

Vol-13, Num-11; November 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

November 2007

This information comes from the Amateur Radio Newline. For those of you wondering, here is where we stand in amateur radio.



There is some good news and some bad news regarding growth in ham radio in the United States. The good news is that we are holding our own in regard to the number of FCC licensed radio amateurs in the United States and its possessions. The bad news is that despite all the restructuring over the past decade and a half, we are not seeing any significant growth.

This, according to Fred Maia, W-5-Y-I, who writes the Washington Readout column in C-Q Magazine and has his finger on the pulse of ham radio statistics in the United States. And in a recent conversation with Newline, Fred says that despite the latest round of regulatory revisions the numbers really have not changed all that much:

W5YI: "There are actually about 655,000 radio amateurs who are licensed. The figure 712,000 includes amateurs who are in the 'grace period.' The recent rule makings -- abolishing the code and expanding voice frequencies and so forth -- everyone thought that this was going to have a big impact on the number of radio amateur. Which has not happened."

Newline: If we are not getting a lot of new hams, then what has been the impact of all of the recent deregulation. Fred Maia says that we are really shifting around within the service itself:

W5YI: "The number of radio amateurs in each class has changed. For example, Technicians no longer have to pass a code test so they are able to upgrade to General very easily, buy just passing a written test. So, we have lost some Technicians, but we have made up for it by gaining a like number of General class amateurs.

And the same thing holds true for General and Advanced class. They no longer have to pass a 20 WPM code test in order to upgrade to Extra. So we are seeing declines in General and Advanced, but almost a like number of increases in Extra class.

While we have not seen an increase in the total number of amateurs, what we have seen is a switch in the mix of the various Amateur Radio classes."

Newline: If this is the case, how has ham radio been able to sustain the numbers it claims. Fred Maia says that it's a kind of balancing act:

W5YI: "The number of new amateurs coming into the hobby really has not increased at all. The person leaving through becoming Silent Keys or not renewing their licenses is just about in step with the number of new amateurs.

So, there is no increase there. The biggest impact is the number of amateurs in higher classes because they don't have to pass a code test."

So what has the impact been on the ham radio supply industry? Fred Maia says that he's hearing from dealers that the sales of High Frequency gear is definitely on the rise:

W5YI: We talk to them all the time and they are selling a lot of HF rigs to people who are able to upgrade into HF without taking a code test. You talk to companies like Ham Radio Outlet and Amateur Electronic Supply and they tell you that they are selling more high priced transceivers."

According to Maia, this first report card since Morse testing went away is pretty good.

[Thanks to Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, editor, Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, and Amateur Radio Newline™ for the info.]

With that, I say my last 73's as club president. Thanks for the opportunity to serve the club for the last year. I'll be here continuing to support the club and it's activities for many years to come.

D. Woods  
W5COP

## GCARC and Surrounding Area Event Calendar

### Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Meeting

November 16, 2007 @ 19:30CST  
 Sherman Municipal Airport  
 1200 S. Dewey Ave  
 Sherman TX 75090  
 Program: TBA  
<http://www.k5gcc.us> .

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

November 17, 2007 @ 09:00CST for the FCARC Meeting.  
 November 17, 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

November 17, 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

December 01, 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

November 13, 2007, @ 19:00CST <http://www.mckinneyarc.org>

### Grayson County Amateur Radio

#### Christmas Party

December 21, 2007, @ 19:30CST / TBD  
 Sherman Municipal Airport / TBD  
 1200 S. Dewey Ave  
 Sherman TX 75090  
<http://www.k5gcc.us> .



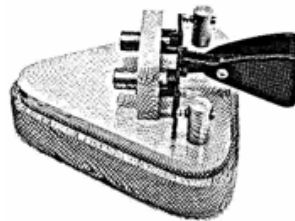
### **Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) VE Test Session**

December 06, 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.

(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.

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

We had one person testing for upgrades this past Thursday. Give Eddie Graham, AE5DR a holler when you hear him 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.

### **Lockheed Martin ARC, Fort Worth Kilocycle Club, Tri County ARC, Parker County ARC , Arlington ARC**

January 11 - 12, 2008

3400 Bryant Irvin Road, FortWorth Texas

<http://www.fwhamfest.com> , Talk-In: 147.880- w/100.0PL

[ak5v@arrl.net](mailto:ak5v@arrl.net)

Contact: Robert Dickey, AK5V, 3709 Myrtle Springs Road, Benbrook, TX 76116, 817-731-9739,

## Amateur Radio News Around the County

### 50th Jamboree-on-the-Air

October 19-21, 2007

Many smiles emitted from Sherman Boy Scout Pack 13, during their campout at Lake Texoma on October 20-21, 2007. The scouts were amazed to be able to talk to other scouts via amateur radio during the 50<sup>th</sup> annual Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) <http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota>.

