

Vol-12, Num-02; February 2006



Club Officers

President:

Bob Cooper, KB5JHU

Vice President:

Edgar Rountree, KD5WCK

Secretary:

Moe Knight, NT7C

Treasurer:

Moe Knight, NT7C

Activity:

Wilmer Kinsey, WB5DCU

Editor:

Jim Hunt, KI5DQ

Trustee:

Jesse Heiman, AC5OY

Submit News to k5gcc@verizon.net with K5GCC in the subject line along with your message title. If K5GCC is not in the subject line, the message will be deleted. Format: text in *.doc or *.txt file extension and electronic pictures in any format
Deadline: Saturday @ 07:00CST before GCARC Meeting. The K5GCC Newsletter will be published ~48 hours following this deadline.

Thank you for visiting the GCARC Newsletter

"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 and Surrounding Area Event Calendar

National Weather Service (NWS) Skywarn Storm Spotter Class

February 16, 2006 @ 19:00CST
 Sherman Municipal Ballroom
 405 North Rusk
 Sherman TX 75090



Gary Woodall, the Grayson County Warning Coordinator Meteorologist of the National Weather Service will conduct its free annual SkyWarn Storm Spotter class for individuals interested in learning fundamental severe weather formation and reporting instruction. This will allow the individual to become part of the Grayson County early warning program and is the recommended prerequisite for the advanced Skywarn Storm Spotter Class. This program lasts approximately two hours. Additional NOAA online information can be found at:
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/fwd/sptrsch.html>
 For more local information, call Chief Tom Watt at the Sherman Police Department (903-892-7365).

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) Meeting

February 17, 2006 @ 19:30CST
 Sherman Municipal Airport
 1200 S. Dewey Ave
 Sherman TX 75090
<http://mysite.verizon.net/wb5dcu/gcarc/index.htm>

Program: Guest speaker Henri Dewet, N5KA from South Africa, now residing in Whitewright Texas. He will speak about being a ham in a foreign country and his experiences operating CW. Licensed as ZS1PD 1953-5 in South Africa, ZE1JV 1955-76 in Zimbabwe (previously Rhodesia), ZS1HV 1977-86 again in South Africa, ZS1HV/W5 1986-94 in Texas, AC5KA 1996-April 1999, then N5KA in Texas from April 1999 to date.

Fannin County Amateur Radio Club (FCARC) Meeting / VE Test Session

February 24, 2006 @ 09:30CST for the FCARC Meeting.
 February 24, 2006 @ 10:00CST for the VE Test Session.
 Bonham VA Hospital, 1201 East 9th St., Bonham TX, 75418, Talk in 145.470 - offset no PL.
 Topic: TBA
 Informal breakfast - meeting before the meeting - at Purple Sage Bistro @ 07:30CST.
 Contact: Doug Loughmiller - W5BL, President
<http://www.k5frc.org>

McKinney Amateur Radio Club (MARC) Meeting

March 07, 2006 @ 19:00CST <http://www.mckinneyarc.org>

Irving Amateur Radio Club 4th Annual IARC Hamfest

March 11, 2006 <http://www.irvingarc.org>
 Talk-In: 146.72 (PL 110.9)
 PO Box 153333
 Irving, TX 75015-3333
 Phone: 972-579-9089
 Fax: 443-200-4267
 Contact: Coleta Taylor, KD5QFH Email: kd5qfh@verizon.net

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) Meeting

March 17, 2006 @ 19:30CST
 Sherman Municipal Airport
 1200 S. Dewey Ave
 Sherman TX 75090
<http://mysite.verizon.net/wb5dcu/gcarc/index.htm>

Amateur Radio Club of Parker County

March 25, 2006 <http://www.qsl.net/w5pc>
 Talk-In: 147.04 (PL 110.9)
 2104 Farmer Road
 Weatherford, TX 76087
 Phone: 817-448-8024
 Contact: Jim Spaulding, W0UO Email: w0uo@cs.com

Technician and General Class License Instruction

February 04, 11, 18, 25, March 04, 2006. Class time is 09:00 to 12:00CST.

