



# GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS

DECEMBER 2015

WWW.GRAYSONCOUNTYARC.COM

VOL. 21, No. 12



## THE PRESIDENT'S QSO

Howdy everyone,

What a great time we had at our annual Christmas dinner last Friday evening! A big thanks to everyone for coming and bringing all the food and toys for Toys 4 Tots. We had a great turnout and there wasn't much food left at the end of the evening. Dan, AG5AZ, did a great job cooking the turkey and ham for us this year...thank you!

As this year is coming to an end, it's time to reflect on the things we have accomplished this year and to look forward to what we would like to accomplish next year. With that in mind, I would ask all of you to think about what our club could do to make things better next year, and what you would like to do next year with the club. That is what our January meeting will be all about: what we want to do in the coming year. Your thoughts and ideas are important, and I encourage all of you share and contribute to the path the club will follow this coming year. As for me...I've had a great time with the club this year. I do have some new ideas for our club activities next year that I'll share with you during our meeting. I encourage you to bring your ideas to share as well.

Finally, I just want to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Enjoy the Holidays and I look forward to seeing y'all next year.

Thanks everyone & 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

### 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  
P.O. Box 642  
Sherman, Texas 75091

### 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**

### 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 [KF5NPM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:KF5NPM@GMAIL.COM)  
Submission Deadline: 12 midnight on the Sunday following each monthly meeting

### WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

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Address: [www.graysoncountyar.com](http://www.graysoncountyar.com)  
Webmaster: Ben Sly KF5OEB  
Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/groups/K5GCC](http://www.facebook.com/groups/K5GCC)

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### 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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There are no Meeting Minutes because the club did not have a regular meeting. The next meeting will be in January.

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## GCARC TREASURER'S REPORT

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There is no Treasurer's Report this month because the club did not have a regular meeting. The next meeting will be in January.

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## 2016 MEMBERSHIP DUES

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**A reminder to all GCARC members: club memberships expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please plan to attend the January meeting to renew your dues for 2016, or you can pay them online through the club's website <http://www.graysoncountyar.com>**

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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 (the December meeting was the annual Christmas Dinner on the 11<sup>th</sup>)  
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>

**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@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**

(NOTE: Sessions will resume in the Spring of 2016.)

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**

**Cowtown Hamfest**

January 15-16, 2016 (Friday 3:00pm-7:00pm, Saturday 7:00am-3:00pm)

VE Testing Friday and Saturday (times not published yet)

Forest Hill Civic & Convention Center, 6901 Wichita Street, Forest Hill TX

Talk-In: 147.280 (110.9 PL)

Public Contact: David Forbes KC5UYR (817) 925-5126 or [kc5uyr@compuserve.com](mailto:kc5uyr@compuserve.com)

Website: <http://cowtownhamfest.com>

**Irving ARC Hamfest**

March 5, 2016

Bethca Bingo Hall, 2420 W Irving Blvd, Irving TX

Talk-In: 146.720 (110.9 PL)

Public Contact: Ken Hansen N2VIP (609) 510-3068 or [n2vip@arrl.net](mailto:n2vip@arrl.net)

Website: [www.irvingarc.org](http://www.irvingarc.org)

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## BREAKING NEWS!!!

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Please join us in congratulating Rick Simmons K5ECX, Grayson County ARRL Emergency Coordinator, for receiving the Grayson County Office of Emergency Management's Wilmer Kinsey Volunteer of the Year award for 2015!



(L-R) Rick Simmons K5ECX, Grayson County OEM Director Sarah Somers, Grayson County Judge Bill Magers

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## BECOME AN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR

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The Technician Class License is the current 'entry level' license into Amateur Radio. The program we utilize is a two day class. The first day is one-half day where Amateur Radio and the exam process is explained. Study guides and question pools are made available to students and then there is a review of every problem involving mathematics, schematic drawings, and some other topics.

The student then has two to three weeks to review the study materials. Returning for a second time the review class goes over what you should have learned in your study of the material and a sampling of the questions. This review takes a full day and upon completion the exam for license is administered.

There is no cost for the class, but the exam does have a \$15 fee, payable at the time of the test.

The class is held at the Grayson College main campus, in the Center for Workplace Learning (CWL), in Seminar Room C. The next scheduled dates are:

February 27, 2016 – 8:30 am until 12:30 pm and

March 19, 2016 – 8:30 am until 5:30 pm

The study guide and question pool material will be emailed to everyone on the mailing list prior to the class.

