



# GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS

JUNE 2014

WWW.K5GCC.US

VOL. 20, No. 6

## THE PRESIDENT'S QSO

Hi All,

Our first special event station of the year was on Saturday, May 17th at the North Texas Regional Airport, Perrin Air Force Base Museum in Denison. We had a pretty good turn out and had plenty of operators which was great! Special thanks to John Trammell and Daniel (AF5OY) for the use of their radios for the day. These special events are a good way to get on the air, hang out with fellow amateur radio operators, and have a good time.

Our next event will be Field Day 2014!! We will begin set up between 8 and 9 am on Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup>, be on the air at 1pm, and run until 4pm Sunday or until we give up. We will be running PSK31 and SSB on 80-10 meters depending on band conditions. We plan to have three stations with at least one digital. There will be lots of food Saturday afternoon and breakfast Sunday morning. We will need volunteers to help set up and tear down, along with radio operators. Please contact Daniel or Amber at [dboehmisch@gmail.com](mailto:dboehmisch@gmail.com) if you would like to help out.



Hope to see everybody at the meeting on Friday where we will vote on a club HF rig for special events. We will also discuss Field Day, and Lee (KF5OED) will be talking about club QSLs.

Please visit the [Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Calendar](#) to stay in the loop of the different activities.

If you have ANY comments, questions, concerns, or ideas...Please contact me at [bencsly@gmail.com](mailto:bencsly@gmail.com)

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

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## CLUB INFORMATION

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### 2014 OFFICERS

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President: Ben Sly KF5OEB  
Vice President: Jeannie Dopson KF5PDM  
Secretary: Sheila Sammons KF5TDP  
Treasurer: Sheila Sammons KF5TDP  
Activity Directors: Daniel & Amber Boehmisch  
(AF5OY & KF5WPS)  
Trustee: Rick Simmons K5ECX

### MEETINGS

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When: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month  
Time: 7:00pm (1900 hours)  
Location: Grayson County Courthouse  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Assembly Room  
100 W. Houston Street  
Sherman, TX 75090  
GPS: 33.38.18N, 96.36.59W

### MAILING ADDRESS

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

### NEWSLETTER

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

### WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

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Address: [WWW.K5GCC.ORG](http://WWW.K5GCC.ORG)  
Webmaster: TBA  
Facebook [www.facebook.com/groups/K5GCC](http://www.facebook.com/groups/K5GCC)  
Page:

### GCARC, ARES, AND SKYWARN PATCHES

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GCARC club patches are available and may be purchased 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, go-kits, etc.

ARES and SKYWARN patches may also be purchased 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

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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.

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### GCARC TREASURER'S REPORT

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Starting Balance 4/30/2014	\$1,490.25	<b>NOTES:</b>	
Cash On Hand	\$20.00	<u>Deposits:</u>	None
Deposits	+ \$0.00	<u>Expenses:</u>	6' table for events
Expenses	– \$54.10		
Ending Balance 5/31/2014	\$1,436.15		

Sheila Sammons KF5TDP  
GCARC Secretary/Treasurer

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## GCARC MEETING MINUTES

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### GCARC Meeting, May 16, 2014

President Ben Sly called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm recognizing guest Brian Shaffer (KF5QEB/AL). Twenty members were in attendance.

Motion to accept Minutes from our April meeting was made by Mark Pilkilton (KF5UZW) and seconded by Jeannie Dodson (KF5PDM), motion passed.

Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Motion to accept made by Daniel Boehmisch (KF5WPR) and seconded by John Ramsey (KF5KHZ), motion passed.

#### Old Business

- President Ben Sly gave a recap of the antenna raising at Mike Bernier's (KF5NPM) house. He thanked everyone who came by to help and expressed compliments to Mike for the great food he provided for everyone. He reminded that there will be another antenna raising at Mike's in the near future.
- Club 20th Anniversary T-Shirts were discussed. A sample of the shirts will be provided at the June meeting. Anyone wishing to purchase the shirts will need to contact Rick Simmons (K5ECX) no later than the July meeting, so the order will be ready for the Anniversary event. Rick has asked that shirts be pre-paid.
- Our next Special Event will be at the North Texas Regional Airport (Perrin Field) on May 17th. Hope to see everyone there for a great day.

