



WCARS.org
March 2013

The Official Publication of
The Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc

President's Microphone

If anyone can update us on Tommy Queen please let us know; email me at esmccabe@charter.net please keep him in your prayers. See you all in April.

Thanks

Scott

Update from Tommy (March 15th):

Surgery is set for March 19th will be in the hospital at least 5 days.

**Meeting for April is on the 4th
AB-Tech—Simpson Bldg
7:30 PM**

INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTE

**Club meetings are subject to the
following:**

**Should Buncombe County schools close
due to inclement weather our meeting will
be canceled.**

Meeting Minutes for March 7, 2013

The March 2013 regular meeting of the Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society was called to order at 1932 hrs. by Scott McCabe W4IYS. He invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

He then invited everyone to introduce themselves by name, callsign (if any), and QTH.

Norman Harrill N4NH then introduced Duke KN1EF, ARES DEC for Area 15, NC State Director for AF MARS, who spoke on preparedness for emergency communications for hams when all else fails.

He spoke on FEMA and DHS requirements for the National Incident Management System certifications and courses needed to prepare/qualify.

He explained "Jump & GO kits" and the items he recommended be included in them for special events, races, Walk-A-Thons, Parades, celebrations, and ARRL Field Day.

He spoke of special preparations for events such as man-made incidents, natural disasters, types of assignments, mobile operations, modes, and length of assignment requirements.

Meeting Minutes for March 7, 2013

He concluded by inviting everyone to come up and look over the items that he had brought after the meeting.

To obtain a personal go kit list, go to:

http://www.bay-net.org/docs/personal_go_kit.pdf

Scott explained about "ham lights"--a light that hangs on the finger like a ring for work on electronics in tight and dark places. Cost is about \$7.00.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Steve N4SET.

The drawing for the 50-50 door prize was made and awarded and won by Paul Sexton.

A special recognition and honor was made to Ethan Kemp K4ORG as the newest member of WCARS and the newest ham AND ONLY 5 YEARS OLD! Congratulations!

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2056 hours with refreshments and fellowship following.

SUBMITTED BY BOB DOCKERY WD4CNZ,
WCARS Secretary

BC-ARES Packet Stations

N4AA - Packet and CMS Node - 24 hrs

N4SET - Packet - 24 hrs

KK4BRD - Packet - 24 hrs

K8SKX - Packet - 24 hrs

W4ZQV - Packet - unknown

W4YIS - Packet - in progress

If you have a packet station and it is not listed contact Carl - N4AA or Paul - KK4BRD.

Upcoming Events

Meals on Wheels

Fletcher Flyer

Field Day

WCARS HamFest

Hot Doggett

Shut-in Ridge Race

License Classes 2013

License Classes for 2013 will be starting tentatively mid to late March - early April. This is great opportunity to introduce someone you know who is interested in Amateur Radio to the hobby and get their license.

The classes are open to all and are held free of charge just pay a small fee to take the exam.

Anyone wishing to upgrade their existing license are invited to attend the testing session, don't forget to bring your ID, your existing license and enough money to cover the exam cost.

If you are licensed operator and would like to help teach a module of the class or if you need more information please contact Norman - N4NH: N4NH@arrl.net or by phone: 828-253-1192

QDO Party by Paul - KK4BRD

A good time was held at Randy (KI4VLW) and Linda's (KJ4CRL) with Jenny (KK4BRE) and Reed (KK4BRF). I believe there was a total of around 240 contacts made, some on multiple bands, some international and several other states as well as quite a few in the various North Carolina counties.

