your current radio projects.

Amateur Radio License Testing

Taking an exam to get or upgrade your Amateur Radio License could not be easier. Exam testing is offered every month immediately following our Club meetings.

Please coordinate with Brad AK0BC 970-275-0121 ak0bc77@gmail.com.

Full details are also available on the Club Website at www.W0RRZ.org.

Getting ready for your Exam

Whether you are brand new to amateur radio or upgrading your license, it's a good idea to study and practice for the test. Get the book on your exam either through ARRL or Amazon then do some practice tests.

The following links have free practice tests for all levels of the exams:

<http://arrlexamreview.appspot.com>

<https://hamstudy.org>

HamCon Colorado 2025

**ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
23-26 October**

Grand Junction, Colorado at the DoubleTree

Advance Registration is now \$30.00 and includes a door prize ticket. You can also register for other events during the convention for an additional fee. There are a number of seminars and activities scheduled for this three-day event.

AND its right here in Grand Junction!

For more information go to www.hamconcolorado.com

WCARC will have a table to promote the Club during the event.

Please contact John AJ6LI at daleyj@yahoo.com or

Randy KD0NSP at n4655e@gmail.com if you wish to volunteer to man our table at the event.



NEED MORE GEAR? LOOKING TO CLEAN OUT THE SHACK?

Join us at the WCARC annual HAMFEST & SWAPMEET

Saturday, 9 Aug 2025 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

First Christian Church 1326 N. 1st Street Grand Junction

See our flyer with all the details attached

See Randy KD0NSP if you'd like to volunteer to help during HAMFEST

Field Day 2025

Field Day was developed as a day in which all Ham Radio Operators in the United States, Canada and eventually around the world were encouraged to set up in remote locations under simulated emergency conditions and make contacts across the country and the world. This was a means for the Ham Operator to make sure his/her equipment would function in those conditions thereby demonstrating to the emergency first responders that we were ready, willing and able. This has become an annual event.

This year WCARC and MC ARES partnered at a site at the First Christian Church in Grand Junction while other Club Members went to the cooler elevations on the Uncompahgre along Uranium Road. Both groups were successful in their endeavors. We would like to extend our appreciation to everyone who participated this year!



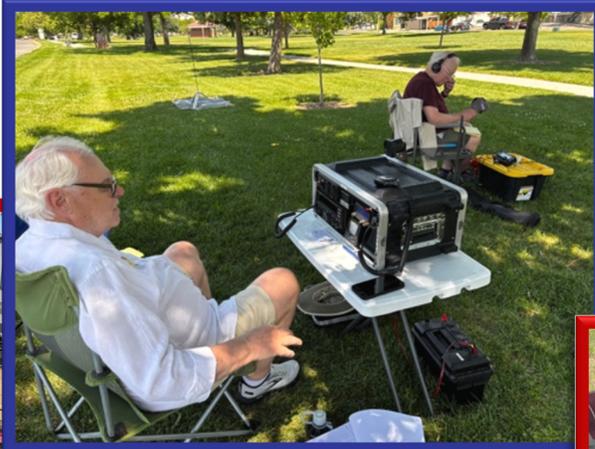
Church Location

Radios Transmitting using the Club Callsign W0RRZ: Andrew AE0WZ & Dave AK0MR FT8 and FT4 digital on 20 meters; Chip N0WKR running FT8 digital on 15 and 40 meters; Randy KD0NSP & Paul N2COL was using Phone on 20 and 40 meters. Set up across the street under the trees were: Wayne K1TXS also using Phone on 15 and 40 meters SSB and Steve K0GUZ CW on 20 meters.

Bill K0DZ demoing APRS on 2M; VarAC Chat & Winlink using VaraFM on 70cm, Meshtastic Texting on 33cm and AREDN TCP/IP Mesh Network on 5.8GHz. Don AE0IF was available to demonstrate CW.

Amateur Radio Visitors: 11 Club members stayed for the day; 2 additional came for set up; 5 Club members stopped by and 3 non-member Hams came by.

Visitors: Nine members of the general public stopped by to ask questions. Cathy KF00KV will follow up with emails to visitors with more information about the Club and Amateur Radio.



CQ CQ CQ



Uncompahgre Location

Radios Transmitting – 2 FT8 Setups; 2 Radios on 15m & 20m SSB; 1 QRP 1.5w SSB, 1 CW 20m

Total Present – 14 plus 2 dogs; Fred & Jo brought peach cobbler & ice cream.

Tips from a Trustee

National Simplex Calling Frequency

The purpose of having the Net on the National Simplex Calling frequency is for you to see who you can contact when the repeater goes down. No internet, no problem. You probably cannot talk to everyone in the valley, but you can probably get your message relayed. Base stations with a good outside antenna and 50 watts will have the best chance. So, you have a cheap handheld radio without a gain antenna, you can improve your chance. Get out of your chair and go outside. If you go to www.qrz.com and enter the callsign of who you want to talk to, then go to "Detail" it will give you the bearing to that person from you. Try to get as clear of a path to that direction as possible. Houses, trees, hills, weather all make a difference. Have the antenna vertical, have the radio between you and the person you are trying to reach. Your head can attenuate your signal. Use the most power you can, a fully charged battery also helps.