#### New Business

- President Ben brought a couple of examples of radios (ICOM and Yaesu) for the club to consider purchasing as a club radio / station. Discussion covered durability, flexibility, portability, and cost of purchase. Additional recommendation from Rick Simmons K5ECX to add the Kenwood TS-2000 to the list for consideration. We will narrow the selection and cost at the June meeting.

Presentation by Mark Pilkilton KF5UZW and Matt Gaskill KF5KOY on TNCs.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn at 8:12p.m.

Next Meeting will be at 7pm on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in the Grayson County Courthouse 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Assembly Room, Sherman TX.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sheila Sammons KF5TDP  
GCARC Secretary/Treasurer

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## CLUB MEETINGS, LOCAL ACTIVITIES, AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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### Club Meetings

#### **Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC)**

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday at 7:00pm

Grayson County Courthouse 2<sup>nd</sup> floor assembly room, 100 West Houston Street, Sherman TX

<http://www.k5gcc.org>

#### **Cooke County Amateur Radio Club (CCARC)**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 7:00pm

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

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

#### **Durant Amateur Repeater Association (DARA)**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00pm

Bryan County Emergency Management, 2808 Enterprise Drive, Durant OK

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Durant-Amateur-Repeater-Association-Ham-Radio/292030700959672>

#### **Fannin County Amateur Radio Club (FCARC)**

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 9:00am

First Presbyterian Church, 818 North Main Street, Bonham TX

<http://www.k5frc.org>

#### **McKinney Amateur Radio Club (MARC)**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00pm

Spring Creek Barbecue, 1993 North Central Expressway, McKinney TX

<http://www.mckinneyarc.org>

#### **Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) Chapter 41**

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday at 11:00am

Midway Point Restaurant, 12801 Midway Road, Dallas TX

<http://www.texasqcwa41.org>

### **ARES® / SKYWARN®**

#### **Grayson County ARES® Training**

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

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

<http://www.tecoares.org>

### **GCARC Events**

#### **ARRL Field Day**

Setup: June 28, 2014 9:00am.

Operating: June 28, 2014 1:00pm through June 29, 2014 4:00pm

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

Planning to operate at least two SSB and one PSK31 stations; bands will vary based on conditions.

### **Training Classes**

#### **Radio & Electronics Lab for Hams**

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month from 8:30am-12:30pm

Grayson College Center for Workplace Learning, Seminar Room C, 6101 Grayson Drive, Denison TX

This is a hands-on class where students learn basic principles of electronics, proper use of tools and test equipment, and other tips and techniques applicable to Amateur Radio. Class content will vary.

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

Class Fee: No charge for the class; however, there may be costs for tools and/or supplies used in the class

Registration: Required; contact Moe to register

### **VE Testing Sessions**

#### **Texoma VE Team – Bi-Monthly Testing**

**NOTE: June was the last month for Technician License testing using the current question pool. The new Technician question pool (effective July 1) will be used for the August test session.**

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

Grayson College Center For Workplace Learning, Seminar Room C, 6101 Grayson Drive, Denison TX

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

**Durant Amateur Repeater Association – Monthly Testing**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 8:00pm (following the DARA monthly meeting)  
Bryan County Emergency Management, 2808 Enterprise Drive, Durant OK  
Contact: Jim K5BNK ([jharmon@netcommander.com](mailto:jharmon@netcommander.com))

**Texoma Amateur Radio Association – Monthly Testing**

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at 2:00pm (no testing in June or July)  
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](mailto:wa0urj@yahoo.com)) to schedule a session

**Hamfests****Ham Holiday (ARRL Oklahoma State Convention)**

July 25-26, 2014 (Friday 3:00pm-7:00pm; Saturday 8:00am-3:00pm)  
VE Testing: Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm  
Bricktown Hotel, I-40 & Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK  
Talk-In: 146.820 (151.4 PL)  
Public Contact: Thomas Webb WA9AFM (405) 737-6716 or [wa9afm@arrl.net](mailto:wa9afm@arrl.net)  
Website: [www.hamholiday.org](http://www.hamholiday.org)