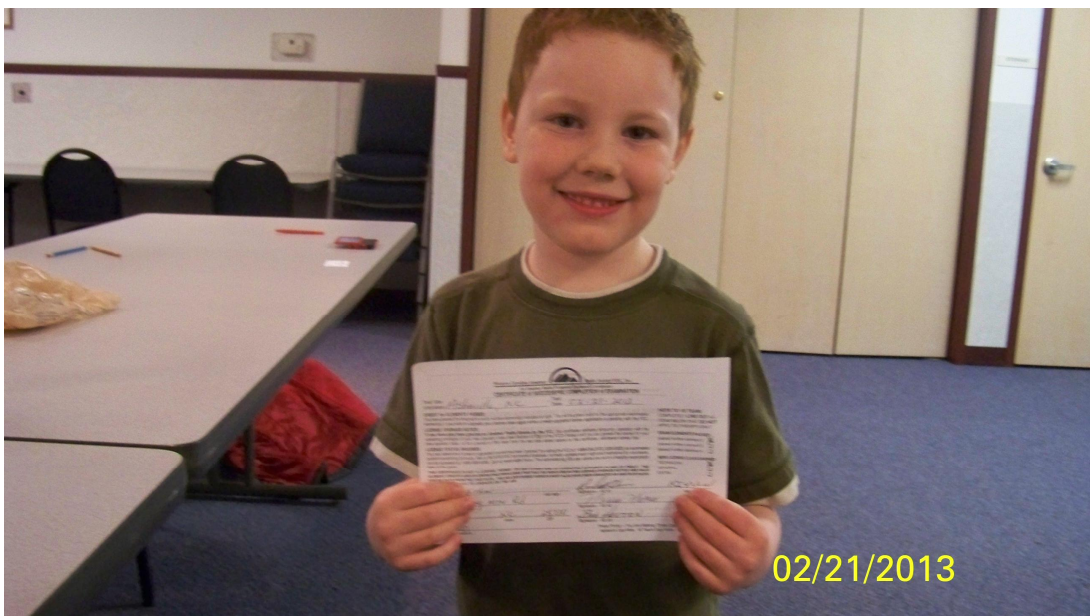
Randy has submitted the paper work, so we will have to wait and see how we did. WCARS was well represented during the QSO Party. Dean (K2JB) also acted as a mobile station in some of the remote counties of Western North Carolina providing contacts in hard to get counties.

Etham - KK4ORG

Etham - KK4ORG is the youngest Amateur Radio operator at 5 1/2 years old on February 21, 2013.

He took the Technician test at the WCARS VEC testing session. Etham is the youngest member of WCARS, and possibly in North Carolina and the US.

If you hear Etham on the repeaters take a couple of minutes to speak to him and continue to foster his interest in Amateur Radio.



Etham - KK4ORG, picture taken by Norman - N4NH



Field Day is quickly approaching time to start getting ready!

Silent Key

N4DWM - Bernice Lance

Last month I mailed out the 5 newsletters to the club members that are unable to get the digital copy. I was surprised when one of the newsletters returned with unable to forward. I checked the address and it was correct, I brought this to Steve's - N4SET attention who did a welfare check on the Lance's.

Steve found that Bernice had passed away in 2011 and that Garland had been moved into an assisted living facility and was doing fine.

Here is the obituary for Bernice:

Bernice Haynes Lance N4DWM

Franklin, Va

Bernice Haynes Lance, 94, passed away June 9, 2011 at the East Pavilion in Franklin, She was born in Buncombe County, a daughter of the late James F. Haynes and Leslie Mae Williams Haynes and was predeceased by her brothers and sisters, Clarence, Herman, Francis, Ruth Banks, Ed, Mary Lance, Esther Lance, and Sidney. Bernice lived in the Asheville area for most of her life until she and her husband moved to Franklin, VA in 1999 to be near their daughter. Mrs. Lance was an employee of Belk's Department Store, retiring after 25 years of service. As the daughter of a Baptist minister, she was active in the church most of her life, serving as Sunday School teacher at Calvary Baptist Church. During retirement, she and her husband were involved with an Amateur Radio Club in Asheville for many years. Bernice in survived by her husband of 72 years, Garland Frank Lance; daughter, Carolyn Boothe (William) of Franklin; sister, Edith Moore of Leicester, NC; five grandchildren, Tonia McClure Burke (Dennis) of Chesapeake, VA, Cara McClure Garlick (Jamie) of Suffolk, VA, Steve Boothe of Washington, DC, Stanley Boothe (Emily) of Franklin, VA, Stewart Boothe (Sue) of Prattville, AL; four great-grandchildren, Brandon, Tyler, and Connor Burke and Eva Garlick; and nieces, nephews, family members, and friends too numerous to mention. We send special thanks to the staff of East Pavilion Nursing Home and The Village at Woods Edge for their kindness and services. A graveside service will be conducted at 2 pm Monday, June 13, 2011 at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Enka, NC with the Rev. Ronnie Owen officiating. The family will receive friends from 7 to 8:30 pm Saturday at Wright Funeral Home in Franklin, VA.