Dave AKOMR

Club Website Information

Our Club Website is located at <https://www.w0rrz.org> and it contains a wealth of information. There is also a Club Members Area which requires you to be a paid member of WCARC. This section includes several forums including a Buy/Sell/Trade Forum, AllStar linking procedures, a link to purchase a club nametag, current club roster, our monthly meeting minutes and the monthly meeting presentations.

If you do not have a login for the Club Members Area of the website and are a paid member for 2025, please contact, Andrew at AE0WZ@outlook.com. He will need your name, callsign and email address to set up your account.

Upcoming Contests & QSO Parties

IARU HF World Championship
12-13 July 2025

<https://www.arrrl.org/iaru-hf-world-championship>

North American QSO Party, TRRY
19-20 July 2025

<https://ncjweb.com/naqp/>

CQ Worldwide VHF Contest (Digital)
19-20 July 2025

www.cqww-vhf.com

A Case for APRS

Automatic Packet Reporting System, a digital communication system that transmits small packets of data over radio waves. APRS lets you share tactical information without connecting directly to another station. Traditional voice communications need operators to talk to each other, but APRS sends data packets that any equipped station can pick up. These packets always have a callsign and usually include GPS position data, short text messages, or other telemetry information. You do have to have an APRS capable radio.

Now for a Story...A couple of weeks ago, Andrew AE0WZ caught a very weak signal from someone requesting assistance near Montrose. The transmission was very weak, and he was able to hear that the stranded Ham was "near Cimarron, CO". AE0WZ was able to contact a Ham in the Montrose Club who rallied several of their members. They headed out in their vehicles to try and assist. There were at least 3 gentlemen in vehicles combing the area near Cimarron and Silver Jack Reservoir over the period of approximately 8 hours. They also involved the Montrose County Sheriff department. The Sheriff's Department finally caught up to the stranded motorist as he was returning to his residence late into the evening. Turns out another vehicle eventually came along and assisted. The "Kicker"? Their actual location was on the Hwy 550 side of Owl Creek Pass, not the Cimarron/Silver Jack side. Had the stranded motorist had APRS activated, the search would have ended much quicker. The MARC members could have pinpointed his location and come to his aid in a timely manner. Luckily it was minor car trouble and not a serious medical issue.

Two takeaways – 1) when travelling in the back country activating APRS could be a lifesaver and 2) Ham Operators are ALWAYS willing to help out in time of need.

For more information on APRS: <https://www.aprs.org> or talk to one of the Board Members at the next Monthly Meeting and we can direct to someone who can get you more information.

Mesa County ARES

(Amateur Radio Emergency Service)

Region 9 District 4

MCARES meets at the First Christian Church in Grand Junction at 0930 on the 3rd Friday of the month.

EMCOMM Net

Every Wednesday at 1900 on the WestCo Repeater System the 2nd Wednesday at 1900 on DMR RMHAM TG720 Rocky Mountain Central

Joining MC ARES is simple. There are no dues. You can chose how involved you'd like to be. We rely on volunteers for all our activities which help fund our organization.

For More Information Contact

MCARES Coordinator:

Chip NOWKR chip.ferron@gmail.com

<https://ares-mesacounty.org>

Upcoming Mesa County ARES Activities

19-20 July

Western Colorado Hunt Retriever Club – Hunt Test
Location: Grand Mesa

There are usually 100 people/200 dogs retrieving ducks in water and on land. There is generally no cell service. We provide communications for admin traffic and emergency comm. This is a training activity for us. A few more people are needed for this event. You do not have to be an ARES member to volunteer. See Randy KD0NSP or Chip NOWKR if you would like to volunteer.

2025 SET (Simulated Emergency Test)

Tentatively 4 October 2025

More details will be provided as we get closer to the event.

If you are interested in participating in the SET, contact Chip Ferron NØWKR at 970-261-2508 or by email at

chip.ferron@gmail.com

News of Note:

2024 SET (Simulated Emergency Test): Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to help with the SET last October. Colorado came in 2nd in overall standings. Region 9 (Power Unit, Rio Blanco County and all 10 counties in Western Colorado) came in 1st in the Colorado Division & the Rocky Mountain Division. Region 9 had 237 points, Larimer/Weld Counties had 219 points, and Arapahoe ARES had 215 points. The Front Range regions are 2-3x bigger than we are with only 24 members. A big thank you goes out to Keri Varela N2KNK for providing the Portable Repeater and allowing us to use the WestCo repeater system for the SET.

Ham Funnies

Why do Ham Operators make bad secret agents?
Because they can't help but broadcast their location!

Why are Ham Operators like Magicians?
They can both pull signals out of thin air!

