



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2013

WWW.K5GCC.US

VOL. 19, No. 9

THE ~~PRESIDENT'S~~ EDITOR'S QSO

Hello Everyone,

Ben's usual letter here didn't quite make it in time to be published, so I'm filling in the space as best I can. We editors have to do stuff like that sometimes.

Ben has been pretty busy lately...in fact, he was one of the members of the latest Grayson County CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class who held their "final exam" this week. I've replaced his usual photo this month with one that was taken during the exercise (courtesy of Jeannie KF5PDM). Several of our club members are also members of CERT, and some (including myself) are members of ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service); both groups participated in the event, which was held at the Grayson County Courthouse. By all accounts, the exercise was a success and the class passed with flying colors. Be sure to congratulate Ben and the other members of this newly-trained CERT group on a job well done.



We have a number of club activities going on in the coming weeks, including several special event stations that are always a lot of fun; be sure to check our listings in this issue, and visit the [Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Calendar](#) online for all of the latest information.

Our meeting this month will be held on Friday, September 20th at the Grayson County Courthouse. I hope you'll have a chance to attend because I understand the program will be very informative, and with all of the events coming up in October there is much to discuss. Unfortunately, I will be out of town on business and cannot be there. In the meantime, if I can be of any further help to you, please don't hesitate to contact me at KF5NPM@gmail.com.

Thanks and 73,
Mike Bernier (KF5NPM)
GCARC Newsletter Editor

"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 (1900 hours)
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 via e-mail
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: Jim Hubbell N5COP

GCARC, ARES, AND SKYWARN PATCHES

GCARC club patches are available and may be purchased from Brad KE5UMJ at each club meeting; cost is \$5.00 each. These are round patches with the club logo, and are great for wearing on vests and other non-club clothing, placing on equipment bags and go-kits, etc.

ARES and SKYWARN patches may also be purchased from Brad 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 7/31/2013	\$631.90	NOTES:	
Cash On Hand	\$0.00	<u>Deposits:</u>	None
Deposits	+ \$0.00	<u>Expenses:</u>	None
Expenses	- \$0.00		
Ending Balance 8/31/2013	\$631.90		

Brad McMillon KE5UMJ
GCARC Secretary/Treasurer

GCARC MEETING MINUTES

GCARC Meeting, 16 August 2013

Call to order by president Ben Sly KF5OEB at 1906 hours. Motion made by David W5COP, second by Wade KF5AUD to approve last month's meeting minutes and Treasurer's report. Brad KE5UMJ read Treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- Kiwanis Bike Rally – Update from Ben KF5OEB and Wade KF5AUD on how Rally went and how APRS helped out Net Control.
- Upcoming Hamfests - update
- Fox Hunt – Saturday August 24, 2013, update
- Denison Main Street Festival – Ben gave update on booth
- Eisenhower Special Event Station – update
- International Aerobatics Championship – update
- Ride for the Red – update
- CERT Drill – September 17, 2013, update

New Business:

- Tim KF5RAX gave idea on starting a Library of Ham related books.
- Texoma RC Modelers – Saturday August 17, 2013, 4pm to 8pm. Fundraiser for Wounded Warriors. Location west on hwy 82 from Sherman then left on Hazelwood Rd.

Presentation by Ben KF5OEB on Digital modes. Question and answers followed.

No further business presented to the club and motion moved to adjourn at 2017 hours by Lee KF5OED, second by John KF5KHZ. Motion Passed. Meeting adjourned.

Next Club Meeting will be September 20, 2013 at 1900 hours at the Grayson County Courthouse, 2nd floor assembly room.

Respectfully submitted,
Brad McMillon
KE5UMJ
GCARC Secretary/Treasurer

ATTENTION FACEBOOK USERS!

