

Vol-15, Num-09; September 2009



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Submit News to ki5dq@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 ~36 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

Presidents Corner – September 2009

Greetings,

Every September is National Preparedness Month. Its purpose is to help you prepare for emergencies at home, work or school. The Ready America website at <http://www.ready.gov/> has information that can help you become prepared. They have a list of items that you should have in your emergency supply kit- water, food, etc. They can also help you create a family emergency plan. A family emergency plan is utilized if your family is not together when a disaster strikes. Its purpose is so that you can contact your family and get back together with them. Next, you have to decide whether to evacuate or stay where you are. You will need an evacuation plan as well.

You also need to have a plan as to how you will receive information about the disaster. Do you have a battery powered radio? If the cable system goes down, do you have a backup plan such as a battery powered digital ready TV?

You should also see if your workplace and children's schools have a disaster plan. Once again, for more detailed information, visit the Ready America website.

I thought that I would discuss some ideas that we as hams could or should do so as to be prepared. If you have backup batteries do you check and/or charge them monthly? Do you have a backup generator? Do you exercise it monthly to make sure that it will start when you need it to? Do you keep a supply of fuel for the generator? Is it stored in approved containers? Do you change out the fuel regularly or use fuel stabilizers in it? From my experience with my generator, welder, tiller and other outdoor power equipment I have found that if I put twice the recommended amount of fuel stabilizer in the fuel tanks, then come next spring the equipment will start.

If you have a backup radio, do you ever check it to make sure that is still works? Storing a transceiver in a hot garage and not using it is about the worst thing that you can do for it as the electrolytic capacitors in it will start to dry up and fail. Do you have a plan for erecting emergency antennas for HF or VHF if necessary? If you have backup antennas and coax prebuilt, do you get them out once a year and inspect them? Ever had coax ruined by a mouse? I once lost a whole feeder pack (500') of RG59 to a hungry mouse and my cat got fired!

Also, another quick reminder that "Girls Net Out" meets every Thursday at 8:00pm on the 147.00 repeater. This net is for ladies only. Linda KE5YUC is the net control operator. If you are a lady and have your license but haven't used it in the past, here is a good opportunity. I encourage you to join in the fun.

It's been a quiet month so not much else to report other than I am sure glad that hurricane season has so far been great! We had a great turnout at last month's meeting and I hope to see you this month.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact me.

73 Donald Hofmann W5DWH

You can contact me:

Via email at w5dwh.donald@gmail.com

Via the 147.000+ repeater as I monitor it at various times during the day as well as evenings

Via cell phone at 903-271-0827 up until 9 pm (in emergencies call 24/7)

73 Donald Hofmann W5DWH

GCARC and Surrounding Area Event Calendar

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) Meeting

September 18, 2009 @ 18:45CST

Sherman Municipal Airport

1200 S. Dewey Ave

Sherman TX 75090

<http://www.k5gcc.us>

Program: PSK31 Station Demonstration by Moe, NT7C

Technician License Class

September 19, 2009

We will be holding our next Technician License class with the first class on Saturday, 19 September 2009. This class will be to explain what you need to study and to hand out the reading assignment. This class will start at 9 am and will be done in 60 to 90 minutes depending upon the questions there are to answer.

Please plan to have your book by then. Your book can be purchased from the ARRL by following this link <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=9639>

Alternatively, you may find this book at a ham radio store.

<http://www.gigaparts.com/radioindex.php> (Giga Search for 9639)

<http://www.aesham.com/index.html> (search for item 9639)

http://www.aaradio.com/belton/Catalog_Site/ARRL_License.html (item 9639)

Sometimes this book can be found in Fry's Electronics Stores, but not always.

Please do not delay. You want this book to start studying. You will have about 150 pages to read and about 300 questions to review before the review class on 10 October 2009. This second class will last from 8:30 in the morning until 2 or so in the afternoon when you will take the test for your license.

There is no fee for this class, other than the purchase of the book, but there is a fee to take the License Exam. That fee is \$15.00, payable when you take the test. You may pay by check (make check to ARRL VEC) or by cash.

It is not difficult and utilizing this method we have had a 97% success rate over the past two years. This includes more than 30 people from all different walks of life.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me

Best regards,

Moe Knight

NT7C

Providing service to my community through Amateur Radio since 1974.

