

Vol-13, Num-04; April 2007



## Club Officers

President:

David Woods, W5COP

Vice President:

Edgar Rountree, KD5WCK

Secretary:

Kevin Knight – KD7MSX

Treasurer:

Moe Knight, NT7C

Activity:

Wilmer Kinsey, WB5DCU

Editor:

James 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 @ 19:00CST 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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## Presidents Corner

April 2007

This months article falls into the category of "Just in Case You Didn't Know".



### WORLDBEAT: IRAQ HAM RADIO BLACK-OUT CONTINUES

The Iraqi Ministry of Defense last month ordered that all Iraqi radio amateurs remain off the air until improvements are made in what it terms as that nations overall internal security. Some political observers in the West believe that could take years if not decades to happen. The shut-down of Amateur Radio in Iraq could continue for a long time.

According to Amateur Radio News line, correspondent Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, provided the following:

The Iraq Amateur Radio Society says through Internet postings that it has turned down a government request to warehouse all ham gear owned by Iraqi radio amateurs. This is because it's simply too dangerous to go out and collect the equipment.

While Iraq's ham populace may not be radiating R-F, they are still communicating with one-another and with the outside, using Echolink and other V-O-I-P systems over the World Wide Web.

This was confirmed earlier in a posting to the QRZ dot com website where Iraq Amateur Radio Society President Diya Sayah, YI1DZ, indicated this would likely be the case.

Sayah wrote -- and we quote: "Echolink, CQ100, the Internet, and cellphones are still working and we had several ham radios working now using these instead of RF." The term "ham radios" in this case referring to operators, not actual gear.

The Iraqi ham radio blackout affects anyone operating an Amateur station from that nation. That includes its citizens, outside contractors and even members of other nations military who are stationed in Iraq.

73's

David Woods, W5COP  
President

## GCARC and Surrounding Area Event Calendar

### Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Meeting

April 20, 2007 @ 19:30CST  
 Sherman Municipal Airport  
 1200 S. Dewey Ave  
 Sherman TX 75090

Program: Steve LaNore Chief Meteorologist from KXII Channel 12, will be the guest speaker at Friday nights GCARC meeting. His presentation will be on "How He Prepares His Forecast" for each days broadcast. This will be a Power Point presentation. Weather has always been Steve's hobby, and one of his passions.



<http://www.k5gcc.us> .

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

April 21, 2007 @ 09:00CST for the FCARC Meeting.  
 April 21, 2007 @ 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 Cappy's Restaurant @ 07:30CST.  
 Contact: Doug Loughmiller - W5BL, President  
<http://www.k5frc.org>

### 3rd Saturday Sidewalk Sale - Dallas

April 21, 2007  
 Public parking lot under Woodall Rogers Freeway  
 Corner of Woodall Rogers and Field Street, Dallas, TX  
<http://www.sidewalksale.com>  
 Phone: 214-432-7665 , Contact Pete [info@sidewalksale.com](mailto:info@sidewalksale.com)

### Chapter 41, QCWA

May 05, 2007  
 The Pointe Restaurant, S-W corner of Loop 635 (LBJ) and Midway Road,, Dallas Texas.  
 Featured program: TBA.  
 The "Chat and chew" starts at 11:00, and the "dog and pony show" at 12:30.  
 QCWA belt buckles are available for purchase @ \$24.95 each and available for immediate delivery.  
 For information, contact Steve Brodie, K5ZYZ at 903 786 4064, (903) 818-0234 Cell

### McKinney Amateur Radio Club (MARC) Meeting

May 14, 2007 @ 19:00CST <http://www.mckinneyarc.org>

### Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Meeting

May 18, 2007 @ 19:30CST  
 Sherman Municipal Airport  
 1200 S. Dewey Ave  
 Sherman TX 75090  
<http://www.k5gcc.us> .

## Ham It Up For The Troops

May 26, 2007 @ 0900 EST

Once again Amateur Radio Operators will be on the air to show support and appreciation for our Troops, Veterans, Military Retired, and 1st Responders.

Amateur Radio will 'Ham It Up For The Troops' on May 26, 2007 beginning at 0900 EST. ARMAD includes all Coalition Forces and Military Veterans worldwide.

We invite Amateur Radio Clubs, and individual operators from their homes, portable locations, and mobiles to get on the air and express messages of thanks and appreciation to those that serve.

ARMAD has conducted this Special Event for the past three years, and has become a hit with the public, and our Military members. Those that sacrifice need to know that we support them, and live interaction via Amateur Radio is a great way to promote the hobby while providing a great public service.

Over the years several groups have joined in to help Amateur Radio during this event. One group is Operation Tribute To Freedom a branch of the U.S. Army Public Affairs. They provide soldiers that will visit an Amateur Radio Club's local Armad event to greet visitors, and speak over the airwaves. Other groups also help with public relations and advertising the event. This has helped boost the awareness of Amateur radio to many that would not have otherwise been exposed to the hobby.

The Stardust Radio Show "United We Roll" has also offered to help promote the event by having any local Amateur Radio Club representative on the show as a guest to talk about that club's local event.

