



WCARS.org
April 2010

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

President's Microphone

It looks like we have 53 paid up members as of March 1st. That's a good number, but way below what we were at one time. What happened to all those dozens of WCARS members who used to be here? Where did they go? Are they still in the area? Have they moved? If they are still around, why don't we hear from them?

That's a lot of questions, but questions we should be asking ourselves. What are we doing...or NOT doing... that causes folks not to come around?

What SHOULD we be doing to cause our fellow hams to want to come and be with us? Think about that, please and let's talk about it.

We can have Field Day. We can have a Hamfest. We can do a lot of things if we put our minds to it. What do you want it to be?

See you Thursday ????

Scott, W4IYS

PROGRAMS ?

By Carl, N4AA

What do you want to see for a program at the club meeting? Do you want technical stuff? How about having someone coming to speak to us? If so, what subject (s) would you be interested in hearing?

I can come up with "stuff" to present, but you have to tell me what it is you would like to see. I don't want to bore you with things you couldn't care less about...that doesn't make sense, does it?

So, if you'll just give me some ideas, I'll do my best to provide what you want.

APRIL MEETING

The next WCARS meeting will be
April 1st at 7:30 PM
in the Simpson Auditorium,
Simpson Building at AB Tech.

AND THAT IS NOT AN APRIL FOOLS JOKE FOLKS!!!

FIELD DAY - June 26 - 27

Dick Burns, K8SKX has agreed to head up the WCARS Field Day activities this year, with one "**BUT**" and that is....

What kind of Field Day do we want it to be????

Do we want a "**contest**" operation and just make as many contacts as possible??

Do we want a "**publicity**" operation and go all out for making the public aware of who and what we are capable of?

Do we want a "**combination**" of the above?

Depending on which type operation is used, where could we go to make the most of it ??

Bring your ideas to the club meeting on Thursday and let's talk it out and decide what/if we are going to do something this year.

Smoketest is edited and distributed to all WCARS who have paid their dues by March 31st.

The editor is Carl Smith, N4AA, and his Mailing address, email address and phone number are shown on the last page of this issue.

Please send any material for publication to him no later than the 25th of each month.

Questions about membership should be addressed to Steve Emory, N4SET.

MINUTES:
MARCH 4, 2010 WCARS
MONTHLY MEETING
Simpson Auditorium,
AB Tech Community College

The meeting was called to order at 1936 hrs via a strike of the gavel by President Scott W4IYS as he welcomed all 31 attendees.

The group was then asked to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Those in attendance were asked to introduce themselves by giving their name, callsign (if any), and QTH.

The President asked if there was any old business left over from November. He then asked if there was any new business that was still unresolved from that time period. None for both cases.

Those in attendance were asked if there were any corrections/additions to the Minutes printed in the last issue of SMOKETEST. None were received so the group was asked for a Motion to approve the Minutes as published. A motion was received, seconded, and voted to accept the Minutes as published.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by the Club Treasurer, Steve Emory N4SET. Once completed a motion was received, seconded, and voted to receive the report with thanks.

The group was asked if they wanted WCARS to do Field Day in June (26-27). K8SKX volunteered to organize Field Day for the Club. The group was asked how we should participate. They exchanged ideas, concerns, experiences, possible locations, and how we might set up plus the possible focus of operations and involvement. K8SKX welcomes ideas at any time.

President Scott reminded the group that the operating funds for WCARS are made via the annual Hamfest and urged everyone to support this activity via every way possible. The question of whether WCARS will do concessions is still open and will come up again.

The program was given by Carl Smith, N4AA via a computer slide show of his trip to the Bahamas and operation as C6AAA.

Carl explained how preparations were made, equipment obtained, how he got his callsign, plus an explanation of "keep left" along with where he stayed with a group of other ham friends.

Additional slides were shown of their visit to other islands and points of interest along the way.

At the end of his program, Carl entertained questions and comments from the attendees. He described how well his operating time went on the various bands to various DX areas. He stated that this was a trip of a lifetime for him and he greatly enjoyed the experience.

The 50-50 drawing was done and the winner awarded the prize.

WB5GOG won the door prize.

John Travis announced the Radio Museum Net meets every Friday morning on 3.976 and everyone was welcome.

The meeting was adjourned at 2045 with an invitation to the group to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the lobby of the building.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY BOB DOCKERY,
WD4CNZ, WCARS SECRETARY

This

Space

Was

Left

Blank

On

Purpose

!!!!

Did you send anything to put here?

SMOKE TEST

Official publication of the

Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

PO Box 1488, Asheville, NC 28802

www.wcars.org

W4MOE

Repeater 146.91 - PL-91.5

Located on Spivey Mountain, Asheville, NC

2010 OFFICERS

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Smoke Test Editor	Carl Smith	N4AA	683-4251	n4aa@dpub.com

HF/VHF Net Information

NET NAME	Freq(MHz) 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
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	7.225	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 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.	146.190	Sunday	9-PM	
SATERN	14.265	Daily	3-PM	Salvation Army Team-Emergency
Tarheel Emergency Net	3.923	Daily	7:30-PM	Directed, NC Emergency 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