



# GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS

JULY 2015

WWW.GRAYSONCOUNTYARC.COM

VOL. 21, No. 7

## THE PRESIDENT'S QSO

Howdy everyone,

I sure am having fun this summer playing on the radio. I hope that you are too.

Charlie Reppert, KD8OSD, from Marysville, MI has been granted Honorary Membership in the Grayson County Amateur Radio Club and has been appointed Goodwill Ambassador to 8 Land, Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia for the club. Charlie has contacted us during almost every one of our events for years now, has become very good friends with Ben, and he has even hosted one of our club nets on Sunday night and attended many others. He is a great guy and a great ham radio operator. Welcome aboard Charlie!

Field Day was a fantastic success. I can't thank everyone enough for all you did to make this a great weekend. What made it so special is the way everyone worked together and pitched in to help out. This is my 4th Field Day and by far the best in my opinion. Our final QSO count isn't completed yet but we already have far more contacts in the log this year than last, and the quality of the logs I've received is far better than in the past. Job well done everyone.

Only a couple of days later the 13 Colonies Special Event started. I hope you were able to participate. This is one of my favorites. I get a kick out of making contacts with these special event stations. I was lucky enough to make contacts with all 13 Colonies on both 20 meters and 40 meters. The only station I couldn't contact was the station over in England that participated this year. But I wasn't the only one...many other hams all across the country were complaining they couldn't contact him either. Seems to me that many of those who were complaining were forgetting that this is just a hobby and the main goal to enjoy it and have fun. At least that is my opinion.

And, just a week after the 4th of July we had our Red River Bridge War Special Event out at the Perrin Field Museum. Another fantastic day. Band conditions were not good and we had difficulty making a lot of contacts. But, what was special is that we had a lot of visitors who wanted to find out more about amateur radio. Even got some of the younger visitors on the radio for a while. I think they really had fun and so did the rest of us.

I should point out that the club has been on local TV twice in the last few weeks. Once for Field Day and then just this last Friday night. KXII did both news stories and I'm sure that is one of the reasons more folks are showing up and asking about what Amateur Radio all about. Turns out Megan Elena is ham and a reporter for KXII. If you watch KXII in the mornings you have probably seen her doing the weather.

There was also some talk about the Perrin Field Museum letting us put up a permanent antenna. I think that is a great idea and I will eagerly pursue further discussion with the museum staff to see if we can make that happen. Having a permanent antenna would make setting up our radio so much easier and open the door to additional club activities during the year.

Our QSL Manager approached me about purchasing a CW Key for the club that would be available for future club activities. After careful consideration I have to agree. Not only could we use a CW Key but we also need to purchase some coax cable for the club's radio. We have the money available in the equipment fund, so at this month's meeting I'll ask for a motion to purchase these items after y'all have a chance to make your comments. And if we can make a deal with the Perrin Field Museum about putting up a permanent antenna we'll have to decide what antenna to buy and save up the money for that.

Next club event is the Kiwanis Red River Bike Rally. Mark and Ben will bring us up to speed on that event.

Looking forward to seeing y'all at the meeting on Friday.

73

Lee

N5SLY

[lee.n5sly@gmail.com](mailto:lee.n5sly@gmail.com)

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## CLUB INFORMATION

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### OFFICERS

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President:	Lee Sly N5SLY
Vice President:	Trevor Reed KG5BFI
Secretary:	Stacy Branam W5ORD
Treasurer:	Sheila Sammons KF5TDP
Activity Director:	Mark Pilkilton KF5UZW
Trustee:	Rick Simmons K5ECX

### MAILING ADDRESS

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Grayson County Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 642  
Sherman, Texas 75091

### NEWSLETTER

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

### 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

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

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Individual:	\$20.00/yr
Family:	\$30.00/yr
Associate (non-Ham):	\$15.00/yr

**Memberships are from January 1 – December 31**

### WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

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Address:	<a href="http://www.graysoncountyar.com">www.graysoncountyar.com</a>
Webmaster:	Ben Sly KF5OEB
Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/K5GCC">www.facebook.com/groups/K5GCC</a>
Page:	

### DUES AND DONATIONS

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Membership dues are payable upon joining and renew on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Donations to support the club are always welcome. Dues and donations may be paid by cash or check at any monthly GCARC meeting and by mail, or by using a credit or debit card online at the GCARC website.

