



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS

JANUARY 2013

WWW.K5GCC.US

VOL. 19, No. 1

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello All,

First of all let me say Happy New Year to everyone! I am excited about this year and there are already lots of plans in the works.

In order to make sure there are things planned for everyone, we will be taking a large portion of our January 18th meeting to discuss our upcoming plans for the year. I am very interested in hearing what each and every one of you have to say, so please bring all your ideas to the meeting.

One thing I have done is create a Google calendar that will hold all the information for the events for the club. It can be found at [Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Calendar](#) or on the www.k5gcc.us website.

It is my hopes that this year we will be able to have a special speaker or presentation each month. While I have a few already lined up, I would be very interested in hearing what type of presentations or speakers you as a club would like to have. Please bring your ideas to the meeting and if you are unable to attend this meeting, please drop them to me via my email. bencsly@gmail.com

Along with our regular planned events: Perrin Field SE, Red River Bridge War SE, Eisenhower SE, Field Day, Kiwanis Bike Rally and the Ride for the Red, there are discussions of having some casual get togethers where if you're having troubles with your antenna, need help programming your radio or any other questions you would like help with you can bring them and we can try and help you get answers, or if you don't have any questions or concerns you can just come and enjoy the fellowship.

We are in full swing on our Fox Hunt and are hoping to add additional fun type activities to the mix, so keep an eye on the calendar for these!

I think we can make this a really fun year and look forward to seeing everyone on the 18th!

Thank You

Ben Sly KF5OEB

"It shall be our purpose to further the exchange of information and cooperation between members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, and to so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community."

From the GCARC Constitution

CLUB INFORMATION

2013 OFFICERS

President: Ben Sly KF5OEB
Vice President: Harold Peeples KF5IPP
Secretary: Brad McMillon KE5UMJ
Treasurer: Brad McMillon KE5UMJ
Activity Director: Jeannie Dopson KF5PDM
Trustee: James Hunt KI5DQ

MEETINGS

When: 3rd Friday of each month
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Grayson County Courthouse
2nd Floor Assembly Room
100 W. Houston Street
Sherman, TX 75090
GPS: 33.38.18N, 96.36.59W

MAILING ADDRESS

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club
718 Highway 82 E, # 198
Sherman, Texas 75090

NEWSLETTER

Published: Monthly
Editor: Michael Bernier KF5NPM
To Submit News or to Add/Remove from E-Mail List: Send E-Mail to KF5NPM@GMAIL.COM
Submission Deadline: 12 midnight on the Saturday prior to each monthly meeting

WEBSITE

Address: WWW.K5GCC.US
Webmaster:

ARES AND SKYWARN PATCHES

ARES and SKYWARN patches may be purchased from Brad KE5UMJ at each club meeting. Cost is \$4.00 each. If you choose to wear patches on your club shirt, the ARES patch should be placed on the right shoulder and any other patch (SKYWARN, RACES, CERT, etc.) should go below it. Since some members have tactical shirts with pen pockets on the left sleeve we are not placing any patches on that side.

GCARC TREASURER'S REPORT

Starting Balance 10/31/2012	\$633.66
Cash On Hand	\$0.00
Deposits	+ \$573.00
Expenses	– \$130.00
Ending Balance 11/30/2012	\$1,076.66

NOTES:

Deposits: Club Dues (cash \$240); Patches (checks \$40, cash \$44);
Shirts (checks \$263, cash \$30)
Expenses: Club Mailbox reimbursement (\$130)

Brad McMillon KE5UMJ
GCARC Secretary/Treasurer

GCARC MEETING MINUTES

16 November 2012 Meeting

Call to order by John Hutchison WD0FIN at 1901 hours. Introductions by members and guests. 26 members and 1 guest attending. Meet and greet by members and guests. Call back to order at 1906 hours. Motion moved by Johnnie KD5NIC, second by Ben KF5OEB to approve treasurer's report. Motion passed. Motion moved by Jeannie KF5PDM, second by Joe WD5JME to approve last month's meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- David Woods W5COP has declined nomination for Vice President.
- HT Radios. John WD0FIN will get all available HT radios to Wade KF5AUD for Boy Scout use.
- Red Cross Antenna installation.
- GCARC Mailbox. Mailbox has been purchased by club for 15 months. Cost was \$130.00. Club will repay Jeannie KF5PDM. New club address will be:
Grayson County Amateur Radio Club
718 Hwy 82 E, # 198
Sherman, Texas 75090