Technician and General Class License Instruction

April 08, 15, 22, 29, May 06, 2006. Class time is 09:00 to 12:00CST.

Technician and General Class License Instruction

July 08, 15, 22, 29, August 05, 2006. Class time is 09:00 to 12:00CST.

Extra Class License Instruction

September 02, 09, 16, 23, 30, October 07, 14, 21, 28, November 04, 2006. Class time is 09:00 to 12:00CST. Class instruction will be held at the Whitewright Church of Christ in Whiteright. All license classes cost \$5.00 and are due 1st day of class.

VE Tests

January 14, February 11, April 08, June 10, July 08, September 09, October 14, December 09, 2006

North Texas License Training/VE Team Test time is 10:00CST.

Testing Place is the Westminster Texas Volunteer Fire Department.

On the VE dates, all students in the class are first tested at 9:00 a.m. followed by a VE session starting at 10:00 a.m. Also on all VE Dates, students and any walk-ins are to bring the following documents: original photo ID (drivers license or passport), original and copy of present license, original and copy of CSCE for credit towards an upgrade, \$14.00 cash, no change will be made or checks accepted.

Contact: Dick Raitt to pre-register for a course or for VE testing at: 972-422-3021, wa5vks@wt.net or Jim Cason, WB5UAS elcason@netexas.net or Ken Owen, KC5CTD k-owen@raytheon.com

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) VE Test Session

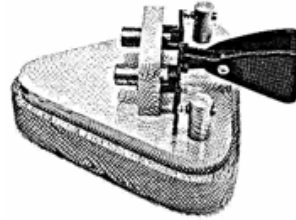
April 06, 2006 @ 19:30CST (First Thursday of every EVEN month – Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)

Sherman Municipal Airport

1200 S. Dewey Ave

Sherman TX 75090

Test Session requirements: The '2006 test fee is \$14.00, a copy of a Picture ID (Drivers License, state ID card etc.), copy of current license, plus a copy of original license if you are doing a paper up grade. We do not have a copy machine at the test site. Copies will be filed with test papers and NEVEC605 form. You are entitled to take any or all elements (tests) for that one fee. If you were to fail any test element you must pay another fee to retest on that element. Retesting is at the exclusive discretion of the VE team and



may be denied for any reason including, but not limited to, insufficient time or lack of test materials. Entry is via the rear door of the main building. Additional information can be obtained from Moe Knight, NT7C @ 903-564-6549 or 903-564-7115.

Amateur Radio News Around the County

The Fort Worth NWS Training Schedule for 2006

Check out the web site for your local SkyWarn Spotter training class:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/fwd/sptrsch.html>

Texas Utility Rolling Out Power-Line Broadband to Millions

<http://www.n5gar.info>

http://www.foxnews.com/printer_friendly_story/0,3566,179291,00.html

Numbers of US population and hams at the start of each decade from 1930.

by K3UD

Year	Population	# Hams	Growth Rate
1930	123,202,624	19,000	
1940	132,164,569	56,000	194%
1950	151,325,798	87,000	55%
1960	179,323,175	230,000	164%
1970	203,211,926	263,918	15%
1980	226,545,805	393,353	49%
1990	248,709,873	502,677	28%
2000	281,421,906	682,240	36%
2006		661,081	-3.1 %

The 2006 number was as of January 30, 2006

Notes,

The base totals are from implementation of the then new licensing changes in May 2000. September 6, 2004 is the date I started measuring the changes. The peak number was in April 2003.

FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement Logs & Letters

Listings provided by the ARRL <http://www.arrl.org>

For the most part, this is one list we do not want to make. . .

http://www.arrl.org/news/enforcement_logs

This Week In Amateur Radio (TWIAR)

<http://www.twiar.org>

This Is The Way to Launch A Wire Antenna Into A Tree!

