



GRAYSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS

April 2018

WWW.GRAYSONCOUNTYARC.ORG

Vol. 24, No. 4

The President's QSO

Hi all,

Since February we have had some very exceptional meetings. To top it off, everyone should agree that our April meeting was one of the very best, thanks to a very special guest speaker – Jason Johnston – KC5HWB, author of Ham Radio 2.0 which is an ongoing YouTube presentation found at www.LiveFromTheHamshack.TV. There are presently 135 episodes to watch so far. Below is a picture from Episode 135. Interest is up as we continue to have record turnout at our meetings. If you didn't know previously about DMR (Digital Mobile Radio), you do now if you attended our last meeting. That's why you need to attend each month. Make your membership count. Look for Jason at HamCom in Plano on June 8-10 with more presentations and special deals. Jason also owns and manages Grapevine Radio, and you can find a link on our website to his store website. A special thanks to Jason for visiting us and giving a very informative presentation.



Jason Johnston KC5HWB – Ham Radio 2.0 Episode 135

To top it off, less than 48 hours after our April meeting, a new DMR repeater was born in Sherman, owned by Rod – KD5HQF. The new 70 cm digital repeater is located at 440.200 with a + 5MHZ offset.

Jim – K5QOI gave an excellent presentation for NVIS (Near-Vertical-Incident-Skywave) antennas. Everyone is invited to have fun at Herman Baker Park in Sherman this Saturday, April 28th with NVIS low-band operations starting with setup at 9:00AM. Bring your own NVIS antenna along for testing. The event will run until 4:00PM then it's time to picnic with the family. Everyone is invited to bring a dish along and share with everyone. Details of the event is also announced on the website.

Our Grayson County ARES Coordinator – Wade Graves – KF5AUD also visited us at the meeting and will now start providing articles for our newsletter. He mentioned about an upcoming ARES operating event to be announced soon. Grayson County ARES has two new mobile repeaters that can be used in the field in case of an emergency. A complete list of these repeaters is detailed in another article in this newsletter by Wade Graves himself. Also, there will be updates on our website containing this information.

David – WA0URJ from Ham Radio Outlet graced us with his presence at the April meeting. If you need to purchase ham radio equipment or accessories, contact him. His contact numbers are in the website announcements.

James – KW5CW gave an update on the website.

Lee – N5SLY gave an update on 'Rent a Radio' and the program should begin at our next meeting.

Our first Club operating event – (Perrin Field Special Event) using our special call **W5I** will start a day after our next meeting on May 19th. Lee also mentioned that he and others plan to operate from home during the week of the event and reminded all of us that it is important to only use the special call within the band-plan supported by your operating license.

Last but not least, Roy Reed – AF5VA provided an update on the 2nd Special Committee meeting that took place on April 12, 2018. There will be a club vote to amend the bylaws of the constitution and pending the outcome of that vote in a second vote, the May meeting day may change from the third Friday of the month to another day of the week that is more convenient to members. So all members need to come to the next club meeting and vote. Let your membership be heard.

So yes, there is allot going on with our club, and I would encourage you to ask your ham-buddy friends to also join the club if they do not belong and get in on the fun.

The bottom line, our club is just allot of fun to belong to and let's do our best and continue to enjoy it.

73,

Trevor Reed
President
Grayson County Amateur Radio Club

Officers

President: Trevor Reed - KG5BFI
Vice President
&QSL manager: Lee Sly - N5SLY
Secretary: Jim McGlynn - K5QOI
Treasurer: Marvin Schiavone - KG5GMA
Event Coordinator: Andrew Bentley - KG5SKM
Trustee: Rick Simmons – K5ECX

Meetings

When: 3rd Friday of each month
Time: 7:00pm (1900 hours)
Location: Grayson County Courthouse
100 W. Houston Street
Sherman, TX 75090
GPS: 33.38.18N, 96.36.59W

Mailing Address

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 642
Sherman, Texas 75091

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual: \$20.00/yr
Family: \$30.00/yr
Associate (non-Ham) \$15.00/yr

Newsletter

Published: Monthly via e-mail
Editor: James Frank – KW5CW
To submit news or
e-mail changes: Send E-mail to
KW5CW@arrl.net

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Address: www.graysoncountyar.com
Webmaster: Ben Sly KF5OEB
Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/groups/K5GCC

Submission Deadline for articles: 7 PM on first Wednesday following each monthly meeting

Memberships are from January 1-December 31

Dues and Donations

Membership dues are payable upon joining and renew on January 1st of each year. Donations to support the club are always welcome. Dues and donations may be paid by cash or check at any monthly GCARC meeting and by mail, or by using a credit or debit card online at the GCARC website.

GCARC, ARES, and SKYWARN Patches

GCARC club patches are available and may be purchased at each club meeting; cost is \$5.00 each. These are round patches with the club logo, and are great for wearing on vests and other non-club clothing, placing on equipment bags, go-kits, etc.

ARES and SKYWARN patches may also be purchased at each club meeting; cost is \$4.00 each. If you choose to wear patches on your club shirt or jacket, we recommend ARES members place the ARES patch first on the right shoulder and any other patch (SKYWARN, RACES, CERT, etc.) should go below it. Since some members have tactical shirts with pen pockets on the left sleeve we do not recommend placing any patches on that side.

