



Grayson County Amateur Radio Club News

February 2013

WWW.K5GCC.US

Vol . 19, No. 2

The President's QSO

Hi All,

I'm very excited about the year ahead of us. We have tons of activities planned for this year that I think everyone will enjoy. We will be learning about "Contesting", building antennas, APRS, Electrical safety, satellite communications, and much more. We will continue to participate in our normally scheduled W5I Special Event Stations, as well as Field Day 2013, the Red River Bike Rally, and Ride for the Red. Please visit the [Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Calendar](#) to stay in the loop of the different activities.

Tim (KF5RAX) and Stacy (KF5RAY) have purchased a "fox", so in our future fox hunts we will have two transmitters to locate.

Welcome Mike Bernier (KF5NPM), our new newsletter editor. Jim Hunt (KI5DQ) has been our newsletter editor for over 10 years and has done a great job for us. I'd like to thank you Jim for all of your time and effort.

Be sure you visit the [TECOARES](#) website and see what they have planned. Moe Knight (NT7C) is giving a Technician class on February 16th. The TECOARES group is also having an HSMM Mesh and Winlink work session on Tuesday, February 19th at the Grayson College Police Department Building 6101 Grayson Drive Denison, TX 75020 6:30-9pm. Bring all of your HSMM Mesh equipment with you.

I look forward to seeing you at the next club meeting on February 15th at the Grayson County Courthouse where our presentation will be "contesting" by Dennis AB5NX and Dave K5YM.

If you have ANY comments, questions, concerns, or ideas...Please contact me at bencsly@gmail.com

Thank You and 73,
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

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 or jacket, 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 do not recommend placing any patches on that side.

Club Clothing Orders

Several times each year, members have the opportunity to purchase club-related clothing (shirts, caps, jackets, etc.). These items have the GCARC logo and the member's name and callsign embroidered on them. An order form with instructions will be included in the newsletter each time orders are being taken.

GCARC Treasurer's Report

Starting Balance 12/31/2012	\$689.34
Cash On Hand	\$0.00
Deposits	+ \$165.00
Expenses	- \$252.67
Ending Balance 1/31/2013	\$601.67

NOTES:

Deposits: Club Dues (cash \$40.00, checks \$125.00)

Expenses: Club Clothing order (\$252.67)

Brad McMillon KE5UMJ
GCARC Secretary/Treasurer

GCARC Meeting Minutes

GCARC Meeting, 18 January 2013

Call to order by new elected president Ben Sly KF5OEB at 1903 hours. Ben welcomed members and guests. (15 hams and 1 guest). Motion moved by Jeannie KF5PDM, second by William KF5ISC to approve November meeting minutes and treasurer's report. Motion passed. Brad KE5UMJ read December treasurer's report.

Old business:

- None presented.

New Business:

- Activity Director nomination. Motion made by John WD0FIN, second by Joe WD5JME that Jeannie Dopson KF5PDM be the GCARC Activities Director. Motion Passed.
- Newsletter Editor. Motion made by John WD0FIN, second by Fred KF5KOW that Mike Bernier KF5NPM will be the GCARC Newsletter Editor.
- Club Trustee. Motion made by Jeannie KF5PDM, second by Mike KF5NPM that Rick Simmons K5ECX be club trustee. Rick declined the nomination. Motion made by KF5PDM second by KF5NPM to table the club trustee nomination until FCC guidelines are determined. David KC0EHR will research trustee position.
- GCARC Newsletter Email List. Discussion that Newsletter Editor should have a list of all GCARC email addresses and a copy of this list will be given to the club secretary for a backup. Motion made by John WD0FIN, second by Jeannie KF5PDM that Mike KF5NPM will maintain the newsletter email list and give a copy to the club secretary. Motion passed.
- Club Google Calendar. Ben explained about the calendar and that the club needs to vote on upcoming events that have already been added to calendar. Motion made by Rick K5ECX, second by John WD0FIN that the dates listed on the calendar be approved. Motion passed.
- GCARC Club patches. Discussion on purchasing patches. Motion made by John WD0FIN, second by Joe WD5JME that K5GCC logo patches will be purchased and sold for \$5.00/ea.
- Club Trustee nomination revisited as FCC guidelines were looked up. Discussion of club trustee position and requirements. Motion made by David KC0EHR, second by Joe WD5JME to keep Jim Hunt KI5DQ as Club Trustee. Motion passed. Jim Hunt KI5DQ will remain as GCARC Club Trustee.
- Discussion on club fellowship and club interests by Ben KF5OEB.
- Dallas Amateur Radio Club giving CW classes. M-F @ 7pm on Echolink. Further discussion determined that these classes have been canceled.

Old Business Revisited.

- John KF5KHZ has some equipment that he wants to donate to the club. 2 laptops and 1 projector. Motion made by Jeannie KF5PDM, second by Joe WD5JME to accept the donated equipment. Motion passed. Ben KF5OEB will pick up equipment.

