



Upcoming Events

- 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

President's Corner

Did you know there are over 3 million licensed ham radio operators around the world?

How about the fact that the first license in the USA was issued in 1912?

Interesting to know operators have been around that long and there are so many licensed hams.

While each and every one of us is a cog in the wheel, have you ever thought about what you can offer new hams or even experienced hams?

I would not have near the knowledge (I still have a lot to learn) I have today if I didn't have a couple of Elmers to lead me along my journey.

Not only that, but I also receive a lot of information by asking questions at the club meetings and lunches.

I would like to ask each of you to take the time to listen to what people are asking before, during or after the club meetings and please jump in with your 2 cents. While the question may have been asked of one individual, it doesn't mean you can't offer advice or suggestions. Join the conversation everyone may learn something new.

A big thanks to each and every club member and others who are quick to help our fellow hams.

73 KD0NSP

Upcoming Club Meetings

In August, we will hold our annual Hamfest & Swapmeet in lieu of our regular meeting. 9 August from 0930-1400 at the First Christian Church 1326 N. 1st Street in Grand Junction. Hamfest is our main fundraiser for the club. Admission is \$5.00 and includes a door prize ticket (additional tickets can be purchased for \$1.00). Door Prizes include: Gift Certificates from ARRL and \$200, \$75 & \$25 gift certificates from HRO. The Club has received donations of equipment from three families and will be selling it at Hamfest. We will have New Ham Information, License Testing, QSL Card Checking, Emergency Communication Information and an informative presentation. More details are on our website at www.w0rrz.org

September is our Club Picnic at Eagle Rim Park – 13 September 1100 – 1500. Come on out and socialize at bit. We will have pulled pork and pulled chicken. Please bring your own place setting, drinks and a side dish to share. More details will be posted on the website soon!

In October, we go back to our regular Monthly Meetings on 11 October. The Club normally 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.

For questions regarding the Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Please email: info@w0rrz.org

Congratulations Are In Order!

Steve KF0NHD upgraded to General in July!

**We had two people take and pass their
Technician Test in July as well:**

Renaë KF0UTQ and Teagan KF0UTR

**Be sure to welcome them to Amateur Radio if you
hear them on Air!**

Technician – General – Amateur Extra Quick & Dirty - What's the Difference?

Technician – grants transmitting privileges on the VHF/UHF bands most commonly used for local communication. It also provides transmitting privileges on small segments of some HF bands allowing communication around the world via “skip propagation”.

General – expands transmitting privileges to limited segments of all the HF bands allocated to the Amateur Radio Service opening the world of long-distance, international communication. This license requires increased knowledge of common operating modes & practices for HF as well as more advanced digital comm techniques and electronics competency.

Amateur Extra – adds privileges to operate on additional segments of the HF bands beyond those provided by the General license. AE provides full access to the range of bands allocated to the Amateur Radio Service. It represents a significant increase in knowledge of radio science, electronics and operating techniques.

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. We meet 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.

Looking Forward...

Nominations for the 2026 Board of Directors are due at the October Meeting on 11 October.

Elections will be held at the December Meeting on 13 December.

If you are interested in helping direct the future of the Club, this is your chance to make a difference.

Position Descriptions:

President – Is the Chairman of the Board of Directors; presides over all meetings; appoints special function committees as needed; and is authorized to sign all disbursement checks.

Vice President – Serves as the Chairperson of the Educational Committee; assumes the duties of the President, if necessary; becomes President if that office becomes vacant; assists the President at all meetings; performs other duties assigned by the President; and is authorized to sign all disbursement checks.

Secretary – Keeps and maintains records of all activities and proceedings; receives all applications for membership, keeps an accurate list of all members, receives all dues (records and forwards to the Treasurer); preserves all the books and correspondence of this organization; brings copies of the Constitution & By-Laws to each meeting; and is responsible for the Club mailbox.

Treasurer – Receives all funds of this organization; deposits all moneys in the appropriate account as directed by the Board; maintains records of all receipts and disbursements; reports financial transactions at all regular meetings; is authorized to sign all checks; submits all books of account for audit at the end of the elected term and at other times as specified by the Board; submit any and all reports as required by the laws governing not-for-profit organizations in Colorado and insure all checks be endorsed by a designated signatory.

3-Year Trustee – The Trustees keep an accurate accounting of all physical assets of the organization.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the Board of Directors or would like to nominate someone, speak to any of the current Board Members or email info@w0rrz.org and we can give you more details.

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.

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>

Just A Reminder

Please be sure to update your address with the FCC if you move or change your information. 47 C.F.R. Section 97.21 requires you to file in timely manner for an update of your license as necessary to show your correct mailing address, name, email address.

Revocation of your station license or suspension of your operator license may result when correspondence from the FCC is returned as undeliverable due to failure to provide a correct mailing address.