Club Clothing Orders

Several times each year, members have the opportunity to purchase club-related clothing (shirts, caps, jackets, etc.). These items have the GCARC logo and the member's name and callsign embroidered on them. An order form with instructions will be included in the newsletter each time orders are being taken.

"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

GCARC MEETING MINUTES 4-20-2018

Opened 7:00 pm

NVIS Presentation

Rental Radio -Power Supply needed - to be purchased

Digital Soundcard

AF5VA - Motion to purchase

Second KG5GMA

passed Unanomously

Graysoncountyarcs.org presentation

Constitution and Bylaws Changes proposal from Committee

Strike - Sec 7 Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held on THIRD FRIDAY of each calendar month.

Change to - The regular meeting date and time shall be determined by a two-thirds vote of qualified members present at regular meeting at which the issue is presented for a vote. A 25 day notice shall be sent to all members that a vote will take place to amend the meeting date and time.

Vote to make this change will take place at the next regular meeting in May.

A vote to modify the date and time will take place if the vote is successful to amend the constitution.

ARES field event coming up

Perrin Event 19-27 using W5I

DMR Radio Presentation

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Jim McGlynn - K5QOI

2018 Treasurer Report

Bank Balance as of 03.31.2018 1,635.32

Operating Fund Beginning Bal 1,457.67

Deposits	Dues	Checks			
		Cash			
		Online		20.00	
		Clothes			
		Patches			
Less expenses					
		online fee		0.88	
	J Frank	1132	SSL cert.	66.34	

OPERATING BUDGET	
Post Office Box(Due FEB)	70.00
Checks	
Website	
<i>Special Events Deposit</i>	
Perrin	50.00
Eisenhower(Perrin)	50.00
RR Bridge War	50.00
<i>Food for Special Events</i>	
<i>Donations</i>	
Memorials	
<i>Total</i>	220.00

Operating Fund Balance 1,410.45

** Members YTD 26

Available Equipment Funds 177.65

Donation

Less expenditures

EQUIPMENT NEEDS	
Tower Bracket	151.89
Amount Budgeted	0

Equipment Fund Balance 177.65

Ending Bank Balance

As of April 20, 2018 1,588.10

Treasurer
Marvin Shiavone

IMPORTANT VOTE TO CHANGE THE GCARC MEETING NIGHT

Roy Reed - AF5VA, provided an update at the monthly club meeting on April 20th, on the 2nd Special Committee meeting that took place on April 12, 2018. Roy passed out to all present the proposed changes to the Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Constitution. An email was sent to every 2018 paid member of the club, but also appears on the website located at www.graysoncountyarc.org.

The By-Laws Section 7 of the GCARC Constitution presently states

"The regular meetings shall be held on the THIRD FRIDAY of each calendar month."

This line above is to be striked out of the Constitution pending concurrence by a first club member vote at the next meeting on May 18th, 2018.

Left in the By-Laws Section 7 will be...

- "Special meetings may be called by the President upon the written request of any five club members. Notices shall be sent to members concerning special meetings and the business to be transacted. Only such business as designated shall be transacted. Such notices shall be sent so that they arrive not less than 24 hours before the meeting."

Pending the outcome of the first club member vote to amend the by-laws, will be the following 2nd club member vote - the following proposed line item that is to be added to Section 7 at the next meeting on May 18, 2018.

"The regular meeting date and time shall be determined by a two-thirds vote of qualified members present at a regular meeting at which the issue is presented for a vote. A 25 day notice shall be sent to all members that a vote will take place to amend the meeting date and time."

This second vote to change the date and time of the monthly meeting will be added to the changes of the Constitution that will take effect immediately if passed, and these changes to the monthly meeting date for the June regular meeting and going forward, pending a vote to change Section 7 - "The BY-Laws of the Constitution".

This change will also depend on the availability of the Grayson County Courthouse on weekdays besides Friday. Roy will provide that information by the next meeting before any vote is taken.

As a Grayson County Amateur Radio Club member, it is your right to attend the next meeting and vote on this important issue.

VP & QSL Managers Message

by Lee – N5SLY

Coming up in May is our first special event of the year...Perrin Field Museum Special Event. This special event celebrates the Perrin Field Museum and commemorates Perrin Field, Perrin Air Force Base and Armed Forces Day. We'll be using the **W5I** call sign. All club members can use the **W5I** call sign during the event and are encouraged to get on the air and make some contacts...QSO's. Remember...you can use any band and any mode you want to and can operate any time you want to during the event. The only rules are...you have to follow the band plan for the license you have and you have to send me your log when the event is over. One by one call signs are great "bait" and you are guaranteed to make lots of contacts using it. Here are the details...

Perrin Field Special Event

May 19, 2018 0000z - May 27, 2018 2359z



Visit: www.perrinfield.org

Andrew is working on setting up an all club session at the museum and he'll let us know what the plan is shortly. Please direct contacts you make to www.qrz.com/db/w5i for QSL information, and for additional information regarding Perrin Air Force Base.

In case you are wondering, our club needs confirmed contacts via LOTW, Log Book Of The World, for these awards...