It's even easier to become a Ham today. Visit www.hello-radio.org or contact me.

If monitoring, find me on 444.750 + p1100.0 or 147.000 + p1100.0

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

September 19, 2009 @ 09:30CST for the FCARC Meeting.

September 19, 2009 @ 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

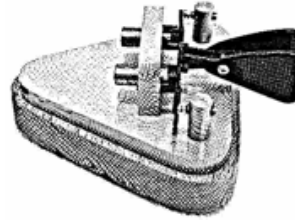
Informal breakfast - meeting before the meeting - at Cappy's @ 07:30CST.

Contact: Roger Ashcroft, President

<http://www.k5frc.org>

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) VE Test Session

October 01, 2009 @ 19:30CST (First Thursday of every EVEN month – Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)
 Sherman Municipal Airport
 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 2009 is \$15.00 for one try of any or all elements. Retests of any failed element will require another \$15.00 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. In 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.

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.

The 21 August 09 Gainesville Hamfest VE session saw five people taking exams. There is a new Technician, one with no previous license that passed Technician & General, one Technician that upgraded to General and two upgrades from General to Extra. Congratulations to all. Thanks to Wilmer for heading up the VE's and thanks to Jim – KI5DQ, Johnnie –KC5NIC, and David – W5COP, without your support this wouldn't happen.

There are no new classes scheduled at this moment. I am looking at scheduling a new Tech class in late September/early October. I am working on a new class for upgrading from Technician to General. If you would be interested in this class please let me know. It is probably a year out before I have everything ready.

Just a special note, this year, the VE team has had 20 new hams successfully pass license exams at testing sessions. Not bad for a small group like ours.

Paris Texas Radio Group

October 09-10, 2009 <http://www.paristexasradio.com/hamfest>
 Red River Valley Fairgrounds
 570 East Center Street, Paris Texas 75460
 Phone: 903-783-0968
 Talk-In: 147.040+ (PL 100.0)
 Contact: Richard Lenoir, KI5DX

Dallas Chapter of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Dallas Chapter #41

October 10, 2009

Midway Pointe Restaurant, S-W corner of Loop I-635 and Midway Roads in Dallas.

Featured Program: a 2-hour presentation of the Sun and Solar Sun Spot Cycles at 12:00CST.

QCWZ best buckles are available for purchase @ \$24.95 each and are available for immediate delivery.

For additional details, please contact: Steve Brodie, K5ZYZ, 903-786-4064, 903-818-0234 (cell)

McKinney Amateur Radio Club (MARC) Meeting

October 12, 2009 @ 19:00CST <http://www.mckinneyarc.org>

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) Meeting

October 16, 2009 @ 19:30CST

Sherman Municipal Airport

1200 S. Dewey Ave

Sherman TX 75090

<http://www.k5gcc.us>

Program: TBA

Amateur Radio News Around the County

Silent Key – W5HOO

Joseph Franklin Thomasson Jr.

1923-2009

Published in The Herald Democrat on 8/30/2009

DENISON - Funeral services for Joseph Franklin Thomasson, Jr., 86, was held at 2 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 31, 2009 at Sherwood Shores Chapel, 969 Hillcrest Circle, Gordonville, with Rev. David Frierson officiating. Visitation was one hour before the service. Burial was in Cedar Mills Cemetery, Gordonville. Mr. Thomasson passed away Thursday, Aug. 27, 2009 in Atlanta, Ga.

Pallbearers were the Sheppard Air Force Base Honor Guard. Masonic graveside service will be conducted by AF & AM Gordonville Lodge 536.

Tom (Joe) was born on Feb. 14, 1923 in Parsons, Kan., the third child of Joseph Franklin Thomasson, Sr. and Besse Ann Hollandsworth Thomasson. On November 29, 1946 he married Lelah Eunice Parks.

Tom (Joe) joined the U.S. Navy July 1941; went to boot camp at USNTC in San Diego; was in the Pacific Area during World War II, island hopping and ship changing. He was honorably discharged February 1949 and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. His last 10 years were spent in the USAFSS. His area of duty was classified. He retired October 1962 as a master sergeant with an honorable discharge.

Tom (Joe) went to work at Collins Radio in Richardson November 1962; worked at several jobs; was laid off in June 1968; went to work at Capital Wire and Cable in Plano July 1968; went to work at Texas Instruments in Richardson on March 17, 1969 and worked in the Richardson, Plano, McKinney and Sherman plants before retiring on Oct. 31, 1989.