No further business presented to the club and motion moved to adjourn at 2020 hours by Jeannie KF5PDM, second by John WD0FIN. Motion Passed. Meeting adjourned.

Next Club Meeting will be February 15, 2013 at 1800 hours at the Grayson County Courthouse, 2nd floor assembly room.

Respectfully submitted,
Brad McMillon
KE5UMJ
GCARC Secretary/Treasurer

Club Meetings and Upcoming Events

Club Meetings

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC)

3rd Friday at 7:00pm CT

Grayson County Courthouse 2nd floor assembly room, 100 West Houston Street, Sherman TX

<http://www.k5gcc.us>

Cooke County Amateur Radio Club (CCARC)

2nd Thursday at 7:00pm CT

Cooke County Library, 200 S. Weaver Street, Gainesville TX

<http://www.gainesvillehamfest.org/ccarc.htm>

Fannin County Amateur Radio Club (FCARC)

3rd Saturday at 9:00am CT

First Presbyterian Church, corner of 9th Street and Center Street, Bonham TX

<http://www.k5frc.org>

McKinney Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

2nd Tuesday at 7:00pm CT

Spring Creek Barbecue, 1993 North Central Expressway, McKinney TX

<http://www.mckinneyarc.org>

Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) Chapter 41

1st Saturday at 11:00am CT

Midway Point Restaurant, 12801 Midway Road, Dallas TX

<http://www.texasqcwa41.org>

Hamfests

Irving ARC 11th Annual Hamfest

March 9, 2013 8:00am-2:00pm (ARRL VE test session starts at 8:30am)

Betcha Bingo Hall, 2420 W. Irving Blvd. #125, Irving, TX 75061

Talk-In: 146.72 (PL 110.9)

Contact: Tim Fooks N5MBQ n5mbq@arrl.net or Coleta Taylor KD5QFH coleta.mt@verizon.net

<http://www.irvingarc.org/iarchamfest.html>

Weatherford (Parker County) Hamfest

March 23, 2013

Couts Memorial Methodist Church, 802 North Elm St., Weatherford, TX 76085

Talk-In: 147.040+ (PL 110.9)

Contact: Elizabeth Hunkele N5ONE eliz@mesh.net

<http://www.w5pc.org>

East Texas Regional Amateur Radio Tailgate Sale

April 6, 2013

LeTourneau University, 2100 South Mobberly Ave., Longview, TX 75601

Talk-In: 147.340 (PL 136.5)

Contact: Todd Hoover N5TJH hoover_tj@yahoo.com

<http://letarc.org>

Belton HamEXPO

April 20, 2013 7:00am-2:00pm (ARRL VE test session starts at 9:30am)

Bell County Expo Center, 301 West Loop 121, Belton, TX 76513

Talk-In: 146.820- (PL 123.0)

Contact: Mike LeFan WA5EQQ mlefan@lefan.com

<http://www.beltonhamexpo.org>

Contests

ARRL Rookie Roundup

The Rookie Roundup is a contest aimed at Amateurs licensed for three years or less. This six-hour event is held three times per year (April, August and December). Rookies can contact anybody, while “Old Timers” make contact with only Rookies. Mentoring is a big part of this event!

For more information, visit <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

2013 ARRL DX

CW: February 16-17 Phone: March 2-3

W/VE amateurs work as many DX stations in as many DXCC entities as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands. DX stations work as many W/VE stations in as many of the 48 contiguous states and provinces as possible

For more information, visit <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>

Check the [Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Calendar](#) for additional contests and activities.

Amateur Radio News Of Interest

Technician License Training Classes

Moe Knight NT7C will be offering a training class to prepare prospective hams to take the Technician Class License exam. The class consists of two sessions on **February 16** and **March 9**. Following the second session, the Texoma VE Group will administer the exam. The class will be held at Grayson College in Denison in the CIS building, room 109. For more information or to sign up for the class, contact Moe by e-mail to nt7c@arrl.net or call (903) 564-7115.

The Durant Amateur Radio Club will be offering a Technician Training Class during the four Tuesdays in March from 6:00-8:00pm in the Donald W. Reynolds Library. The first 20 people who pass the exam will be loaned a Motorola VHF radio; if they are “on the air” regularly for two years, they will get to keep the radio. For more information, call Kenneth Eppler (580) 924-5916.

HSMM-MESH / Winlink 2000 Work Session

Have you converted a router to work with HSMM-MESH, but don’t know what to do with it? Maybe you’re wanting to learn how? Or perhaps you want to test your equipment to make sure it’s working?

Are you planning to work with Winlink 2000 to send e-mails by radio? Or you think you’re online but not sure you’ve got things set up right?

If the answer to any of these questions is “Yes”, then we have an event coming up that you won’t want to miss. We will be holding a work session for both HSMM-MESH and Winlink on **Tuesday, February 19th**, from 6:30-9:00pm at the Grayson College Police Department building in Denison.