### 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, we recommend ARES members place the ARES patch first 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.

*"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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## GCARC MEETING MINUTES

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### GCARC Meeting, June 19, 2015

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

#### Treasurer's Report

- The \$75 we had budgeted for the Red River Bridge War will not be spent on renting West Burns Run since that location is unavailable.

#### Toys for Tots

- Since money is going to be a little tight this year, we will not be donating our usual amount to Toys for Tots. Instead, we ask everyone to bring a toy to the Christmas party to donate. Roy Reed AF5VA motioned, Mark Pilkilton KF5UZW seconded - approved by club

#### Field Day

- Field Day was the weekend following the meeting. We started set-up at 9:00 on Saturday June 27th and attempted operation of 4 radios. We set-up at the airport as before and lunch was provided - \$75 was used from the budget for food.
- Folks were reminded to be sure they were logging correctly on Field Day using Universal Time and getting the other party's exchange (like A4NTX).

#### Helping Hams

- The first Helping Hams project took place in Whitesboro, getting an antenna hung for an older gentleman. Several members showed up to assist. Contact Lee, N5SLY if you need assistance with a project.

#### Red River Bridge War

- The Red River Bridge War Special Event Station on July 11 was set-up at the Perrin Field Museum again. Voice and digital modes were run during the event.

#### Kiwanis Bike Rally

- Ben KF5OEB is working on the Bike Rally on August 15th. At last count he needed 4 more folks for rest stops and SAG vehicles. Contact Ben if you are interested in helping at this event.

#### Repeater Open House

- Donald Hofmann W5DWH is planning an open house, probably this fall, so everybody can come take a look at the 145.330 repeater and see how that is set up. Information will be forthcoming.

#### Special Announcement

- We have had a guest net control operator recently, Charlie Reppert KD8OSD from Michigan. Charlie contacts us for every event. He was made an honorary member of the club and a certificate was created to reflect this. Charlie was thrilled to receive it and has it hung in his ham shack.

#### New Members

- Three new members were in attendance, Kenny Rice, Richard Vanderveer, Thomas Hardin. The club members introduced themselves.

#### Gordon West

- Our vice-president, Trevor Reed KG5BFI, met Gordon West at Ham-Com and is going to register us to possibly have a 20 minute Skype session with us at one of our meetings. Pros and cons of Ham-Com in its new location were also discussed.

Meeting closed at 7:54 pm.

Next Meeting will be 7:00pm on Friday, July 17th, 2015, in the Grayson County Courthouse 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Assembly Room, Sherman TX.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stacy Branham W5ORD  
GCARC Secretary

## GCARC TREASURER'S REPORT

### Bank Balance for the Month of June, 2015

Operating Fund Beginning Bal	543.29
Funds Received from dues (9 members dues received)	170.00
Fund Received from donations	14.00
Fund Received from patches	10.00
Funds Received from clothing	281.00

Less expenses	
online Transfer fee	1.76
Denison Main Street	75.00
Ipromoteu Clothing supplier	179.55
Kiwanis Bike Rally	250.00

Operating Fund Balance	511.98
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### OPERATING BUDGET

Mail Box	Paid
Perrin Special Events	Paid
ARRL Field Day / RRBW- Food	62.14
Red R B W (Perrin Museum)	50.00
RR Bridge War Cards	Paid
Denison Main Str Festival	Paid
Christmas Dinner	75.00

### Donations to Fund Raisers

RR Bike Rally (Kiwanis)	Paid
Marine Corps League (Toys For Tots)	0.00

Total	125.00
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\*\* 46 Members YTD

