



Rowlett Citizen Corps Council

Your Partners in Preparedness



Thanks to all who turned out for the November 19th **RCCC Annual Meeting**, and congratulations to the RCCC board's newest at large members **LT Marple** and **Grace Spivey**!



James "LT" Marple

Grace Spivey

Grace has been elected for a two-year term, and LT has been elected for a one-year term.

There are a number of RCCC board structure changes pending. If you'd like to learn more, feel free to attend the next RCCC board meeting as an observer on **Wednesday, December 17th** at 7 p.m. at OG.

On **Tuesday, December 2nd at 7 p.m.**, the Rowlett City Council will honor Explorers and Advisors who rescued kayakers during this year's Current River Canoe Trip. Please attend the council meeting at City Hall (4000 Main Street, Rowlett, TX) to join the city in thanking **and recognizing these heroes!** Be sure to wear your program shirt.



December 6th is a **big day!** In the morning, you can help support McKinney VFW's **Toys for Tots** motorcycle ride <https://www.vfwpost2150.org/news-events/toys-for-tots-ride/> In the afternoon and evening, get ready to kick off the holidays at **Rowlett's Main St. Fest and Holiday Parade**. There will be a parade of lights, live holiday performances, food and craft vendors, and a large kids' area. RCCC will participate in the parade with our rolling stock. Please sign up for either (or both!) event(s) on [Track it Forward](#).

Save the date! On **Friday, December 12th** we'll celebrate the season with our annual **RCCC holiday pot luck**. This always-popular event is our chance to gather together for food, fun and festivities. Spouses are welcome!

Inside this Issue

RCCC News.....	1-2
CERT News.....	3
ARES News.....	4
Explorer News.....	5
Scouting News.....	6

RCCC News (continued)

Happy Holidays from RCCC!

Between now and early January, you can check out the RCCC tree, along with other organizations' trees, along Main Street in downtown Rowlett.

Also — we'd love your help storing the tree and ornaments on Saturday, January 3rd at 2 p.m. Sign up on Track it Forward!



Honor, Remember, Teach: Wreaths Across America

On **Friday, December 12th** and **Saturday, December 13, 2025**, National Wreaths Across America Day visits over **4,900 locations nationwide**—and several are right here in North Texas. Volunteers will join in placing freshly made balsam wreaths on veterans' graves and solemnly saying each name aloud to ensure their service isn't forgotten.

Volunteer opportunities are available at **Dallas–Fort Worth National Cemetery (Dallas, TX)** or at **Pecan Grove Cemetery (McKinney, TX)**. Visit <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/20315/Overview/> for cemetery-specific time slot info, and to sign up to volunteer. Volunteer roles include:

- Distributing and placing wreaths
- Saying the veteran's name aloud during placement
- Assisting with cleanup and organization afterward

Can't make it on December 12th or 13th? If you'd like to be involved, you can **sponsor a wreath** for \$17 to ensure a veteran is honored; you can dedicate it to a specific individual if you provide their name and location. Or, share details with family, friends, coworkers, or community groups to build participation and awareness.

Let's do our part to ensure that every veteran is honored and remembered.

CERT News



The **December CERT General Meeting** is cancelled. However, there will be a special RCCC board meeting at that time, for those who would like to attend and observe. **Wednesday, December 17th, 2025 7PM** at Old Glory Station, 5100 Dalrock Road.

CERT "11 Questions" Challenge

Each month, we randomly pick a member to answer a set of questions. They will always be the same questions but the answers can help us get to know some important stuff about our volunteers.

We can't take credit for the questions as they are a revised version of Stephen Colbert's questions for celebrity guests. Please note that participation, should someone be selected, is completely voluntary. This month, let's get to know **one of the original CERT founding members, Leisa Peebles!**



Leisa Peebles

- Best sandwich? **Monte Christo**
- What's one thing you own that you really should throw out? **Old memorabilia**
- What is the scariest animal? **spiders**
- Native Texan or From Another Land?
Native
- Favorite action movie? **Die Hard (original)**
- Favorite smell? **Coconut**
- Least favorite smell? **Strawberry**
- Flat or sparkling water? (Lisa declined to respond: must be a state secret!)
- Most used app on your phone? **Facebook**
- You get one song to listen to for the rest of your life: what is it? **Any Christmas music**
- Describe the rest of your life in 5 words?
Enjoy Life, Forgive and Forget

ARES News



Important Announcement

Effective January 2026, Mark Riaboy will step down as ARES Director. During Mark's tenure as ARES Director, the program has held semi-annual Ham Technician classes, grown the program, and more than doubled ARES annual RCCC hours.

Mark has made recommendations to the RCCC Board for his replacement, which will be discussed at the December 17th board meeting.