BE SURE TO VISIT THE GCARC FACEBOOK PAGE AT
[HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/K5GCC/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/K5GCC/)

CLUB MEETINGS, LOCAL ACTIVITIES, 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>

Durant Amateur Radio Club (DARC)

3rd Tuesday at 7:00pm CT

Bryan County Emergency Management, 2808 Enterprise Drive, Durant OK

Fannin County Amateur Radio Club (FCARC)

3rd Saturday at 9:00am CT

First Presbyterian Church, 818 North Main 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>

ARES® / SKYWARN®

Grayson County ARES® Training

4th Tuesday of each odd-numbered month (Jan / Mar / May / Jul / Sep / Nov) at 7:00pm CT

Sherman Municipal Airport Terminal Building, 1200 S. Dewey Ave., Sherman TX

<http://www.tecoares.org>

GCARC Club Events

Denison Main Street Festival – Information Booth

October 5, 2013

Main Street, Denison TX

Eisenhower Special Event Station

October 12, 2013

Eisenhower Birthplace, Denison, TX

World Aerobatic Championships Special Event Station

October 19, 2013

North Texas Regional Airport, Denison TX

American Red Cross “Ride For The Red” Bike Rally

October 20, 2013

VE Testing Sessions

Texoma VE Team – Bi-Monthly Testing

1st Thursday of each even-numbered month (Feb / Apr / Jun / Aug / Oct / Dec) at 7:00pm CT

Sherman Municipal Airport Terminal Building, 1200 S. Dewey Ave., Sherman TX

Contact: Moe NT7C (903) 564-7115 or nt7c@arrl.net

Durant Amateur Radio Club – Monthly Testing

3rd Tuesday at 8:00pm CT (following the DARC monthly meeting)

Bryan County Emergency Management, 2808 Enterprise Drive, Durant OK

Contact: Jim Harmon (jharmon@netcommander.com)

Texoma Amateur Radio Association – Monthly Testing

3rd Saturday of each month at 2:00pm CT

The Java Stop Café, 5700 North FM 1417, Sherman TX

Contact: Dave K5YM (281) 743-7478

Fannin County Amateur Radio Club – Appointment-Only Testing

First Presbyterian Church, 818 North Main Street, Bonham TX

Contact David WA0URJ (wa0urj@yahoo.com) to schedule a session

Hamfests**Texoma Hamarama (Ardmore)**

October 25-26, 2013 (Friday 5:00pm-8:00pm, Saturday 8:00am-1:00pm)

Ardmore Convention Center, 2401 North Rockford Road, Ardmore OK

Talk-In: 146.970 (no PL)

Public Contact: Henry Allen W5TYD (214) 673-7942 or w5tyd@arrl.net

Website: www.texomahamarama.org

Contests**ARRL Rookie Roundup - CW**

December 22nd, 2013 1800 UTC – 2359 UTC (12:00pm – 5:59pm CT)

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!

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

TRAINING CLASSES

Technician and General License Training Classes

Classes to prepare for the Technician and General Licenses will be held this fall. If you know someone who's been wanting to get their Technician "ticket" or looking to upgrade, this will be a great opportunity to learn what it takes to pass each exam.

The Technician class will be offered in two sessions. Session 1 will be on Saturday, November 16th from 8:30am to 12:30pm; it will introduce students to basic radio concepts and the Technician License study materials. Session 2 will be on Saturday, December 7th from 8:30am to 5:00pm; it will review the study materials and random questions from the exam pool. At the end of the second session the Texoma VE Team will administer the Technician exam.

A new General class will be offered in Tuesday evening sessions over a period of 6-10 weeks. The first session will be on Tuesday, September 24th from 6:30-9:00pm, and the last session will be held on or about December 10th. At the end of the last session, the Texoma VE Team will administer the General exam.

All sessions will be held at the Grayson County College Center for Workplace Learning (CWL), Seminar Room C. There is no charge for attending either class. Students who choose to take the exams will pay a \$15 exam fee. Study materials are available online at no charge, and some printed study materials will be available to borrow for a small deposit, which is either refunded or applied toward the exam fee when the materials are returned.

The instructor for both classes is Moe Knight (NT7C). For more information or to enroll in a class, contact Moe by e-mail to nt7c@arrl.net or call (903) 564-7115.

SWAP MEET

(Disclaimer: This section is provided for hams to list items they wish to buy, sell, or trade. GCARC will not be responsible for the accuracy or completeness of any descriptions, will not guarantee any items function as described, and will not participate in any transactions. The individual buyer and seller are responsible for all discussions, negotiations, and resolving of differences.)

FOR SALE: Collins KWM-2

Collins KWM-2 (Round Emblem) in great condition. Just aligned and checked out. Asking \$900. Will be glad to meet and deliver in Sherman area.