Club Stickers Are Here!

Stickers are 5"x3" full color with a high-gloss finish that withstands exposure to the elements. They are weather-resistant and waterproof so work well on vehicles. Please be aware, they are not dishwasher safe so any travel mugs will have to be hand-washed.



Stickers are \$1.50 each

Available at Hamfest & Club Meetings

Help Support WCARC

Are you a City Market Customer? Their Community Rewards Program is a great way to support WCARC.

Here is the link on the City Market Website for you to enroll:

<https://www.citymarket.com/i/community/community-rewards>

Just search for Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club, Inc. or use our NPO Number: **SS693** to select us as your charity.

Once you have enrolled and linked your City Market loyalty card you contribute by swiping your loyalty card or using the phone number that is related to your loyalty card every time you shop for groceries!



Ham Radio Trivia

This famous Ham invented a legendary music device that was featured on the album "Switched On Bach". Who is it?
Answer: Robert Moog, K2AMH invented the famous Moog Synthesizer.

Gerson Strassberg, WA2JXX invented this item which no self-respecting geek would have been without. Now, you can probably only find one on E-Bay. What is it?

Answer: Plastic Pocket Protector

Etiquette/Protocol Tips for Grand Junction area Oatmeal Net radio check-ins

The general purpose of the Oatmeal Net {I suspect the name came about as a function of it being held around breakfast time but I have only heard coffee being consumed} is to provide a way for local hams to meet other Ham radio operators in the western Colorado and eastern Utah area. This is done through the 3 WCARC linked repeaters. Information is provided by the local Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club at www.w0rrz.org. There you will find a wealth of information, including the [meetings](#), [contacts](#), [membership information](#), frequencies for the repeaters, [Oatmeal Net](#) details, including times; you can also find some general tips by Dave AK0MR there.

1. The meetings are called to order by a [moderator](#) at 0730 Monday through Friday mountain time (unless they oversleep). If that happens a volunteer will jump in and help out if too much silence is heard. They will give general information on the operation of the net via a [preamble](#) and any messages.
2. At the end of the preamble and any messages the moderator will ask for check-ins.
3. At a minimum, you need to provide your call sign slowly and clearly and give your name. While not required, giving your radio type and location is helpful. Example: This is KF0??? {Your name} on a portable in Grand Junction. In summary that is highly encouraged to **listen** first; give your call-sign at the beginning and end of your transmission, as required by the FCC rules (Rule 8 of Dave's tips) and learn from your fellow radio operators.
4. It is suggested to use the highest power available to punch through to the repeater. While there is no standard, the word **Portable** or **HT** is generally used to mean a low powered hand-held radio when out and about. **Mobile** refers to radios in vehicles with more power. Finally **Base** is used for fixed units in houses with more power and typically better antennas. If individuals break up or have poor signals and are using portables, they can be told to try again a few feet away. If they are on a base unit they could have an antenna issue. Since it is hard to tell how well your signal/audio is coming through when transmitting it is helpful to be told. Many times, you can receive fine but may not be hitting the repeater very well.
5. The above steps give the moderator a bit more time and information. When two or more people transmit at the same time, it is called doubling. This is not uncommon at all. When this happens the moderator will recognize whoever was the clearest. Always wait for the moderator to acknowledge you before transmitting. They will give a brief invitation for you to talk. Don't be shy! This is an opportunity to get to know your fellow hams. If your mind goes blank don't stress, others have been there as well. By listening you can get a good idea on what others talk about.
6. After you finish your transmission, you may end with the word "clear", "73" or "back to net" and your callsign. (FYI - "73" is the equivalent of saying "Best Regards".)
7. The check-ins generally wind up around 0800 and there are around 25 to 35 during that time frame. It is best to keep your comments brief so others can check in but most moderators will stay active until everyone has had a chance to check-in.

Common mistakes to avoid are:

- Breaking-in before previous person has had a chance to check out with their call-sign.
- Not ending with your call-sign.
- Having a "Roger" beep turned on. This is a tone generated to indicate the end of your transmission. It is typically a menu option on a radio. Most Hams find it annoying, especially when using a repeater.
- Giving your call sign too quickly. Many letters sound similar so slowing down or using phonetics is encouraged.
- Worrying about messing up. Everyone does at some time. I have forgotten to press the push-to-talk PTT button before talking, as well as pushed it and not realized it. I have not held the antenna vertical on my portable (this is a question on your test). Forgot to turn the radio on or had the volume too low (not on test).

Ham radio has a lot of jargon not understood by newcomers. To the extent possible use plain simple words. I still have no idea what some terms mean. Even after reading the explanation I'm confused. That is why asking local Hams can be so helpful. [ARRL](http://www.arrl.org) at www.arrl.org has a 28 page [glossary](#), but there are still some local terms that are most likely not included.

