



JUNE 2007

*The Official Publication of*

## **The Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc**

[www.WCARS.org](http://www.WCARS.org)

### **President's Microphone...Scott W4IYS**

Field Day (FD) is fast approaching. Each WCARS member is encouraged to participate on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. This exercise is the perfect opportunity for each "ham" to test their preparations for emergency deployment, hone his/her skill in establishing reliable communications in less than ideal conditions, and enjoy working with others while engaging in shared interests. FD can be an excellent "lead in" to the WCARS Hamfest, to be held this year on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **May minutes...Karen - KG4OUP**

Meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. Introductions were given, 41+ in attendance. Karl - K4PCY gave the treasurers report. Norman - N4NH gave a report on Ham classes: 14 began, 18 testers, 17 passed. Congratulations to all the new "Hams." Tommy - K4BNP asked for nominations for the KB4C award. Bill - N4OOC gave a report on the repeater. Also, he announced 2 special event stations coming in 2008. August 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> are the prospective dates. Dan - N1ND announced the state legislature is considering a PRB-1 equivalent law. Please help support this bill. Dean - K2JB gave an update on the upcoming Hamfest. He will have phone list available for volunteers to begin calling soon. Tickets available next month. Chet - KE4VXC got everyone excited about Field Day coming up on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. A

VE session will be held at the site.

Dan - N1ND gave the program "Welcome to Your ARRL". A slide show of the wonderful people at your ARRL in Newington, Conn. 50/50 drawing was won by: Bob Williams - KG4KHH.

Door prize was won by Ken Smith - KE4VMB, who declined. Ronald Fink - KF4HAT won on second drawing.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

### **Amateur Licenses Issued**

#### *New*

Tech. KI4VLT - Udo Wilms, Weaverville  
Tech. KI4VLW - Randall Harris, Asheville  
Gen. KI4VLU - Robert Brown, Hendersonville  
Gen. KI4VLV - Guy Whitaker, Murphy  
Gen. KI4VLX - Arthur Ambler Jr., Asheville

#### *Upgrade*

Gen. KD4OJE - Graham Barstow Sr., Leicester  
Gen. KI4NXU - Grady Worley, Mars Hill  
Gen. KI4VGC - Mitchell Ensley, Hendersonville  
Gen. KI4UZV - Fred Brewer, Arden  
Gen. KG4KHD - Alan McCracken, Asheville  
Extra AI4XQ- Wendell Cisco Sr., Marshall  
Extra KI4VIQ - Earl Payne, Asheville  
Congratulations to each of these new/upgrade licensees. N4NH - Norm.

### **Silent Keys:**

With deep regret WCARS records the loss of fellow amateurs Carl V. Luther-KC4KPW, Leicester, April 20, 2007, and Fred K. Shope - N4QNK, East Asheville, May 29, 2007.

## Hamfest Calendar

**June 2**, Georgia State Convention (Atlanta Hamfest), Jim Miller Park, 2245 Callaway Road, Marietta, GA, Atlanta Radio Club  
<http://www.atlantahamfest.com>

Talk-In: 146.820 (-) (PL 146.2)

Contact: John Talipsky, N3ACK

385 Madison Chase Drive

Lawrenceville, GA 30045

Phone: 678-618-2190 Fax: 678-985-2906

Email: [johnn3ack@comcast.net](mailto:johnn3ack@comcast.net)

**June 9**, Winston-Salem (NC) Classic Hamfest  
Dixie Classic Fairgrounds Home & Garden Bldg., 421 West 27th Street, Winston-Salem, NC, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.w4nc.org>

Talk-In: 145.47 (PL 100); 146.64 (PL 100)

Contact: Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO

PO Box 11361

Winston-Salem, NC 27116-1361

Phone: 336-723-7388

Email: [junehamfest@w4nc.org](mailto:junehamfest@w4nc.org)

**June 9**, Tennessee State Convention (Knoxville Hamfest & Electronics Exposition)  
Kerbela Temple, 315 Mimosa Street, Knoxville, TN

Radio Amateur Club of Knoxville

<http://www.W4BBB.org>

Talk-In: 147.300, 224.500, 444.575 (PL 100 Hz)

Contact: David Bower, K4PZT

512 Elkmont Road

Knoxville, TN 37922

Phone: 865-690-8360 Fax: 865-690-8360 (call first) Email: [d.bower@ieee.org](mailto:d.bower@ieee.org)

**June 16**, Hamfest/Tailgate Party  
Upper Cumberland Amateur Radio Association  
Silver Point Community Center  
13565 Highway 141, Silver Point, TN

<http://www.ucara.net>

Talk-In: 145.11

Contact: Jack Daniel, KG4MFJ

435 Gould Drive

Cookeville, TN 38506

Phone: 931-858-6886 Fax: 931-432-7560

Email: [kg4mfj@frontiernet.net](mailto:kg4mfj@frontiernet.net)

## Special Events

**Jun 2**, 1300Z-1800Z, Asheboro, NC. Randolph Amateur Radio Club, NC4ZO. North Carolina Aviation Museum Annual Fly-In. 21.350 14.260 7.250. Certificate. Randolph ARC, 6747 King Mountain Rd, Asheboro, NC 27205.

