

JULY 2019

AMATEUR RADIO  
COMMUNICATIONS

Published by:  
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# MILAM COUNTY ARES NEWSLETTER

Volume 12 Issue 7

## MILAM COUNTY ARES NEWS



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Stuart Wolfe – KF5NIX, Milam County Amateur Radio  
Emergency Coordinator

Every year that Milam County does not have a disaster is a good year. There are some counties and states that are not so lucky. We are very fortunate to have three repeaters in Milam County that all have either battery backup or a generator in case we ever need to use them. We also have two different nets each Monday, the ARES Net at 7:00 P.M. and the Milam ARC Net at 8:00 P.M. Both Nets could use several more participants each week. It takes resources to upkeep and maintain our repeaters, and the best way to justify this is to have both nets with plenty of check-ins.

One of first things I learned after I got my license is if you are willing to work hard for something there are plenty of very generous people who will help you with whatever you are trying to do. I have been very fortunate to be around a lot of individuals in this hobby who have a vast amount of knowledge and are willing to share it if you just ask. Since I have taken over from my predecessor Frank Stewart – KD5WRO, we have gone through several changes in our local ARES organization. I understand not all of the changes have been welcomed by everyone, but if you want to see changes of any kind speak up. Either send me an email or get on the air on a net and voice your opinion.

When I first took over I had an agenda to get more events in Milam County, as well as more registered Amateurs on the ARRLSTX Depot website. I did not get more events to happen, but with some effort several of you did register on the Depot website. Quite a bit of you listed your achievements and classes on the site as well, which makes Milam County look like we actually are trying to do the right thing if an actual national disaster or emergency took place here.

There will never be a better time than now to get your free online classes done and a copy of your certificate sent to me so we can have it on file when we need it. We also have the ability to get Milam County ARES ID badges made with thanks going to our EMC, Susan. So, as you can see, the online classes are free as well as the certificate and the website you post your accomplishments too. There is absolutely no reason not to complete these online classes. This is a great hobby we are in, but in order to keep it great it takes each and every one of us to do our part.

As a member of the local Amateur Radio Club, Milam ARC, we have decided to up the ante and put our money where our mouth is. Since the club formed it has only offered exams for licenses two times. This year starting next month the club will be offering exam sessions every other month starting in August in Rockdale at the Chamber of Commerce. The exams are listed on the ARRL website, as well as times, and dates. There is absolutely no reason that each and every ham in Milam County can't upgrade their license in this upcoming year. Take this as a challenge, as I would like to see almost every ham in Milam County to either be a General or Amateur Extra class holder by the end of the year.

There is going to be a Hamfest in August in Austin, called Summerfest. At that event my boss will lay out his agenda for the upcoming year and I will relay it you in next month's newsletter.

If there is a topic you wish discussed in a newsletter, send it to me at [KF5NIX@ARRL.NET](mailto:KF5NIX@ARRL.NET)

If you have not done so yet, go to the ARRLSTX depot site listed below. [http://www.arrlstxvps.org/vault\\_area/vault\\_gateway/site\\_gateway/vault\\_gateway.php](http://www.arrlstxvps.org/vault_area/vault_gateway/site_gateway/vault_gateway.php) There are several items listed on the workbook there that many of you have already accomplished in the past, just

use your best guess as to the date and I will approve them.

If you complete any of the online courses send me a copy of the certificate so we can have it on file in case of an emergency so we know who we can call on.

You can get your workbook, the newsletters, or other forms at the Milam County ARES website:

<http://milamcountyares.weebly.com/>

Thank you,

Stuart Wolfe – KF5NIX – EC Milam County – 512-660-9954

**Rockdale** – 146.760 – PL – 123, Milam ARC weekly net – Monday nights at 8:00 P.M. The members also voted to move the Milam County Ares net to Monday nights, at 7:00 P.M. Most felt that having the ARES net on the same night as the Milam Amateur Radio Club's net may increase the sign-ins for both nets as well as free up the rest of the week.

**Cameron** – 147.020 – PL – 123, Milam County ARES net – **Monday nights at 7:00 P.M.**

**Davilla** – 147.000 – PL – 123, Milam ARC nets – Last Monday of each month held here. **Milam ARES 2 Meter Data Repeater** 145.030 Mhz This repeater is a simplex repeater with store and resend software in the modem at the transceiver. This call sign is CAMRLY. The repeater is on the Milam County Communication Tower and uses the same antenna as the 147.020 repeater. That antenna is a db224 with 6db gain. It is approximately 150 feet AGL.