**Austin Summerfest (ARRL Texas State Convention)**

August 1-2, 2014  
Crowne Plaza Austin Hotel, 6121 North I-35, Austin TX  
Talk-In: 146.940 (107.2 PL)  
Public Contact: Joe Makeever W5HS (512) 345-0800 or [w5hs@arrl.net](mailto:w5hs@arrl.net)  
Website: [www.austinsummerfest.org](http://www.austinsummerfest.org)

**Ada Hamfest**

September 13, 2014  
Chickasaw Community Center, 700 N Mississippi Ave, Ada OK  
Talk-In: 147.285 (114.8 PL)  
Public Contact: Chris Faulkner KD5NQA (580) 332-1435 or [kd5nqa@yahoo.com](mailto:kd5nqa@yahoo.com)

**Gainesville Hamfest**

September 27, 2014 7:00am-1:00pm (VE Testing starts 9:30am)  
Gainesville Civic Center, 311 South Weaver Street, Gainesville TX  
Talk-In: 147.340 (PL 100.0) or 442.775 (PL 100.0)  
Public Contact: James Floyd N5ZPU (940) 668-7511 or [jfloyd54@suddenlink.net](mailto:jfloyd54@suddenlink.net)  
Website: [www.gainesvillehamfest.org](http://www.gainesvillehamfest.org)

**Texoma Hamarama (Oklahoma Section Convention)**

October 24-25, 2014 (Friday 5:00pm-8:00pm, Saturday 8:00am-1:00pm)  
Ardmore Convention Center, 2401 N Rockford Rd, Ardmore OK  
Talk-In: 146.97  
Public Contact: Don Loving KM5OX (580) 221-1894 or [wallcloud2001@yahoo.com](mailto:wallcloud2001@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.texomahamarama.org](http://www.texomahamarama.org)

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**DURANT AMATEUR REPEATER ASSOCIATION (DARA) NEWS**

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The monthly DARA meeting is held the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm, and all guests are welcome.

At this week's meeting we finalized our plans for Field Day. We will be at Carl Albert Park near the Durant swimming pool off U.S. Highway 75 at the Washington Street exit. We will be operating 3A with three HF stations plus 6 meters. We will have the EM communications trailer with A/C and food, and we plan to operate all night. A simple 160 meter antenna is being prepared for Field Day as well. Everyone is invited to drop by and help operate the radios.

DARA's recent work to provide radio communication for the Memorial Day 95 mile bike ride was quite successful. A couple of beams were in use alongside vehicles to assure communication at the farthest locations. Thanks to the amateur from Sherman who drove up to help out.

Ham-Com in Plano was another major success this past weekend. All tables and space for private sellers outside were filled, and vendors were wall to wall.

Jim K5BNK

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## TEXOMA VE TESTING AND CLASS NOTES

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*Moe Knight (NT7C) heads up the Texoma VE Testing team, and he also offers several classes for hams, prospective hams, and anyone who is interested in increasing their knowledge of electronics. Testing sessions and classes are held at the Grayson College Center for Workplace Learning (CWL) in Denison; check the Upcoming Events list for dates and times.*

*The following are items Moe has asked that all local hams be made aware of. Contact Moe (903) 564-7115 or [nt7c@arrl.net](mailto:nt7c@arrl.net) for more information.*

- **ARRL VE Testing:** A new question pool for the Technician Class exam goes into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The next scheduled Texoma VE Testing session is August 7<sup>th</sup> and Technician exams will use the new question pool.
- **General License Training Class:** Is there any interest in having a training class to prepare for the General Class exam? If there is enough interest (around 10 students), one will be offered in the fall. This class would meet for approximately 12 weeks on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-9:00pm.
- **Technician License Training Class:** The next scheduled class will be in the November/December time frame; exact dates have not yet been determined. Course materials are being revised to include the changes in the question pool that go into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **Radio & Electronics Labs:** These labs are held on the second Saturday of each month. The next lab on July 12<sup>th</sup> will consist of a review of the previous lab's discussions on transistor gain, how to calculate gain designed into a circuit by evaluating a schematic, and then some experimentation with FETs.

We will also talk about some projects including what students might be interested in building. I'm all for building the Flying Pig Rig 40m CW single frequency transceiver. I think this would also be a great area-wide project. We can start a slow-speed code practice net for those who would like to at least play with Morse Code. Who knows, you might learn to love it. For those of you who become more proficient (definitely not me) you can then graduate to working with Paul K1PKZ to reach higher speeds.