[butch@atomic.net](mailto:butch@atomic.net)

### July 13, 2007

(Madison County) Hott Doggett 100 bicycle race (2 separate runs). Supported by Madison County ARCT - Need VOLUNTEERS to work this event (encompasses most of Madison County). ARCT will utilize the 220 band, and hopes to have a 2 meter link in place by race time.

<http://www.mhc.edu/hotdoggett/>

Contact: B. Allen Stines - KF4ZDS

EC for Madison County ARCT

1300 Barnard Road, Marshall, NC 28753

Radio: 224.360, 224.600, 224.660

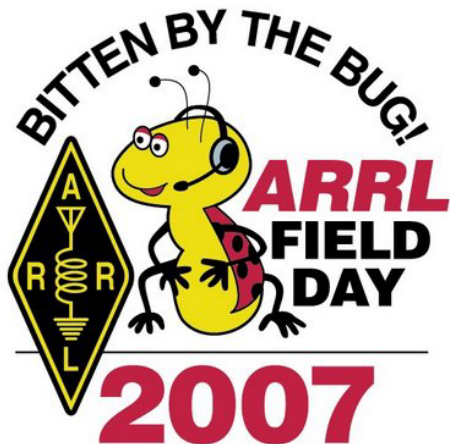
Phone: 828-712-6554

Email: [bpvfd1102@intergate.com](mailto:bpvfd1102@intergate.com)

### WCARS Hamfest...July 28<sup>th</sup>

K2JB - Dean, 2007 WCARS Hamfest Chair, reported at the May club meeting that some changes were under consideration for this year. Direct contact via telephone and e-mail is the most productive method for encouraging hamfest attendance and also reduces costs. Volunteers will be needed to make numerous telephone contacts in early July. This year's rent of the Haywood County fairground facility may include only the main building and pole barn. The remaining buildings haven't been attractive to vendors, exhibitors, tailgaters, nor visitors in the past, and full use was not needed anyway. Partial facility rent at Haywood County would reduce overhead for the day considerably. Concession stand operations will be provided "in-house" this year as was done in 2006. Last year's concession service was exceptional, as well as profitable for the club. This year, N4ST - Elwood will coordinate concession stand operation on hamfest day.

KF4TVD - Steve



### Field Day (FD) Activities

June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> should be a weekend for all of us to pack in a freight train full of Amateur Radio enjoyment. The FD focus as usual is on setting up temporary stations operating on alternate power sources (generator, battery, solar, etc.) Mobile units and stay-at-home participation is certainly welcome.

The goal for amateur operators is to demonstrate that we can communicate with one another, no matter what. Modern communication modes (phone, cell phone, e-mail, etc.) have their place and normal use, but catastrophic events throughout the world nearly always disrupt normal communications. Here's where the amateur operator becomes invaluable. Each operator should be capable of operating under primitive conditions absent any infrastructure. FD operations are conducted to test our equipment and execution of emergency planning to ensure continuous communication capability.

This year's ARRL theme is "Bitten by the Bug!" That theme, of course, is enthusiasm. Everyone is encouraged to attend all or at least some of WCARS FD operations. The location for this year's

event is a closely held secret that only a few are sure of.

The WCARS website will be updated at 0800, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, with the location of the planned activities. KE4VXC - Chet, 2007 FD Chair, plans to announce the location at 0800 on the Spivey Mtn. Repeater-146.910. Chet has informed many of us though that the site is on the left side of the road if approaching from one direction, and on the right side if approaching from the opposite direction.

Coordinated activities for the FD site include:

80m operations	KG4OPM - Marc
40m PSK	K2JB - Dean
20m Digital	KE4VMB - Ken
15m Phone	KN4ST - Elwood
10m CW	AF4SQ - Riley



GOTA HF of choice  
W4IYS - Scott

VE testing is scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 1600 hours on site. A local scout troop may be present to experience the occasion and interested in providing assistance in erecting antennas and in other manners be most helpful. Food service is scheduled for around 1730-1800. For anyone interested in really making this an event, RV sites should also be available.

Anyone interested in participating in FD as a contest must first know the rules. The ARRL official rules are available at [www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2007/fd.html](http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2007/fd.html). Copies will be available at the FD site. Section information can be found at [www.arrl.org/secinfo.html](http://www.arrl.org/secinfo.html). This year, get "Bitten by the Bug!"  
KF4TVD - Steve

NC General Assembly Bill S1340 Contact your Senate representative... Solicit their support for S1340. S1340 (similar to FCC PRB-1) would establish local regulation of amateur radio installations pursuant to NC statutes. The bill was passed in the NC House on May 8, 2007, and referred to the NC Senate committee on Commerce, Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

PRB-1, published on September 19, 1985, requires Local governments to reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio installations, and is codified in the Code of Federal Regulations Chapter 47 (Part 97.15(b) Amateur Radio.) Consistent local government adherence to PRB-1 may not be present in all applicable situations that affect amateur installations.