What did the antenna say to the Ham Operator?
I feel a strong connection!



Looking Forward...

We are halfway through 2025. Man, that went fast! HAMFEST is coming up in August; the WCARC Picnic at Eagle Rim Park is in September then beginning in October we will need to begin talking about nominations for the 2026 Board of Directors.

If you are interested in helping direct the future of the Club, speak to any of the current Board Members and we can give you more details.

For More Information:

See us on Facebook at Western Slope Amateur Radio Club,
on the Club Website: www.WØRRZ.org
or email info@WØRRZ.org

Mailing Address: 2695 Patterson Road, Ste. 2 Box 118
Grand Junction, CO 81506

More Than a Club... A Community of Friends!

Club Member Photos

Rick AK0HS Working on John KD0VDV's beam. He's the guy in the brown jacket. The other gentleman is a good friend of John's. Dave AK0MR AND John KD0VDV are below handing up tools, taking beam sections as they are handed down. And I suspect hoping to catch something worthy of America's Funniest Videos.



2023 Trench Work at the Shack on Black Ridge – Steve KE0BPD, Baer KF0TBC, Bill K0DZ, Ray KF0DMD and Max KF0LHO



Rick AK0HS's antenna. Dave AK0MR and Rick were working on repairing factory direct traps that had random factory defects in the traps (just as MFJ was closing up).

2025 WCARC Board of Directors

President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary
Randy Stringer KD0NSP n4655e@gmail.com	John Daley AJ6LI daleyj@yahoo.com	Steve Delaloye KE0BPD delaloye@swbell.net	Cathy Maddox KF0OKV kf0okv@outlook.com
1-Year Trustee	2-Year Trustee	3-Year Trustee	Repeater Trustee
Forrest Hoskins AD0XC ad0xc@protonmail.com	Rick Miller AK0HS rickisdoingok@gmail.com	Dave Bratcher AK0MR ak0mr@arrl.net	Forrest Hoskins AD0XC ad0xc@protonmail.com

July is National Hot Dog Month in the US



July is also Host to:
National Ice Cream Day – 16 July
World Emoji Day – 17 July



The Purpose of the Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (WCARC), a 501(c)3 organization, is to recruit, train and help committed Ham Radio operators carry on the tradition of amateur radio by using our network of technical resources and expertise. Promoting new technologies and expanding the use of these in all areas of communication. Providing equipment and skilled operators when called upon to assist local agencies in emergency and non-emergency events ensuring a reliable source of communication. WCARC is dedicated to community service and providing education to the general public about the history, operation and benefits of the Amateur Radio Service and to develop the next generation of radio amateurs.



HAMFEST & SWAPMEET

SATURDAY, 9 AUG 2025

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

First Christian Church

1326 N. 1st Street ♦ Grand Junction, CO

Admission \$5.00 includes door prize ticket

Additional tickets available for \$1.00

Door Prizes ♦ QSL Card Checking ♦ License Exams

Coffee & Donuts available

Reserve your table now! Full Table \$10.00; Half Table \$5.00

Outside “Tailgate” Spots - \$10.00

For More Information or to Reserve a Table:

www.w0rrz.org or info@w0rrz.org

New Ham Info

Emergency Communication Technology

*Talk-in repeater is the W0RRZ repeater at
146.94 MHz 107.2 tone*

This event is sanctioned by the American Radio Relay League
Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (WCARC) is an ARRL Affiliated amateur radio
club serving Grand Junction, Mesa County and surrounding areas.

We meet the second Saturday of each month at 9:30 am
at the First Christian Church, 1326 N. 1st Street Grand Junction, CO.
Everyone is welcome!

WCARC Hamfest - Table Reservations

Saturday, 9 August 2025

**First Christian Church
1326 N. 1st Street Grand Junction, CO**

Standard 8 ft. table with chair(s) -- \$10.00

Half Table with chair(s) -- \$5.00

Admission -- \$5 each includes door prize ticket; additional tickets \$1.00

Tables are separate from admission.

Please include the number of admission tickets needed.

Vendor doors open for set-up at 8:00 a.m. Saturday morning

Yes, please reserve _____ full table(s) at \$10.00 each \$ _____

Yes, please reserve _____ half table(s) at \$5.00 each \$ _____

Please add _____ admission at \$5.00 each \$ _____

Additional Door Prize Tickets _____ at \$1.00 each \$ _____

For a total of enclosed \$ _____

We need AC power at our table(s): _____ Yes, or _____ No
(Note that power outlet boxes may be some distance behind table.)

Contact Name: _____

Organization / Ham Call: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

**Mail a copy of this page with a check (payable to "WCARC")
for the full amount to:**

WCARC

**2695 Patterson Road Ste. 2 Box 118
Grand Junction, CO 81506-8815**

Reservations will be acknowledged by e-mail
(phone or postal mail if you have no e-mail).

Please provide complete contact information!

Pick up admission tickets at door.

If you have not received confirmation or need more information,
please contact us at info@w0rrz.org