



November 2025

### President's Corner

At our weekly club luncheon on 24 October, I had the opportunity to visit with Henry KB0SNI and Bill K0DZ talking about a Meshtastic and Fox Hunts. A story was related about a Fox Hunt that also involved GEO Caching and many other things all in one session. Can you imagine going on a Fox Hunt but having to find the pesky critter via GPS Geo Caching and route driving using GPS coordinates and finally RDF to zero in on your prey. I was amazed and really wanted to try something like this. It may just happen!! Talk with any of the "We Play Radio" group at the next club meeting for a little more info.

73 Randy KD0NSP

### Upcoming Events

- 1 Nov – WCARC Monthly Meeting
- 22 Nov – Mesa County ARES Mtg/SET
- 13 Dec – WCARC Monthly Meeting

Ham Lunches  
Wednesdays, 11:00 am

Ham Breakfast  
Third Friday, 9:00 am

More Details Follow

### Upcoming Club Meetings

The club normally meets on the second Saturday of every month, at 9:30am at the First Christian Church, 1326 N 1st St, Grand Junction. The meeting location is fully handicap accessible and everyone is welcome to attend! We discuss club business, upcoming events and have an interesting and informative presentation at each meeting. Come a little early for social time - coffee and donuts are provided. Meeting dates and time will be posted on our Events Calendar on the Club Website at [www.w0rrz.org](http://www.w0rrz.org).

*The minutes from each meeting are posted on the website, please look them over prior to the meeting so we can approve them at the next meeting.*

Our **November Meeting** date **CHANGES** to **1 November at 0930** due to a conflicting church event. We will be finalizing nominations for the 2026 Board of Directors election in December. If you are interested in serving on the Board, speak to any of the current Board members. Jo KB5EIL and Fred N5LKO will be bringing the donuts this month.

Our **December Meeting** will be back to the second Saturday on **13 December at 0930**. Everyone is welcome to attend. *We will be voting for the 2026 Board of Directors election in December. We need a volunteer to bring the donuts for December.*



### 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 the **WCARC Events Calendar** at <https://www.w0rrz.org/wcarc-events-calendar> and on our Facebook page.

**Ham Breakfasts** are held the third Friday of each month at 0900 at our new location **First Watch 120 W. Park Drive Suite 107, GJ**

**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.

For questions regarding the Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
Please email: [info@w0rrz.org](mailto:info@w0rrz.org)

## 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.

Full details are also available on the Club Website at:

<https://www.w0rrz.org/license-exams-in-grand-jefferson-co>

**Please register in advance at [www.HamStudy.org](http://www.HamStudy.org) to ensure we have adequate Volunteer Examiners available.**

When you arrive for your test, please have your FRN (FCC Registration Number), photo ID, pen, \$15.00 CASH, & if upgrading, a copy of your current license.

NOTE: During the 2025 Government Shutdown, new Technicians CAN test without an FRN.

## 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.

1. **Practice!** Be sure you are consistently scoring above an 85% on practice tests.
2. **Know the material!** You should be able to complete the exam within 30 minutes, however there is no time limit. Most questions are short and simple concepts.
3. **Practice Sites:** We recommend either [HamStudy.org](http://HamStudy.org), a free site with lots of tips, or [ARRL Exam Review for Ham Radio™](http://ARRL Exam Review for Ham Radio™), a free site from the national ham radio group that you may want to join.

If you have questions,

contact Brad Chestnut (AK0BC) at [ak0bc77@gmail.com](mailto:ak0bc77@gmail.com)  
or Andrew Maddox (AE0WZ) at [ae0wz@outlook.com](mailto:ae0wz@outlook.com)

## "WE PLAY RADIO"

The new "We Play Radio" group kicked off the inaugural meeting in October with 14 in-person attendees!