Please contact Moe Knight at [NT7C@ARRL.NET](mailto:NT7C@ARRL.NET) to reserve your place in the class and get added to the mailing list for this event.

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## CLUB ACTIVITIES

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### Boy Scout Visit - December 7, 2015

A group of Boy Scouts visited GCARC President Lee Sly N5SLY's radio shack as part of their requirements for earning the Amateur Radio Merit Badge. According to Lee, "We made a few contact and all the boys got on the air. It was lots of fun." Many thanks to Ben KF5OEB for coming out to help, and to Mark KF5UZW, Rick K5ECX, and Charlie KD8OSD for talking with the boys on the air.



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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: Yaesu FT-950

Yaesu FT-950 in excellent condition. Includes original box, manual, stock mic, & power cord. Asking \$925.00. Local pick up in the Sherman area or I will deliver to DFW area.

Contact: David Reeder WA0URJ  
Phone: (972) 658-6773  
E-Mail: [wa0urj@yahoo.com](mailto:wa0urj@yahoo.com)

### 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

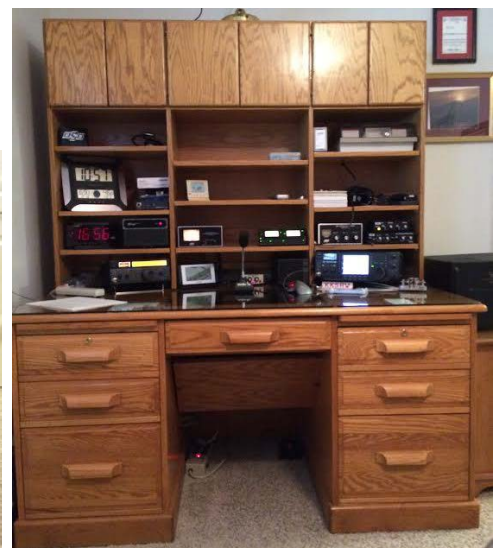
**NOTE: These have not been tested and are offered “as is” with no refunds.**

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

### FOR SALE: 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
Mike KF5NPM	Antenna installs (2), grounding cables, and lightning arrestors. Also HF antenna adjustments. Note: steep roof.	Denison
Bob W5DSA	Needs help with a rotator on a 100' tower. Will probably be scheduled for the spring	Denison

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## NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF AMATEUR RADIO

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### SAQ to Carry On Tradition of Christmas Eve VLF Transmissions

Alexanderson alternator transmitter station [SAQ](#) at the [World Heritage Grimeton](#) site in Sweden will continue a holiday tradition begun 10 years ago when it takes to the airwaves on Christmas Eve, December 24. There will be a CW transmission from the Alexanderson alternator on 17.2 kHz from Grimeton Radio/SAQ at 0800 UTC on December 24, with transmitter tune-up starting at 0730 UTC. Amateur Radio station SK6SAQ will not be active this year because the radio room is being refurbished. The Alexanderson Association website has [information](#) on how to receive the VLF signal.

SAQ accepts listener reports via [e-mail](#), direct mail to Alexander-Grimeton Veteranradios Vaenner, Radiostationen Grimeton 72 SE-432 98 Grimeton, Sweden. The radio station will be open to visitors.

The vintage SAQ [Alexanderson alternator](#), dating from the 1920s, is essentially an AC alternator run at extremely high speed. It can put out 200 kW but typically is operated at less than one-half that power level. Once providing reliable transatlantic communication, it is now a museum piece and only put on the air for special occasions.

The transmitter was developed by Swedish engineer and radio pioneer Ernst Alexanderson, who was employed at General Electric in Schenectady, New York, and was chief engineer at the Radio Corporation of America.

Six 400+ foot towers with 150 foot crossarms support a multi-wire antenna for SAQ. The actual signal radiates from a vertical wire, one from each tower.

- Originally published online at ARRL.org

### Florida Ham Agrees to Penalty for Failure to Identify

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has entered into a consent decree with a Florida radio amateur to resolve an investigation into whether the licensee violated Sections 97.113(b) and 97.119(a) of the FCC rules by transmitting one-way communications and failing to identify. As part of the deal, Thomas J. Warren, K3TW, of Lecanto, Florida, will pay a monetary penalty. The FCC issued an [Order](#) incorporating the *Consent Decree* on December 9 in the case, which dates back to June 2015.