The pertinent text of S1340 is as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 19 (Cities)

"§ 160A-383.3. Reasonable accommodation of amateur radio antennas.

A city ordinance based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations that regulates the placement, screening, or height of the antennas or support structures of Amateur Radio operators must reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communications and must represent the minimum practicable regulation necessary to accomplish the purpose of the city. A city may not restrict antennas or antenna support structures of Amateur Radio operators to heights of 90 feet or lower unless the restriction is necessary to achieve a clearly defined health, safety, or aesthetic objective of the city."

SECTION 2. Article 18 (Counties)

"§ 153A-341.2. Reasonable accommodation of amateur radio antennas.

A county ordinance based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations that regulates the placement, screening, or height of the antennas or support structures of Amateur Radio operators must reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communications and must represent the minimum practicable regulation necessary to accomplish the purpose of the county. A county may not restrict antennas or antenna support structures of Amateur Radio operators to heights of 90 feet or lower unless the restriction is necessary to achieve a clearly defined health, safety, or aesthetic objective of the county."

Amateurs should encourage their representatives to vote for this bill, in order to gain important protections for "ham" stations. Disagreements with zoning authorities on permissible installations may then be addressed at the local level, governed by state statute.

*States that have enacted PRB-1 equivalent legislation:*

Alaska, California, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming .

PRB-1 does not specify a minimum height that provides for local government regulation, but they must be "reasonable" in their accommodations. Some states have adopted state statutes that codify PRB-1. Four states (Alaska, Wyoming, Virginia and Oregon) specify heights below which local governments in those states may not regulate. This actually goes further than Amateurs in other states who are trying to convince their legislators to sponsor similar legislation. Note that NC S1340, if enacted, would specify a minimum 90 feet tall installation before local restriction can even be considered.

**THE SMOKE TEST**  
The Official Publication of the  
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**PO Box 1488, Asheville, NC 28802**  
**www.wcars.org**  
**W4MOE/146.910 - /PL 91.5 Spivey Mountain/Asheville**

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American Radio Relay League Affiliate No. 0602

WCARS meets at 7:30 PM the first Thursday of each month at the Simpson Building at AB Technical Community College. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Membership dues are \$20/yr payable in January.

## Weekly Nets of local interest

Net	Freq (MHz) offset / PL	Day	12 Hr Time	24 Hr Time	NOTES
WCARS Information Net	146.910 - / 91.5	Monday	9:00 pm	2100	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Oasis Shrine Radio Corp. Net.	145.190 -	Sunday	9:00 pm	2100	
BRARC Net	146.640 - / 91.5	Sunday	8:00pm	2000	
Good Morning Net	146.760 -	M-W-F	9:00 am	0900	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Madison Co. Am.Rad.Com.Tm	224.660 - / 100	Tuesday	9:00 pm	2100	Madison Co. Emerg. Comm. Net
Buncombe Co. Emerg Mgt Net	146.910 - / 91.5	Wednesday	9:00 pm	2100	Directed Net, ARES / RACES
Volunteer Net	147.180 + / 136.5	Friday	9:00 pm	2100	Info, News and Swap Net
6600 Net	145.190 -	Saturday	9:00 pm	2100	Many Check-Ins - Wide Coverage
Blue Ridge Traffic Net	146.610 -	Nightly	9:00 pm	2100	May be ARES / SKYWARN in bad WX
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260 -	Sunday	9:00 pm	2100	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 -	Monday	8:00 pm	2000	Informal, Everyone Welcome
SATERN Net	14.265	Daily	10:00 am	1000	Salvation Army Team Emerg. Radio net
K4UUQ Morning Net	7.225	Daily	7:00 am	0700	Rag chew
NC Morning Net	3.927	Daily	7:45 am	0745	SSB Traffic Net
NC Evening Net	3.923	Daily	6:30 pm	1830	SSB Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (early)	3.573	Daily	7:00 pm	1900	CW (20-22 wpm) Traffic Net
Tarheel Emergency Net	3.923	Nightly	7:30 pm	1930	Directed Net, NC Emerg. Mgt / traffic
Carolinas Slow Net	3.571	Nightly	8:00 pm	2000	Slow CW (8-10 wpm) Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (late)	3.573	Nightly	10:00 pm	2200	CW (15-18 wpm) Traffic Net

Please send additions-corrections-deletions to the editor

**Smoketest Editor**

Members please send any material of interest for inclusion in the newsletter to me at [KF4TVD@ARRL.NET](mailto:KF4TVD@ARRL.NET) ... 73 Steve - KF4TVD

**WCARS June Meeting**

The next WCARS meeting will be June 7, 2007, 7:30 p.m. in the Simpson Auditorium, Simpson Bldg, at AB Tech. Program: To be announced.

**WCARS  
PO Box 1488  
Asheville, NC 28802-1488**