

2025-12-09 Net Minutes

opened

20:00

closed

20:35

Check-ins (26)

- Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)
- Brad Snyder (W5BLS)
- Jeff McDowell (KI5CES)
- Avery McIntosh (N7ALM)
- Don Ling (WB5CK0)
- Vic Pears (KX8V)
- Larry Shiver (KJ5KFU)
- Ken Wilson (KE5DFR)
- Matt Robinson (W5XMR)
- Brian Gaskamp (N5WCT)
- Bill Rose (K5WTR)
- Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)
- John Graesser (KC5DWD)
- Dick Zimmer (W5DZ)
- David Bailey (K5DKB)
- Ron Estes (KJ5EF0)
- John Walpole (K5ZY)
- Marshall Walpole (KG5IQY)
- Kevin Walton (N4RMF)
- Harold Turbyfill (KG5SDG)
- Joe Napoli (KG5SDF)
- Michael Bobinski (N5NYL)
- Rich Rychetsky (W5SON)
- Pierre Catala (WA1UAT)
- Tom Johnson (KI5ZPG)
- Phil Gates (N5ZKF)

Opening Remarks

- Thank you to everyone who checks into our net and make it special!
- Echolink troubleshooting:
 - SVX Link was up and running, carrier was keying the repeater, but audio wasn't coming through
 - Audio devices weren't enumerating properly, and we aren't sure why
 - Restarting fixed it!

Officer Reports

President

David Bailey (K5DKB)

- [Monthly club meeting](#) coming up
 - 2025-12-20 09:30
 - American Legion Post 159, 101 Waco St, Bryan [[Google Maps](#)]
 - Officer elections on the agenda, so we'll need quorum
 - Our ballot is the same slate of officers, unopposed
 - Will proceed with elections by the book
- We owe much of the success of this net to you, Phil (N5ZKF)!

Vice-President

Tom Johnson (KI5ZPG)

- Keeping [Winter Field Day](#) on everyone's radar
 - 2025-01-24/25
 - We'll have swap tables!
 - Committee meeting last week
- Echo sentiments and appreciation for Phil!

Secretary

Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)

- Minutes will be sent out after the net.
- Again, thank you, Phil, for keeping the nets engaging and welcoming!

Treasurer

Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)

- 81 members

- Bank balance: \$11,963.97
- Next License Exam
 - 2025-12-20 11:00 (after the club meeting)
- Club Holiday Party this Sunday, 2025-12-14 14:00/18:00
 - Lorna's place, 509 Wheelock St, Hearne [[Google Maps](#)]

Announcements / Comments

Question #253 for conversation: *Are there parts of your amateur radio hobby that you don't do anymore or haven't done in a while?*

(If interested in submitting a weekly question, email n5zkf@arrl.net)

Ron Estes (KJ5EF0)

- On behalf of Ron Hambric (N5SBN):
 - [CEOC visit](#) this Friday, 2025-12-12 09:00
 - [ARES meeting](#) coming up
 - Monday, 2025-12-15 18:30
 - American Red Cross, 4244 Boonville Rd, Bryan [[Google Maps](#)]

Brian Gaskamp (N5WCT)

- Active in POTA: was in Port Lavaca on Black Friday, 2025-11-28
 - Got permission to operate in a wildlife management area
 - Park had only 3 activations prior
 - Broke my personal record with 257 contacts logged in 5 hours of operation!
 - 15 m band was very active
- [ARRL 10 m Contest](#) this weekend
 - 2025-12-13 00:00Z/2025-12-14 23:59Z
 - See website linked above for rules

Phil Gates (N5ZKF)

- I've noticed I don't build things as often as I used to, especially antennas
 - The stuff I've made previously is still working
- I won't be listening to law enforcement anymore: encryption has been enabled on all of their channels
- K5WTR: TV stations are probably upset... If you could decrypt their encryption, would be OK to listen at that point? Some signals (military) might be considered illegal to decrypt and listen.

- N5ZKF: not aware that it's illegal to listen, but it would be illegal to act on what you hear.

Closing Remarks

- Visit us online at w5bcs.radio.