

Vol-12, Num-06; June 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](mailto: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

## **Index** (page)

2: Presidents Corner

3 -4: GCARC Upcoming Events

5: General Amateur Radio News

6: Buy – Sell – Trade

7: Nets, Treasure Report, and Repeaters

8: RACES and ARES, Skywarn (NWS)

10 -11: Meeting Minuets

## Presidents Corner

Hello

While I was surfing the web recently, I ran across an article that was titled "100 Years of Voice". I found it quite interesting and it began like this:

"Hello!" Not surprisingly, it was the first word to be heard over the radio some 100 years ago.

From the time he was a young boy, Canadian Reginald Fessenden was fascinated with the idea of transition. Upon hearing his uncle describe Alexander Graham Bell's demonstration of the telephone, the 10 year-old boy asked, "Why do they need wires?" He then spent much of his life trying to figure it out.

His early attempts at voice transmission were unintelligible. With government backing, Fessenden, and his assistant Thiessen, kept trying various improvements until they met with success.

Listen to Fessenden's first voice transmission on December 23, 1900 - he says, "Hello! Test, 1,2,3,4, is it snowing where you are Mr. Thiessen?"

I think you would enjoy reading the rest of this story and other information that can be found on this web site: <http://www.hello-radio.org>

73's to you, Bob Cooper, President

## GCARC and Surrounding Area Event Calendar

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

June 16, 2006 @ 19:30CST  
 Sherman Municipal Airport  
 1200 S. Dewey Ave  
 Sherman TX 75090

<http://mysite.verizon.net/wb5dcu/gcarc/index.htm>

Program: Field Day Preparedness for 06/24-26/2006,

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd>



### Second Annual "Take Your Handheld to Work Day"

June 20, 2006

Demonstrate your hobby at your workplace <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/06/14/4/?nc=1>

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

June 23, 2006 @ 09:30CST for the FCARC Meeting.

June 23,, 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>

### Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC)Field Day 2006

June 24 - 25, 2006

Show your spirit by helping your club. Not a club member, no problem – come out and join the fun ☺!

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd>



### McKinney Amateur Radio Club (MARC) Meeting

July 11, 2006 @ 19:00CST

<http://www.mckinneyarc.org>

### Oklahoma State Convention (Ham Holiday)

July 14-15, 2006 <http://www.hamholiday.org>

Oklahoma Expo Hall - Oklahoma State Fairgrounds

7717 Double Springs Drive

Oklahoma City, OK 73150-8303

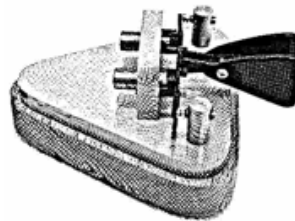
Phone: 405-386-6739

Talk-In: 146.82/.22 (PL 151.4)

Contact: [ne5s@arrl.net](mailto:ne5s@arrl.net)

## Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) VE Test Session

August 03, 2006 @ 19:30CST (First Thursday of every EVEN month – Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)  
 Sherman Municipal Airport, @ 19:30CST  
 1200 S. Dewey Ave  
 Sherman TX 75090



Test Testing fee for 2006 is \$14.00 for one try of any or all elements. Retests of any failed element will require another \$14.00 fee and is at the exclusive discretion of the VE team.

If testing, you must show a picture ID issued by a governmental agency. Other ID (such as a school picture ID) will be at the discretion of the VE team. For young children a parent's ID and some school record of the student may be accepted. For this circumstance please contact me in advance if possible. For upgrades, please bring your original license. For paper upgrades (i.e. old Tech or Tech Plus claiming code credit) bring a copy of your old license you are using to claim credit. We have no copy machines at the testing facility.

The next testing session is 3 August 2006. Please note that this session will use the new Technician (Element 2) question pool that goes into effect 1 July 2006.

We had four people testing at the June test session.

Any other questions about testing please feel free to contact Moe Knight – NT7C – or anyone on the VE Team. You may call Moe at 903-815-0342.903-564-7115.

