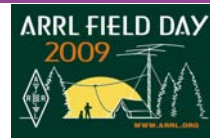


KEY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# NEWSLETTER

June 2009

## Help Wanted



*Field Day 2008*

Here it is June and decisions have been made. Our Field Day Site is listed at the ARRL website and will be held at the Hamby Volunteer Fire Department Highway 351 about 7 miles north of the Wal-Mart on Highway 351. We are planning on a barbecue with meats being purchased (donations will be helpful to recover the cost of the meats), along with your bringing maybe a side dish or a dessert to share. We will be running 3F using the call sign of K5ABI for the main call and KF5BAD for the GOTA station

(thanks to new ham Robert O'Neal). We are needing lots of help in setup and take down, as well as operators for all stations. We are hoping to be able to have three operators at each station. One operator will run the mike, one operator will log, and the other



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operator will explain what is going on to any visitors or explain what to do for potential operators. If you haven't ever been to a Field Day, then this is your chance to join us and have a lot of fun and fellowship, as well as to help us make this our best field day ever! We need and want your participation. This field day is open to anyone that wants to be involved regardless of Ham Club affiliation or not.

## May Social

We had a great social at Lake Fort Phantom on Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mike (KE5RJJ) and Howard (WB5EKW) brought some boy scouts to the picnic. As you can see in the photos to the right, they taught them information for their Radio Merit Badges as well as setting up the 20-meter vertical.

They used an Icom IC7200 for their radio setup. We didn't have as



*May 2009 Social*



*Robert O'Neal KF5BAD*

many show up as normal, but there were a lot of folks out of town for the Memorial Day weekend. We still had fun and good eats. (now KF5BAB). Next social June 27th at the Field Day site. We will probably eat somewhere around 5 or 6 PM. TNX Steve KG5QH

## The Editor's Corner

I'm disappointed this month. You see, I was expecting some good input from all of you out there. I mean, "What do you want for this



*Steve Roberts KG5QH*

club?". It is very difficult for us to do the things that you want us to do if you won't tell us what it is. This club is here for you. The thing is, if you won't put anything into the club, what do you expect to get out of it? As it is, you have the same people doing the work over and over again. Then some of you complain about seeing the same thing over and over again. This is NOT what we want. To make things happen, YOU are going to have to step up to the plate, suggest what you think ought to be done, and finally offer to help make it happen. Remember, the ones that are making things happen have been doing it for years and are tired as well. Most of them have jobs and families just like you do. If they can take the time to do things for the club, why can't you? We have socials every month (except during the major Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, even though we do have the Christmas banquet at that time). If this is not what you want, then tell us. I'm sorry that I have to get on my soap box this month, but I don't know how to get you started. We want you input and your questions. If you have questions for us, you can e-mail those to [steve.kg5qh@gmail.com](mailto:steve.kg5qh@gmail.com).

I think it might be great if we have hobby shop

type of meetings as well, where we work on building some antennas or spend time showing others digital communication modes like PSK31, packet, SSTV, APRS, digital voice, etc. I think some of you are interested in these modes but just don't know where to begin. So how about it? Any other ideas out there?

## WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

### Storm Spotter

Well we have had a few storms since the last newsletter. Some of our storm spotters actually met with some of the Storm Chasers out of Oklahoma. Maybe they will provide us with some of the photos that they have taken for the next newsletter. Meanwhile we have had some good rain, almost catching up with the year's normal rainfall, but not quite. SkyWarn has been activated several times, the most recent was this last week. I went out with Cody (KE5LGG) and took a few photos. One of the other spotters was in the Baird area where they had quite a bit of wind and damages causing loss of electricity and a bit of flooding. I believe they said that they had had wind gusts in the 60+ mph range



*A view of a roll cloud*

approaching 70 mph. As usual, there still seems to be that strange split around Abilene where the

weather just seems to split with some of it going south and some of it going north. While we don't want the damaging wind or the tornadoes, we still would like to have some good soaking rains.

If you are a storm spotter, please get ready as you may well be needed, sometimes without any warning. If you have been to a Storm Spotter (SkyWarn) class but have never been out to spot a storm and you would like to, get a hold of someone that has been going out for a while and ride along. That way you can have what in the work place world is called:

### ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING

Even experienced spotters like to have riders as two sets of eyes work better than one set. Sometimes one will see something the other can't or doesn't see. It is even better to have a rider when the other is driving so that the driver can keep his eyes on the road and the rider can be watching the storm. If you want to ride with someone, You can give me a call at 325-725-2642 (home) or 325-267-0838 (cell) and I can see if we can find you a partner,



*Another view of the roll cloud*

The weather in Abilene has always been some of the strangest weather that I have ever seen. I say this knowing that I have lived in Europe, Massachusetts, Maryland, Tennessee, Georgia, and Oklahoma. Many places have the same saying as we do: "If you don't like the weather, just wait a bit, it will change." I have never seen that to be more true than it is here in Abilene.

de Steve, KG5QH

## Coming Events:

June 8, 2009 at 7:00 PM ..... Club Meeting  
Chavez Recreation Center – 1002 Cherry Lane

June 12-13 Ham-Com 2009 West Gulf Division  
ARRL Convention <http://www.hamcom.org/>

June 27-28<sup>th</sup> Field Day 2006 Hamby Volunteer  
Fire Department on Highway 351 north of Wal-  
Mart

July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7:00 PM ..... Club Meeting  
Chavez Recreation Center – 1002 Cherry Lane

August 7-8 Austin Texas State ARRL  
Convention (Austin Summerfest)  
<http://www.austinsummerfest.org>

August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7:00 PM ..... Club Meeting  
Chavez Recreation Center – 1002 Cherry Lane

October 23-25, 2009 Microwave Update Dallas

## Weekly Nets:

Sunday at 8:30 AM CST Big Bend Emergency  
Net/ West Texas Section Net 3922 KHz

Sunday at 9:00 AM Texas Traders' Net  
7245 KHz

Sunday at 6:00 PM Continental Traders' Net  
3922 KHz

Sunday at 9:00 PM Big Country Amateur Radio  
Net (BCARN) 443.100 MHz + FM (88.5 Tone)

Tuesday at 9:00 PM Central Texas Amateur  
Radio Net 443.100 MHz + FM (88.5 Tone)

Thursday at 8:00 PM Key City Thursday Night  
Information Net 146.760 MHz - FM (146.2  
Tone)

Look alive my friends, your  
Country, State, County and  
City need you!

Just to let you know, we (the  
KCARC), A.R.E.S, and  
R.A.C.E.S. Organizations all  
need you, so step aboard and  
help with the fun stuff as  
well as the serious stuff.

## 2009 KCARC Officers

George Toone, President: [WB5FBJ](#)

Randy Robinson, Vice President & Trustee: [N5JZH](#)

John Doerschuk, Secretary: [KE5OVB](#)

Peg Richard, Treasurer: [KA4UPA](#)