Mark will continue to be involved with ARES and Skywarn for the foreseeable future.



Mark Riaboy

Thank you, Mark, for all of your tremendous contributions in building the Rowlett ARES and Skywarn programs!

Upcoming Events

The December ARES monthly in-person meeting has been **cancelled**. Enjoy your holiday!

December 6, 2025—February 7, 2026, help is needed for **"Rowlett on Ice"** skating rink support. It's an easy way to get hours. Please visit Track it Forward for details.

Saturday, December 6th at 17:00: Rowlett Holiday Main Street Fest float. Come pass out candy to the kids, and show your ARES spirit! Please sign up on Track it Forward.

Friday, December 12th at 18:30: RCCC Holiday Pot Luck at OG. Throw on that ugly sweater and dust of granny's secret recipe: it's time to get together with your fellow volunteers for seasonal cheer, friendly competition and a chance to socialize with spouses and friends. Details and sign-ups coming soon.

Wednesday, December 17th at 19:00 at OG: RCCC Board Meeting, open to RCCC members.

Monday, January 5, 2026 at 20:00: ARES monthly net on AB5U UHF 441.325 + 162.2, channel 13 on the Rowlett ARES band plan. **Todd Thayer KI5ZHP** will be **net control**. If you're interested in being net controller at an upcoming net, contact JP at JP@RowlettCitizenCorps.org.

Explorer News



Our month started with a blast as we went down to West to have our annual shooting campout. We practiced our marksmen skills with a morning of rifles, an afternoon of handguns, and an evening of skeet shooting. We finished the night with fireworks and of course by retiring the flags gathered by Rowlett.

Upcoming events

Toys for tots/Rowlett Holiday Parade

Join us as we help coordinate and direct traffic and safety for the annual Toys for Tots ride. Saturday, **December 6th**, 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Ridenow Powersports Mckinney, 3850 US 75 N Central Expressway. Meet at OG Station, 5100 Dalrock Road at 6:30 a.m.

Rowlett Holiday Parade

We're going to the Holiday Parade with a decorated bus and tons of candy to show our cheer and pride for our city. Saturday, **December 6th**, 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., Downtown Rowlett

RCCC Holiday Potluck and Post One Lock-in

Put on your ugliest holiday sweater, pack up your favorite appetizer, side dish or dessert, and join your fellow Rowlett Citizen Corps Council crew for some holiday cheer! We'll be celebrating at Old Glory (5100 Dalrock Road) on **Friday, December 12th**, together in the bays. **Sign up on Track it Forward.** Afterward, there will be the Explorer Christmas party and gift exchange at the Post One lock-in at Rowlett Fire Admin.

Ice Skating on Main

After our annual youth election, we will be enjoying the ice skating rink in downtown Rowlett. Happy Holidays!
Thursday, December 18th, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Rowlett Fire Admin, 4701 Rowlett Road, Rowlett, TX 75088

EXPLORER POST ONE
2026 MEMBERSHIPS DUE



2026 Explorer Post One Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your Post One membership. Membership for 2026 is \$100 and is due by the end of December. You can pay online at <https://rowlletexplorerpost.square.site/product/explorer-post-recharter-fee-annual/1?cs=true&cst=custom>

See Scott with questions.

Scouting News



Nov 14th Clothing donations to Cash4Clothes



Nov 8th – Merit Badge Class for Health Care Professions at Old Glory



Nov 15th Donation to The Rowlett Food Pantry at FCC-Rowlett

Scouting News (continued)



Nov 15th Fundraiser Troop Garage Sale at Old Glory

Troop Garage Sale Raised \$655!

Nov 17th - Pack 244 came to visit Troop 646 with 4 Webelos and 3 adults.



Troop Service Projects:

- Collected and Donated 98 Nonperishable Food items to The Rowlett Food Pantry at First Christian Church – Rowlett.
- Collect 101 thirteen-gallon bags of clothing to Cash4Clothes. Mr. Stark's completed his Scouting adult leadership Wood Badge. Ceremony will follow soon.
- Helped The Food Pantry at FCC-Rowlett on Wednesdays

Upcoming Events

- Dec 6th Walk in the Rowlett Holiday Parade
- Dec 22nd-Jan 5th GISD Winter Break

Weekly Scout Meetings are at Old Glory Station, 5100 Dalrock Road, Rowlett. We are there every Monday night from 7PM until 8:30PM unless it's a holiday. We will not meet during the weeks of Thanksgiving, Winter Break for GISD, Christmas, or New Years.

If you know someone between the ages of 10.5 through 17 years (male or female), let them know about Scouting, and invite them to visit us on any Monday.