WCARS / VEC Exam Schedule

Asheville - AB-TECH, Rm 134, Elm Bldg

**9:00 AM on the THIRD SATURDAY of:
January, April, July and October**

VE Team Leader: Bob Helton - KS4FX
Phone: 828-684-0249

**2:00 PM on the THIRD SUNDAY of:
February, May, August and November**

VE Team Leader: Steve Lankford - AG4BY
Phone: 828-768-2141

Burnsville - Yancey County Library

Contact:

VE Team Leader: David McCarty - W4TDM
Phone: 828-657-1044

Marion

Contact:

VE Team Leader: Harriet Fullbright - K4ICU
Phone: 828-291-7521

Rutherfordton - Isothermal College

Contact:

VE Team Leader: Bruce Tessineer - AD4OJ
Phone: 828-657-5464

Waynesville

Contact:

VE Team Leader: Al Sanders - WD4A
Phone: 828-926-8244

Weaverville - Reems Creek FD

9:00 AM on the First Saturday of:
April, July, October and December

VE Team Leader: Harley Bullman - AJ4PI
Phone: 828-645-0889

**For other locations contact:
Norman Harrill
N4NH@arrl.net / 828-253-1192**

From the Editor

Spring is trying hard to make a break through now with some trees beginning to bud out. Spring also brings with it the return of some public service events such as Meals on Wheels.

If you have not participated in any public service events Meals on Wheels is a super easy and great one to start out on.

I suspect in about a month a request for volunteers will be made, consider taking a couple of hours and helping out. Its not hard and can be enjoyable spending time outside.

The programs at the meetings have been great thanks to Noman's planning and seeing to it that there is a program for each meeting. If you haven't been to a meeting in awhile, WCARS is back at AB Tech the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm. There are beverages, donuts and socializing after the meeting.

Reminder that the WCARS Information Net is Monday @ 9 PM, 146.910 (91.5 PL) all licensed operators are welcomed to join in.

BCARES Net is held every Wednesday @ 9 PM also on 146.910 (91.5 PL), you do not need to be a member of ARES to participate in the net.

BCARES also has a Packet node and digipeater that can be used by any licensed operator with a radio and TNC, the frequency is 146.710 no PL, there are several WCARS / BCARES members with packet. If you need help contact me.

If you have something you would like to send to Smoke test please send it to kk4brd@gmail.com.

Paul - KK4BRD

KK4BRD's Mobile Radio Cart

Here are some pictures of my mobile radio cart, it is very much a work in progress. Right now the radio box and gel cell battery is not mounted on the cart. This particular cart doesn't weigh very much without the equipment on it. The cart also folds flat, or at least it did until I semi permanently mounted my tool box to it, so now it folds mostly flat.



Tool box with lots of electrical connectors, fuses and coax adapters, tool bag with various tools, wire, guide ropes and stakes for the antenna tripod. Heavy duty extension cord for AC power plug in. In the white box is my solar battery back up, contains 4 - 7.5 amp hour 12 volt AGM batteries (total of 30 amp hours), 10 watt - 12 volt solar panel, solar charge controller so the batteries don't over charge and power hookups to go to a radio. Mounted on the wall is the intelligent battery charger that monitors the state of the batteries and trickle charges them when needed. For those interested in the various radio related projects I do you can see more at my blog: kk4brd.blogspot.com



The ARRL Letter

Materials in the ARRL Letter are taken from The ARRL Letter online, full credit is given to The ARRL Letter and the American Radio Relay League, as per republication guidelines require.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter>

Florida Hams Prove that Ham Radio Works When Cell Phones Don't

03/06/2013

After a day of exploring the Green Swamp Wildlife Management Area -- which covers 50,692 protected acres in Florida's Lake, Polk and Sumter Counties -- with his grandson, Joe Cody, KE4WDP, of Winter Haven, Florida, saw that the roads were flooding and becoming hazardous. As he tried to drive out of the area, Cody's small pick-up truck got bogged down in the mud. Since he was out of cell phone range, Cody tried calling for help on the Dade City 146.880 repeater. Richard Parker, KF4ORW, of Dade City, Florida, heard the call and answered.