Available Equipment Funds	272.56
Versa Tuner Sold	35.00
	0.00
Less expenditures	0.00

Equipment Fund Balance	307.56
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### EQUIPMENT NEEDS

	0.00
	0.00

Amount Budgeted	0.00
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Ending Bank Balance as of June 30, 2015	819.54
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Sheila Sammons KF5TDP  
GCARC Treasurer

**Dues can be paid and donations made online through the club website using a credit or debit card. Visit [www.graysoncountyarcs.com](http://www.graysoncountyarcs.com) for more information.**

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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>

### Ragchewing & Other Informal Meetings

#### **Ham Talk at The Java Stop**

Every Saturday 11:00am-2:00pm

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

<http://www.facebook.com/thejavastop>

### GCARC Events

#### **Kiwanis Bike Rally**

August 15, 2015

Tanglewood Resort and Conference Center, Pottsboro TX

The club will be providing communications support for the rally and staffing one of the rest stops.

Many volunteers are needed; contact Ben Sly KF5OEB [bencsly@gmail.com](mailto:bencsly@gmail.com)

### VE Testing Sessions

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

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@arll.net](mailto:nt7c@arll.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**

3rd Saturday of each month at 2:00pm

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 24-25, 2015 (Friday 3:00pm-7:00pm; Saturday 8:00am-3:00pm)

VE Testing: Saturday 9:00am

Bricktown Hotel, 2001 East Reno 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 South Texas State Convention)**

August 7-8, 2015

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)

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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. Contact Moe (903) 564-7115 or [nt7c@arrl.net](mailto:nt7c@arrl.net) for more information.*

- **ARRL VE Testing:** Testing continues to be offered the first Thursday of every even numbered month. Testing takes place at 7 pm in Seminar Room C, Grayson College Center for Workplace Learning on the main campus, building 10 of the campus map. Walk-ins are welcome, but a call in advance to let us know you are coming is appreciated. Test fees, set by the ARRL, are \$15.00. Cash is appreciated. If you plan to claim prior license credit it is your responsibility to bring in a copy of proof for us to forward with your license paperwork.

We will be present for testing at the Gainesville Hamfest on Saturday, September 26, 2015. That testing will start at 9:30 am. Walk-ins are welcome.

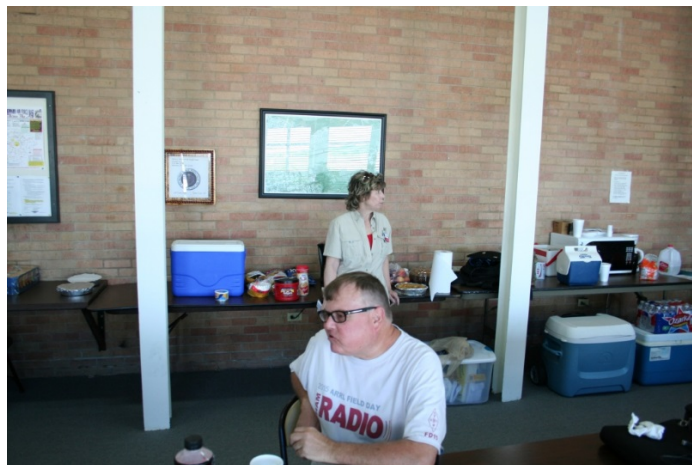
Don't forget, the new General License (Element 3, 1 July 2015) Question Pool is now in use for exams.

- **Technician License Class:** The next scheduled Technician License Class is scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> (8:30 am until noon) and November 21<sup>st</sup> (8:30 am until 4:30pm). The test will be administered immediately following the November 21<sup>st</sup> class. There is no charge for the class, but there is the usual \$15 fee for the exam. Please email in advance to register.
- **General License Class:** While this class has been held traditionally on Tuesday nights in the fall, I have not heard from anyone interested in taking this class. It will not be scheduled until such time as there is a need.
- **Radio & Electronics Labs:** The class has suffered a downturn in attendance. I've asked for suggestions and received one asking to make the class more relevant to ham radio instead of electronics in general. I am now reconsidering how to incorporate this suggestion. If anyone else has suggestions, please let me know. Until I come up with a new plan I am suspending the class.



## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### ARRL Field Day – June 27-28, 2015 Sherman Municipal Airport, Sherman TX









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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). Photographs are encouraged. There is no charge for listings, and you do not need to be a member of GCARC to participate.

### FOR SALE AS IS: Assorted Electronics/Test Equipment

The following items were donated to GCARC and are in need of a new home. No set price per piece – make us an offer!

- Heathkit RF Signal Generator
- Square Wave Generator Model 71
- Broel & Kjoer Voltmeter
- Sierra Electronic Corp. Carrier Frequency Voltmeter 104A
- Polytechnic Research Heterodyne Frequency Meter Type 504

**NOTE: These have not been tested and are offered “as is” with no refunds.**

Contact: Lee Sly N5SLY  
E-mail: [lee.n5sly@gmail.com](mailto:lee.n5sly@gmail.com)

### FOR SALE: Vintage Heathkit Gear

1. Heathkit AJ-53 Hi-Fi AM tuner 4 tube with doubling detector. Similar to the Heathkit AF-63. \$30.00
2. Heathkit AJ-33A AM/FM Stereo receiver. \$40.00
3. Heathkit AV-3 AC (audio) VTVM. Meter cracked. \$10.00 works.

Contact: David Reeder-WAØURJ  
E-mail: [WA0URJ@yahoo.com](mailto:WA0URJ@yahoo.com)  
Home 903-583-1023 – Cell 972-658-6773

### FOR SALE: Drake TR-3 with MS-4 Power Supply/Speaker

Drake TR-3 with matching MS-4 power supply/speaker. Has been completely realigned, new final tubes, and other tubes replaced where needed. New SSB filters replaced as well as 20 and 10 meter crystals replaced.

Asking \$325. Will deliver or arrange to meet locally. I will ship but price doesn't include shipping.

Contact: David Reeder-WAØURJ  
E-mail: [WA0URJ@yahoo.com](mailto:WA0URJ@yahoo.com)  
Home 903-583-1023 – Cell 972-658-6773



## 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.

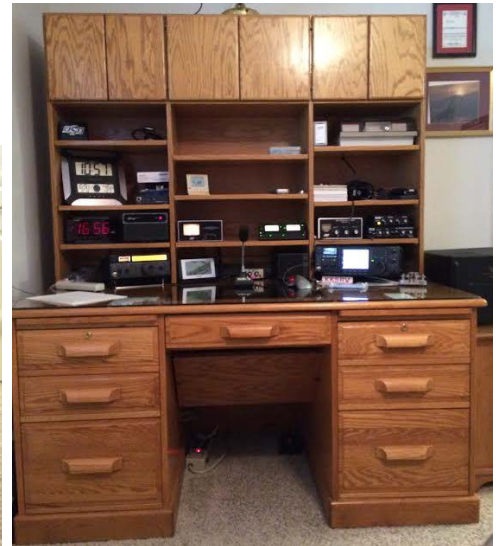
Asking \$190. Pick Up Only in Bonham, TX  
Contact: David Reeder WAØURJ  
E-mail: [WA0URJ@yahoo.com](mailto:WA0URJ@yahoo.com)  
Home 903-583-1023 – Cell 972-658-6773



## FOR SALE: Computer and Radio Station Desk

Desk is light oak, 62" w x 33" d with glass panel to see monitor from below. Power distribution panel included. Hutch is white pine stained to match the desk, 60" w x 42" h with adjustable shelves. Desk can be disassembled for transportation and reassembled easily.