WAS (Worked All States)

20 meters...RI

40 meters...AK, ID & ND

20 meters Digital...RI

FT8...ND

PSK31...HI & RI

CW...AK, CO, CT, DE, ID, ND, NH & NV

Phone...we have a long way to go...need lots of states...need folks to make as many contacts as you can using phone. Looking forward to making lots of contacts and I hope that you are too.

How did we do last year during our Special Events? Glad you asked! Last year was the most successful of all the years I have been a member of the club. We made more contacts than we ever have, and I hope that this year is even better.

Perrin Field Special Event 2017	677 QSO's
Red River Bridge War Special Event 2017	604 QSO's
Eisenhower Special Event 2017	936 QSO's

Can we get 1000 QSO's? We need all members helping to get this done.

Our Rent A Radio program is almost ready to go. We'll get the power supply and a Signalink USB purchased this month. Then our radio will be capable of operating using any mode...CW, Phone or Digital. We also have the free software needed to do digital modes. All the renters have to provide is a computer if they want to use digital modes.

This program is designed for newly licensed hams that don't have a HF radio and are not real sure if this is something they are really interested in. By renting our radio you can go for a "Test Drive" to see if this is something you would like to pursue in the future. You'll get a complete package...a radio, power supply and an antenna that you'll be able to use for a month or two. By then you should have had enough time to figure out...Yes, this is really something I want to do...or No, I'm not interested. That's the whole idea. You don't have to go out and spend hundreds or thousands of dollars to give it a try. For only \$10.00 a month you can rent our radio and give it a try. Who wants to be the first to Rent A Radio?

What a great meeting we have last Friday evening. The presentation on DMR was just super. Looking forward to the NVIS event next Saturday. Several folks asked me when I will conduct the next Ham 101 class because they couldn't attend the one I held last month. I am working on getting that set up with Wade Graves. I'll give everyone plenty of notice. By the way...Ham 101 should probably be called Ham 102 because my class is really focused on HF radio and many of the new hams that attended were really hoping for additional information on how to use their newly purchased HT's. Need someone to step up to put together a Ham 101 class...how do I use my first UHF/VHF radio?

Wow...there is just so much going on...it's a little over whelming. That is what is really neat about this hobby...there are so many things you can get involved with. You really do need to pick and choose what you do and what you participate in. You can't do it all. I really hope that you can find where your interests are so you can devote your time to enjoying that.

The most important thing is...**Have Fun**...that's what this is all about.

73 Lee N5SLY
n5sly@arrl.net

CW Corner **by James – KW5CW**

This is my submission for my monthly article called CW Corner for April, even though there is allot more stuff here than just for CW. Also, look for another article by Kurt - from Kansas who made his first CW contact. This time of year, is a fairly exciting time, as I prepare to work the Special Events, starting with the Perrin Special Event and Field Day, along with a few operating contests this year. Finally, I'll get the chance to work my favorite mode again, and of course it is CW.

I've pretty much invested allot of my time with website production and maintenance, as I truly enjoy writing. This newsletter is like an appetizer of a main course, and the club website is the main course. There were some expense incidentals, i.e. an SSL certificate needed to be purchased to allow us to have secured funds transfers to the bank for club membership and a few other things needed to make it a secure website. Unfortunately, this SSL Certificate will be a yearly expense, but that the tradeoff for having a secure site. But for the most part, I hope that you agree with me that the new website is serving our club as an active information website in real-time for our club and a service for amateur radio in general. Now is the time for everyone in the club to try and make it better. Any suggestions, comments, likes or dislikes, whatever, drop me a note at admin@graysoncountyarcs.org and I'll address whatever is sent. Are there any writers out there? How about a club photographer? Why, so that we can further populate the newsletter and website with pictures of our club in action and build memories. Also, when the time is right, I will be asking all the members of the club to consider who they think would be an excellent choice as a co-editor of our website. We need to consider the alternatives in case something happens to me. The website must continue to go on as the club website, regardless of who is the webmaster of it. Also, from time to time, I must admit that it would be really nice to get some help in producing it, with fresh ideas, and the knowledge to make it better. I keep straying off of the topic of CW, but with so much going on, it's hard not to.

With the Perrin Field Special Event right around the corner (less than 30 days now) I'm getting excited to fire up the Kenwood on CW once again. Yes, I'm looking forward to the Perrin Field Event at the airport, but I'm really looking forward in using the wonderful call - W5I at home during that next week. I'm also considering putting together a 'go-kit' with help from Andrew Bentley – KG5SKM using my Alinco low band radio for these special events. It's not very convenient trying to setup a lowband rig, with monitor and accessories at an event.

I constantly worry, - did I forget something, like my paddle for example? A go-kit would be perfect. Recently I have been caught up in the new digital mode called FT8, and prior to that - JT65 and JT9 digital modes. All thanks to Lee, who steered me away from CW for a while even though he may not know that I blame him for it. With that said, Lee, thank you for broadening the scope of amateur radio in my life. At the moment I have a small technical glitch going on with my FT8 setup, which actually is keeping me off of the digital bands at the moment, but I've been involved with the new website and this newsletter, which has taken priority and a good chunk of my free time since I've retired.