New Business:

- Donation to Marine Corps Reserve. Discussion by club members. Motion made by Harold KF5IPP, second by Lee KF5OED. Motion passed. Club will increase donation to \$350.00 to Marine Corps Reserve.
- December Christmas Meeting. Discussion on dates by club members. Motion made by David KC0EHR, second by Steve W5RTH. Motion passed to have December Meeting on December 14, 2012 @ 6:30pm at the Grayson County Courthouse.
- Christmas Dinner. Discussion by club members on dinner ideas. Motion made by Ben KF5OEB, second by Fred KF5KOW. Motion passed. Jeannie KF5PDM will buy turkey and ham and will be reimbursed by club. Motion moved by Joe WD5JME, second by Lee KF5OED. Motion passed to have Jeannie KF5PDM purchase drinks and will be reimbursed by club.
- Club Dues. Cost of club dues will stay the same as they were for 2012.
- Clothing Order. Rick K5ECX gave updated info on club clothing purchase.
- Vice President replacement nomination. Harold Peeples KF5IPP has accepted nomination.
- Club Officer Nominations. All nominations have passed by club members. Club Officers for 2013 will be:
President – Ben Sly KF5OEB
Vice President – Harold Peeples KF5IPP
Secretary/Treasurer – Brad McMillon KE5UMJ

No further business presented to the club and motion moved to adjourn at 1936 hours by John KF5KHZ, second by Lee KF5OED. Motion Passed. Meeting adjourned.

Next Club Meeting will be December 14, 2012 at 1830 hours at the Grayson County Courthouse, 2nd floor assembly room.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brad McMillon KE5UMJ
GCARC Secretary/Treasurer

GCARC AND SURROUNDING AREA EVENT CALENDAR

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) Meeting

January 18, 2013 7:00pm CT Program: TBA
Grayson County Courthouse 2nd floor assembly room.
100 West Houston Street (33.38.18N, 96.36.59W) Sherman TX 75090
<http://www.k5gcc.us>

Fannin County Amateur Radio Club (FCARC) Meeting / VE Test Session

January 18, 2013 @ 09:00CST for the FCARC Meeting. Program: TBA
January 18, 2013 @ 10:00CST for the VE Test Session.
First Presbyterian Church, corner of 9th Street and Center Street, Bonham TX, 75418, Talk in 145.470- PL100.0. The 145.130- repeater is down for repairs.
Informal breakfast - meeting before the meeting - at Cappy's @ 07:30CST. Contact: Roger Ashcraft KE5CCJ - President FCARC <http://www.k5frc.org>

CowTown Hamfest '2013

January 18-19, 2013
Website: <http://www.cowtownhamfest.com>
Talk-In: 147.280+, PL 110.9
Location: Lockheed Martin Recreation Area, 3400 Bryant Irvin Road, FortWorth, TX 76109
Public Contact: David Forbes, KC5UYR kc5uyr@compuserve.com

Eagle Scout Ceremony – Enoch Heise, KE5HWQ

January 26, 2013 <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fanninhams/attachments/folder/709707233/item/169524491/view>

QCWA of Dallas – Chapter 41

February 02, 2013
<http://www.chapter41.org>

Texoma VE Group Test Session

February 07, 2013 @ 18:00CST
Grayson County College CIS Building, Room 109, Denison, Texas 75020
Special Test Session
The Texoma VE Group (an ARRL VEC testing group) will hold regularly scheduled sessions the first Thursday of every even month (e.g. February, April, June, August, October, and December). These test sessions will be held at the Sherman Municipal Airport, 1200 S. Dewey Avenue, Sherman, TX 75090 at 7:30 pm. Test Fee for 2012, as set by the ARRL VEC, is \$15.00. Walk-ins are permitted, but please call if possible to let us know you are coming. Contact Moe Knight – NT7C – at 903-564-7115.

McKinney Amateur Radio Club (MARC) Meeting

February 11, 2013 @ 19:00CST
<http://www.mckinneyarc.org>

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) Meeting

February 15, 2013 @ 19:00CST Program: TBA
Grayson County Courthouse 2nd floor assembly room.
100 West Houston Street (33.38.18N, 96.36.59W) Sherman TX 75090
<http://www.k5gcc.us>

AMATEUR RADIO NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTY

Fox Hunting News...

