

# 2026-01-13 Net Minutes

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opened

20:00

closed

20:56

## Check-ins (32)

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- Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)
- Bill Rose (K5WTR)
- Brandon Bartlett (KG5LYN)
- Brian Gaskamp (N5WCT)
- Ken Wilson (KE5DFR)
- Larry Shiver (KJ5KFU)
- Don Ling (WB5CK0)
- Mike Mertes (KZ5M)
- Brad Snyder (W5BLS)
- Matthew Cadman (KJ5IIF)
- Patrick Zapalac (KJ5ATR)
- Matt Robinson (W5XMR)
- Joe Napoli (KG5SDF)
- Brandon Roberrson (KJ5JWV)
- Kevin Walton (N4RMF)
- Troyce Wilson (KC5CBI)
- Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)
- Bill Preston (KZ3G)
- Mike Wisby (KA5HIA)
- David Bailey (K5DKB)
- Ron Estes (KJ5EF0)
- Roseanne Cunningham (KC5FGG)
- Harold Turbyfill (KG5SDG)
- Ron Hambric (N5SBN)
- Michael Bobinski (N5NYL)
- Emery Hyden (K5OW0)
- Jim Laird (KF5YY)
- Russ McDonald (KL2PB)
- Nathan Wood (KN4TTV)
- Phil Gates (N5ZKF)

- Tom Johnson (KI5ZPG)
- John Graesser (KC5DWD)

# Officer Reports

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## President

David Bailey (K5DKB)

- This Saturday is not just our monthly meeting, it's our [annual traditional BBQ Luncheon!](#)
  - 2026-01-17 11:00/13:00
  - Cooper's BBQ, 3055 Earl Rudder Fwy S, College Station [[Google Maps](#)]
  - Mind the construction on Hwy 6
- Check your email: I forwarded an email from Brian Gaskamp (N5WCT) on behalf of the [Washington County Amateur Radio Club \(W5AUM\)](#)
  - Free Technician License course coming up
  - 2026-02-21 09:00/17:00 — *instruction*
  - 2026-02-22 12:00/14:00 *instruction*, 14:00/17:00 — *testing*
  - Christ Lutheran Day School, 1104 Carlee St, Brenham [[Google Maps](#)]
  - Attendance is limited to 20 individuals: [Register](#) by 2026-02-17

AMATEUR (HAM) RADIO TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS	
<p><b>OVERVIEW</b></p> <p>Learn the skills needed to earn your Amateur (Ham) Radio Technician License in a fun, friendly, and supportive environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background in electronics not necessary</li> <li>• No license code requirement</li> <li>• Practical, real-world instruction from experienced local radio operators involved in public service and emergency communications</li> </ul> <p>Whether you're interested in radio, community service, or emergency preparedness, <a href="#">go from curious to licensed in a weekend!</a></p>	<p><b>WHEN &amp; WHERE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 AM to 5 PM instruction</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 PM to 2 PM instruction</li> <li>• 2 PM to 5 PM Testing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Christ Lutheran Day School 154 Carlee St Brenham, TX 77833</li> </ul>
<p><b>WHO CAN ATTEND?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open to anyone interested in Amateur (Ham) Radio</li> <li>• Attendance is limited to twenty (20) individuals</li> <li>• Children fourteen (14) and under must be accompanied by an adult at all times</li> <li>• Register by February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://wcaurc.tech-class-2026.eventbrite.com">https://wcaurc.tech-class-2026.eventbrite.com</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>WHAT TO BRING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal Photo ID               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Driver's License</li> <li>• State Photo ID</li> <li>• Passport</li> <li>• Student ID</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Social Security Number (SSN)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Required to complete FCC registration</li> </ul> </li> <li>• E-Mail Address               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Required to complete FCC registration</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Questions? Send us an email at [info@wcaurc.radio](mailto:info@wcaurc.radio).  
Washington County Amateur Radio Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.  
Donations are welcome and support our education and outreach efforts.

Amateur (Ham) Radio Technician License Class

## Vice-President

Tom Johnson (KI5ZPG)

- [Winter Field Day](#) is coming up!
  - 2026-01-24/25
  - We'll have 3 presentations on Saturday!
  - Swap tables
  - License exam on Sunday, 2026-01-25 10:00
  - More details will be available at the meeting this weekend
  - Thanks to everyone in the Winter Field Day Planning committee who have contributed their efforts to make it happen!