I'll fix that bug, eventually. In a new venture, I've also dipped in the bucket and purchased a dual-band ANYTONE AT-D868UV DMR talkie w/GPS. Now, I have to figure out how to program it. See what retirement does to you. So now I've blown the dust off of my keyer paddle and I'm starting to work CW stations once again while getting into other things. I'm feeling a little rusty because I've been away from CW operations for a while now. I would have never thought that I'd EVER be away from CW. But, that's the fun about amateur radio. There are so many roads to take, and I've found out that I like learning, especially on the new stuff and I'm taking a few new roads.

So, then I said to myself, because Lee helped me move into other adventures within Amateur Radio, I thought I was done changing. But then, the main speaker of our last meeting, Jason Johnson - KC5HWB sincerely convinced me that again, there is actually more to ham radio than just CW and FT8 and something not so new that I knew absolutely nothing about, thus the reason for the new purchase. I plan to take part of another digital experience, called DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) even further. What a great reason to spend even more money on our upcoming local hamfest in Plano called HamCom on June 8 through the 10th, I plan on purchasing a new cell-phone/DMR radio combination from Jason. I just convinced my wife that I need a new phone. I'm so glad Hamcom moved back to Plano from Irving. Also, I'm looking forward in another presentation by Jason Johnston again at HamCom as he plans on giving another presentation on DMR. His YouTube videos are just absolutely great and have a genuine, personal touch. I wanted to highlight Jason's presentation in another article in this newsletter, but there just isn't enough time. Since there is so much activity and interest now-a-days on digital, I plan to make yet another section on the website for the digital stuff and I'm sure that our president – Trevor Reed will want to contribute to that. So all you digital buffs get out your pens and paper, and your computers and start thinking what we need to include in our new digital radio section coming out soon. Remember, this newsletter and the new website is here to promote our club, and we all should want to be a part of it.

Oh yes, I forgot, this article is supposed to be about CW.

And finally, yes, it is possible to teach a new dog new tricks, but beware, don't ever try and take a dog's bone and for me, that's my keyer paddle. I will forever love CW and that is something than no one could ever take away from me. I hope other members of our club can be as passionate and fired up as I am with our hobby and our club. Have fun and enjoy all the vast interests of our great sport and share your experiences with others.

Enjoy your hobby to its fullest and share your enjoyment with others.

73,

James – KW5CW
Newsletter Editor & Webmaster

Hams are great resources

By Wade Graves – KF5AUD

Grayson County ARES Emergency Coordinator

Recent ARES training events made me remember my first exposure to Amateur Radio. When I was 15 years old I was serving as the Senior Patrol Leader for our Jamboree Troop from Grayson and Bryan Counties. We arrived at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia after a 3-day bus ride and were unloading our equipment from under the bus. Unfortunately, as we were unloading we discovered that sometime during the 3-day trip our chuck boxes had shifted and damaged some of our aluminum tent poles we had to use to set up our tents. Most of the poles were undamaged but there were six that were in serious need of repair but a hacksaw could quickly remedy the situation. Our troop Quartermaster set those poles aside as we continued to unload.

About 20 minutes later, the Quartermaster came to me and said “Well, we forgot to pack the hacksaw”. My response was simply “OK. Now what do we do? Do you have any ideas?”. Of course, his reply was “no” so we took our dilemma to our Scoutmaster for some guidance. Mr. Sutton was a really neat guy and listened intently as we talked him through the issue and the fact the hacksaw had been left behind when we were packing. He listened to our ideas of how to solve the problem using some of the rope we brought for lashing our gateway. After asking a few more questions about the height of tents & amount of rope we would need, he said one of his famous lines – “have you used your resources?”. After a little more back and forth about asking other troops in our vicinity, he said “have you asked the hams?”.

Well, that was certainly an unexpected question – the only “ham” I knew came from a certain part of the pig!! He saw the confusion in our eyes, smiled, and then said “go down the road about a quarter mile and when you get to the GP medium with all the antennas behind it, simply go in and ask”. Two dubious, yet trusting, young men set off down the road hoping we had not been sent in pursuit of a wild goose! When we arrived at the tent we went in and found about a dozen adults in Scout uniform sitting at desks with a lot of radios on them. As we walked in a gentleman who was operating (what I learned later was called) a straight key looked up, greeted us, and said “how may we help you boys?”. We explained the fact that our Scoutmaster had sent us in search of a hacksaw and he simply turned to another ham and said asked where someone (whose name I have forgotten) was. Someone else in the tent took off his headset and said “what’s up”? (By that time several other adults had taken off their headsets as well.) The first ham said “these boys need to borrow a hacksaw”. There was some rustling and getting up out of chairs. Shortly thereafter we were offered no less than five hacksaws! We borrowed one, took it back to camp, fixed the aluminum tent poles, and two of the Quartermasters returned the hacksaw a short time later.

Now, I am sure some are wondering what this has to do with our recent ARES training events. During our January and March training sessions ARES members brought their assembled “go kits” and shared what they had in their kits with all who were there. Yes, there was one hacksaw in the mix! I am thoroughly convinced that if we ever deploy somewhere all we will have to do is ask for something and someone will either have brought the item or know where one can be found!