Some of us attending will know more about certain parts of these two digital modes than others, but we all have something we can share, and everyone will come away with a better understanding of how each works and of when and where to use them. So, pack up your routers, TNCs, laptops, and other goodies and bring them to the work session on the 19th (if you have any extra power strips, bring them along too).

Be sure to contact Wade Graves by e-mail (wade.graves@gmail.com) to let him know you’re coming; that way he can get a headcount so there will be enough chairs and table space available.

ARISS

Looking for a QSO that’s out of this world? Check out the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. ARISS is a cooperative effort between NASA, ARRL, and AMSAT to organize scheduled contacts between local groups and the astronauts/cosmonauts on board the ISS. For more information, visit <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-on-the-international-space-station>.

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- (100.0 PL) 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

North Texas ARES HF Net

2nd Wednesday at 8:30pm CT on 3.860 MHz LSB
This is an information net open to all ARES members in the ARRL North Texas (NTX) Section.

McKinney ARES Net

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

Area Repeaters

Sherman TX

147.000+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5RVT
147.280+ MHz (107.2 PL)	W5COP
444.750- MHz (100.0 PL)	W5RVT

Bonham TX

145.470- MHz (no PL)	K5FRC
145.130- MHz (no PL)	K5FRC
443.750+ MHz (no PL)	K5FRC

Durant OK

147.390+ MHz (118.8 PL)	K5KIE
147.255+ MHz (114.8 PL)	K5CGE
146.985- MHz (118.8 PL)	K5BQG

Gainesville TX

147.340+ MHz (100.0 PL)	WB5FHI
-------------------------	--------

McKinney TX

146.740- MHz (110.9 PL)	W5MRC
145.350- MHz (100.0 PL)	N5GI

Melissa TX

443.200+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5MRA
-------------------------	-------

Rosston TX

145.490- MHz (88.5 PL)	WD5U
------------------------	------

Van Alstyne TX

443.800+ MHz (103.5 PL)	W5VAL
-------------------------	-------

Please send additions, changes, or corrections to
kf5npm@gmail.com

From The (New) Editor

Hello!

Since this is my first issue of the newsletter as Editor, I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Michael Bernier, but most folks call me Mike. I've been a ham for a little over a year (my call is KF5NPM); I got my Technician license in November of 2011, thanks to attending one of Moe Knight's training classes (he's starting another one on February 16th, and you can find more information about it in the "Amateur Radio News of Interest" section of this newsletter). I picked up my General in February of last year and I'm slowly studying for my Extra, but I figure I've got plenty of time to get it; Amateur Radio seems to be one of those hobbies that can easily last a lifetime.



I have a background in computer applications design, so it makes sense that I also have an interest in the many digital modes available to us hams such as Packet, APRS, HSMM-MESH, and Winlink. I also want to get into HF someday (when I can afford it).

Although I haven't had my license for a long time, I've found all sorts of ways to use it. I had a lot of fun participating in Field Day and working the Kiwanis Bike Rally last year, and look forward to doing them again. I've also signed up for ARES and taken SKYWARN training, and I'm slowly learning how to be a good storm spotter. Here's a shameless plug: if you're not a member of ARES, I highly recommend signing up; it's one of the ways we hams can use our skills to help our neighbors and friends during times of trouble. In Grayson County, you can visit the Texoma Emergency Communication Organization (TECO) website for more information (www.tecoares.org).

Outside of ham radio, I'm a member of the local Civil Air Patrol squadron (did you know we have one?). CAP uses equipment that's similar to what hams use, and what I've learned as a ham so far has been very helpful in understanding the CAP radio network. Many of the squadron's adult members are also hams. If you'd like to learn more about it, you can contact me or visit the squadron's website at www.captexoma.org.

I'm also a husband and a father of two. My daughter's getting married later this year, so you can imagine where a lot of my income will be going over the next few months (and I thought a HF rig was expensive!). My son is also a ham; he got his Tech license last December (KF5TDL). But enough about me...

You've probably noticed the newsletter looks very different from previous issues. That doesn't mean the previous newsletters were poorly written, or that my predecessor wasn't a good editor. Many of you may not know it, but Jim KI5DQ created the newsletter and edited it for over 10 years, building a very loyal following that reaches across several counties. I want to thank him for his many years of service as Editor, and I hope that I can continue his work with the same level of dedication. I've had the privilege of editing several newsletters over the years, and hopefully I will be able to apply the better pieces of that experience here. I'm sure time will tell.

Speaking of which, if you've read this far I've probably taken up more of your time than I should have. I do want to say one last thing: if you have any questions, comments (good or bad), suggestions, or things to include in the newsletter such as articles or photos, please let me know! My philosophy is, if you're willing to take the time and effort to write an article or send some pictures, I'm willing to include them in an upcoming issue. You can reach me by e-mail at kf5npm@gmail.com.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the club.

73
Mike