Jerry KF0RSI

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 each 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 N0WKR chip.ferron@gmail.com
<https://ares-mesacounty.org>

Upcoming Activities

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 N0WKR
at 970-261-2508 or by email at
chip.ferron@gmail.com

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.

New Information:

If you wish to get your HamCon Shirts prior to the event, you may pre-purchase by contacting Sherri at Monograms To Go 303-750-6112. I have a call in to Sherri and expect to have more details shortly and will email it out when I get it.

Table Swap

HamCon Colorado will be allowing a Table Swap for two hours on Friday, 24 October from 1900-2100. This will give people an opportunity to sell and swap equipment in the hotel. There will be NO Tailgate sales in the parking lot allowed. Tables are free if you are registered to attend the convention. Walk-ins – tables are first come/first serve at the door \$10 with one admission. Additional admissions are \$5.00 each and will be good from 1900-2100 only.

Upcoming Contests & QSO Parties

9 -10 August 2025 - WAE DX Contest

<https://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste/wae-dx-contest/en/>

9 August 2025 - 50 MHz Fall Sprint

https://www.packratvhf.com/sprints/2024_Fall_Sprint_Rules_Final.pdf

16-17 August 2025 - EME – 2.3 GHz & Up

<https://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>

16-18 August 2025 - 10 GHz & Up – Round 1

<https://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up>

17 August 2025 - Rookie Roundup - RTTY

<https://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

30-31 August 2025 – Colorado QSO Party

<http://ppraa.org/downloads/coqp/COQP%20Rules.pdf>

These are just a few of the contests this month. The following links take you to calendars for more contesting.

<https://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>
<https://hamradiolive.org/contest-calendar>
<https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.php>





In Search Of Club Photos & QSO Cards

We have created a Club Photo album! Check it out at Hamfest or the Club Picnic.



We are looking for Club Photos of any age.

We are still working on organizing the older photos that we have but would love to add more history of the club to the album. Photos can be digital or hard copy (we can scan and return them if you wish).

We also have a special section for those of you who have made QSO cards for yourself. See Cathy KF0OKV or Randy KD0NSP if you have a QSO card to share.

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.

Maybe you can inspire someone with your knowledge & expertise.

If you'd like to submit a tidbit to add to the next newsletter email: membership@W0RRZ.org

For More Information:

See us on Facebook at Western Slope Amateur Radio Club, on the Club Website: www.W0RRZ.org or email info@W0RRZ.org

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

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

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



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.

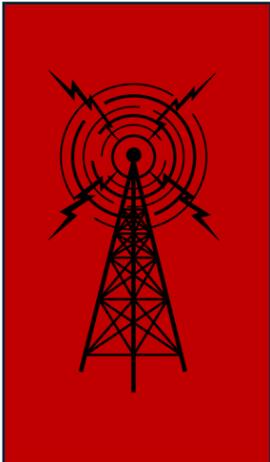
What's In Your Go Box?



Randy KD0NSP
 On Top: Heil pro7 Headset
 Top Left: Yaesu 8800
 VHF/UHF dual band
 Top Right: Yaesu FT-891 HF
 Bottom Left:
 Bioenno Battery
 Bottom Right:
 LDG Z-100Plus Autotuner



Stoney W0MWM
 Top Left: VHF/UHF V71
 Top Right: Tuner
 Bottom, Pull-Out Drawer: IC-7300
 Rear View: Rigrunner 4055 DC
 distribution behind the 7300.



Andrew AE0WZ This setup is configured to lift out of an Apache 4800 Waterproof Protective case. It Includes: a Yaesu FTM-500 50 Watt UHF/VHF radio, Yaesu FT-891 HF Radio coupled with a LDG Z-Pro II Tuner, Bioenno Power 12AH LiFeP04 Battery, F-1011 6-Position Power Pole Distribution Block, and an Anina 12v/24 Voltmeter w/on-off switch.

It is designed so when we arrive on-site, he pulls the setup out of the case, connects to a Diamond X30A antenna on a MFJ Tripod and have KFOKV up and ready to talk on 50 watts in about 5 minutes. Then he connects a 40-10 EFHW with a 49:1 impedance transformer and 66 feet of wire. This gives him 40-, 20-, 15-, and 10-meter bands. He strings it out using 6 electric fence posts. This makes a nice NVIS antenna with everything up and running in about 30 minutes. He has been known to string it up in bushes - this also works well. If we are running a lot of HF at 100W, he usually switches over to a 100AH LiFeP04 by simply unplugging the 12AH battery from the distribution block and connecting the 100AH battery. He does bring along a 100-watt solar panel coupled to a solar controller to charge the batteries if necessary.

Rick AK0HS Has a great POTA set up