Tom (Joe) was a member of the Sherwood Shores Chapel, Amateur Radio Relay League, AF & AM Gordonville Lodge 536; held amateur radio license W5HOO; and was president of the Sherwood Shores Community Library.

Tom (Joe) is survived by sons Joseph F. Thomasson III of Gordonville, Daniel E. Thomasson of Charlotte, NC; daughters Katherine L. Rutke and husband Gary of Warner Robins, GA, Annetta M. Rodriguez and husband Tony of Bonham; grandchildren Jack David Rotramel of West Allis, Wis., Jerry D. Rotramel of Dublin, Ga., Tony, Heather and Jessica Rodriguez of Bonham, Sean Thomasson of McKinney; great-grandchildren Krista Rotramel of Jenison, Mich., Akorra and Karryanna Lyn Rotramel of West Allis, Wis., Alexandra and Cavin Rotramel of Dublin, Ga., Trinity and Braydon Steelman of Denison and Christopher Rodriguez of Bonham.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lelah Eunice, on July 7, 2000, grandson Damon Lee Thomasson, sister Lucille E. Thomasson and brother James Edward Thomasson.

Arrangements are entrusted to the care and direction of Bratcher Funeral Home, 401 W. Woodard St., Denison. For further information, please call the funeral home at (903) 465-2323, or for an online obituary, directions or to leave a condolence, please go to www.bratcherfuneralhome.com.

What A Learning Experience!

by K5ECX

What a learning experience! As with most government issued licenses, the real learning begins after you pass the prescribed tests and made a skills demonstration. I had a great experience working with Moe Knight NT7C as Rover 1 in the recently completed Kiwanis Bike Rally. Here is how our day went. We started the morning as we had planned earlier with a breakfast at Cracker Barrel; little did I realize that would be the last chance till evening for a real meal. We left out for the first rest stop to follow the route and check for any issues along it. Along the way we assisted a couple of Dads with their youngsters and some traffic on the road while waiting for the Mom's to show up so the dad could continue. At the rest stop we met Jerry KE5GPH and the first riders began showing up.

We tried to follow the maps to clear the routes but soon figured out the routes were not as depicted. We soon found ourselves trying to round up a few strays that over shot the Van Alstyne rest stop, we made it a few miles down Hwy 5 towards Anna before turning them back. We were following close to the last riders when there were some more escapees over around the Gunter rest stop, we found them already turned back two miles south of town. Back to Howe and then we assisted with locating a rider who had a family member needing assistance and helped arrange for his pickup. By now the day was winding down and tail end Charlie had his hands full with the last rider so we began sweeping the rest of the course to locate others who might need assistance. We found a few making their way to the Luella rest stop and trekked along behind. Richard KE5UMO and the Kiwanians there provided cool refreshments; from there they made it on to the finish line without us.

Some points I learned:

It was a Directed Net- Net control had responsibility for coordinating communications, making calls to other operators with out contacting Net Control to seek a spot on the frequency creates confusion as to who is talking to whom.

When calling Net Control speak their name first then yours, I tried it the other way , mine first , several times and did not get response, Moe gently suggested the correct way and Jim KI5DQ came right back...to many years operating the "old way " at work was my excuse.

If you have info to share especially about a subject being handled, tell Net control just that, "Rover1 with info". Don't just blurt it out over the frequency again confusion rears its head.

Always be flexible, this was a great demonstration of how we can provide communications service to our community in time of emergency. Even with moving rest stop locations, mis-information on maps, fires on adjacent locations and sometimes incorrect information from the folks we are helping we kept working the communications process until the situation till it was resolved. All those things can, will and do happen in a real life emergency.

It was a fun day. Lots of hours were spent planning, working and enjoying Ham radio in a community service event that will make us all better for the experience.

See you on the frequencies,

73

Rick

K5ECX

JPL MARS Rover

In 2011 JPL is sending the next Rover vehicle to Mars. Included in the computer will be a chip with the name of anyone who signs up for it. I think that kids especially will get a kick out of knowing that their name is going to Mars. Maybe the older among us also.