Asking \$400 for the set.  
Radios not included.  
Contact: Bill KK5RW  
Phone: (281) 217-9942  
E-Mail: [3bewens@gmail.com](mailto:3bewens@gmail.com)



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## HELPING HAMS

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The idea behind Helping Hams is simple – all hams need a little help sometimes, but they might not know who can help them. Our club has many talented members, with some better at certain jobs than others. What we hope to do here is match up hams needing help with other hams who have the skills to help them. Working together, we can all help our fellow hams and encourage them to continue pursuing their interests in this wonderful hobby.

The currently-requested needs are listed below. If you have a need, or know of a ham with a need, or if you or someone you know can help, contact our newsletter editor by sending an e-mail to [kf5npm@gmail.com](mailto:kf5npm@gmail.com). Be sure to include the following: 1) Who needs the help and how to contact them; 2) What needs to be done; 3) When can someone come out to do the work; and 4) Where is the location of the work that needs to be done. **You don't have to be a member of GCARC to ask for help or make an offer to help.** We're all in this together – that's what the hobby is all about!

### Current Requests:

Bennie K5DIZ	Antenna install	Sherman
Gordon N5TPO	Realign a tower-mounted 440Mhz yagi antenna	Sherman
Rick K5ECX	Help with lowering/servicing/raising antenna tower. Note: must be done in very dry weather due to tower location.	Sanger
Mike KF5NPM	Antenna installs (2), grounding cables, and lightning arrestors. Also HF antenna adjustments. Note: steep roof.	Denison

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## NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF AMATEUR RADIO

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### Amateur Radio Becomes Primary On 1900-2000KHz August 6th

Amateur Radio will be upgraded from secondary to primary in the 1900-2000 kHz segment of 160 meters in the US on August 6. That's the effective date of the WRC-07 implementation *Report and Order* and WRC-12 *Order* portions of a lengthy FCC document released on April 27. Both appeared in the *Federal Register* on July 7; the *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* of the same proceeding was published in the *Federal Register* on July 2. The Radiolocation Service (RLS) has been primary in the band segment.



“The FCC action with respect to 1900-2000 kHz reduces the possibility that we might suffer in the future from new radiolocation deployments,” said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. “On the other hand, we will have to put up with radio buoys that have been operating illegally in the band but that now have been ‘regularized’ by the Commission.”

The FCC said that while it had believed there was no non-Federal RLS use of the 1900-2000 kHz band, the record indicated there are maritime users, including the US “high seas” migratory species fishing fleets, making use of radio buoys in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans as well as within 200 nautical miles of the coast. It did not identify these users in the WRC-07 proceeding, however, “because they did not appear in its licensing database,” it said.

“Apparently, fishing vessels have operated radio buoys in US waters under the belief that a ship station license issued under Part 80 of the Commission’s rules permits operation of the buoys,” the FCC *Order* continued. The FCC said a Part 80 license applies only to stations in the maritime services and does not authorize operation of radio stations requiring a Part 90 license, “such as the radio buoys at issue here.”

The FCC said its action regarding 1900-2000 kHz supports increased use of 160 meters as reported by commenters in the proceeding and provides “spectrum support” for Amateur Radio emergency communication. The FCC said its action also offers the Amateur Service “the long-term security that primary status entails.”

In removing the primary RLS allocation, the FCC added a new footnote to the US *Table of Allocations* that provides for radio buoy operations in the 1900-2000 kHz segment on a primary basis in Region 2 (the Americas) and on a secondary basis in Region 3, which limits operations to the open sea.



“The Commission nevertheless recognized the public benefit associated with the use of radio buoys by the US commercial fishing fleet,” the FCC continued. It adopted a waiver of the Part 80 and Part 90 rules to authorize offshore radio buoy use by commercial fishing vessels, concluding that the granting the waiver was in the public interest. “Use of these radio buoys allows such commercial fishing vessels to locate their fishing lines and nets more quickly, which saves them fuel and time and reduces the likelihood that fishing lines and nets will be lost,” the FCC said.