The bottom line – hams are friendly folks who are very resourceful!!

ARES Emergency Mobile Repeater Frequencies

Grayson County ARES has two new mobile repeaters that can be used in the field in an emergency. Please add these emergency frequencies to your radios:

ARESU1 -- 441.300, +5 offset, CTCSS 67.0Hz
ARESU2 -- 441.325, +5 offset, CTCSS 67.0Hz
ARESU3 -- 441.350, +5 offset, CTCSS 67.0Hz
ARESU4 -- 441.375, +5 offset, CTCSS 67.0Hz
ARESV1 -- 144.650, +.6 offset, CTCSS 67.0Hz

Programming these frequencies into your radios now will help during an emergency. We will be testing some of these frequencies soon.

73

Wade Graves, KF5AUD
Grayson County ARES EC

Two Radio Amateurs Now on International Space Station

03/24/2018

With the addition of three new crew members, the International Space Station (ISS) now has a full complement of six. Astronauts Ricky Arnold, KE5DAU, and Drew Feustel, and cosmonaut Oleg Artemyev headed into space on March 21 aboard a Soyuz MS-08 vehicle, launched from Kazakhstan.

The new ISS residents were welcomed on March 23 as part of the Expedition 55 crew by station commander Anton Shkaplerov and crew — Scott Tingle, KG5NZA, and Norishige Kanai. During his time in space, Arnold, a former educator, will wrap up NASA’s Year of Education on Station, an initiative to engage students and educators in human spaceflight and science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) careers.

1ST Morse Code Contact

by Kurt Zoglmann – AD0WE



I am excited to have made my very first Morse code contact this weekend! And portable at that! I forgot the microphone at home. I kid you not. It helped me overcome my hesitation to get on the air after months of practice.

We went out to Randolph State Park, which is at the North end of Tuttle Creek Lake near Manhattan, Kansas. It is in Grid square EM19PK. I appreciated that Jason came with me. He had fun painting with watercolors and listening to podcasts while I played amateur radio. My uncle Greg, N0ZHE, listened intently 300 miles away to the South and encouraged me via text message to keep trying after a first failed attempt. I welcomed the moral support.

Unfavorable band conditions did not deter me. I called CQ for about 5 to 10 minutes on 14.035 Mhz using 75watts. Then VE7UBC, the University of British Columbia Amateur Radio Society, came back to me. They are in Vancouver Canada! We had a short QSO. I gave my name, mentioned that this was my first CW contact, and provided the weather conditions at my location. Dan gave his location, radio, antenna, and

indicated that my first QSO was going much better than his first one from years ago. That made me feel better.

What I wasn't anticipating was how nervous I became when someone came back to me. I was able to copy just fine, but my nervousness caused me to make a lot of mistakes in sending. I especially valued Dan's patience! He mentioned that QSB was making it extra hard for him to copy me. His signal was 559 with little to no QSB. I would have loved to rag chew, but I did not want to test his endurance. hi hi. I thanked him and was left smiling ear-to-ear.

As pictured, you can see that I am transmitting with my ICOM7300 radio into an MFJ magnetic loop antenna. To the left of me, I am sending code with the Bencher BY-2 paddle and using the Begli CW Machine as a keyer. The Bencher paddle isn't the most portable paddle, but it worked splendidly. I was happy to have brought the battery boost. It enabled me to send more than 20 watts using the deep cycle lead-acid battery.

I am hoping to participate in POTA (Parks On The Air) this spring and summer. I am looking forward to many more Morse code contacts! I am also looking forward to my Lithium-Iron-Phosphate battery coming in. It will be lighter and won't sag under high amperage draws.



Kurt Zoglmann – ADOWE – MJF Mag Loop Antenna used for 1st contact

Helping Hams

The idea behind Helping Hams is simple – all hams need a little help sometimes, but they might not know who can help them. Our club has many talented members, with some better at certain jobs than others. What we hope to do here is match up hams needing help with other hams who have the skills to help them. Working together, we can all help our fellow hams and encourage them to continue pursuing their interests in this wonderful hobby.

The currently-requested needs are listed below. If you have a need, or know of a ham with a need, or if you or someone you know can help, contact our newsletter editor by sending an e-mail to admin@graysoncountyarc.org. Be sure to include the following:

- 1) Who needs the help and how do we contact them.
- 2) What needs to be done.
- 3) When can someone come out to do the work.
- 4) Where is the location of the work that needs to be done.

You don't have to be a member of the GCARC to ask for help or make an offer to help. We're all in this together – that's what the hobby is all about!

Current Requests

Bennie K5DIZ	Antenna install	Sherman
Sheila Sammons KF5TDP	Needs help with antenna repairs – damaged from falling tree limbs.	Sherman
Mike Bernier – KF5NPM	Needs help with replacing damaged HF Antennas and grounding.	Denison

Is there anyone else in the club that needs assistance with a project? If the list is no longer accurate, please advise James at admin@graysoncountyarc.org and indicate any additions or deletions that need to be made. By the May edition of the newsletter, what other additions to this list should be included, i.e. When is the expected date for completion, and if possible an actual date for the project.