Contact: Doug Mentzer K7DAM
Phone 903-989-2210 or e-mail: dougment@gmail.com



FOR SALE: Cushcraft ASL-670 Log Periodic Antenna

The Cushcraft ASL-670 is the ultimate multi-use antenna. Since the antenna is a log periodic, it offers continuous coverage through the 2 and 6 meter bands as well as 220 and 440 MHz. So while being a terrific antenna for operating those bands, it's also a great aviation and public safety band monitoring antenna.

Use the antenna for contesting and mountain topping if you like. The antenna is compact and easy to assemble and disassemble with no tuning required. Yet it is rugged enough for permanent installations.

This antenna has excellent gain f/b with good VSWR bandwidth to boot. Enjoy the fun of high performance operation *and* multi-frequency.



\$225 Pick Up Only in Bonham, TX
Contact: David Reeder WA0URJ
E-mail WA0URJ@yahoo.com
Home 903-583-1023 – Cell 972-658-6773

FOR SALE: Mobile 10 Meter Radio and Amp

Mobile Palomar 300 watt amp and RCI 2950 10 meter radio. Asking \$300 for both but will take offers.
Contact: Tim KB5SSQ 903-816-3100

FOR SALE: Estate Sale Items

My husband Ronnie Hartwell KE5ASH died March 6th and I (Lora Hartwell his wife) have moved to Dallas from Louisiana. I brought all of his radios, tuners, amplifiers, and a crank up tower with me. All of this is for sale:

Ameritron ALS600s 600w amplifier with power supply \$850
Ameritron AL811 amplifier \$650
HF +6m zero power auto tuner z100 \$75

LDG AT11MP auto tuner	\$100
MFJ-986 Tuner	\$200
Vertex VX-150 HT	\$75
Yaesu FT 857D ultra-compact transceiver	\$700
Yaesu FT 8900R quad band FM transceiver.....	\$375
40-ft crank up tower.....	SOLD
ICOM 735 HF all band transceiver.....	SOLD
MFJ-4125 25amp Switching Power supply	SOLD
MFJ-994 600 w automatic antenna tuner.....	SOLD
Ten-Tec Jupiter 538 HF transceiver.....	SOLD

(Note: Ben KF5OEB is assisting Lora with this sale. Contact Ben via e-mail bencsly@gmail.com or call 903-815-2698.)

AMATEUR RADIO NEWS OF INTEREST

Vanity Call Sign Fees Increased

The new FCC regulatory fee of \$16.10 to apply for an Amateur Radio vanity call sign went into effect Friday, August 23, when the new regulatory fee schedule appeared in the [Federal Register](#). Earlier this year the FCC had proposed upping the vanity call sign fee from its current \$15 to \$15.20, but in the [Report and Order](#) in MD Docket 13-140, released August 12, the Commission offered no explanation for the higher fee.

In another change, starting in FY 2014 (note: the 2014 fiscal year begins October 1, 2013), the FCC will require that **all regulatory fee payments be made electronically**.

The *R&O* ordered a broad schedule of new fees and waived the usual 30-day waiting period following *Federal Register* publication, because it feared there would not be time for FY 2013 fees to become effective before the start of the new federal fiscal year on October 1.

The FCC says it expects \$230,230 in revenue to cover the costs of administering the vanity call sign program. It anticipates 14,300 vanity call sign applications.

Originally Published Online at ARRL.org

FCC Cites More Retailers for Marketing Unauthorized RF Devices

In August the FCC cited retailers in California and Texas for illegally marketing non-certified amplifiers. According to an August 15 [Citation and Order](#), the FCC's San Francisco office investigated complaints and "confirmed that DNJ Radio of Fremont was offering for sale non-certified RM Italy linear amplifiers and amplifier kits capable of operation with both CB 11 meter transceivers and [Amateur Service] 10 meter transceivers." The FCC said the devices listed in the *Citation* have not received FCC grants of certification, required for external RF power amplifiers operating below 144 MHz and marketed in the US. The Commission also cited [Radio Master](#), a CB shop catering to truckers, for similar violations. According to a [Citation and Order](#) released August 20, FCC agents from its Dallas office in February inspected the Radio Master shop at a truck stop in Rockwall, Texas, where they observed a used Palomar 250 RF amplifier offered for sale.