<http://www.qsl.net/wb6zqz/antlaunching.html>

Nets:

Fannin County Amateur Radio Weekly Net

Every Tuesday @ 21:00CST on the 145.470-repeater

This is an informal information net.

Grayson County ARES Net

2nd/4th Sundays @ 21:00CST on the 147.000+ repeater.

This is a directed information net. Wilmer Kinsey, WB5DCU, Net control

28.480MHz ARES Net

2nd/4th Monday @ 19:15CST on 28.480MHz USB.

McKinney ARES Net

2nd Sunday @ 2100CST on the 146.740 repeater.

Grayson County Repeaters

Primary – 147.000+ MHz w/100HZ CTSS PL

Secondary A – 147.080+ MHz w/100HZ PL

Secondary B – 146.520 MHz

444.750 MHz w/ 100Hz PL

Durant Oklahoma Repeaters

147.390+ MHz w/118.8PL

147.255+ MHz w/118.8PL

Van Alstyne TX

443.800+ MHz w/141.3PL

Gainesville TX Repeater

147.340+ MHz w/100.0PL

Bonham TX Repeater

145.470- MHz

McKinney TX Repeater

146.740-MHz w/110.9PL

Ethyl TX

147.220+MHz w/100.0PL, 1000' AGL

McKinney Info Net

Each Sunday @ 2000CST on the 146.740 repeater with Mike N5BQZ as net manager

McKinney 6 meter AM Net

Each Wednesday @ 22:00CST on 50.400MHz



GCARC Treasury Report

Bank Statement of 01/20//2006

Starting Acct. _____	\$1171.53
Deposits _____	\$252.00
Expenses _____	\$0.00
Account Balance of 01/20/06 is ___	\$1,423.53

NOTES:

Deposits:

\$252.00 – Dues Received (12@\$12, 6@\$18)

Expenses:

\$0.00

Moe Knight, NT7C

GCARC Treasurer

Grayson County RACES and ARES

Wilmer Kinsey, WB5DCU

EC Grayson County

Skywarn Spotter Training

Skywarn training for Grayson County will be held on February 16, 2006 beginning at 19:00CST in the Ballroom of the Sherman Municipal Building at 405 N. Rusk Street in Sherman. If you would like to attend other sessions check the NWS web page for the DFW area or go to our web page "Amateur Radio in Grayson County" and click on SKYWARN. You will find a link to the NWS DFW web page where the entire training schedule for North Texas is located. Those training sessions that are scheduled on Saturdays run the full day. They have advanced training included.



The Mission of a Communicator

The job you are asked to do will vary with the specific agency you serve. If that agency is the American Red Cross, you will be providing the communications needed to maintain a system of shelters and other relief efforts. If it is a state or local emergency management agency, you could be handling interagency communications, or serving as the eyes and ears of the emergency managers. When a hospital's telephone system fails, you might be handling the "mechanics" of communicating so that doctors and nurses can concentrate on patients. In a large forest fire or search and rescue operation, you might be setting up personal phone patches for firefighters or rescuers to their families, or assisting with logistical communications to insure that food, supplies, personnel and materials arrive when and where needed. For the National Weather Service you will be reporting storm locations and weather conditions so they can better inform and warn the public. In any widespread disaster, hams could be assisting all the agencies listed above and more. (from the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course Level I)

Communication - Job#1

While you are proud of your skill as a radio operator, and the impressive equipment and systems you have in place, it is important to remember that your job is "COMMUNICATING." If an agency asks us to deliver a long shelter supply list to headquarters, you should be prepared to use any means required, including the fax machine if it is still working. OUR JOB IS TO GET THE MESSAGE THROUGH, even if it means using smoke signals. Do not think about how to use ham radio to send the message, just think about the best and fastest way to send it. If that means using ham radio, so much the better. If all you have is CB or Family Radio, use it. If an agency asks you to use their radio system, do it. Your operating and technical skills are just as important as your ham radio resources. (from the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course Level I)

Sherman Warning Siren Test Net for March 2006

The next warning siren test will be on Wednesday March 1st, 2006 at 9:00AM. The net will be called up at 8:40AM from the Sherman EOC using the EOC call WC5GC. The Net Control Operators will either be Johnnie, KD5NIC or Daniel, KD5LLW. If the test is canceled all stations will be notified at this time. I will send out a roster each month prior to the test to all participants who have e-mail capability listing the station calls and siren numbers.