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### ATTENTION FACEBOOK USERS!

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DID YOU KNOW GCARC HAS ITS OWN FACEBOOK PAGE? VISIT US AT  
[HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/K5GCC/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/K5GCC/)



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## CLUB ACTIVITY REPORTS

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### Armed Forces Day Special Event Station – May 17, 2014

On Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup>, the club set up a Special Event Station at the Perrin AFB Museum located at the North Texas Regional Airport in Denison. Using the special event callsign W5I, the station operated on SSB and PSK31 for several hours and made about 80 contacts. *(Photo credits: John Trammell, Ben KF5OEB)*







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## QSL MANAGER'S CORNER

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Hi Everyone,

Our last Special Event was at the Perrin Air Force Base Museum on 5/17. We had a total of 80 QSO's and have received 48 eQSL cards and 8 QSL cards in the mail to date. I'm still struggling with getting Log Book of the World (LoTW) set up for W5L...it's too complicated for my simple mind. We did get a QSL from Delaware which makes one less state we need to complete our WAS book.

There was also a problem with the QSL cards we ordered for the Red River Bridge War...UPS destroyed the package and we are in the process of getting them reprinted complements of UPS. I'll sure be glad when this long ordeal of getting these cards is completed.

I will be giving a short presentation during our next meeting about QSL cards and awards.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

73,

Lee KF5OED

[kf5oed@gmail.com](mailto:kf5oed@gmail.com)

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## SWAP MEET

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*(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.)*

*To submit items to be listed, send the information in an e-mail to the GCARC Newsletter Editor at [kf5npm@gmail.com](mailto:kf5npm@gmail.com). When listing items for sale or trade, photographs are encouraged. There is no charge for listings, and you do not need to be a member of GCARC to participate.*

### FOR SALE: Cushcraft ALS2010 8-Element Log Antenna

Recently working, was taken down to replace with a new T8 log. SWR 2.0 to 2.5 but a tuner brings it into line just fine. Located in Savoy; will need to be partially disassembled for transport.

Asking \$150. Contact: Gary Stone N5PHT via e-mail -- [n5phtgs@gmail.com](mailto:n5phtgs@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.

\$190 Pick Up Only in Bonham, TX  
Contact: David Reeder WAØURJ  
E-mail [WA0URJ@yahoo.com](mailto:WA0URJ@yahoo.com)  
Home 903-583-1023 – Cell 972-658-6773



## FOR SALE OR TRADE: GAP Titan DX Vertical HF Antenna

I have a GAP Titan DX 10m-80m vertical HF antenna for sale or trade. It is in good but used condition. Please go to the GAP Antenna website ([www.gapantenna.com](http://www.gapantenna.com)) for details and price when new. I also have the optional heavy duty tilt over mounting plate. It is currently assembled and I want buyer/trader to see it that way. However, I think it will have to be taken apart to transport as it is 30 ft. tall. No ground radials needed as it has its own ground plane wires.

For sale or trade at half its new price  
Contact: Sarge KE5YPB  
E-mail [0101.smd@gmail.com](mailto:0101.smd@gmail.com)

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## AMATEUR RADIO NEWS OF INTEREST

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### FCC Okays Changes to Amateur Radio Exam Credit and Test Administration

In a wide-ranging [Report and Order](#) released June 9 that takes various proceedings into consideration, the FCC has revised the Amateur Service Part 97 rules to grant credit for written examination elements 3 (General) and 4 (Amateur Extra) to holders of “expired licenses that required passage of those elements.” The FCC will require former licensees -- those falling outside the 2-year grace period -- to pass Element 2 (Technician) in order to be relicensed, however. The Commission declined to give examination credit to the holder of an expired *Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE)* or to extend its validity to the holder's lifetime.

“Our decision to grant credit for written examination Elements 3 and 4 for expired licenses that required passage [of those elements] will provide some relief for former General, Advanced, and Amateur Extra class licensees,” the FCC said, “and



is consistent with how we treat expired pre-1987 Technician class licensees who want to reenter the Amateur Service.” Pre-1987 Techs can get Element 3 credit, since the Technician and General class written examinations in that era were identical. The Commission said current rules and procedures that apply to expired pre-1987 Technician licenses “are sufficient to verify that an individual is a former licensee under our new rules.”