You can sign up at: <http://mars9.jpl.nasa.gov/msl/participate/sendyourname/index.cfm>

If, as a result of this, any of your kids really shows an interest in things astronomical, a Power Point presentation I did in early 2008 upon the 50th anniversary of the launching of America' first satellite is on the web. The subject is what we have learned about our earth, the solar system, our galaxy, and our corner of the universe in the last 50 years. It can be downloaded from my website. Look for FRONTIERS OF SPACE at <http://www.savvyborrower.com/amateur.htm>

Enjoy,

Randy W6SJ

CERT Bravo Team Exercise and Graduation

The Exercise and Graduation for the second or BRAVO Cert team was held on Tuesday evening September 1, 2009. The exercise started at 5:30PM with about 24 members of the second class participating. The exercise scenario was a tornado hitting the TCOG Building on Gallagher Road in Sherman with victims trapped inside suffering various injuries.

Communications for the exercise was provided by Grayson County ARC members who are also CERT ALPHA team members. Operators were located at the various test stations within the exercise site and at the Incident Command Post. Our mission was to provide information about the progress of the exercise as well as observing the actions taken by each team in response to the problems they were presented with at each test station.

We want to recognize Tammy, KD5NIB for her role in the exercise as a victim. She was asked to play the part of a lady who had lost her baby as a result of the tornado. Every time they would bring her out of the building, she would try to run back to it and go back in to look for her lost baby. She did an outstanding job of playing the role of "the crazy lady who lost her baby." This is a link to the video on KXII's web page of the exercise: <http://www.kxii.com/news/headlines/56680567.html>



We want to thank the following for their help with the exercise:
 KD5NIC, NT7C, KF5AUH, KE5GPH, KD5NIB, "the baby" KE5UMJ, KC0EHR, WD5JME, WB5DCU, W5DSA, KD5KPR

Wilmer,
 WB5DCU

Visit To Class at B. McDaniel Middle School, Denison Texas

by WB5DCU

I received a call from Mrs. Nondas Bullard who works with a class of special students at B. McDaniel Middle School in Denison. The class is studying "Radio Waves" in Science class. Knowing that we were amateur radio operators she asked if we would visit the class and talk to them about radio waves, Skywarn, amateur radio and demonstrate the use of our radios.

There are eight boys in this class coming from three grade levels 6th, 7th and 8th. They fall into a special needs group, requiring closer supervision and help. These are very intelligent young men.

NJ5A, Bob and myself met with the class on Thursday morning (9/10/09). We spent about an hour with them, Bob started the visit off by explaining what radio waves were and how they reacted with the ionosphere at different frequencies. Of course that generated a lot of questions from the boys.

I followed with a brief description of the Skywarn program. How it is organized, what our mission is and what NWS does with the information received from the spotters.

Bob and I talked a little bit about the FCC, rules that we as amateur radio operators have to follow. What the call signs mean and how they are assigned by the FCC.

Before we went outside for the radio demonstration we explained to the class how the repeaters work and why they are important to us. Each class member had chance to talk to Paul, K1PKZ over the 147.00 repeater using a handheld radio.

From all of the questions that were generated from our brief visit with the class I would say we had a very successful morning. I want to thank Bob, NJ5A for his help with this project on such very short notice. We look forward to doing this again.

Wilmer,
WB5DCU

2009 Atlantic Hurricane Season

The 2009 Atlantic hurricane season officially began June 01, 2009 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

FCC Chairman Announces Enforcement Bureau Chief

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski announced on September 9 that he has appointed P. Michele Ellison as Chief of the Enforcement Bureau. Ellison will take the helm of the Enforcement Bureau starting on September 28, 2009. "Protecting and empowering consumers through effective and timely enforcement of the Commission's rules and policies is a top priority for the FCC," said Chairman Genachowski. "Michele is a talented leader with vast communications experience and sound legal judgment, and I look forward to working with her in her new capacity."

Ellison is currently Deputy General Counsel, a position she has held for the last 12 years, and most recently served as Acting General Counsel of the FCC through July 2009. In addition to her other duties, she also was named Transition Counsel to Commissioner Mignon Clyburn. Ellison joined the Office of the General Counsel in 1995. "She has had a rich and varied practice at the agency, from her initial years of handling complex FCC litigation before the federal courts to her current focus on competition policy in the context of mergers and acquisitions and on spectrum and fraud matters involving billions in auctions and universal service funds," according to an FCC press release.