We had 2 Fox Hunts in December and one in January. In December we had a Fox Hunt at Perrin Field and at Loy Lake park. In January we had one at Hagerman Wildlife Refuge. Each Fox Hunt was a little more challenging than the last. We seem to have a dedicated group of members that have attended all the Fox Hunts.....Ben, Jeannie, Tim, Stacy, Fred and myself. Other members have attended as well. We have resolved problems without antennas and improved our hunting skills with each Fox Hunt. Tim and Stacy have purchased their own Fox and have made it available for club use...so in February we are planning to have a Fox Hunt with multiple Foxes to find. That should be a lot of fun. I encourage everyone who has an interest in Fox Hunting to attend future Fox Hunts.

73

Lee Sly KF5OED

Sam Rayburn Birthday Special Event

January 4, 2013

K5FRC operated on three bands 40, 20, and 80 from about 08:00 – 1900CST in celebration of Sam Rayburn's Birthday in Bonham Texas. QSL cards will be sent if requested with SASE. <http://www.qrz.com/db/K5FRC>.

W5IG Cool Transmitter

Submitted by David Reeder – WA0URJ

A new "Cool Transmitter" from W5IG. That's W5 Inspector Gadget. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=neHreW-PNtw&feature=youtu.be>

Did You Know There Were this Many Satellites in Orbit Around Earth?

The Earth appears to be swarmed by flies in this real-time portrayal of the positions of 13,000 satellites in orbit around the Earth by Analytic Graphics Inc.

Link to video (about 2 mins):

http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001JvwtROoPkphqhQLqG8w1BSWuV6sFhNPWiZZH4Z-t2HXBMRNA_7TO3nIdhxcB64ggC_IDYgwGJiPLDQgFZDVaE5WC1sfSdE0pI9ewRFBre9psN--2hGfEWY4gI57ShbTePPRsxDz_NkLuY-z6_xxnmtLWNbX9Zdtz

How a Low Power Super Het Radio Works

Be sure to click on the schematic for an enlarged version <http://www.edn.com/design/analog/4404206/How-a-low-power--regenerative-super-het-radio-works?cid=EDNToday>

Editor notes:

de Jim, KI5DQ

- Early December, my computer's hard-drive crashed – hence no December newsletter. If I missed any data, notes or e-mail, please resend. The computer was under warranty, so I could not fix it myself.
- The “Buy- Sell-Trade” will be restarted next month.

LOCAL RADIO NETS

Weekly:

Scout Ham Net

Tuesdays 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater. This net is designed for all Scouts, Adult Leaders, and active Merit Badge counselors who are Amateur Radio operators.

Fannin County ARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays 9:00pm CT on the 145.130- (PL100) repeater.
This is an informal information net.

McKinney 6 meter AM Net

Wednesdays 10:00pm CT on 50.400MHz

Ladies Net

Thursdays 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater.
Net Control Operator: Linda KE5YUC

McKinney Info Net

Sundays 8:00pm CT on the 146.740- (110.9 PL) repeater.

Semi-Monthly:

Grayson County ARC Information Net

1st & 3rd Sunday at 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater.
This is an informal information net and Buy/Sell/Swap net.

Grayson County ARES Net

2nd & 4th Sunday at 9:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater.
This is a directed information net used for training.

Monthly:

McKinney ARES Net

2nd Sunday at 9:00pm CT on the 146.740- (110.9 PL) repeater.

AREA REPEATERS

Grayson County TX

147.000+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5RVT (VHF)
147.280+ MHz (107.2 PL)	W5COP
146.630- MHz (141.3 PL)	K5ZYZ
444.750- MHz (100.0 PL)	W5RVT (UHF)

Bonham TX

145.130- MHz (100.0 PL)
IRLP 3602, Echolink 143902
Digital SSTV 446.460
443.750+ MHz

Durant OK

147.390+ MHz (118.8 PL)
147.255+ MHz (192.8 PL)

Gainesville TX

147.340+ MHz (100.0 PL)

Kingston OK

146.985- MHz (118.8 PL)

McKinney TX

146.740- MHz (110.9 PL)

MERA – Melissa TX

443.200+ MHz (100.0 PL)

Rosston TX

145.490- MHz (88.5 PL)

Van Alstyne TX

443.800+ MHz (103.5 PL)

GRAYSON COUNTY ARES AND RACES

Sparks, Crackles, and Other Random Thoughts

By Rick Simmons K5ECX

Grayson Co. ARRL EC

Out with the Old in with the New... Year that is.