KI5DQ operated on 18.140MHz+/- and 14.290MHz+/- . We were able to find three other stations that had scouts at the microphone, two within the United States and the third in Ontario Canada.

All of the scouts were provided a special 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary JOTA QSL card.

All had a great time and asked many questions on how the little black box worked with a wire connected to it.

This special event station was operated in true Field-Day fashion. The gear utilized was a Yaesu FT-857D transceiver, Yaesu FC-40 antenna and a deep-cycle marine battery.

As a special bonus, we were able to contact ARBONET II Balloon Launch Information HF net on 3.911MHz and received a navigational data beacon on 146.560 MHz and a 500mW CW beacon signal on 28.061 MHz.. <http://www.arbonet.net>



## ARBONET II Launch

October 20, 2007

Doug Loughmiller, W5BL

<http://www.arbonet.net>

Members of the ARBONET (Amateur Radio Balloons Over NorthEast Texas) successfully launched ARBONET-II Saturday 10/20 and recovered the payloads Sunday 10/21. See the website for details.

## 2007 Atlantic Hurricane Season

The 2007 Atlantic hurricane season officially began June 01, 2007 and runs through the end of November. The National Hurricane Center (NHC) <http://www.hwn.org> in Miami is the focal point for hurricane predictions and advisories once a storm is identified. Information on the storm is gathered from a variety of sources, one being Amateur Radio. When a hurricane comes within 300 miles of landfall, the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) generally is activated; the net may also be activated for a tropical storm that is expected to intensify to hurricane status. HWN's primary thrust is to provide information to the NHC regarding the position and conditions within the storm area and providing advisories to those in the affected area who might not have any other way to get that information. HWN is not a "check-in" net, and checking in from outside of the affected area is strongly discouraged. HWN is also not a health and welfare traffic net but it will provide information as to frequencies where health and welfare nets are operational. When there is a named storm, feel free to tune to 14.325MHz and listen, but please don't transmit unless you have good reason. When the HWN is in operation, keep in mind that a clear frequency on either side is appreciated, since reporting stations will often be using makeshift antennas and low power. You can get up-to-date information on the storm, as well as receive the latest outlook and advisory bulletins via e-mail, at the Hurricane Watch Net

## IARU New Band Plan

The IARU has approved a new band plan based on signal bandwidth. It becomes effective January 1, 2008. Among other limiting changes, it limits traditional AM to only two small segments on 80 meters and above 10 meters.

This is similar but worse in several ways than the plan advocated by the ARRL that was soundly rejected by ARRL members and hams in general. Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, the ARRL CEO is also an officer with the IARU. The ARRL said it would revisit the failed approach - I guess this is their revisit.

While IARU designations are "voluntary" they are traditionally what has become the official designation.

See the bad news at:

[http://www.iaru-regionii.org/Region\\_2\\_MF1\\_2008.pdf](http://www.iaru-regionii.org/Region_2_MF1_2008.pdf)

Or Google "IARU Region 2" and look at the Sept 2007 headline.

## Buy- Sell-Trade Net 11/11/2007

**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** - Comet GP6 antenna 2 meter/70cm.  
mint shape, never mounted.  
146MHz 6.5dB, 446MHz 9.0dB  
Jim. KI5DQ - [ki5dq@verizon.net](mailto:ki5dq@verizon.net)

**FS** – LDF5-50A 7/8” and LDF4-50A hard-line  
or heliax, call for length/price, etc.  
Wilmer – WB5DCU, 903-893-5872 or  
[wb5dcu1@verizon.net](mailto:wb5dcu1@verizon.net)

**FS** – Icom ICR R-7000 with a video adapter,  
original owners manual and a small video  
monitor. asking \$550. Larry McNeil, KE5KGP,  
214-202-1352 or 903-893-0896. The unit is fully  
functional, good condition, slight cosmetic wear  
around the edges.

**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/118.8Hz 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 11/01/2007

Starting Acct. _____	\$ 1,289.29
Deposits _____	\$ 0.00
Expenses _____	\$ 0.00
Account Balance of 11/01/07 is ____	\$ 1,289.29

NOTES:

Deposits:

\$ 0.00 – None

Expenses:

\$ 0.00 – None

Moe Knight, NT7C

GCARC Treasurer

# Grayson County RACES and ARES

Wilmer Kinsey, WB5DCU  
EC Grayson County

## Midway Mall after Thanksgiving Watch Program

We are working on the Midway Mall after Thanksgiving Watch Program. That will be Friday November 23rd and Saturday November 24th. We will likely work from 6:00PM until around 9:00PM. We will meet in the mall office conference room about 5:40PM for last minute instructions. Everyone who participates will need to sign a new form releasing the mall owners from any liability.