Working together we can promote the hobby, and provide a meaningful public service event that touches many lives. Get involved and help us "Ham It Up For The Troops."

To learn more about ARMAD visit <http://www.armad.net> and then spread the word.

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

June 07, 2007 @ 19:30CST (First Thursday of every EVEN month – Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)

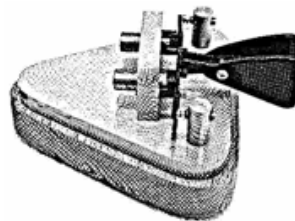
Sherman Municipal Airport, @ 19:30CST

1200 S. Dewey Ave

Sherman TX 75090

VE Testing sponsored by the Grayson County Amateur Radio Club takes place the first Thursday of every EVEN numbered month (e.g. Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, & Dec.) Testing will take place at the Sherman Municipal Airport, 19:30 hours. Testing fee for 2007 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.

We had two persons testing for upgrades this past Thursday. Both persons successfully passed their Extra Class examinations. Please congratulate Butch – KD5NIW and Paul – KF4PAK when you hear them on the air.

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.

**HamCom 2007**

June 8-9, 2007

The Plano Centre

2000 East Spring Creek Parkway

Plano, Texas

Talk-In: 147.180+ (PL 107.2)

<http://www.hamcom.org>

North Texas License

**Training & VE Team**

Following is the 2007 license training and VE schedules.

**Technician Class (ARRL #562)**

January 27

February 3, 10, 17, and 24

March 3

9:00 to 12:00 Noon

Whiteright Church of Christ

Whiteright, TX

**VE Sessions**

February 10

March 10

10:00 to 12:00 Noon

**General Class (ARRL #564)**

July 7, 14, 21, and 28

August 4

9:00 to 12:00 Noon

First Baptist Church

Melissa, TX

**VE Sessions**

July 7

August 11

10:00 to 12:00 Noon

**General Class (ARRL #642) \*New\***

March 24 and 31

April 7, 14, 21, and 28

May 5

9:00 to 12:00 Noon

First Baptist Church

Melissa, TX

**VE Sessions**

April 14

May 12

10:00 to 12:00 Noon

**Extra Class (ARRL #565)**

September 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29

October 6, 13, 20, and 27

November 3

9:00 to 12:00 Noon

Whiteright Church of Christ

Whiteright, TX

**VE Sessions**

September 8

October 13

November 10

10:00 to 12:00 Noon

To register for a class or VE session contact Dick Raitt, WA5VKS at 972-422-3021 or [wa5vks@wt.net](mailto:wa5vks@wt.net)

# Amateur Radio News Around the County

## Hamarama Location Change

The Hamarama BOD met last Saturday and selected the new site for Hamarama. It is Ardmore Convention Center. It is located on I-35 at exit 33 in Ardmore. The dates for 2007 are October 26 & 27. There are still a lot of details to work out but we are well on the way. I will be getting it on the ARRL schedule soon. The convention center is a beautiful facility and I feel it's a step in the right direction for us. This year Hamarama will be an all inside hamfest so no weather problems.

If you could list it in your newsletter I would appreciate it.

Thanks  
Henry Allen, K5BUG  
GLA Systems  
1-800-588-2841  
[www.texasbugcatcher.com](http://www.texasbugcatcher.com)  
[texbug@peoplepc.com](mailto:texbug@peoplepc.com)

## EB - Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions

Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence -- with some exceptions -- will be available to the public on the FCC's "Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions" Web site.

<http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/Welcome.html>

The listing will be cumulative, and Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth anticipates updating it every 7 to 10 days. The site will not be a comprehensive listing of enforcement correspondence. For example, it will not include letters requiring retesting pursuant to §97.519(d) of the FCC's rules, letters regarding radio frequency interference to amateur licensees and letters requesting an initial response to a complaint.

## Global Amateur Radio Beacons

Check out: <http://www.ncdxf.org/Beacon/BeaconSchedule.html> which lists all of the amateur radio beacons around the world on 20 through 10 meters and there schedule of operation.

## NWS WXK22 Grayson County 162.475MHz

If you hear any difficulties of Grayson County WXK22, please call 817-429-2631, option#4 and report it.

## 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/118.8Hz PL

147.255+ MHz w/118.8Hz PL

### Van Alstyne TX

443.800+ MHz w/103.5Hz PL

### Gainesville TX Repeater

147.340+ MHz w/100.0Hz PL

### Bonham TX Repeater

145.470- MHz

### McKinney TX Repeater

146.740-MHz w/110.9Hz PL

MERA 443.2+MHz w/100.0Hz PL

### Ethyl TX

147.220+MHz w/100.0Hz PL, 1000' AGL

### McKinney Info Net

Each Sunday @ 2000CST on the 146.740-repeater with Dave Dunbar, N0RQ as net manager

### McKinney 6 meter AM Net

Each Wednesday @ 22:00CST on 50.400MHz



## GCARC Treasury Report

Bank Statement of 04/01/2007

Starting Acct. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 1,205.29

(Difference from last months reported end balance – see above)