Wow was that a whirlwind or what? No wall clouds, no dry slot, no building cumulus just a quick burst and its gone. At least it seemed that way to me. We had a busy year and the leadership team has already planned some of 2013. There is also the unplanned parts , Skywarn nets and similar unplanned events.

So what happened last year. Every month we send in a report kinds of events and to the section listing various participation numbers



During the process of submitting one such report(it's done via the NoTex section website) I found I could look around at what others were reporting. Several interesting numbers popped out at me. Almost every county in North Texas has an ARES group, but not everyone. Many have small groups of 6 to a dozen operators. Some have multiple groups due to Metropolitan issues. However when you look at Grayson County ARES, we stand out. We among the largest with 80 plus members. And we are very active. Last year, if I counted right we had/participated in /held/led over 70 events. these ranged from public service such as the Sherman Warning Siren test, to our bi-monthly training, Biweekly Nets, Skywarn operations and activities with Section leaders and educational opportunities with Winlink, HSMM mesh and so forth. As I reflect we probably didn't count all the Test sessions, County Emergency Planning meetings and such. We have a great number of ARES functions, several each month. We are also a "young" Ham group in looking thru the call signs about 38 or so are "KF5's", reading that to indicate they were licensed in the past few years, some 14 are just this past year. There is great training opportunity for new Hams. And as I recall we are generally are in this hobby to learn and experiment.

Now I said earlier the leadership team has planned out a good portion of 2013. The activities should be on the calendar by now. Look thru them, we would love to know what you are interested in. We can add change and incorporate your ideas if you share. For your "older Hams" I could sure use some of you to help some of us learn. I could use some of you to help answer questions and elmer some of the new folks.

We have great plans for 2013. There are several ideas out there that have not been fully developed. If you have one, work on it, let's get it moving. Some involve new Hams, some involve equipment, resources, modes, and of course training. Let's stay active this year, find a place to plug in and check in with ARES, enjoy our hobby and service to others thru Ham radio.

CUL es 73

Rick K5ECX.

THE LAST LAUGH

The Night Before Christmas – for Hams

The antennas reached up from the tower, quite high,
To catch the weak signals that bounced from the sky.

The children (Tech-licensed) took HT's to their bed,
And dreamed of the day they'd be Extras instead.

Mom put on her headphones, I plugged in the key,
And we tuned 40 meters for that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged by a signal with power.
It smoked a small diode, and, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones and with all she could
muster
Logged a spot of the signal on the DX Packet Cluster,

While I ran to the window and peered up at the sky,
To see what could generate RF so very high.

It was way in the distance, but the moon made it
gleam --
A flying sleigh, with an eight element beam.

And a little old driver who looked slightly mean.
(So I thought for a moment, that it might be Wayne
Green.)

But no, it was Santa -- the Santa of Hams.
On a mission this Christmas to clean up the bands.

He circled the tower, then stopped in his track,
And he slid down the coax right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid behind stacks of CQ,
This Santa of hamming knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk of paper and parts,
And filled out all my late QSLs for a good start.

He ran copper braid, took a steel rod and pounded
Right into the earth, 'til the station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings, resoldered connections,
Cranked down modulation, installed lightning
protection.

He neutralized tubes in my linear amp...
(Never worked right before - now it runs like a champ).

A new low-pass filter cleaned up the TV,
And he corrected the settings in my TNC.

He repaired the computer that would not compute,
And he backed up the hard drive and got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep in the bag that he brought,
"A new Kenwood? An Icom? A Yaesu? For me?!"
(If he thought I'd been bad it might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate Station! How could I deserve this?
Could it be all those hours that I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up and then very quickly
Worked 100 countries (all down on 160).

I should have been happy it was my call he sent,
But the cards and the postage will cost two month's rent!

He made final adjustments, and left a card by the key:
"To Gary, from Santa Claus. Seventy-Three."

Then he grabbed his HT, looked me straight in the eye,
Punched a code on the pad, and was gone - no good bye.

I ran back to the station, and the pile-up was big,
But a card from St. Nick would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final came over the air.
It was copied all over. It was heard everywhere.

The Ham's Santa exclaimed what a ham might expect,
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all, good DX."

73's