Skywarn Spotter Program- 2018 Spotter schedule is now online!

Denver/Boulder, CO
Weather Forecast Office

[Weather.gov](#) > [Denver/Boulder, CO](#) > Skywarn Spotter Program- 2018 Spotter schedule is now online!

[Current Hazards](#) [Current Conditions](#) [Radar](#) [Forecasts](#) [Rivers and Lakes](#) [Climate and Past Weather](#) [Local Programs](#)

Spotter Training Updates!

- 2018 Spotter training is now on-line on our web site at http://www.weather.gov/bou/spot_training
- We will continue to add locations and dates as requests are received.
- All 2017 spotter training dates have been processed and new spotter letters have been mailed. If you were newly trained and did not receive a letter, please contact scott.entrekin@noaa.gov.
- If you are an existing spotter that was retrained, the spotter database has been updated with your latest information, but no formal letters will be issued.

New Online Reporting Form

- There is a new on-line reporting form for sending in winter and severe weather reports. The new address link from our web site has changed, and can be found at <https://www.weather.gov/crh/stormreports?sid=bou>
 - The new address can still be found under the drop down menu from current hazards from weather.gov/bou. You are given 4 options; Facebook, Twitter, Mobile APP, and email. The email form will be the one to use to send us a detailed spotter report like you did before with the old form.
 - This new report is in a google docs format and your report will still be received at our office within 2-3 minutes. Due to the small delay we ask you to send in Tornado reports via the telephone only.
 - We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused, but this change was out of our local control. If you have any questions or concerns on the new format please call or email at scott.entrekin@noaa.gov
-

GCARC (W5I Operating Schedule) - 2018

05/19/2018 | Perrin Field Museum Special Event
May 19-May 27, 0000Z-2359Z, W5I, Sherman, TX. Grayson County Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 7.200 14.040 7.040. QSL. Grayson County ARC, PO Box 642, Sherman, TX 75091. Commemorating the Perrin Field Museum, Perrin Air Force Base and Armed Forces Day. www.graysoncountyar.com

07/14/2018 | Red River Bridge War Special Event
Jul 14-Jul 22, 0000Z-2359Z, W5I, Sherman, TX. Grayson County Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 7.200 14.040 7.040. QSL. Grayson County ARC, PO Box 642, Sherman, TX 75091. Commemorating the Red River Bridge War, a dispute between Texas and Oklahoma over a new bridge that was built across the Red River in 1931. www.graysoncountyar.com

10/08/2018 | Eisenhower Special Event
Oct 8-Oct 16, 0000Z-2359Z, W5I, Sherman, TX. Grayson County Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 7.200 14.040 7.040. QSL. Grayson County ARC, PO Box 642, Sherman, TX 75091. Celebrating the birthday of President Eisenhower at his birth place in Denison, TX. www.graysoncountyar.com

K5GCC - ARRL Field Day Event – June 23 and 24

The Grayson County Website located at

<http://www.graysoncountycarc.org>

by James – KW5CW

The secure website located at <https://www.graysoncountycarc.org> is the functional website of the Grayson County Amateur Radio Club. It has been in existence now since March 16, 2018. The web address from the old website is being directed to this new website. Since its inception, it has been a constant 'work in progress'.

The production of this website is happening in the middle of an ISP move that has been giving me havoc at times and has become a constant challenge, as our website has been going up and down. Presently, the site is being hosted by IXWebhosting, and will soon be migrated to its new host, Site5. When the migration actually begins, the website will not be reachable, but most likely this will happen during the night. But I do not have much faith that it will happen without issues. The website is a content managed systems website (CMS).

Because of that there are thousands of pages created that are managed to make the website work that will need to be moved to the new host. Site5 claims that the move will be "SEAMLESS", but with the experience my friend Dan -W5EHS has with his secured company sites, I'm expecting the worst. Still somehow our website will get through this. For further information regarding some of the issues encountered with the new ISP, please read an article written by my friend Dan – W5EHS at www.ramblindan.org. The name of the article is "DO NOT USE THIS ISP – Moving is tough". The problem is, I didn't have any choice in the matter.

The website came about with the expertise of a close friend, W5EHS, who's always around to lend his ear when things get tough. He's helped me though the new language that this website uses, called Joomla. The language is more functional than Wordpress and demands more interaction in return. Sometimes I think that I bit off more than I can chew when it comes to maintaining it, as it sometimes requires allot of my time to accomplish what I want to. Dan also was instrumental in getting our website in a secure state so that banking transactions could be made. Dan has several professional websites out there and below is a short list. Also notice the quality of them which is what I'm striving for on our website. So, our website will be a 'work in progress' for quite some time to come.

Here is a list of some of Dan's websites....