After hearing the situation, Parker called 911 in Pasco County, who put him in touch with the dispatch in neighboring Polk County. Cody passed his location on to Parker, who in turn passed it on to the Polk County Sherriff's Office. "Polk County 911 took over trying to get help," Parker said. "They called me back several times for more information and I was able to relay information from Joe to them. Then Ted Bulmanski, W4TKB, who is also from Dade City, started monitoring and copying Joe's information."

About 30 minutes later, Parker saw a helicopter fly over and around Cody's position, and after another 30 minutes, Cody radioed back on the repeater, saying he was on his way home -- thanks to a Lake County Deputy in a Sherriff's Office truck that had a winch. "We learned that Joe was eight miles inside Lake County," Parker explained. "That's why the Lake County Sherriff's Office responded instead of the Polk County authorities. The Polk County Sherriff's Office called me back to say that the helicopter from Lake County found the truck inside Lake County and sent both a deputy from Lake County, as well as a Fish and Game Officer and winched him out of the mud. They called me back to thank us for assisting the stranded pair. Ham radio still works when other forms of communications don't." -- Thanks to ARRL West Central Florida Section Public Information Coordinator Kevin Poorman, KV4CT, for the information



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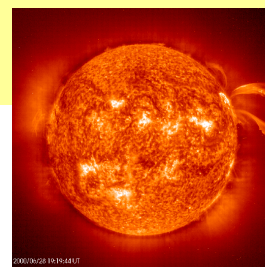
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter>

More Than 20,000 arrl.net., arrl.org E-mail Addresses Blocked by Microsoft

03/07/2013

The ARRL IT staff has been notified that Microsoft is blocking e-mail to the more than 20,000 members who use the arrl.net e-mail forwarding service to forward e-mail to Microsoft domains (hotmail.com, msn.com, live.com and outlook.com). In addition, the blockage is also affecting those members of the ARRL's Field Organization and other ARRL volunteers who use an arrl.org alias e-mail address to have e-mail delivered to an address with a Microsoft domain. According to ARRL Information Technology Manager Michael Keane, K1MK, the IT staff is working to have these blocks lifted and e-mail delivery restored to normal operation as quickly as possible.

Solar Weather



NOAA Solar Forecasts

Sunspot Number: 126

Updated at: 2013 Mar 18

Spotless Days

Flare	0-24 hr	24-48 hr
Class M	20%	20%
Class X	01%	01%

Current Stretch: 0 days
 2013 total: 0 days (0%)
 2012 total: 0 days (0%)
 2011 total: 2 days (<1%)
 2010 total: 51 days (14%)
 2009 total: 260 days (71%)
 Since 2004: 821 days

Geomagnetic Storms

Typical Solar Min: 486 days
 Updated 18 Mar 2013

Mid-latitudes	0-24 hr	24-48 hr
Active	35%	15%
Minor	20%	05%
Severe	05%	01%

Interplanetary Magnetic Field

B_{total} : 8.4 nT B_z : 8.1 nT north

High-latitudes	0-24 hr	24-48 hr
Active	15%	15%
Minor	15%	15%
Severe	10%	05%

The Radio Sun

10.7 cm flux: 126 sfu

HF Conditions	Day	Night
80 m - 40 m	Fair	Good
30 m - 20 m	Good	Good
17 m - 15 m	Fair	Fair
12 m - 10 m	Fair	Poor
VHF Conditions	Day	Night
Aurora	Band Closed	
6 m EsEU	Band Closed	
4 m EsEU	Band Closed	
2 m EsEU	Band Closed	
2 m EsNA	Band Closed	
EME Deg	Fair	

SMOKETEST

Official publication of the

Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

PO Box 1488, Asheville, NC 28802

www.wcars.org

W 4 M O E

Repeater: 146.91 (PL-91.5)