"The unit did not have an FCC identification number to confirm that the model had been granted an FCC certification," the Commission said in the Radio Master *Citation*, noting that under its Part 2 rules, external RF power amplifiers capable of operating below 144 MHz "may not be offered for sale unless they have first been authorized in accordance with the Commission's certification procedures."

The FCC discounted a disclaimer on DNJ Radio's website that the devices it's marketing "are for industrial, scientific, medical, or export use only," and that using them on 11 meters would violate FCC rules. "The amplifiers...are being offered for sale from within the United States, and anyone within the United States could buy the devices regardless of the

disclaimer,” the FCC said. Future violations by either retailer could result in hefty fines and/or equipment seizure, the Commission said.

The Commission told both firms to take immediate steps to discontinue marketing unauthorized RF devices, and it gave them 30 days to provide certain information in writing.

In June, the FCC issued a [Citation and Order](#) to a Nebraska-based online retailer for illegally marketing unauthorized RF devices, including 10 and 12 meter amplifiers capable of putting out up to 8200W.

Originally Published Online at ARRL.org

NASA Invites Ham Radio Community to Say “HI” to Juno Spacecraft

NASA’s Juno spacecraft will fly past Earth on October 9 to receive a gravity assist, putting it on course for Jupiter. To celebrate, the Juno mission is [inviting](#) Amateur Radio operators around the world to say “HI” to Juno in a coordinated Morse code message. If enough operators participate, Juno’s “Waves” radio and plasma wave experiment should be able to detect the message. The [Say “HI” to Juno](#) web page will be updated with additional information as the event approaches. All transmissions will take place on 10 meters, with the precise (suggested) frequency determined by the last letter of your call sign (see Juno Flyby Frequency Table, below).

Sponsors say Juno will have a better chance of detecting signals from many operators if the transmissions are spread out across the spectrum. The Juno Waves instrument is a broadband receiver, and the detector being used for this event has a passband that’s 1 MHz wide.

While the Waves instrument is sensitive to radio signals in all amateur bands below 40 MHz, sponsors chose 10 meters, because experience with the University of Iowa instruments on the Galileo and Cassini Earth flybys showed significant ionospheric shielding at lower frequencies. Sponsors actually are hoping for poor band conditions on October 9, so an appreciable fraction of the radiated energy can escape the ionosphere into space.

Indicators on the [Say “HI” to Juno](#) web page will instruct participants when to transmit and when to stop transmitting. Each will have a timer to indicate how long until you switch from one mode to the other mode. Stations should transmit a legal station identification as the FCC or non-US regulators require. Participants should consider their stations to be operating as attended beacon stations and should avoid transmitting on top of ongoing communications.

Stations with directional antennas should check the web site for information on what headings to use during the event. Visit the [Say “HI” to Juno](#) web page for full details and to obtain the latest information. The activity begins October 9 at about 18:01 UTC and continue until about 20:41 UTC. Operators taking part should make sure their computer clocks are synchronized to network time prior to the event. The web page will indicate when you start or stop transmitting (key down/key up).

Participants can receive a QSL card for contacting Juno. [E-mail](#) your call sign and mailing address. Additional information is available at [NASA’s Juno](#) website and the [Mission Juno](#) website.

Originally Published Online at ARRL.org

Last Letter of Your Call Sign	Frequency to Use (MHz)
A	28.001
B	28.019
C	28.037
D	28.055
E	28.073
F	28.091
G	28.109
H	28.127
I	28.145
J	28.163
K	28.181
L	28.199
M	28.217
N	28.234
O	28.252
P	28.270
Q	28.288
R	28.306
S	28.324
T	28.342
U	28.360
V	28.378
W	28.396
X	28.414
Y	28.432
Z	28.45

LOCAL RADIO NETS

Weekly

Durant ARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays 7:00pm CT on the 147.390+ (118.8 PL) repeater.

No net on the 3rd Tuesday of each month due to the DARC monthly meeting.

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– (no 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 ARC 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.

RACES Command Net Check

2nd & 4th Sunday at 2:00pm CT on 7.255 MHz LSB

This is a RACES Command Net check for statewide RACES Command Net members ONLY. All other Amateur stations are welcome to listen, but DO NOT check in!

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

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 (85.4 PL)

WD5U

Van Alstyne TX

443.800+ MHz (103.5 PL)

W5VAL