<https://ramblindan.net/> <http://ramblindan.org/>

<http://tedatum.com/> <https://blognasium.com/>

<http://kautzcrafter.com/> <http://rd3dpds.com/>

<http://thmsblog.com/> <http://dimensionalart.org/art/>

Let's all keep our fingers crossed that this move will be "Flawless"

ARRL requests expanded HF privileges for Technician licensees

Posted: 01 Mar 2018 10:27 AM PST



SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB007

ARLB007 ARRL Requests Expanded HF Privileges for Technician Licensees

ZCZC AG07

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 7 ARLB007

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT March 1, 2018

To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB007

ARLB007 ARRL Requests Expanded HF Privileges for Technician Licensees

ARRL has asked the FCC to expand HF privileges for Technician licensees to include limited phone privileges on 75, 40, and 15 meters, plus RTTY and digital mode privileges on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. The FCC has not yet invited public comment on the proposals, which stem from recommendations put forth by the ARRL Board of Directors' Entry-Level License Committee, which explored various initiatives and gauged member opinions in 2016 and 2017.

"This action will enhance the available license operating privileges in what has become the principal entry-level license class in the Amateur Service," ARRL said in its Petition. "It will attract more newcomers to Amateur Radio, it will result in increased retention of licensees who hold Technician Class licenses, and it will provide an improved incentive for entry-level licensees to increase technical self-training and pursue higher license class achievement and development of communications skills."

Specifically, ARRL proposes to provide Technician licensees, present and future, with phone privileges at 3.900 to 4.000 MHz, 7.225 to 7.300 MHz, and 21.350 to 21.450 MHz, plus RTTY and digital privileges in current Technician allocations on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. The ARRL petition points out the explosion in popularity of various digital modes over the past 2 decades. Under the ARRL plan, the maximum HF power level for Technician operators would remain at 200 W PEP. The few remaining Novice licensees would gain no new privileges under the League's proposal.

ARRL's petition points to the need for compelling incentives not only to become a radio amateur in the first place, but then to upgrade and further develop skills. Demographic and technological changes call for a "periodic rebalancing" between those two objectives, the League maintains.

"There has not been such a rebalancing in many years," ARRL said in its petition. "It is time to do that now." The FCC has not assessed entry-level operating privileges since 2005.

The Entry-Level License Committee offered very specific data and survey-supported findings about growth in Amateur Radio and its place in the advanced technological demographic that includes individuals younger than 30. It received significant input from ARRL members via more than 8,000 survey responses.

“The Committee’s analysis noted that today, Amateur Radio exists among many more modes of communication than it did half a century ago, or even 20 years ago,” ARRL said in its petition.

Now numbering some 378,000, Technician licensees comprise more than half of the US Amateur Radio population. ARRL said that after 17 years of experience with the current Technician license as the gateway to Amateur Radio, it’s urgent to make it more attractive to newcomers, in part to improve upon science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education “that inescapably accompanies a healthy, growing Amateur Radio Service,” ARRL asserted.

ARRL said its proposal is critical to developing improved operating skills, increasing emergency communication participation, improving technical self-training, and boosting overall growth in the Amateur Service, which has remained nearly inert at about 1% per year.

The Entry-Level License Committee determined that the current Technician class question pool already covers far more material than necessary for an entry-level exam to validate expanded privileges. ARRL told the FCC that it would continue to refine examination preparation and training materials aimed at STEM topics, increase outreach and recruitment, work with Amateur Radio clubs, and encourage educational institutions to utilize Amateur Radio in STEM and other experiential learning programs.

“ARRL requests that the Commission become a partner in this effort to promote Amateur Radio as a public benefit by making the very nominal changes proposed herein in the Technician class license operating privileges,” the petition concluded.

NNNN

/EX

[The post ARRL requests expanded HF privileges for Technician licensees appeared first on KB6NU's Ham Radio Blog.](#)

Upcoming functionality of the Club website

By James – KW5CW

Besides the ability to pay dues online, there are at least 2 new functions that will arrive soon.

The first would be the Want-Ads section. Members and non-members alike will be able to post ads on the website once they have been registered and approved. You will be able to also include a short description along with 4 pictures for your ad. It will run for a maximum of 30 days, and on the 21st day, the owner will get a notice reminding him that his ad will only be posted for another week before being automatically removed. If by chance your listed item is sold, then the ad should be removed promptly to make room for other ads. The timeframe for this to happen should be by the weekend of April 28th, so look out for the ads pages.

The next function would be for members of the club to submit articles directly to their personal online web space so that I can review these articles before posting. For articles that still need to be created, there will be a tool to allow you to write your article using an online word processor. Your article will immediately be flagged for my review. Eventually, writers who have proven their ability along with their responsibility to write in a most professional nature, will be granted direct access to post on the website. They will be given their own webpages that will be visible on the website. These webpages can be modified, deleted, and added at any time by the author. Eventually, each section on the website will be managed by someone who wants the responsibility. The website will then most likely be self-contained, with very little input by me, but instead by the members and officers of the Grayson County Amateur Radio Club. The site belongs to every member of the club, and everyone has a right to help maintain it if they want to.