The Commission said that requiring applicants holding expired licenses to pass Element 2 in order to relicense “will address commenters’ concerns about lost proficiency and knowledge, because a former licensee will have to demonstrate that he or she has retained knowledge of technical and regulatory matters.” The FCC said the Element 2 requirement also would deter any attempts by someone with the same name as a former licensee to obtain a ham ticket without examination. In the past, the FCC has maintained that its procedures “provide ample notification and opportunity for license renewal” and that retesting did not impose an unreasonable burden.

### **Examination Administration**

The FCC pulled back from its own proposal to reduce from three to two the minimum number of volunteer examiners required to proctor an Amateur Radio examination session. The ARRL, the W5YI-VEC and “a clear majority of commenters” opposed the change, the FCC said. The FCC said it found commenters’ arguments persuasive that the use of three VEs “results in higher accuracy and lower fraud than would be the case with two VEs.” In a related matter, though, the Commission embraced the use of remote testing methods.



“Allowing VEs and VECs the option of administering examinations at locations remote from the VEs is warranted,” the FCC said. The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) in 2002 endorsed experimental use of videoconferencing technology to conduct Amateur Radio testing in remote areas of Alaska. The Anchorage VEC has long pushed for the change, citing the expense to provide Amateur Radio test sessions to Alaska residents living in remote areas.

The FCC declined to address “the mechanics” of remote testing, which, it said, “will vary from location to location and session to session.” The Commission said specific rules spelling out how to administer exam sessions remotely “could limit the flexibility of VEs and VECs.” The FCC stressed the obligation on the part of VECs and VEs “to administer examinations responsibly” applies “in full” to remote testing.

The FCC amended the rules to provide that VEs administering examinations remotely be required to grade such examinations “at the earliest practical opportunity,” rather than “immediately,” as the rule for conventional exam sessions requires.

- Originally published online at ARRL.org

### **Oklahoma Grant Will Fund Amateur Radio-Based SKYWARN Location-Tracking System**

Okmulgee County, Oklahoma, Emergency Management (OCEM) has been awarded a grant of nearly \$3,700 from [Operation Round Up and the ECE Foundation](#) that will allow the agency to purchase an Amateur Radio-based location-tracking system for [SKYWARN](#) storm spotters. ARRL Oklahoma Section Emergency Coordinator Mark Conklin, N7XYO, and several area radio amateurs helped county emergency managers in planning the project.

“This grant award will allow for the installation of an Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) I gate, several APRS digipeaters, and several portable APRS beacons,” Conklin said. “Working as partners, together we are able to serve our community through Amateur Radio.”

In Oklahoma most SKYWARN storm spotters report their observations via Amateur Radio to local emergency management. Tracking and guiding storm spotters to safe observation locations during severe weather events can be a challenge, however. APRS, which permits a station to report its location as it moves, is a useful tool, both for SKYWARN storm spotters and those involved in emergency communication. Accurate position information is crucial when reporting

information during severe weather events or other emergencies. In disaster scenes, APRS can prove especially helpful to emergency managers when known landmarks have been damaged or removed.

OCEM said it plans to construct and maintain several APRS digital repeaters systems and an APRS base receiving station for its Emergency Operations Center, add APRS systems to several key OCEM vehicles, and develop several portable APRS tracking systems.

- Originally published online at ARRL.org

## Ohio Antenna Law Challenge May Be Over

In a surprise move, the [Ohio Sixth District Court of Appeals](#) has dismissed an appeal from the Village of Swanton, Ohio, in an Amateur Radio antenna zoning case. The ARRL had [announced](#) plans to file a “friend of the court” or *amicus curiae* brief on behalf of ARRL Life Member Gary Wodtke, WW8N, who has been trying since 2009 to erect a 60 foot antenna support structure on his 0.2 acre residential lot. It now appears that he will be able to do so. The Village of Swanton, Ohio, has established a fixed antenna height of 20 feet above the residential roofline, and it turned down Wodtke’s antenna variance application for the taller structure. On appeal, Wodtke in January won a final judgment in his favor in the Fulton County Common Pleas Court. The court ruled that federal and state law preempted Swanton’s antenna ordinance.

