

DECEMBER 2011

MILAM COUNTY ARES NEWSLETTER

AMATEUR RADIO
COMMUNICATIONS

Published by:
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Milam County ARES NEWS

KD5WRO Commentary



The Rocket 100 Air Race was held Nov. 19 with liftoff beginning around 1300 at Taylor. Milam County ARES spotted aircraft at Hearne Airport and maintained communications with Taylor Command Post via HF radio.

Those working at the Milam ARES site included Franklin, KD5WRO; Gary, KB5DLK; Kenneth KE5ISN, as well as Teddy KE5UET and Priscilla KE5UES from the Central Texas ARC and Thomas [U S Army]. The plan was to relay info on two meter repeaters thru Cameron To Taylor. It was found at the last minute that there was equipment failure or a very



marginal path between Cameron and Taylor. Plan B had to be found quickly. KE5ISN wanted to bring his HF NVIS equipment to Hearne. It was suddenly obvious the HF link was all that we were going to have. KE5ISN had a 4 element HF NVIS antenna, an ICOM 7000 transceiver and a gas generator [2 or 3 KW]. With help from everyone the antenna went up quickly. With

some tuning on 75 meters Kenneth found the frequency to be 3780 Khz. He established communications with both Taylor and Somerville Lake Turn 2. Signal report was 10 db over S9. This was great. We were able to go from a communications blackout total success with the HF rig provided by KE5ISN. The antenna was very novel and included 4 radials equally spaced at 90 degree intervals. We now know we have a portable HF rig within Milam ARES and the antenna is very high performance for NVIS use. We will award KE5ISN a commendation. This was an outstanding exercise. Congratulations to all those who took part.

73 Franklin

NET SCHEDULES

Milam County ARES Thursday 7 PM 147.020 PL Tone 123.0

Bell County ARES Thursday 8 PM 147.140 PL Tone 123.0

STXARES HF NET Monday 7:30 PM 3873 Khz

On November 12, Rodger Williams, W5UOK was appointed District Emergency Coordinator for District 5. We look forward to working with Rodger.

Kenneth, KE5ISN, recently constructed a multiband inverted V dipole. Bands covered are 15, 20, 40, and 75 meters. Kenneth brought this antenna to Hearne for the Air Race and it worked beautifully. We had reports of 10 db over S9 from both Lake Somerville and Taylor, Plans and more information is available from

<http://www.hamunivers.com/ae5jufielddayantenna.html>

Have a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a Safe, Healthy & Happy NEW YEAR!