K5GGC Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Apparel Order Form



Tactical Shirt \$45
Mic loops on shoulders and front placket, dual pen pockets
2x-4x sizes + \$5



Polo Shirt* sm to xl \$30
Camp Shirt* sm to xl \$36
W Left pocket
Caps \$17
Jacket* sm to xl \$45



<p>First Name _____ (as you want on clothing)</p> <p>Last _____</p> <p>Call _____</p> <p>Payment _____</p> <p><small>Make checks Payable to GCARC</small></p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"></th> <th style="text-align: right;">Men/ Ldy</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Qty</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Ext</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Polo Shirt* sm M L XL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$30</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Camp Shirt* sm M L XL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$36</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Caps</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$17</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jacket* sm M L XL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$45</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tactical Shirt sm M L XL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$45</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">*Shirts/jackets- (2x to 4x +\$5)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Shipping \$2.00 per item</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Men/ Ldy	Qty	Ext	Polo Shirt* sm M L XL	\$30	___	___	Camp Shirt* sm M L XL	\$36	___	___	Caps	\$17	___	___	Jacket* sm M L XL	\$45	___	___	Tactical Shirt sm M L XL	\$45	___	___	*Shirts/jackets- (2x to 4x +\$5)				Shipping \$2.00 per item		___	___	Total		___	___
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Rev 02-12-18

2018 Grayson County Amateur Radio Club Dues Form

Instructions: Print this form, fill it out, and bring it with your dues payment to a club meeting. If you cannot make the meeting, please mail this form and payment to:

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 642
Sherman, TX 75091

Today's Date: _____ Amount submitted: _____

Yourself:

_____	_____	_____
First Name	Last Name	Call Sign
_____	_____	_____
Street Address	City	State + ZIP
_____	_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail Address	ARRL Y/N

Additional Family Members:

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

Dues:

Individual Membership \$20.00/year

Family Membership \$30.00 year (2 or more hams/same family

Associate (non-ham) Membership \$15.00/year

First-time Ham – (acquired license same year as membership) - FREE

Cash or Checks accepted. No cash in the mail. Payable to GCARC.

Local Radio Nets

<u>Daily</u>	<p>Texas Slow Net (CW only) Daily 7:45pm CT on 3.570 MHz This is a training net for operators interested in building proficiency in CW and learning about handling procedures for CW traffic nets.</p>
<u>Weekly</u>	<p>South Texas Section ARES Net (HF) Mondays 7:30pm CT on 3.873 MHz LSB This is an information net open to South Texas (STX) Section ARES members. Other Amateur stations are welcome to listen in.</p> <p>Durant ARA Weekly Net Tuesdays 7:00pm CT on the 147.390+ (118.8 PL) repeater. No net on the 3rd Tuesday of each month due to the DARA monthly meeting.</p> <p>Fannin County ARC Weekly Net Tuesdays 8:00pm CT on the 147.200+ (100.0 PL) repeater. This is an informal information net.</p> <p>McKinney 6 meter AM Net Wednesdays 10:00pm CT on 50.400 MHz</p> <p>Ladies Net Thursdays 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater. Net Control: Linda KE5YUC</p> <p>McKinney ARC Info Net Sundays 8:00pm CT on the 146.740- (110.9 PL) repeater.</p>
<u>Semi-Monthly</u>	<p>Grayson County ARC Information Net 1st & 3rd Sunday at 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater. This is an informal information net and buy/sell/swap net.</p> <p>Grayson County ARES Net 2nd & 4th Sunday at 8:00pm CT on the 147.000+ (100.0 PL) repeater. This is a directed information net used for training.</p> <p>RACES Command Net Check (HF) 2nd & 4th Sunday at 2:00pm CT on 7.255 MHz LSB This is a RACES Command Net check for statewide RACES Command Net members ONLY. All other Amateur stations are welcome to listen, but DO NOT check in!</p>
<u>Monthly</u>	<p>North Texas Section ARES Net (HF) 2nd Wednesday at 8:30pm CT on 3.860 MHz LSB This is an information net open to all ARES members in the ARRL North Texas (NTX) Section.</p> <p>McKinney ARES Net 2nd Sunday at 9:00pm CT on the 146.740- (110.9 PL) repeater.</p>

Area Repeaters

Sherman TX	147.000+ MHz (100.0 PL) 147.280+ MHz (107.2 PL) 444.750+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5RVT W5COP W5RVT	Gainesville TX	147.340+ MHz (100.0 PL)	WB5FHI
Allen TX	145.350- MHz (100.0 PL)	N5GI	Kingston OK	446.995- MHz (103.5 PL) (currently out of service)	K5BQG
Bonham TX	147.200+ MHz (100.0 PL) 145.470- MHz (100.0 PL) 443.750+ MHz (100.0 PL)	K5FRC K5FRC K5FRC	McKinney TX	146.740- MHz (110.9 PL)	W5MRC
Denison TX	145.330- MHz (100.0 PL)	W5DWH	Melissa TX	443.200+ MHz (100.0 PL)	W5MRA
Durant OK	147.390+ MHz (118.8 PL) 147.255+ MHz (114.8 PL) (currently out of service)	K5KIE K5CGE	Paris TX	146.760- MHz (203.5 PL)	WB5RDD
			Rosston TX	145.490- MHz (85.4 PL)	WD5U
			Van Alstyne TX	443.800+ MHz (103.5 PL)	W5VAL
			Whitesboro TX	442.875+ MHz (100.0 PL)	WC5GC

Note: All Nets held on 147000 will now be held on 444.750 + (PL tone 100.0 hz) until further notice.

147.280+ (PL tone 107.2 hz) will be a backup. **A NEW DMR Repeater is now located on 440.200 + 5MHZ**