“In response to complaints that an unidentified station was transmitting on an Amateur Radio frequency at 14 MHz, FCC agents determined that the transmissions were coming from Mr. Warren’s residence,” the FCC said in its December 9



*Order*. “To settle this matter, Mr. Warren admits that he failed to transmit his assigned call sign, violated the Commission’s rules, will report any noncompliance with rules governing the Amateur Radio Service, and will pay a \$3,500 civil penalty.”

The *Consent Decree* provided a few more details of the case. The FCC recounted that, after tracking down the unidentified transmissions to Warren’s residence, Warren conceded that he had not identified at least some transmissions that he’d made that day. “The agents issued an on-scene written warning to Mr. Warren regarding the violations,” the FCC said in the *Consent Decree*. “In his written response to the warning, Mr. Warren acknowledged that he may have failed to transmit his station identification as required on June 25, 2015.”

According to the *Consent Decree*, Warren’s transmissions “related to an ongoing dispute with another Amateur Radio operator, whose intentional interference had allegedly disrupted communications on the American Foreign Service Net that operates weekly on 14.316 MHz.”

The FCC said the *Consent Decree* terminates its investigation, and that it will not use facts established during the investigation and through the effective date of the *Consent Decree* to institute any new proceeding or take further action against Warren regarding the matters that were the subject of the investigation.

- Originally published online at ARRL.org

### **Santa Claus Arctic Circle Team Active During December**

The **Santa Claus Arctic Circle Team** will be active as **OH9SCL** (Santa Claus Land) from the Finnish Lapland above the Arctic Circle during December. OH9SCL has been on the air each holiday season for the past 30 years.

Activity will be mostly on the HF bands, on all modes. Operators include OH3BHL, OH9KL, OH9MDV, and OH9MM. QSL via OH9AB.

For more information and updates, visit the [OH9AB website](#) or the Santa Claus Land [Facebook page](#).

- Originally published online at ARRL.org

### **Scouting’s Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) Participation Dips for Third Year**

Despite what the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) called “solid results from an exciting JOTA weekend,” Scout participation for the October 2015 event was [reported](#) down by 8 percent from 2014, although the number of registered stations and station reports remained about the same. The BSA said 7117 Scouts took part in JOTA 2015. The number of visitors, at 5138, was also down by 8 percent. The Boy Scouts said only 60 percent of registered stations — 208 — filed a station report, so the report may represent only part of the activity. The 346 total stations registered for JOTA 2015 represented a slight improvement from 2014, however.

“The total number of Scout councils involved dropped from 149 to 127,” said the report posted by National Jamboree On The Air Organizer Jim Wilson, K5ND. “Therein lies our big challenge — getting the word out to local Scout councils about the biggest Scouting event in the world and how they can participate.”

Participation took a big jump in 2012, with 18,566 Scouts and visitors. In 2013, however, participation was down by nearly 4700, and it slipped further in 2014.

On a more positive note, 208 JOTA-participating stations have filed reports. That’s up 1 percent over last year’s event. In all, JOTA stations worked 106 countries, as 979 Amateur Radio operators put 847 radios on the air to make 8360 contacts — all up from 2014.

“The most memorable thing was the Scouts who absolutely said they weren’t getting on the air. But when they did, you couldn’t pry the mic out of their hands,” said Philip Jacobs, W2GSB, at the K2S JOTA special event station. “They turned out to be some of the best Scout ops we had.”

The Scouts blamed persistent challenges from propagation, contesting, a lack of council involvement, and failing to get information to those who needed it. “Propagation and contesting will remain ongoing problems. “Changes to the Worked All Germany contest to reserve JOTA frequencies have been helpful,” the Scouts reported. “[We] need to activate a similar arrangement with USA-based QSO Parties in New York, Iowa, Illinois, and South Dakota.”

Looking ahead to JOTA 2016, the Scouts are planning “consistent, persistent, and even relentless communication...to increase awareness of available information.” Wilson said Scout Council awareness of JOTA remains low, and efforts will be made to communicate through Council International representatives, active Scouters, and existing Boy Scouts of America channels to reach both professionals and volunteers. The BSA said the worldwide registration system used this year in conjunction with Jamboree On The Internet (JOTI) encountered several problems leading up to JOTA weekend, including a system shutdown. “More work is required here with reliability and ease of use,” the BSA said.