The FCC said that since the buoys “appear to use low power and narrow bandwidths,” they should have “minimal impact” on Amateur Radio users of the 1900-2000 kHz segment.

- Originally published online at ARRL.org

## **New World Records Set on 2.3 and 3.4 GHz Ham Bands**

Two California radio amateurs -- one of them in Hawaii -- have set new world distance records on the 2.3 and 3.4 GHz microwave amateur bands. Wayne Overbeck, N6NB, operating from a radio-equipped rental car on the big island of Hawaii, worked Gregory Campbell, W6IT, operating Overbeck’s own fixed station near Orange, California, on both bands -- a distance of more than 4024 km (2495 miles). The contacts blew away records that had stood for more than 20 years and more than doubled the previous distance record for a two-way voice (SSB) contact at those frequencies, Overbeck said, adding that most previous microwave distance records have been set using CW.

“Ours was the first-ever SSB contact between Hawaii and the mainland on 2304,” Overbeck noted. He said Chip Angle, N6CA, and KH6HME (SK) made the first transpacific SSB contact on 3.4 GHz in the 1990s.

The record-setting contacts occurred on June 19 (June 18 in Hawaii) on 2.3 GHz at 0257 UTC and at on 3.4 GHz at 0300 UTC. W6IT was in grid square DM13cs, while N6NB/KH6 was in BK29hq. According to the [database](#) of distance records maintained by Al Ward, W5LUA, the old records were 3982 km, set on by N6CA and KH6ME on July 14, 1994, on 2.3 GHz (CW) and on July 28, 1991, on 3.4 GHz (SSB).

Overbeck flew to Hawaii carrying gear for all bands from 144 MHz through 10 GHz “in two large suitcases, plus a roll-aboard and a backpack” -- weighing about 150 pounds in all. In Hawaii, he rented a small SUV and built a rover-style station that included a rotating roof platform constructed using parts obtained from a home improvement store.

Overbeck said that when a tropospheric duct formed that could convey signals thousands of miles across the Pacific, he drove around the slopes of Mauna Loa -- 13,000 feet up --and selected several promising sites for long-haul DX, “not necessarily the highest possible sites,” he added. “By Thursday, June 18, the duct seemed to be peaking,” he said.

W6IT activated N6NB’s fixed station and quickly worked N6NB/KH6 on six bands, including 2304 and 3456 MHz for world records. Overbeck said he also heard W6IT on 902 MHz and 5.7 GHz, but local, non-amateur interference in California -- likely from Part 15 WiFi devices -- prevented W6IT from hearing N6NB/KH6 on those bands.

A [video](#) of the record-setting 2304 GHz contact between N6NB/KH6 and W6IT (recorded from the Hawaii end of the circuit) is online.

- Originally published online at ARRL.org

## **UK Government Holds Up Export of Early Amateur Radio-Related TV Archive**

Most encyclopedias say that the first transatlantic television transmissions took place via the *Telstar I* satellite in 1962, but TV images actually crossed the Atlantic in the late 1920s via an Amateur Radio transmitter, according to historical accounts. An archive of documents and other material related to that event from television pioneer John Logie Baird and his colleague Benjamin Clapp, [G]2KZ, is at risk of being exported, and the government doesn’t want to see it leave Britain. Clapp’s 2 kW transmitter was used to send the crude images to a receiving station near New York City, and the

archive includes some of his Amateur Radio logbooks as well as a hand telegraph key. UK Culture Minister John Vaizey has declined to issue an export license in an effort to prevent the historic archive from leaving the UK.

According to a [UK government statement](#), Baird, a Scottish engineer, and Clapp first transmitted the television images over telephone lines from Baird's laboratory in London to Clapp's house in Surrey. From there, Clapp's transmitter, identified by his Amateur Radio call sign, was used to send the images across the Atlantic, where Clapp was among those on hand in Hartsdale, New York, to receive them.