Be on time for the event.

We tried to get all the arrangements made for the Halloween watch program, but were not able to meet with the mall manager to finalize everything in time.

Please check your email and listen on the 147.00 repeater for details concerning the after Thanksgiving Mall Watch Program. We DO NOT have anything formalized as of yet. If you have any questions please give me a call at home or my cell phone. The numbers are at the end of this article.



The following comes from the National Weather Service brochure “**WINTER STORMS, The Deceptive Killer**”. I have rewritten it so that it will fit into the newsletter.

### **COLD**

Exposure to cold can cause frostbite or hypothermia and become life-threatening. Infants and elderly people are most susceptible. What constitutes extreme cold varies in different parts of the country. In the South, near freezing temperatures are considered extreme cold. Freezing temperatures can cause severe damage to citrus fruit crops and other vegetation.

Pipes may freeze and burst in homes that are poorly insulated or without heat. In the North, extreme cold means temperatures well below zero.

### **WIND CHILL**

Wind Chill is not the actual temperature, but rather how wind and cold feel on exposed skin. As the wind increases, heat is carried away from the body at an accelerated rate, driving down the body temperature. Animals are also affected by wind chill; however, cars, plants and other object are not.

### **FROSTBITE**

Frostbite is damage to body tissue caused by extreme cold. A wind chill of -20° Fahrenheit(F) will cause extreme frostbite in just 30 minutes. Frostbite causes a loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in temperature, such as fingers, toes, ear lobes or the tip of the nose. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately! If you must wait for help, slowly rewarm affected areas. However, if the person is also showing signs of hypothermia, warm the body core before the extremities.

### **HYPOTHERMIA**

Hypothermia is a condition brought on when the body temperature drops to less than 95° F. It can kill. For those who survive, there are likely to be lasting kidney, liver and pancreatic problems. Warning signs include uncontrollable shivering, memory lost, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. Take the person’s temperature. If below 95° F, seek medical care immediately.

### **If Medical Care is Not Available**

Warm the person slowly, starting with the body core. Warming the arms and legs first drives cold blood toward the heart and can lead to heart failure. If necessary, use your body heat to help. Get the person into dry clothing and wrap in a warm blanket covering the head and neck. Do Not give the alcohol, drugs, coffee or any hot beverage or food. Warm broth is the first food to offer.

### **INJURIES RELATED to COLD**

- 50% happen to people over 60 years of age
- More than 75% happen to males
- About 20% happen at home

If you have any comments or additions to these Public Service Guidelines please pass them along to me.

### **Sherman Warning Siren Test Net**

The next warning siren test will be on Wednesday December 05, 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.

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

### **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.

### **SKYWARN Window Stickers**

I now have vinyl SKYWARN stickers, they are \$1.50 each. We can't seem to find any of the free ones any more!

### **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 f Texoma Emergency Communications Association patches. They are \$2.00 each.

### **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

## Meeting Minutes 19 October 2007 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by VP Edgar Rountree at 19:30 CST

### Issues Discussed

1. There was a general discussion of possible Club support of local Halloween activities. Members were informed that Skywarn Training is scheduled for February 28, 2008. More information will be provided when available.
2. Wilmer informed the members that the revised GCARC constitution and bylaws was approved by the members.
3. Jim Hunt, KI5DQ discussed the upcoming Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) and his plans to provide local Boy Scouts with technical assistance and mentoring during the event. He hopes to get the Scouts interested in Amateur Radio. Jim was also commended by the members for his work as editor of our newsletter.
4. There was a discussion of emergency communications support by the club and ARES. Wilmer Kinsey, WB5DCU informed members that Grayson County is planning to develop an Emergency Operation Center (EOC) for the entire county. This would consolidate the efforts now being done by the individual cities such as Sherman, Denison, etc.
5. David Compton, KC0EHR reported that the County Health Department's Emergency Preparedness Planner is interested in communications support by ARES during drills and actual events. David said that he would keep the Club informed on this issue.

### GCARC Officer Nominations

Members present at the meeting made the following nominations for GCARC officers:

1. President Wilmer Kinsey  
Nominated by Edgar Rountree  
Seconded by Gene Hodge
2. Vice-President David Compton  
Nominated by Richard Dyer  
Seconded by Gene Hodge
3. Treasurer Ross Chlapecka  
Nominated by Wilmer Kinsey  
Seconded by Richard Dyer
4. Secretary Kevin Knight  
Nominated by Wilmer Kinsey  
Seconded by Gene Hodge

Meeting was adjourned at 21:00 CST.