We are in need of more volunteers to monitor the sirens or as back-ups for the folks that are assigned a siren. This exercise takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. You DO NOT have to live in Sherman to participate. If anyone would like to volunteer to monitor one of the sirens the first Wednesday of each month at 9:00AM give me a call. If you have any questions about the siren test net or if you can not participate please give me a call on the radio or on the phone, the phone numbers are at the bottom of the article.

Anyway the warning siren net is going very well. Keep up the good work!!!!

ARES E-Letter

The ARES E-Letter offers a useful source of timely information for those interested in public service and emergency communications. The ARES E-Letter includes time-sensitive news, informative items, and ideas of interest to ARES communicators. Monthly issues will bring the ARES communicator a wealth of after-action reports, editorials, technical tips, news, and views in a more expeditious manner than QST with its integral editorial delay.

Timeliness, utility and inspiration are the goals of this new monthly devoted entirely to Amateur Radio emergency communication, all for you, the field activists. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery: ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site, <http://www.arrl.org/members> . You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of the The ARES E-Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. ARRL members may subscribe to The ARES E-Letter by going to the Member Data Page at:

<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/memdata.html?modify=1>

Note that you must be logged in to the site to access this page. Scroll down to the section "Which of the following would you like to receive automatically via email from ARRL?" Check the box for "ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency communications news)" and you're all set.

Dual Band Antenna to be Installed at TMC

Still waiting on the maintenance folks at TMC to get the coax installed from the roof of the new ER wing into the EMT lounge. As soon as they get that done we will finish installing the antenna system. The hold up on this project is the installation of a new phone system at TMC.

ARES Net Control Station

IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO BE THE NET CONTROL STATION FOR ANY OF OUR ARES NETS PLEASE CONTACT ME. Call me, Wilmer, WB5DCU by phone, 903-893-5872; email me at wb5dcu@gte.net or on the air.

I will prepare all of the material for the net for you. Don't be afraid of making a mistake, that's how you learn. I make mistakes all of the time, so don't worry about that.

Grayson County Races

If you need to fill out a RACES application please contact me or David, W5COP. Return the completed form to either of us. All of the information is confidential and will not be made public. The forms will be kept in a secure location. If I don't have a digital picture of you on file I will be glad to take one, just let me know.

RACES will only be activated if a disaster is declared by a government entity or upon request of the local Emergency Management Directors. David Woods, W5COP or myself, WB5DCU are the local RACES contacts.

Want to join ARES or RACES? Need an ARES badge? I can also take digital pictures for your badges. Please contact me.

I appreciate each and every ones hard work and dedication to ARES, SKYWARN and Public Service in Grayson County during 2005.

Thank you,
 Wilmer O. Kinsey - WB5DCU
 EC Grayson County
 350 Mitchell Road
 Sherman, TX 75090-3223
 Home - 903-893-5872

Work – 903-868-7496
 Cell – 903-271-3557
 Pager – 903-867-7294

Send me an ALPHA page –
9038677294@pageaci.com

Buy- Sell-Trade Net 01/20/2006

FS - ICOM 471A 70cm all mode transceiver.
N5TPO has your electronic hardware needs.
He has hose clamps, cable ties, alligator
clips, terminal blocks and other assorted
hardware. N5TPO, Gordon 903-868-0479

FS – 100 ft. Plus of Rohn 20 & 25G tower
K5BNR, Reg Gattis, 903-868-8901
regaircorp@texoma.net