The Appeals Court [ruling](#) on April 3 was based on the fact that the trial court decision the Village could have appealed was issued on August 20, 2013, while the judgment that the Village attempted to appeal was issued on January 21, 2014. Since the August 20 trial court decision was a final order, the Village was required to file its appeal within 30 days, and it never did so, thus losing its right to appeal. The ruling means that the August 20 trial court decision stands, and Wodtke wins the right to erect the tower for which he applied.

The award of attorney fees appears to be at the center of confusion on both sides of the case. The trial court’s decision last August 20 decision awarded attorney fees to Wodtke. Because attorney fees had not yet been determined, both sides considered the decision as not yet final. But, while Wodtke’s attorney had sought attorney fees in his original complaint, the amended complaint that the trial court ruled upon last summer included no such request.

The Court of Appeals said that, ordinarily, when attorney fees are requested in a complaint but not yet ruled upon, the order disposing of the rest of the case is not final and appealable, but the court pointed out that a claim for attorney fees was not pending once court entered its August 20 judgment. “Therefore, the order was final and appealable on August 20, 2013,” the court said.

The Court of Appeals also noted that, although both sides had filed for reconsideration of the August 20 decision, neither of those motions nor the trial court’s January 21 decision had the effect of extending the appeal deadline. In the words of the Court of Appeals, “It is well settled that a motion to reconsider does not stay the time to file a notice of appeal.”

The Court of Appeals’ April 3 decision could yet be reviewed by the Ohio Supreme Court, but only if the Village had filed a timely *Memorandum in Support of Jurisdiction* to convince the high court to hear the appeal.

Ohio Section State Government Liaison Nick Pittner, K8NAP, believes the Appeals Court decision in *Wodtke v. Village of Swanton* could set legal precedent for similar antenna-related cases down the road. An attorney, Pittner was instrumental in getting Ohio’s [PRB-1](#) law enacted. “The Ohio Municipal League seems intent on challenging [the PRB-1 law] in court, and will likely try to do so in some other case if the challenge is not available in this one,” Pittner said. “We’re keeping the research files open.”

- Originally published online at ARRL.org

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## LOCAL RADIO NETS

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<b><u>Daily</u></b>	<b>Texas Slow Net (CW only)</b> Daily 7:45pm CT on 3.570MHz. This is a training net for operators interested in building proficiency in CW and learning about handling procedures for CW traffic nets.
<b><u>Weekly</u></b>	<b>Durant ARA Weekly Net</b> Tuesdays 7:00pm CT on the 147.390+ (118.8 PL) repeater. No net on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month due to the DARA monthly meeting.  <b>Fannin County ARC Weekly Net</b> Tuesdays 8:00pm CT on the 145.130– (no PL) repeater. This is an informal information net.  <b>McKinney 6 meter AM Net</b> Wednesdays 10:00pm CT on 50.400MHz  <b>Ladies Net</b> Thursdays 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater. Net Control Operator: Linda KE5YUC  <b>McKinney ARC Info Net</b> Sundays 8:00pm CT on the 146.740– (110.9 PL) repeater.
<b><u>Semi-Monthly</u></b>	<b>Grayson County ARC Information Net</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater. This is an informal information net and Buy/Sell/Swap net.  <b>Grayson County ARES Net</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday at 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater. This is a directed information net used for training.  <b>RACES Command Net Check</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> 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!
<b><u>Monthly</u></b>	<b>Scout Ham Net</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater. This net is for all active Scouts, Adult Leaders, and Merit Badge Counselors who are Amateur Radio operators.  <b>North Texas ARES HF Net</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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.  <b>McKinney ARES Net</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday at 9:00pm CT on the 146.740– (110.9 PL) repeater.