"Man's vision had spanned the ocean; transatlantic television was a demonstrated reality, and one more great dream of science was on the way to realization," said a February 9, 1928, account in the *New York Times* that cited an Associated Press reporter who witnessed the accomplishment. The *Times* article listed the operator of the "vision sound" receiving station as R.M. Hart, 2CVJ. The *Times* put Baird's feat on a par with Marconi's legendary transatlantic reception of the Morse code letter "s" many years earlier.



The archive (partially displayed here), valued at more than \$50,000, consists of Clapp's radio logbooks for the US receiving station as well as for his own [G]2KZ amateur station, plus "related paper ephemera" and a so-called "Phonovision" disc that contains an early video recording, made in the fall of 1927, depicting images of Baird's ventriloquism dummy, "Stookie Bill." The Phonovision disc is believed to be the oldest surviving video recording. Baird had demonstrated his electro-mechanical television system to members of the Royal Institution a year earlier.

Vaizey based his decision to bar the possible export of the items on a recommendation by the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art and Objects of Cultural Interest (RCEWA), administered by Arts Council England. "The Columbia disc and the notes connected with this world first of a transatlantic video recording represents British ingenuity and invention at the highest level," said RCEWA Member Christopher Rowell. "The notes contain the first ever use of the acronym 'TV' for television. The excitement of the achievement rests in these objects, which we hope will remain in this country as a permanent testament to Logie Baird and his team. Their departure abroad would also be a serious loss to scholarship."

The UK government is hoping that a buyer in the UK will match the \$50,000 asking price, so the archive may remain in the country.

"It belongs in Britain where it would be of huge importance for the study of the history of television, and I hope a UK buyer will come forward to save it for the nation," Vaizey said.

- Originally published online at ARRL.org

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## LOCAL RADIO NETS

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### Daily

#### **Texas Slow Net (CW only)**

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.

## Weekly

### **Durant ARA Weekly Net**

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.

### **Fannin County ARC Weekly Net**

Tuesdays 8:00pm 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 7:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater.

Net Control: 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**

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.

### **Grayson County ARES Net**

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.

### **RACES Command Net Check**

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!

## Monthly

### **Scout Ham Net**

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.

### **North Texas ARES HF Net**

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.

### **McKinney ARES Net**

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

## Other

### **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ragchews**

March 29, May 31, August 30, and November 29 at 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater.

Net Control: Trevor Reed KG5BFI

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## **AREA REPEATERS**

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<b>Sherman TX</b>	147.000+ MHz (100.0 PL) 147.280+ MHz (107.2 PL) 444.750+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5RVT W5COP W5RVT	<del><b>Kingston OK</b></del>	<del>146.985- MHz (103.5 PL)</del> (currently out of service)	<del>K5BQG</del>
<b>Allen TX</b>	145.350- MHz (100.0 PL)	N5GI	<b>McKinney TX</b>	146.740- MHz (110.9 PL)	W5MRC
<b>Bonham TX</b>	145.470- MHz (100.0 PL) 147.200+ MHz (100.0 PL) 443.750+ MHz (100.0 PL)	K5FRC K5FRC K5FRC	<b>Melissa TX</b>	443.200+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5MRA
<b>Denison TX</b>	145.330- MHz (100.0 PL)	W5DWH	<b>Paris TX</b>	146.760- MHz (203.5 PL)	WB5RDD
<b>Durant OK</b>	147.390+ MHz (118.8 PL) <del>147.255+ MHz (114.8 PL)</del> (currently out of service)	K5KIE K5CGE	<b>Rosston TX</b>	145.490- MHz (85.4 PL)	WD5U
<b>Gainesville TX</b>	147.340+ MHz (100.0 PL)	WB5FHI	<b>Van Alstyne TX</b>	443.800+ MHz (103.5 PL)	W5VAL
			<b>Grayson County ARES</b>	441.375+ MHz (67.0 PL) (emergencies/training only)	WC5GC



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## GRAYSON COUNTY ARES AND RACES

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### Sparks, Crackles, and Other Random Thoughts

By Rick Simmons K5ECX  
Grayson County ARRL EC

### Boy, I'm Glad It's HOT!

It's hot, the dogs are all holed up in the cool places, and the cows are seeking shade by 9 am. I think Summer got here.