A great "round the table" discussion brought up various interests including POTA, Meshtastic, Digital EmComm, NVIS (portable/vehicle NVIS), 10M Simplex, Radio Hotspots, Lightbeam Communications, Portable Repeaters, SSTV, CW, APRS, AREDN Mesh, Radio Remote-Control, LandOps Events, Geochaching, Fox Hunting and more.

Steve KE0BPD and Bill K0DZ did a presentation and hardware demo on Meshtastic.

After the meeting, many attendees joined Denis K0TX at the State Parks & Wildlife viewing area near Sam's Club for a Parks on the Air (POTA) activation. Denis set up his portable HF station and made contacts on Voice & FT8. Max KF0LHO and Bill K0DZ played with Meshtastic Nodes and successfully sent messages between each other and sent a general notification via Meshtastic to the entire valley about the ongoing POTA activation.

Many more activities are being brainstormed for the next weeks and months.

## To Join "We Play Radio"

Open to anyone who wants to PLAY RADIO, find like-minded hams, make/use radio as a FUN hobby, and whatever RF ideas you may have.

Contact Bill at [K0DZ@protonmail.com](mailto:K0DZ@protonmail.com) and he will add you to the email distribution. Once on the distribution, please share your interests and when you'd like to do an activity.

**Come Play Radio with US!**

## Ways to Help Support WCARC

Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (EIN: 81-4225701) is a 501(c)3 tax exempt charitable organization.

1. **Join the Club** - Membership Dues are our main source of income.
2. **ARRL Club Commission Program** - By joining or renewing your ARRL Membership through WCARC the Club receives a small commission (\$20.00 for new members, \$5.00 for renewals).
3. **Direct Donation** - Direct Donations to WCARC are gratefully accepted. Donations may be made by cash, check or credit card.
4. **City Market Community Rewards Program** - Select us as your charity either by name or use our NPO Number: **SS693**. Once you have enrolled and linked your loyalty card City Market contributes every time you buy groceries. Here is the link to the City Market Website to enroll: <https://www.citymarket.com/i/community/community-rewards>
5. **Hamfest** - Every August we hold a Hamfest & SwapMeet. Sign up as a vendor, come as a shopper or donate equipment to the club for sale. This is our only major fundraiser at this time.

See Steve Delaloye (KE0BPD), Treasurer or Cathy Maddox (KF0OKV), Secretary for more details on how you can support the Club.

## Where Does the Money Go?

Funds received by the club allow us to continue to implement the mission of the organization in the following ways:

- Repeater & Infrastructure Development - operation, maintenance & upgrades for the three repeaters operated by the Club.
- Program Service Costs - rental of our meeting space, cost of our website, educational activities, annual Field Day, annual Club Picnic, Hamfest
- Administrative Costs - office supplies, insurance, State fees

**Thank You for Supporting WCARC!**

## Club Website Information

Our Club Website is located at

<https://www.w0rrz.org>

It contains a wealth of information about the Club. Current announcements will be posted on the main page of the website. Important events and activities are posted on the Club Event Calendar.

There is also a Club Members Area which requires you to be a current member of WCARC. (Let Cathy KF0OKV or Andrew AE0WZ know if you need log in credentials) The Club Members Area 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.

## We Need You!!

Nominations for the 2026 Board of Directors are due at the November Meeting on Saturday, 1 November. Elections will be held at the December Meeting on Saturday, 13 December.

If you are interested in helping direct the future of the Club, this is your chance to make a difference. There are so many people in this club with a wide variety of skills and talents. We could use your expertise to help guide the club.

The Board of Directors and our Trustees act in the best interest of the Club's mission and purpose as well as providing oversight to maintain good financial health and legal compliance.

If you have more questions, please see any of the current Board members and we'd be happy to answer any questions you may have about how you can be a bigger part of a great organization. WCARC needs YOU!!

### What Does the WCARC Board of Directors Do?

The Board of Directors is responsible for assuring the principles of the Constitution and By-Laws are maintained, drawing up the programs for the year, making budgetary provisions and determinations and carrying out the wishes of the Club Membership.