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## AREA REPEATERS

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<b>Sherman TX</b>	147.000+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5RVT	<b>Kingston OK</b>	146.985– MHz (103.5 PL)	K5BQG
	147.280+ MHz (107.2 PL)	W5COP	<b>McKinney TX</b>	146.740– MHz (110.9 PL)	W5MRC
	444.750+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5RVT		145.350– MHz (100.0 PL)	N5GI
<b>Bonham TX</b>	145.470– MHz (no PL)	K5FRC	<b>Melissa TX</b>	443.200+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5MRA
	145.130– MHz (no PL)	K5FRC	<b>Rosston TX</b>	145.490– MHz (85.4 PL)	WD5U
	443.750+ MHz (no PL)	K5FRC	<b>Van Alstyne TX</b>	443.800+ MHz (103.5 PL)	W5VAL
<b>Durant OK</b>	147.390+ MHz (118.8 PL)	K5KIE	<b>Grayson</b>	441.375+ MHz (67.0 PL)	WC5GC
	147.255+ MHz (114.8 PL)	K5CGE	<b>County ARES</b>	(on the air only for	
<b>Gainesville TX</b>	147.340+ MHz (100.0 PL)	WB5FHI	<b>(portable)</b>	emergencies & training)	



### Sparks, Crackles, and Other Random Thoughts

By Rick Simmons K5ECX  
Grayson County ARRL EC



### So Why Would You?

The ARES Forum at Ham-Com had some good info in it. The room was full to the point it got hot from all of us in there. Or maybe the projector heated the room well, but I want to share a point made in our SEC's presentation. He was sharing some goals for the coming year and this one struck me as odd till he explained it.

The idea was to not self deploy. At first it was like a foreign idea to me, but as John explained it some groups self deploy. No, I don't know what events or how often or even how they would decide to do that, but apparently some do. We don't, and that's a good thing when you hear the reasons.

In the case of SKYWARN we deploy at the request of the National Weather Service. Net Control keeps up with where everyone is and where the weather is to try and keep the two from getting too mixed up. NWS is listening to our reports and so are local EM officials. If you self deploy and no one knows, well, who knows what was reported?

How about the case of a train wreck, literally or figuratively? All of us get a case of the rubberneck every now and again. This is not a situation to which you want to self deploy. It could be a very serious unsafe condition depending on what the train was carrying (or truck). First responders don't need a ham or a group of hams running around on the scene possibly adding to the confusion. And again, who would you talk to that is in a position to help? We have a plan and a process to follow. I hope you get the idea.

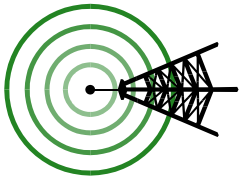
We need to act in concert with our EM officials and at their request communicate in the way that makes best use of the persons and equipment available at the time. Just like wrong notes from an instrumentalist can ruin an otherwise great musical concert, a wild cowboy operator can cause discord in ARES operations and relationships.

Now before anyone goes off on not responding to a situation you come upon such as a wreck or where people need assistance or a similar emergency and you need to use the radio to communicate, that is a commendable thing to do.

I hope you see the benefits of the team working together – ARES, EM officials, and first responders. It's what our purpose is in ARES; let's be the best we know how to be.

73  
Rick  
K5ECX





\*\*\*\*\*K5GGC 20 YEAR CELEBRATION\*\*\*\*\*

## Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Apparel Order Form



Polo Shirt	sm to xl	\$28
Polo Shirt	sm to xl	\$39
W Left pocket		
T shirt	sm to xl	\$13
T shirt	sm to xl	\$15
W Left pocket		
<b>*Shirts (2x 4x +\$4)</b>		

First Name _____	Embroidered -	Men/Ldy	Qty	Ext
Call _____	Polo Shirt sm M L XL	\$ 28	___	___
Payment _____	Polo Shirt sm M L XL	\$ 29	___	___
Make checks Payable to GCARC	w pkt			
	Screen printed -			
	T Shirt sm M L XL	\$13	___	___
	T Shirt sm M L XL	\$15	___	___
	w pkt			
	<b>*Shirts (2x 4x +\$4)</b>			
	Shipping \$1.00 per item			
	<b>Total</b>			

K5GGC Grayson County Amateur Radio Club 20 yr Apparel Order -----Deliver Bottom portion to K5ECX by 07-18

First Name

Call

Payment

Make checks Payable to GCARC

Embroidered -

Screen printed -

\*Shirts (2x 4x +\$4)

Shipping \$1.00 per item

Total

Men/ Ldy Qty Ext

\$ 28

\$ 29

\$ 12

\$ 14

K5GGC Grayson County Amateur Radio Club 20 yr Apparel Order

Deliver to K5ECX by 07-18

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