Maybe the rain will let up a bit now. If a drop fell from 8-10 thousand feet I think it would evaporate before it got here.

We have some relief from SKYWARN and flooding nets, although the effects are all around us. I still see roads damaged, bridges weakened, culverts damaged, and all sorts of other signs. I really feel for our friends whose livelihood is based around Lake Texoma. It will have an adverse effect on the local economy. You folks did an awesome job through this event and deserve the break. However... the training will continue.



We had a couple of great Nets in June handled from Camp James Ray, thanks to Matt, KF5KOY and the Boy Scout crew out there. We will continue the even numbered Sundays with more good topics to get you to thinking. We have a face to face training session on the 28th of this month out at Sherman Municipal Airport. Moe, NT7C, will share more information on dipoles. This is version 2.0. His session on this last year was so good it generated interest in another one. I believe we may do some testing of a dipole, hear about some dipole variations and do some myth busting concerning how they operate. Moe is a great resource for us; his technical experience is very deep and includes going all the way back to his Army days in Vietnam.

Enjoy the summer, grab some shade (or better, some A/C), and stay hydrated with your favorite beverage of choice.

Visit with you soon at a club meeting, a net, or a training session.

73  
Rick  
K5ECX



### Who's Newsletter Is This, Anyway?

By Mike Bernier KF5NPM  
GCARC Newsletter Editor

I took up the task of working on the club newsletter at the beginning of 2013, which means I'm just past the halfway point of my third year as Editor (in case anyone's counting, this is my 31<sup>st</sup> issue). I'm not trying to brag, but the job of putting one of these together month after month isn't as easy as it looks. Depending on how much "stuff" there is to share with you, it can take anywhere from a few hours to several days to assemble all the piece-parts that go into a single newsletter.

When you have something this complicated, it really helps to have the steps for putting it together all laid out, like a recipe in a cookbook lays out all the ingredients and instructions for preparing a dish. If you look closely at each issue, you can probably see most of the "recipe" I've created: messages from our club's President and our county EC, minutes from the last club meeting, a Treasurer's report, and several pages of information about local events, nets, and repeaters. There are other pieces as well, some of which can change from time to time, but you get the idea.



Each month, I send out an e-mail to all my "regulars" asking them to provide me with the things they want to include in the upcoming issue. That's part of the "recipe", and it's worked pretty well so I don't think much of it...or at least, I didn't until recently.

It was pointed out to me I've been following this routine so closely that I was overlooking a very important part: **YOU**. You see, this isn't my newsletter – it's the club's newsletter. It always has been, and always will be. It belongs to all the members; I'm just the person who puts it together. And while I have always maintained in my mind that anyone can contribute a news item, or a comment, or a "letter to the editor" to be printed in the newsletter, I'm not sure if this message has been getting out to all of you...and that's something I want to fix.

Do you have something about ham radio that you are interested in sharing with the rest of the club? Maybe you had an experience like a QSO from an unusual place, or something unexpected happened with your rig, or you want to offer your impressions about some event you attended. Perhaps you have a question you're having trouble answering and want to ask for help. Or, maybe you just want to comment on something that someone else had written in a previous month. Whatever it is, send it to me and I'll be happy to include it in an upcoming issue. I only ask one thing: keep the language clean; remember we have young hams who read this newsletter, and it does get published on the club's website and Facebook page.

If you aren't sure about how to write something, or you think you're not very good at writing, try it anyway and send it in. I can help you with any editing needed to get your message across (just ask Rick K5ECX... lol). Seriously, don't let that stop you.

As I've said many times before, there is a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience in this club; I'm sure there's also some really good stories to go along with that. Would you care to share them with the rest of us?

73  
Mike  
KF5NPM