## 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](mailto:wa5vks@wt.net) or Jim Cason, WB5UAS [elcason@netexas.net](mailto:elcason@netexas.net) or Ken Owen, KC5CTD [k-owen@raytheon.com](mailto:k-owen@raytheon.com)

## Cook County ARC Hamfest

August 26, 2006 <http://members.cox.net/gainesvillehamfest>  
 Gainesville Civic Center 311 South Weaver Street Gainesville, TX 76240  
 Talk-In: 147.340 w/100Hz PL & 442.775 w/100Hz PL  
 Contact: James K. Floyd, N5ZPU 1704 East California Street Gainesville, TX 76240  
 Phone: 940-668-7511 [jfloyd@swbell.net](mailto:jfloyd@swbell.net)

## North Texas Balloon Project - ARBONET

September 09, 2006 is the rescheduled launch date for the ARBONET balloon launch at Clarksville, TX.  
<http://www.ntbp.org>

## Amateur Radio News Around the County

### Surfin': Lightning is Striking Again

March 24, 2006

By Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU Contributing Editor

<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2006/03/24/1>

### March of Dimes Walk-A-Thon

April 29, 2006



KC5EHR, WB5DCU, KI5DQ, KD5NIB, KD5NIC, KB5QMF, KD5ZPI and NT7C assisted March of Dimes communications details during the April 29, 2006 local chapter event. For additional information, please visit: <http://www.walkamerica.org> or contact Moe Knight, NT7C @ 903-564-6549 or 903-564-7115.

### KI5DX antenna raising party with a Tennadyne T12 – 12 element Log Periodic

<http://www.paristexasradio.com/kb5sck>

### Club members,

As I was typing up the meeting minutes of the April meeting I was part way through my chicken scratching before I realized that the majority of my reporting started out the same. It seemed the common words were “Wilmer reported” This opening showed up not only that month but seems to come up frequently every month. I would like to claim a privilege at the next meeting to recognize Wilmer for his “boundless dedication to amateur radio in Grayson County.” I ask that all of you join me in both recognizing and thanking Wilmer for all his hard work.

Moe Knight

## Buy- Sell-Trade Net 06/16/2006

**FS** - ICOM 471A 70cm all mode transceiver.  
 Yeasu 757GX  
 Kenwood 9130 All Mode  
 Icom 225A  
 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**- Yeasu FL2100B HF Amplifier  
 KC5KNV, Allan 903-463-5231  
 Call make offer

**FS** – Yeasu FT-727R - Extra Battery(condition  
 unknown), Rapid Drop-in Charger  
 Ray, AA4UO 903-818-0293

**FS**- Yeasu FT-757GX, MD1 Microphone, PFP  
 757GX switching PS, & FC301 antenna  
 tuner, \$350.00 for all or trade for a AT-50  
 antenna tuner.  
 KJ5I, Jerry Home -903-893-9181,  
 Cell 903-819-9411

**FS** - Kenwood TS-850S/AT 160 through 10  
 meters (Including WARC) transceiver –  
 500KHz-30MHz receiver, 100 watts with built-  
 in antenna tuner. MARS & 60 meter  
 modifications done. Also has the additional BC  
 band attenuator defeated. This is the rig that has  
 been to GCARC Field day in the past few years.

Kenwood TS-50S – 160 through 10 meters  
 transceiver – 500KHz-30MHz receiver, 100  
 watts. Mars & 60 meter modifications done.

Kenwood AT-50 – 160 through 10 meters  
 antenna tuner. Will work automatically with the  
 TS-50S

Yaesu FC-707 – 80 through 10 meter (including  
 WARC) 100 watt antenna tuner. Comes with  
 built-in SWR/power meter and dummy load  
 (short duration)

Those interested, please contact Moe, NT7C at  
 903-815-0342 or email at [nt7c@arrl.net](mailto:nt7c@arrl.net)

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

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

## 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 05/09//2006

Starting Acct. _____	\$ 1,447.19
Deposits _____	\$ 12.00
Expenses _____	\$ 181.80
Account Balance of 05/09/06 is _____	\$1,277.39

#### NOTES:

##### Deposits:

\$ 12.00 – Dues Received

##### Expenses:

\$ 181.80 – Denison/Sherman Library

books donation – ARRL Handbook  
and Antenna Handbook

Moe Knight, NT7C

GCARC Treasurer

# Grayson County RACES and ARES

Wilmer Kinsey, WB5DCU  
EC Grayson County

## Sherman's New Fire Chief, N5GRL

The City of Sherman has a new Fire Chief, he is Jeff Jones, N5GRL. The Sherman Warning Siren Test crew had the pleasure of meeting Chief Jones at a coffee and donuts social at the Sherman Central Fire Station following the May siren test.



