



Saturday, April 16, 2022

Fannin County Amateur Radio Club K5FRC

Open Repeaters:

145.470, 443.775. and 442.525

Club Meeting very third Saturday at the
Bonham Bois D'Ark Cowboy Church

Weekly Net (every licensed Ham can join)

Tuesdays 8:00 pm on 2 meters 145.470

OFFICER REPORTS

Presidents Report KF5KUW

First, I would like to personally thank everyone who has been a part of our SkyWarn nets, helping to support our neighbors and friends. We have become a lot more organized, and more effective. And now with the alternate/back-up net control station, we are able to better manage and report what our radio operators and spotters are sharing.

With that in mind, would someone please turn off the every Monday Thunderstorm switch... We have been very busy dealing with our weather and its issues. From back when Leonard was hit by a couple of tornados, to our next wave coming through again this upcoming week.

But we still have a number of our club members, as well as licensed amateur radio operators in the area, who do not speak up when these nets are occurring. Please, at least check in to net control, and let them know you are listening. This way, we all will be better prepared if something is happening in your area, especially if we need to get the word out.

Another thing, please turn on (activate) your APRS beacon during these SkyWarn nets. This is another way for our net control stations to better understand where you are, especially if you happen to be driving at that time. And this is especially important if you and your family go into your storm shelter; take your handheld with you.

At our April meeting, we will be finalizing plans for our Radio On The Lake event June 11th, out on Treasure Island in Lake Texoma. I have previously sent out some pictures that I took when Mike (K5MJD) and I went scouting the island March 27th. There are some tall trees we can string wires over, as well as having a shallow side of the island, and a deep water side. For those who like fishing, this seems to have a lot to offer. We will need to be setting up canopies for sunburn protection, as well as tables for our equipment. And don't forget your bug spray, so you are not the gourmet meal for the sand fleas... Remember, this island is entirely in Oklahoma, and for those who want to fish, it will require a specific Texoma fishing license.

Speaking of April meeting, we will be participating in the Emergency Preparedness Fair on April 23rd. Our club has been a part of this event for a number of years, and we will be talking about and demonstrating what amateur radio is all about. We have officially been asked to give a 12 – 20 minute presentation during this event, so I will need all your help to make this a success. I believe our presentation is being scheduled between 11 am and noon. The event runs 10 am until noon, and I would ask that you plan to be onsite no later than 9:30 am, as this event has always started early because of the large number of folks attending.

The Autumn in Bonham bike event is now officially scheduled for Saturday, September 24th. This event is being expanded to include activities and events for both the families and adult friends. There will be corn hole toss set up, food merchants, local businesses, and the Chamber is organizing several beer and wine vendors to also be there.

Our club will be heavily involved with providing radio communications, support vehicles, and we plan to be showing live pictures and video from various locations around the bike routes. Start/Finish is going to be the new Courthouse on the square in Bonham, with riders starting at 8:30 am. The routes will be going a new direction this time, as they want to show off the new Bois D'Arc Lake. The exact routes are being finalized soon, and I will share these as soon as they are available to be published. There will be a number of rest stop/check points along the course where we will need to be stationed, giving information and feedback during this event about riders, supplies, and any assistance that will be needed.

In the past, we have delivered video using Easy Pal, which some have indicated an interest in once more using. We also have some of our members having Yaesu Fusion radios that are capable of transmitting pictures, which we might want to consider. I would also like us to consider setting up some streaming video cameras from a few of the major rest stops. I am working on getting us internet access at these locations, so we might set up a Zoom conference call and use web cameras to share these live images back to the families and friends who will be waiting back at the finish.

Field Day is just around the corner, being June 25th – 26th. The club will once again do our Field Day activities at the Bois D'Arc Creek Cowboy Church, which was a huge success this past year. So we need to decide what we want to have for meals, our radio and antenna plans, as well as getting ourselves organized for those members who will be spending the night on site. Lot's to plan for and talk about these next two months.

And many of you may have noticed that our HF bands have been a lot more open to other parts of our country, as well as all around the world. Seems our sunspot activities have increased, making radio conditions a lot more favorable. Even the 10M SSB portion of 10M has been very active. So everyone, of any license class, should be capable of having some fun talking to other places around the world.

So let's start a bragging column in our newsletter – who and where have you contacted, and on what band/mode was this contact made. And if you do not have the HF capabilities at this time, reach out and others in the club will welcome you to come join them and have some fun.

In closing, we still have a number of our club members who need your help getting them on the air, putting up new antennas, and even trying to figure out what they really want to do with amateur radio. Reach out and help your friends and neighbors. If you need some help, please do not be bashful, or let your pride get in your way, and let myself or any of the club officers know, so we can try to get you some help.