Spivey Mountain, Asheville, NC

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HF/VHF/UHF Net Information				
<u>NET NAME</u>	Freq offset / PL	Day	Local time	Notes
6600	145.190 -	Saturday	9-PM	Many check-ins-Wide area coverage
Blue Ridge Traffic	146.610 -	Nightly	9-PM	ARES/Skywarn in bad weather
BRARC	146.640 - 91.5	Sunday	9-PM	
Buncombe Cty Emerg. Mgt.	146.910 - 91.5	Wednesday	9-PM	Directed net, ARES/RACES
Carolinas Net - Early	3.573	Daily	7-PM	CW Traffic
Carolinas Net - Late	3.573	Daily	10-PM	CW - 15-18 WPM Traffic
Carolinas Net - Slow	3.571	Daily	8-PM	Slow CW - 8 to 10 WPM Traffic
Franklin, NC - Winesprings Bald	147.240 + / 151.4	Daily	9-PM	
Good Morning	146.760 -	M-W-F	9-AM	Informal, Everyone welcome
Haywood County Roundtable	147.390 + 94.8	Monday	8-PM	Informal, Everyone welcome
K4UUQ Morning	7.228	Daily	7-AM	Ragchew
Madison Cty-AmRadComTeam	224.660 100	Tuesday	9-PM	Madison County Emergency Comm
Mount Mitchell 220	224.540	Monday	8-PM	Informal, Everyone welcome
Mount Mitchell Ragchew	442.225 + 107.2	Monday	9-PM	Directed, Everyone welcome
Mount Mitchell Sunrise Net	442.225 + 107.2	Thursday	9-AM	Informal - Everyone welcome
Mount Pisgah 220	224.260	Sunday	9-PM	Informal, Everyone welcome
NC Evening Traffic	3.923	Daily	6:30-PM	SSB
NC Morning Traffic	3.927	Daily	7:45-AM	SSB
Oasis Shrine Radio Corp.	145.190 +	Sunday	9-PM	
SATERN	14.265	Daily	3-PM	Salvation Army Team-Emergency
Tarheel Emergency Net	3.923	Daily	7:30-PM	Directed, NC Emerg. Mgt - Traffic
Volunteer	147.180 + 136.5	Friday	9-PM	Info, News and Swap
WCARS Information	146.910 - 91.5	Monday	9-PM	Informal, Everyone welcome
???	224.600			WB4PLA on Spivey Mtn. ???
W4YK	53.630 - 100	Friday	9-PM	???
Traders Net	147.05 - 91.5	Tuesday	9-PM	
Skywarn	145.27 - 91.5	As Needed		
SC Hearts / NC Hears / SW VA Net	444.250 - 91.5	Daily	8-PM	
NC Hears	444.250 - 91.5	Daily	9:30 PM	
K4MFD Greenville - 440	444.200 + 173.8			Located on Bald Mtn. N. of Asheville
K4MFD Greenville - 6 Meter	53.400			Located on Bald Mtn. N. of Asheville Linked to N2GE 224.660 & KI4DNY 224.600 fulltime
Blue Ridge Weather Watch	145.190 -	T-T	9-PM	Directed net, Skywarn, everyone welcomed

Regional Repeater List		
Frequency / offset / PL	Location	Notes
145.190 -	Mt. Mitchell	
146.520 Simplex	National Calling Frequency	
146.910 - 91.5	WCARS	
146.640 - 91.5	Hendersonville	IRLP
146.610 -	Greenville, SC	
147.105 + 91.5	Hendersonville	
145.270 - 91.5	Hendersonville	
145.370 - 91.5	Greenville, SC	
147.390 + 94.8	Waynesville	
147.315 + 123	Spartanburg	
147.060 + 123	Greenville, TN	
145.410 - 127.3	Greenville, TN	
145.390 - 186.2	Greenville, TN	
146.760 -	Mt. Pisgah	
146.880 -	Shelby	
147.135 +	Brevard	
147.285 +	Tryon	
145.330 -	Tryon	
146.790 -	Anderson, SC	
146.240 +	Franklin	Connected to 151.4 Pickens, SC
442.225 + 107.2	Mt. Mitchell	
442.450 +	Hendersonville	
442.850 +	Brevard	
444.875 + 131.8	Waynesville	IRLP
224.520 - 91.5	Mt. Spivey	
224.600 - 94.8	Asheville	
224.240 -	Hendersonville	
224.960 -	Hendersonville	
224.540 -	Mt. Mitchell	
224.260 -	Mt. Pisgah	
224.200 -	Shelby	
224.460 -	Shelby	
224.360 -	Marshall	
224.660 - 100	Madison County	
53.630 - 100	Mt. Mitchell	
53.130 - 100	Hendersonville	
53.410 - 131.8	Greenville, SC	