FS - Drake SW-1 General coverage shortwave
receiver,
with orig. box and manual, \$135.00
David Reeder, WA0URJ
wa0urj@juno.com

FS- AEA CIA HF 5102 Analyzer 0.04-54MHz
Includes PC interconnect cable, manual, &
software
\$300 Rod, KD5HQF

Wanted – Kenwood TM-455a
David Woods, W5COP,

Wanted – Face Plate for Kenwood TM-V7A
W5DPS, G.B. Hartman , 903-892-9945

Meeting Minutes

Moe Knight, NT7C

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes: 20 January 2006; 19:30CST

Meeting Place: Sherman Municipal Airport; Sherman, TX.

Roll sheet passed around (22 signing in) and introductions made.

Introductions and Roll Call.

Jim Hunt explained the problems he had with his old copy of Adobe Acrobat. This is the program that lets us read the newsletter without needing Microsoft Word or any other word processing program. His version is not supported by the newer version of operating system.

A motion was made and later tabled for the club to purchase Jim a new copy of Acrobat. Lesser cost options were discussed and it was decided to investigate other options including PDF Writer, Ghostscript and Open Office.

Wilmer reported that the new antenna was to be installed at the Justice Center (this is the Sheriff's Office dispatch center) 21 January 2006.

Tammy Jaresh announced that she and Johnnie would not be organizing the March Of Dimes Walk-A-Thon this year. Moe Knight volunteered to fill the role this year. It was also discussed that the club wished to limit their participation to just a communications role this year.

Moe Knight explained the need for everyone to complete a new application so that the Club could publish a new club roster for members only. It was explained that this roster would not be published in any electronic form. The information would not be published on the GCARC web site.

The possibility of an April foxhunt was discussed.

There was a drawing for a door prize at this meeting. A five-way antenna switch was donated to the Club by Morris Miller – W5YDN. Everyone paying their 2006 Club dues this evening was given a ticket. Congratulations to the winner Bob Sholl – W5DSA. There is still a two-position antenna switch to be given away at the next club meeting. Everyone already paid will receive an entry along with anyone paying their dues at the 17 February 2006 meeting.

A question was asked if Moe Knight would be ordering another batch of the dual-band J-poles from Arrow Antenna. He said that he had commitments for only 3 antennas at this time and would wait until he had at least 5 commitments before ordering. These antennas must be ordered in batches of 10 to get the club pricing of \$32.00 each (including shipping!) It was noted by an anonymous person in the room that Moe's wife must have him on a budget. Moe said nothing to dispel this statement.

It was announced that the Fannin County Club would be launching a balloon out of Clarksville. This will take place in March or April.

The donating of a copy of the ARRL Handbook and CD's of past QST's in the library was mentioned. It was noted to discuss this further at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2029.

Respectfully submitted
Moe Knight – NT7C

‘2006 Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Dues Form:

Yourself:

_____	_____	_____	_____
First Name	Last Name	Call Sign	Class Held
_____	_____	_____	_____
Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
_____	_____	_____	
Ten digit Telephone Number	E-mail address	ARRL Y/N	

Additional family members:

_____	_____	_____	_____
First Name	Last Name	Call Sign	Class Held
_____	_____	_____	_____
First Name	Last Name	Call Sign	Class Held
_____	_____	_____	_____
First Name	Last Name	Call Sign	Class Held
_____	_____	_____	_____
First Name	Last Name	Call Sign	Class Held

One person individual dues @ \$12 per family
 Family membership dues @ \$18 per family
 Additional family members without additional expense – just fill in another sheet.

Please print this form, fill in and make checks payable to GCARC and bring to a club meeting.

The Grayson County Amateur Radio Club is planning on printing a membership roster. If you want any of the above information withheld from the roster – please place an “X” next to the information you want withheld. By default, all e-mail addresses will be kept private unless you check here: ().

If you can not make the meeting soon, please mail to:
 Grayson County Amateur Radio Club
 C/O: Moe Knight, NT7C
 4522 Old Town Road
 Whitesboro TX 76273