## Safety Tips from the NWS Advanced Spotters Field Guide

Safety should be first and foremost on the mind of a spotter. Remember, the NWS values your safety more than we do your observations. It is essential that spotters proceed into the field armed not only with knowledge of the storms but also with an understanding of the dangers posed by thunderstorms. When spotting, travel in pairs if at all possible. When moving, this will allow the driver to remain focused on the chore of driving while the passenger keeps an eye on the sky and handles any communication with the dispatcher. When stopped, two sets of eyes are available for observation.

Keep aware of the local environment at all times. When in the vicinity of a thunderstorm, keep a 2-mile "buffer zone" between you and the storm. Frequently check the sky overhead and behind to ensure no unexpected events (such as a new tornado) are developing. Always have an escape route available, in case threatening weather approaches or if you get within the 2-mile "buffer zone."

Lightning is the number one killer among weather phenomena. During a typical year, lightning kills more people than hurricanes, tornadoes, and winter storms combined. The two main threats posed by lightning are the intense heat of the lightning stroke (about 15,000 degrees Celsius) and the extreme current associated with the stroke, estimated at 30,000 amperes (less than 1 ampere can be fatal).

Lightning is also the biggest weather hazard facing the spotter. When in the field, the spotter will usually be in a preferred lightning strike area (in the open, on a hilltop, etc.). Whenever possible, remain in your spotting vehicle to minimize the chance of being struck by lightning. If you must leave your vehicle, crouch as low as possible to make yourself a less-favorable target.

Hail is usually not a direct threat to life, but hailstorms are the costliest weather element to affect the United States. Each year, hailstorms cause over \$1 billion in damage primarily to crops, livestock, and roofs. Giant hailstones (2 inches or more in diameter) can reach speeds of 100 miles an hour as they fall to earth. If such a stone strikes someone, the results can be fatal. There have been only two documented hail-related deaths in the United States, but a hailstorm in China killed over 100 people in 1976. A vehicle will usually offer adequate protection from moderate-sized hailstones. Hail larger than golf ball size may damage windshields, so avoid large hail shafts if at all possible.

Downbursts are underrated thunderstorm threats. A downburst is defined as a strong downdraft with an out rush of damaging winds on or near the earth's surface. Downbursts are responsible for the "wind shear" which has caused a number of airliner accidents in the 1970's and early 1980's. When people experience property damage from a downburst, they often do not believe that "just wind" could have caused the damage, and they assume that they were struck by a tornado. In fact, the strongest downbursts have wind gusts to near 130 miles an hour and are capable of the same damage as a medium-sized tornado.

Downbursts are classified based on their size. If the swath of damaging winds is 2.5 miles or greater, it is called a macroburst. If the swath is less than 2.5 miles across, it is called a microburst. In general, macrobursts are long-term, large-scale events, while microbursts are intense, quick-hitting phenomena. Microbursts are subdivided as wet or dry microbursts, depending on how much rain falls with the microburst. If very heavy rain falls with the microburst, it is called a wet microburst, while a dry microburst has little or no rain reaching the ground.!!

## Sherman Warning Siren Test Net for July

The next warning siren test will be on Wednesday July 5th, 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](mailto: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](mailto:9038677294@pageaci.com)

## Meeting Minutes 21 April 2006 Meeting

Call to Order by President Bob Cooper – KB5JHU – 1930 hours

Roll sheet passed around (13 signing in) and introduction made.

Minutes and Treasurer's report approved as published in the newsletter.