JOTA 2015 took place over the October 16-18 weekend.

- Originally published online at ARRL.org

## **MARS-Amateur Radio Exercise an Overall Success**

A 2 day Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) communications exercise in early November was an overall success, especially in terms of MARS-ARES cooperation. The November 8-10 exercise was built around the scenario of a simulated massive coronal mass ejection (CME) that disrupts conventional communication systems across the US. Following the simulated CME, MARS stations returned to the air and received requests for information from the supported Department of Defense (DoD) organizations and asking that MARS stations establish contact with Amateur Radio operators in as many of the 3142 US counties as possible. MARS operators were limited to using mainly HF NVIS bands as well as VHF and UHF repeaters. Communication between MARS and Amateur Radio operators were to be made directly, without relying on Internet-linking capabilities or store-and-forward messaging systems.

“Data analysis following the exercise shows that MARS members successfully contacted 816 counties across the US (26 percent),” US Army MARS Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY, told ARRL. “Amateur Radio participants in this exercise included individuals, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)-affiliated clubs, and the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) as well as a few state, county, and city emergency operations centers.”

English credited advance publicity given to the exercise by ARRL and others for MARS exercise planners having received 181 e-mail inquiries from individual, clubs, and emergency management personnel wanting to receive more information about the exercise and how they could participate. English said MARS received inquiries from 41 states and included more than 50 ARES groups.

“The purpose of these exercises is to reach beyond interoperability and focus on our ability to exchange usable and relevant information from the local level to the national level following a crisis event,” English explained. “Only through the cooperation among MARS and the larger Amateur Radio community (individuals, ARES, RACES, SATERN, etc) can we hope to achieve that synergy.”

English conveyed the appreciation of DoD MARS leadership to all who supported this exercise and said that MARS is looking forward to conducting these types of exercises more frequently with the Amateur Radio community.

During the exercise, the Commanding General of the Army’s Network Enterprise Technology Command, Maj General Morrison, visited the Fort Huachuca HF Gateway station to receive a briefing on the exercise and presented a plaque celebrating MARS 90th Anniversary which occurred on 1 Nov 2015.

- 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 147.200+ (100.0 PL) repeater.  
 This is an informal information net.
- McKinney 6 meter AM Net**  
 Wednesdays 10:00pm CT on 50.400MHz
- Ladies Net**  
 Thursdays 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.

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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	<b>Gainesville TX</b>	147.340+ MHz (100.0 PL)	WB5FHI
<b>Allen TX</b>	145.350- MHz (100.0 PL)	N5GI	<del><b>Kingston OK</b></del>	<del>146.085- MHz (103.5 PL)</del> (currently out of service)	<del>K5BQC</del>
<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>McKinney TX</b>	146.740- MHz (110.9 PL)	W5MRC
<b>Denison TX</b>	145.330- MHz (100.0 PL)	W5DWH	<b>Melissa TX</b>	443.200+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5MRA
<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>Paris TX</b>	146.760- MHz (203.5 PL)	WB5RDD
			<b>Rosston TX</b>	145.490- MHz (85.4 PL)	WD5U
			<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

### Merry Christmas and Happy ARES New Year!

The year end is upon us and while we don't have any big ARES event planned in the next few weeks, by January we will be back rolling along again. I hope to have an announcement about the new 70 cm WC5GC repeater out soon; work is being finalized and some testing has taken place so stay tuned for that.

Thanks for all your work this past year. You trained in several ways on many topics, and participated in several exercises and well as successfully operated for the NWS and our county OEM when the call to respond has come. Your work is appreciated by all those we serve. I appreciate the time you give to be a well-respected team that is included in the emergency planning of our county and cities.



It's almost time for Santa to make his annual trek. As we heard Sunday night he is making preparations with the sleigh and the reindeer and ready to go! Then we get to celebrate an amazing Christmas morning sharing gifts, reminding us of the gift we were given all those years ago. Now, as then, it's a time for family, friends and making joyous celebrations together. We hope you will have such an experience in the coming days.

Enjoy the Holiday season!

73  
Rick  
K5ECX