## Secretary

*Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)*

- Minutes will be sent out after the net.
- I believe all email sending issues have been resolved

## Treasurer

*Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)*

- 52 members, including one who snuck in after the net started!
  - I will be taking dues at Cooper's BBQ this weekend
  - You can also do so online at [HamClubOnline](#)
- Bank balance: \$13,153.01
- Next Ham License Exam
  - Winter Field Day
  - Sunday 2026-01-25 10:00
  - American Legion Post 159, 101 Waco St, Bryan [[Google Bryan](#)]
  - I need Volunter Examiners for the session
  - If you're taking the Technician exam, you must register for and bring your [FCC Registration Number \(FRN\)](#)

## Announcements / Comments

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Question #258 for conversation: *HF Antennas: What is your favorite HF antenna?*

*(If interested in submitting a weekly question, email [n5zkf@arrl.net](mailto:n5zkf@arrl.net))*

## Matthew Cadman (KJ5IIF)

- First meeting of semester 2026-01-22 19:00
- Wisenbaker 236C
- License Exam 18:00 hr before

- We will have Winter Field Day on campus at “E-Quad”
  - Look for giant inflatable Santa
- Remote test session this Friday, 2026-01-16 18:00
  - Email [clubofficers.w5ac@gmail.com](mailto:clubofficers.w5ac@gmail.com) to RSVP
- My favorite HF antennas:
  - Coil-loaded vertical (10 m to 40 m) that fits in my backpack
  - Recently built a fan dipole in Conroe (40 m, 15 m, 20 m, and 10 m)
  - Has anyone done anything with ferrite rod antennas?
    - N5ZKF: I’ve heard of receiving ferrite antennas, nothing for transmitting

## Brian Gaskamp (N5WCT)

- Thanks to David Bailey (K5DKB) for sending out Technician License course and test session info!
  - (See *announcement above*)
  - Saturday 2026-02-21 09:00/17:00, 2026-02-22 12:00/14:00
- Look up N5ID on YouTube: He built a 17 m beam from PVC and fishing poles

## Matt Robinson (W5XMR)

- Just hanging antennas in the trees
- Trapped double-bazooka: 40 m and 80 m
  - Use it to talk on 75 m rag-chew
- OCF dipole: 40 m to 6 m

## Larry Shiver (KJ5KFU)

- Mobile: Tarhill 40 - 70 cm
- Home: Buckmaster 8-band antenna 6 m to 160 m
  - Recommended by WD5ABC

## Joe Napoli (KG5SDF)

- I’m not receiving net minutes, at least not since November
  - Maybe send email to [secretary@w5bcs.radio](mailto:secretary@w5bcs.radio)
- I have an east-west-oriented tuned half-wave dipole: 40 m to 10 m
- How do you renew membership online?
  - N5ZKF: I’ll send you the instructions in an email.

## Bill Rose (K5WTR)

- I have a lot of favorite antennas!
  - Hy-Gain 3-element Triband (10 m, 15 m, and 20 m)
  - Hamstick 17 m beam
  - 6 m from TV antenna

- Homebrew Buddipole; can do just about any band!
  - I have plans for it if interested

## Ron Estes (KJ5EF0)

- N5BRZ-12 and N5BRZ-10 I-Gates are back up and functioning!

## Phil Gates (N5ZKF)

- My antennas:
  - Yaesu ATAS-120A
  - Hy-Gain AV-14AVQ
  - Wolf River Coil Silver Bullet whip antenna

## Information Exchange

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### Matthew Cadman (KJ5IIF)

- Designing an external active (powered) speaker for our go-kit:
  - is there anything that you would recommend including in an external radio speaker?
  - Amplified headphone outputs
  - Some basic filtering
  - If you have additional thoughts, send an email to [clubofficers.w5ac@gmail.com](mailto:clubofficers.w5ac@gmail.com)
- K50W0:
  - Different radios expect different external speaker impedance
  - Having multiple (3?) output jacks, including various size plugs.
- K5WTR:
  - Bluetooth transmitter
- W5XMR:
  - High-pass filter, 200-300 Hz
  - Pressing buttons will emit a loud “Pop”

## Closing Remarks

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- Visit us online at [w5bcs.radio](http://w5bcs.radio).