Moe spoke on the March of Dimes Walk scheduled for 29 April 2006 at Loy Lake Park. We have made it clear to the MOD team that we plan to support only the communications effort this year. It was decided to handle work assignments as a readiness drill. Assignments (except for a few specific ones) will be given out as people check in at the event. MOD personnel have accepted that we are communicators.

Wilmer spoke about the Mall Watch appreciation dinner. The dinner was catered by Chic-fil-A.

Wilmer spoke on the fox hunt held 1 April 2006. Congratulations to Tammy & Johnnie for being the first to find the fox.

Discussion of the ARRL handbook and QRZ CD's for the library was brought up again. After some discussion there was a motion to purchase an ARRL Handbook and Antenna Handbook for both the Sherman and Denison libraries. It was further detailed that each book should have stickers inside stating "This book donated by the Grayson County Amateur Radio Club" in a form approved by the libraries. This motion was passed

There was a discussion that the club should purchase a tent for Field Day and other activities. Sears was having a sale on the screen tent similar to the one used last Field Day. There was a motion to purchase 2 each 20' x 12' screen tents at \$99.99 each. The motion was passed and Jim Hunt was going to purchase the tents for the club

There was a discussion of applying for 501(c)3 status. It is believed that this may place us in position to receive grant money along with soliciting tax-deductible donations. David Woods to investigate further.

David Compton – KCOEHR – Talked about the American Red Cross building fire.

It was announced that the Denison Fire station weather station was installed on Good Friday. The wind speed indicator accuracy is in question.

It was announced that the Fannin Club balloon launch has been rescheduled for Saturday, 3 June 2006. The delay was caused due to balloon delivery problems.

The petition by W5GM, to recall ARRL North Texas Section manager – Tom Blackwell – N5GAR was read to the club. A brief discussion followed.

Meeting adjourned at 2030.

Respectfully submitted  
Moe Knight – NT7C

## Meeting Minutes 19 May 2006 Meeting

Call to Order by President Bob Cooper – KB5JHU – 1930 hours

Roll sheet passed around (17 signing in) and introduction made.

### OLD BUSINESS

Minutes and Treasurer's report approved after modification of line "Discussion of the ARRL handbook and QRZ CD's ..." being changed to "Discussion of the ARRL handbook and QST CD's..." in the meeting minutes as distributed at the club meeting.

Moe gave a final report on the March of Dimes activity. Overall things went well. The people we provided shadows for were very happy with how that worked out.

Wilmer reported that Jim Hunt did purchase the shelters for Field Day as previously approved by the club. Wilmer did purchase the books for donating to the libraries of Sherman and Denison as previously approved. Moe Knight wrote the reimbursement check from the club treasury.

David Woods reported that he has found an attorney willing to process the necessary paperwork for the club to receive 501(c)3 tax status. This will be a project that will take quite some time. There may be the need to make some changes to our bylaws and constitution. These will be brought before the club as necessary.

Bob Cooper reported that he hasn't been able to contact the right person at the paper for including our club calendar.

Bob Cooper will be contacting the Denison FD regarding the accuracy of the anemometer installed at the fire station.

### NEW BUSINESS

Field Day Weekend – weekend of 24 June. Wilmer asked if we should do something other than Wilmer cooking. Nothing was volunteered, so Wilmer will cook for us again. Thanks Wilmer!!!! Club will provide drinks and utensils again. Next month we will make a list of what everyone will bring to keep duplicates to a minimum. We will also create an equipment list for who will bring what to field day. Publicity – Moe Knight will generate releases for the Sherman and Whitesboro papers.

A Field day tee-shirt order was solicited by Wilmer.

Next month, before the regular club meeting there will be a meeting of the Grayson County VHF Society. Dues and donations will be accepted at that time. The regular annual dues per household are \$15.00.

The Fannin County Balloon launch was postponed to 3 June over delivery troubles of the balloon. (I have heard this launch date had to be postponed also – Moe)

We were reminded that Ham-Com would take place 9-10 June at the Plano Centre.

Meeting adjourned at 2015.

Respectfully submitted  
Moe Knight – NT7C