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

McKinney ARES Net

2nd Sunday @ 2100CST on the 146.740 repeater.

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



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

Rosston TX

145.490-MHz w/84.5PL

GCARC Treasury Report

Bank Statement of 07/30/2009

Starting Acct. _____	\$2174.23
Deposits _____	\$ 70.00
Expenses _____	\$ 497.00
Account Balance of 07/12/2009 _____	\$1447.23

NOTES:

Deposits:

\$ 30.00 – Clue Dues

\$40.00 – GCARC Shirts

.

Expenses:

\$497.00 Club Shirts

\$ (300 place holder for non-profit filing)

Updated 08/15/2009

Ross Chlapecka, KE5NAV

GCARC Treasurer

Grayson County RACES and ARES

Wilmer Kinsey, WB5DCU

EC Grayson County

It Seems to Us: Pecuniary Interest

By David Sumner, K1ZZ

ARRL Chief Executive Officer

September 01, 2009



No amateur shall transmit ... communications in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer.' -- FCC Rules, §97.113(a)(3).

In the April issue we talked about how "no pecuniary interest" -- one of the defining principles of Amateur Radio -- has been reflected in the FCC rules over the years. Without going into detail at that time we observed that "there are limits to what an amateur can do on behalf of his or her employer."

The problem is, we have become victims of our own success. We have developed reliable, cost-effective communications capabilities; it's not an empty boast when we say that our equipment and skills allow us to make contact "when all else fails." As I bragged to a friend the other day, "Give me my radio, a car battery, and a piece of wire and I will be able to communicate." Several radio services are available to businesses and other organizations -- commercial, government, and non-profit -- with a need for backup communications, but in these cash-strapped times it shouldn't surprise us that Amateur Radio is seen by some as an attractive alternative. After all, our equipment is relatively inexpensive, licensing isn't particularly difficult, and the Amateur Radio community has a well-deserved reputation for public service. So, their managers think, all they have to do is to get their employees licensed as amateurs and give them some equipment and training, and they can check off that box on their business continuity plan.

But the rule quoted at the top of the page is pretty clear: communications on behalf of an employer are prohibited. §97.113(a)(2) provides additional emphasis, prohibiting "Communications for hire or for material compensation, direct or indirect, paid or promised, except as otherwise provided in these rules." The "otherwise provided" exceptions are narrowly drawn for occasional "swap net" activity, to allow teachers to use an amateur station in classroom instruction, and to allow the control operator of a club station to be paid for the sort of code practice and bulletin transmissions conducted by W1AW -- in fact, the rule was written specifically for W1AW.

The FCC itself muddied the water somewhat in 1999 when it declared, in denying a petition to amend §97.113 to permit licensed emergency personnel to operate while engaged in disaster relief on paid duty status, that the amendment was unnecessary because this was already permitted. The Commission reiterated in 2006 that "These individuals are not receiving compensation for transmitting amateur service communications; rather, they are receiving compensation for services related to their disaster relief duties and in their capacities as emergency personnel." This can be reconciled with "no communications on behalf of an employer" only if viewed narrowly, in the context of "transmissions necessary to meet essential communication needs and to facilitate relief actions" as authorized by §97.111(a)(2). Also, of course, communication that is essential to the immediate safety of human life or the immediate protection of property is always permitted when normal communication systems are not available.

In response to numerous requests for clarification -- most of them submitted in the hope of hearing a different answer -- the FCC recently has spelled it out very clearly. For example, writing on July 16 to a hospital employee who had objected to a Commission staff interpretation that hospital employees cannot transmit communications on behalf of the hospital while they are on duty, Roger S. Noel, Chief, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, supported the interpretation and went on to observe: "Moreover, the rule does not draw any distinction based on the station operator's duty status at the time of the transmission." In other words, it doesn't matter whether the employee is on duty or not. In either case, transmitting communications on behalf of an employer is prohibited.

When the ARRL Board of Directors met on July 17-18, the appropriate use of Amateur Radio was very much on the Board members' minds -- so much so that the Board authorized President Harrison to appoint

an ad-hoc committee to study the issue and prepare suggested guidelines. The committee will be asked to work on an accelerated schedule, reporting to the Executive Committee within 30 days.