#### Brief 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.

**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.

**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.

*The President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary positions are a one-year commitment.*

**3-Year Trustee** – This Trustee serves a three-year term. 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](mailto:info@w0rrz.org) and we can give you more details.

### Not Ready to Commit to a Board Position?

Your knowledge and expertise are a valuable asset. Please consider volunteering to help best in line with your unique skills and talents.

Let's make this great organization even better! We can't do it without you!

People are needed to assist with the following areas of expertise:

**Youth Engagement Group** – Brainstorm ideas to introduce local youth to amateur radio, create a short "Intro to Amateur Radio" presentation, present to small teen groups at the library, Scout groups, schools and STEM Clubs.

**Oatmeal Net Moderator 2026** – Moderators rotate weekly throughout the year. The Moderator manages the Oatmeal Net during their assigned week 0730-0800. They will read a set preamble then make important club announcements before opening the Net for check ins.

**Education Committee** – Assist the Vice President in providing educational opportunities to the club membership regarding new technologies, emergency communications and licensing for new members.

**Technology Committee** – Assist the Technical Manager in maintaining WCARC equipment, provide technical advice & assistance to members and ensure proper & legal operation of the WCARC equipment.

**Club Promotion** – Assist the Secretary in writing public relations announcements for local media, distribute club flyers, interface with media for events, assist promoting the club to the public.

**Newsletter Support** – Assist the Secretary in providing information about upcoming radio events & contests, contributing short technical articles & other newsletter content.

See Cathy KF00KV, WCARC Secretary at [KF00KV@outlook.com](mailto:KF00KV@outlook.com) for more information!



## Mesa County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (MCARES) Region 9 District 4

MCARES meets at the First Christian Church in Grand Junction at 0930 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month.

### EMCOMM Net

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

Joining MCARES 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>

## READY, SET, Go!

Mesa County ARES will hold their annual Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on **22 November 0900** at First Christian Church, 1326 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Grand Junction.

The SET is designed to test equipment and procedures for disaster and emergency communications nationwide.

This event will give members a chance to dust off their Go-Kit and deploy to the field to provide message traffic back to our simulated Emergency Operations Center. Specific scenarios and action items will be provided to each participant on the day of the exercise.

### A Few Upcoming Contests

1-3 NOV	Nov Sweepstakes - CW	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes">www.arrl.org/sweepstakes</a>
8-9 NOV	EME – 50 to 1296 MHz	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest">www.arrl.org/eme-contest</a>
15-17 NOV	NOV Sweepstakes-Phone	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes">www.arrl.org/sweepstakes</a>
23 NOV	North American Sprint-SSB	<a href="https://ssbsprint.com">https://ssbsprint.com</a>
29-30 NOV	CQ World Wide DX Contest – CW	<a href="https://cqww.com">https://cqww.com</a>

### Contest Calendar Links

<https://www.arrl.org/contests>  
<https://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>  
<https://groups.arrl.org/g/ARRL-Contesting>  
<https://hamradiolive.org/contest-calendar>  
<https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.php>  
<https://www.contesting.com>  
<https://www.onallbands.com/amateur-radio-contesting-101/>

The November Issue of QST Magazine is all about Contesting! Great articles! Check it out online at:  
<https://www.arrl.org/qst>



The Shack Cleaning Day: A mythical event where all the cables are untangled, the old QSL cards are filed, and the coffee cups are removed from the operating desk. (Rarely observed in the wild.)



Shack Happens

**Share Your Shack!**  
 Next month I'd love to showcase everyone's Ham Shack! Send photos of your "shack" to [kf00KV@outlook.com](mailto:kf00KV@outlook.com) and we'll be able to see where everyone spends their time.