Deposits \_\_\_\_\_ \$48.00

Expenses \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 0.00

Account Balance of 03/13/07 is \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 1,253.29

NOTES:

Deposits:

\$ 48.00 – 4 annual memberships

Expenses:

\$ 0.00 – None

Moe Knight, NT7C

GCARC Treasurer

# Grayson County RACES and ARES

Wilmer Kinsey, WB5DCU  
EC Grayson County

## Skywarn Nets

We will call Skywarn Nets up from the Sherman EOC when ever there is a "Tornado Watch" in effect for our area and we have a line of thunderstorms or single cell thunderstorms in adjacent counties to our southwest, west or northwest. The watch means conditions are favorable for tornados to form. The typical size of a watch area is 25,000 square miles and lasts for three to six hours.

If we are under a "Severe Thunderstorm Watch" and we receive reports of large hail and damaging winds from adjacent counties we will then call the Skywarn Net up from the Sherman EOC. Otherwise we will run the net from our home station, Remember a "Severe Thunder Storm Watch" means conditions are favorable for severe thunderstorms to form. A severe thunderstorm watch is issued for areas where ¾ inch hail or larger and/or damaging thunderstorm winds are expected. The typical size of a watch area is 25,000 square miles and lasts for three to six hours.

Severe Thunderstorm or Tornado Warnings are issued by local NWS offices. When severe thunderstorms or tornados are indicated by Doppler radar or reported by reliable sources such as a Skywarn Spotter. A warning usually covers one county or portions of a county.

Remember, in a Watch, Watch the sky. In a warning, TAKE ACTION.

**When storm spotting please keep your reports brief and to the point, don't forget to tell us were you are at!!!**



## When To Display ARES Magnetic Door Signs

Always display your ARES magnetic door signs when you are storm spotting. Most Public Service and/or law enforcement officers in Grayson County will recognize them and will know what you are doing when storm spotting, especially at night time.

Whenever we provide communications for public service events or other events you will be ask to display them so all event officials and participants will recognize who you are and what you are doing.

When participating in any events or storm spotting make sure you wear your ARES picture ID badge.

Always have your RACES picture ID badge along with you in case an emergency is declared by a public official. Should that happen we will immediately roll over into a RACES net.

If you need magnetic door signs or ID badges please read the respective paragraphs below.

## Sherman Warning Siren Test Net

The next warning siren test will be on Wednesday May 02, 2007 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.

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

### **Updating ARES Roster**

I am in the process of updating the Grayson County ARES roster. I want to make sure I have your latest address, phone number and email address if you have one. I will have ARES forms with me at the club meetings that you can fill out and return to me. You can go to the club web site click on "ARES", when that page appears look to the lower right and you will see "Amateur Radio Emergency Service Registration Form", click on it. This is a .pdf file, print it out on your printer, fill it out and send it to me. If you have a scanner, scan it in, save as a .jpg file and attach it to a email message to me.

### **ARES Magnetic Door Signs & Texoma Emergency Communications Association (TECA) Patches**

I have 10 sets of magnetic door signs available. They are \$6.00 per set(2). Call me or e-mail me if you need a set. I also have a supply of Texoma Emergency Communications Association patches. They are \$2.00 each.

### **The BACK UP NET Control Station**

The function of the back up net control station is just that, back up the NCS. As stations check into the net record their call and name. Try to keep a running account of the net operation. Mark off the stations that check out or those that might be ask to move to another net. Be ready to take over as the NCS should the main NCS lose power, have equipment problems or just needs a break.

On our ARES Net as the Back Up NCS all you need to do is copy the stations calls as they check in. Should I have some problem with my equipment, lose power or some other calamity the Back Up NCS could continue on with the net or at least have a record of the check-ins so that he or she could get stations checked out and close the net.

### **Grayson County ARES/RACES**

If you need to fill out a ARES/RACES application please contact me or go to the website "AMATEUR RADIO in GRAYSON. Click on "ARES", look at the lower right hand corner and you should see the "Amateur Radio Emergency Service" and "Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service" forms. They are .pdf files, just download, fill them out and return them to me.

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.

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 04/08/2007

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

**FS** – ICOM V8000 75 watt 2 FM meter only - Larry McNeil, KE5KGP 1-214-202-135

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

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

## Meeting Minutes 16 March 2007 Meeting

Call to Order by President David Woods – W5COP – 1930 hours

Roll sheet passed around (21 signing in) and introductions made.

### Old Business

- Gordon – N5TPO and Glen – KT5G will be co-chairing field day
- A follow up on the Senate bill was made and amendments are in progress to exempt amateur radio.

### New Business

- March of Dimes will be Saturday April 28, worked well last year when people came and then assignments were handed out. This year we will be adding a ride along with the sheriff. We are going to need 12 people. This event can be run fine with just handy talkies on simplex. Times will be dealt with next meeting.

Presentation over 12—VDC Distribution systems by Wilmer – WB5DCU.  
ARRL has some CD-ROM's over emergency situations

Meeting adjourned at 2030 hours

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Knight – KD7MSX