The ad-hoc committee may find a need for additional clarification of the rules, but figuring out what is legal -- and what isn't -- is not the whole story. When the FCC amended Part 97 in 1993 to give radio amateurs the greater flexibility that we had asked for, they also gave us greater responsibility for avoiding exploitation of our precious resources: our access to the radio spectrum and the equipment and skills to use it responsibly.

The committee will be trying to walk a narrow path. On one side, amateurs must be able to fulfill our mission of providing voluntary emergency communications to the public. On the other, this mission does not extend to providing a cheap alternative to other radio services that were created specifically for the use of business, non-profit and government entities. At the end of the day, the committee's work should help us all understand what it means to be a radio amateur in the 21st century.

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Grayson County ARES Nets

Remember that our ARES Nets are on the 2nd and 4th Sunday nights of each month at 9:00PM.

Next Net is 9/27/2009

Sherman Warning Siren Test Net for July 2009

The next warning siren test will be on Wednesday October 07, 2009 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!!!!

Grayson County LEPC

The Grayson County Local Emergency Planning Committee meets the first Thursday of each month at 8:00AM at the

Grayson County Courthouse, Second Floor, Assembly Room. This meeting is open to the public.

<http://www.co.grayson.tx.us/EM/lepc.htm>

E-Mail Communications for Events

Please make sure that I have your correct email address and if you change make sure you pass the new address along to me. I am going to be using email more often to inform or remind everyone about events that we will be participating in or to just pass along information that I think might be of interest to all.

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. DO NOT leave them on your vehicle all of the time!!

Whenever we provide communications for public service events or other events you will be asked 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 & TECA Patches & Window Stickers

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 (TECA) 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
Cell - 903-271-3557
E-mail: wb5dcu1@verizon.net

Buy- Sell-Trade Net 09/13/2009

FS – Unadilla KW-17 Reyco 17 meter coils. Add 17 meters to your existing wire dipole or aluminum tubing antenna (<http://www.unadilla.com/?cat=6>). Contact: James, KI5DQ, 903-891-1701.

FS – 3 - Mini Ham Stick antennas, 40 meter, 20 meter and 17 meter, all have 3/8" threaded mount.

1 - Regular size Ham Stick antenna for 75 meters

1 - 3/8" to MNO mount adapter

5 - 3/8" Ham Stick antenna mount adapter

Contact: Tom, N5XBR, Home - 903-892-0249, If he is not home, leave a message.

FS – 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-940S Transceiver 10 thru 160 Meters, plus SP930 Speaker - \$600.00

Kenwood TS-940S Transceiver, NOT WORKING, FOR PARTS ONLY - \$150.00

Buy Both TS-940s's for \$650.00

Contact: Wilmer – WB5DCU, 903-893-5872 wb5dcu1@verizon.net

FS – Yaesu FL-2100B Linear Amplifier Cover 80, 40, 20, 15 & 10 Meters - \$350.00

DOES NOT COVER 30, 17 or 12 Meters

Contact: Wilmer – WB5DCU, 903-893-5872 wb5dcu1@verizon.net

FS – Heathkit SWR and Power meter \$25.00

Contact: Wilmer – WB5DCU, 903-893-5872 wb5dcu1@verizon.net

Free/Give Away – 1 to 2 years of QST magazines

Contact: Gene – W5DPS, 903-892-9945

Meeting Minutes 21 August 2009 Meeting

Call to Order by Donald Hofmann – W5DWH – 1932 hours

Introductions were made and roll sheet passed around (30 members & visitors).

Treasurer's report correct as printed in newsletter (\$1447.23).

Old Business

- Shirt order – three or four remain unclaimed. Please check with Wilmer to pick up your shirt.
- Gainesville Hamfest will be tomorrow (22 August) starting at 7 am.
- Girls Net – Linda – KE5YUC – Thursday at 8 pm. Invite your XYL to participate.
- Bike Ride – issues included:
- Planned for 200 riders, 350 participated.
- Route changes and rest stops relocated
- Next year have a course closing time
- Question asked “What is our responsibility at an event like this?”
- Review of moves by participants & others involved
- Net control ran off marine battery
- Two cases of heat related issues among riders
- It was agreed to do this again next year.

New Business

- Wilmer – WB5DCU – reviewed repeater rules and the history of local repeaters. He also spoke on possible Echolink connection.

Next meeting 18 September 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 2040 hours

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Simmons – K5ECX
For/Moe Knight - NT7C –Secretary