# HamCon Colorado



WCARC Club Table



Mesa County ARES Table

KD0G put in an appearance





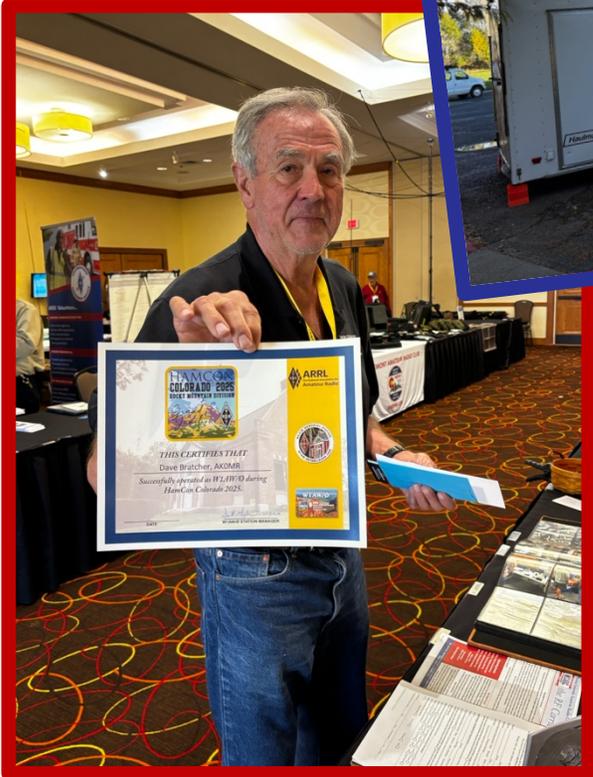
**Comm1 and the new multiuse Comm Trailer on display**

**KDØG all worn out from helping keep the VE Team straight**

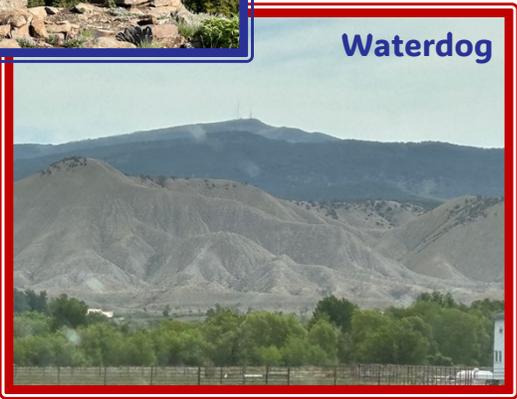
**Presentations given at HamCon Colorado 2025 can be found at the following link:**  
<https://indico.rmham.org/event/4/contributions/>



**W1AW/Ø Operating Station**



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.



**Club Repeaters**  
 WCARC operates three linked repeaters under the license W0RRZ at 146.940-mHz (Black Ridge), 145.175-mHz (Grand Mesa), and 447.200-mHz (Waterdog), all with a tone of 107.2, for the benefit of club members and all visiting licensed Amateur Radio operators. Club members are authorized to connect to the club repeaters via AllStar while traveling.

**2025 WCARC Board of Directors**

President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary
<b>Randy Stringer</b> KD0NSP RSkd0nsp@outlook.com	<b>John Daley</b> AJ6LI daleyj@yahoo.com	<b>Steve Delaloye</b> KE0BPD delaloye@swbell.net	<b>Cathy Maddox</b> KF0OKV kf0OKV@outlook.com
1-Year Trustee	2-Year Trustee	3-Year Trustee	Repeater Trustee
<b>Forrest Hoskins</b> AD0XC ad0xc@protonmail.com	<b>Rick Miller</b> AK0HS rickisdoingok@gmail.com	<b>Dave Bratcher</b> AK0MR ak0mr@arrl.net	<b>Forrest Hoskins</b> AD0XC ad0xc@protonmail.com

**For More Information:**  
 See us on Facebook at Western Slope Amateur Radio Club,  
 on the Club Website: [www.W0RRZ.org](http://www.W0RRZ.org)  
 or email [info@W0RRZ.org](mailto:info@W0RRZ.org)  
 Mailing Address: 2695 Patterson Road, Ste. 2 Box 118  
 Grand Junction, CO 81506

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