Vice President Report KI5DQ

The weather is shifting patterns into the springtime rain showers and more. Several tornadoes have been in Collin, Fannin, Lamar, and Grayson Counties. Troy Hudson is Fannin County EOC contact.

Future virtual Sky warn Spotter classes can be found here:

<https://www.weather.gov/fwd/skywarn>

Known as the "Voice of NOAA's National Weather Service," NWR is provided as a public service by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), part of the Department of Commerce. NWR includes more than 1000 transmitters, covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories. NWR requires a special radio receiver or scanner capable of picking up the signal. Broadcasts are found in the VHF public service band at these seven frequencies (MHz):

162.400 162.425 162.450 162.475

162.500 162.525 162.550

Additional information can be found at:

<https://www.weather.gov/nwr>

Are you prepared to stay on the air during a power outage? Is your station portable?

A popular answer is to have an Amateur Radio Go Kit. Typically, your radio, power supply and other peripherals are within one protective container, an example would be a Pelican case. Other considerations include Anderson Power Pole 12-volt electrical connections and antenna considerations. Also include a charging port for your cellphone, USB A and C.

Last Saturday, was the Fannin County SAR monthly training seminar. Several of the members are licensed amateur radio operators. Two indicated they wished to obtain their licenses.

The Bois d'Arc Lake is slowly filling up. The water level needs to rise ~15 additional feet.

Noticed the boat ramps are "high n dry"

Treasurers Report KI5FHN

As of 4/10/22, the club has a checking balance of \$5,782.68. A deposit was made of \$399 from two new memberships. A lifetime membership and an individual membership. Our two new members are Jason Egan and Wyndell Ferguson.

The club has a savings balance of \$223.82.

All checks have cleared and this includes the reimbursement check to Dr. Mike Durbin in the amount of \$448.71 for replacing the UPS at the Ivanhoe tower.

I will have printed club rosters at the next meeting.

Trustee K5MJD Report

443.750

On line at the Ivanhoe tower site. 300 Foot level

- POWER OUT: 50 Watts
 - (17dbW, cavities and coax loss -2.6dB, antenna gain +5.6dB =20dBw=100Watts EIRP0
- RADIO: Yaesu DR1x Configured AUTO/AUTO Will run digital and or FM with auto switching.
- OUTBOUND PL TONE: 100Hz. INBOUND PL TONE: 100Hz
- CONTROLLER: Arcom RC210

RF NCTC LINK to Sulpher Springs is operational.

145.47 FULLY OPERATIONAL

On line at the Ivanhoe tower site. 300Foot level 4 Bay antenna

- POWER OUT: 50 Watts EIRP approx.. 120 watts
- RADIO: Yaesu Fusion DR2x
- OUTBOUND PL TONE: 100Hz. INBOUND PL TONE: 100Hz
- CONTROLLER: Arcom 210 Fully operational Digital or Analog

Connected to IRLP/ECHOLINK

- IRLP 7901 ECHOLINK 554534
- RF LINKED to 442.525 permanently

442.525 Located on a tower in Bailey South Fannin county.

On line at the Bailey tower site. 200 Foot level

- POWER OUT: 50 Watts EIRP not calculated approx.. 100 watts
- RADIO: Yaesu DR2x
 - Configured AUTO/AUTO Will run digital and or FM with auto switching.
 - OUTBOUND PL TONE: 100Hz. INBOUND PL TONE: 100Hz

Secretary N5DJB March Meeting Minutes

Meeting opening with pledge and Prayer

Officer reports accepted

March Storms Discussed

Texoma Islands Expedition (June 11)

Discussion over QSL Cards

TMC Bonham

Ottoman Bonham Bicycle Rally (Sept 24)

Spirit of Giving

Community Support for Activities

Ger club involved in Texoma E News and Fannin County Leader

Motion to adjourn made by Jody seconded by Rebecca Bruner, motion carried and meeting adjourned

- For the full secretary report please email (dixie.binford16@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events

April- (?)

April 23- Emory Hamfest & Preparedness Fair

May- Radio Terms and settings: James KI5DQ

June- Field Day Secrets: TBD

July- Radio Testing and Operations: Mike K5MJD

August- Special Event planning, logistics: James KI5DQ

October- Special Event

November- (?)

December- None, have a happy holiday.

FCC Updates

Starting April 19, 2022, the FCC will enact a cost of \$35 to take any Ham Radio Exam (Technician, Genral, and Extra) as well as charging the same \$35 fee for vanity call signs and renewing your Ham Radio License.

On another note, In June of 2022 the Gordon West Technician Class Study Manual will expire and a new book will come out, so if you have been studying for your Tech License with this book, make sure you take your test before June, so the question pool does not randomly change on you!

*Welcome Back Wayne & Shirley and
welcome all new club members!*