



WCARS.org
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The Official Publication of
The Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc

President's Microphone

To all hands that helped WCARS with the Hamfest from on site to off site, a little to a lot, out front to behind the lines, every one seen and unseen, {I hope this gets everybody}, my heartfelt thanks.

In spite of the heat and the hours you all came through, and the club and I appreciate it. I could go on and on, but I will not.

Just know, "well done" we "Did it."
See you all at the next meeting

Scott, W4IYS

HAMFEST WRAPUP

Randy Harris, KI4VLW

I want to thank all the club members who helped out with the Hamfest this past weekend. Both Friday and Saturday, and with their help, we had an excellent Hamfest. It was a club effort and the club stepped up and made my job easier. I am hearing on the local nets on how much everyone enjoyed our Hamfest and what a great time they had. Again, thanks to everyone who pitched in and helped.

Prize Winners at the hamfest:

Pre-registration prize, Yaesu FT-250R HR
Won by **Glenn May, KT4SP**

Runner-up Prize, FT-7900 Mobile
Won by **Linda Harris, KJ4CRL**

GRAND PRIZE, Yaesu FT-857D HF
Won by **Winston Small, KC4LLV**

SEE THE PICTURES ON PAGE FOUR

AUGUST MEETING

The next WCARS meeting will be

August 5th at 7:30 PM

**in the Auditorium of the
Simpson Building at AB Tech.**

ARES News

Tommy Queen, K4BNP sends along the following:

FCC Okays Employee Participation in Emergency Drills

Moving with unaccustomed speed, the FCC adopted a Report and Order on July 14, allowing hams who are employed by both government agencies and non-government agencies such as hospitals, to participate in emergency and disaster drills on behalf of their employers. The ruling was based on a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, WP-10-72, issued this past March, in response to petitions arising from a strict interpretation by the FCC's Enforcement Bureau of the prohibition on amateurs communicating on behalf of their employers. The decision came just more than a month after the reply comment deadline.

The ruling added a new paragraph to Section 97.113 (a)(3) of the FCC rules, which reads as follows:

(i) A station licensee or control station operator may participate on behalf of an employer in an emergency preparedness or disaster readiness test or drill, limited to the duration and scope of such test or drill, and operational testing immediately prior to such test or drill. Tests or drills that are not government-sponsored are limited to a total time of one hour per week; except that no more than twice in any calendar year, they may be conducted for a period not to exceed 72 hours.

There is no specific effective date given in the Report and Order, so it will presumably become effective upon publication in the Federal Register. The complete text of the report and order may be accessed online at :
<http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0714/FCC-10-124A1.pdf>

WCARS/VEC EXAMS

ASHEVILLE

AB-TECH, ROOM 134, ELM BLDG,
9:00 AM on the THIRD SATURDAY of:
JANUARY, MARCH, APRIL, JUNE, JULY,
SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, DECEMBER
VE TEAM LEADER: BOB HELTON, KS4FX
Phone: 828-712-5916

2:00 PM on the THIRD SUNDAY of:
FEBRUARY, MAY, AUGUST, NOVEMBER
VE TEAM LEADER: STEVE LANKFORD, AG4BY
Phone: 828-768-2141

BURNSVILLE

YANCY COUNTY LIBRARY
CONTACT VE TEAM LEADER
VE TEAM LEADER: DAVID McCARTY, W4TDM
Phone: 828-657-1044

COLUMBUS

CONTACT VE TEAM LEADER
VE TEAM LEADER: WAYNE ACKERMAN, W3GYK
Phone: 828-894-5542

HENDERSONVILLE

MOUNTAIN HOME FIRE STATION
9:00 AM on the SECOND SATURDAY of:
FEBRUARY, MAY, AUGUST, NOVEMBER
VE TEAM LEADER: SID HENDRICKS, W4IOE
Phone: 828-684-8130

LEICESTER

LEICESTER FIRE DEPT
9:00 AM on the SECOND SATURDAY of:
MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER
VE TEAM LEADER: LARRY YORK, K4MU
Phone: 828-683-1400

MARION

CONTACT VE TEAM LEADER
VE TEAM LEADER: HARRIET FULLBRIGHT
Phone: 828-291-7521

RUTHERFORDTON

ISOTHERMAL COLLEGE
CONTACT VE TEAM LEADER
VE TEAM LEADER: BRUCE TESSINEER, AD4OJ
Phone: 828-657-5464

WAYNESVILLE

CONTACT VE TEAM LEADER
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, DECEMBER
VE TEAM LEADER: HARLEY BULLMAN, AJ4PI
Phone: 828-645-0889

WCARS MINUTES JULY 1, 2010

The July 1, 2010 Meeting of WCARS was called to order at 1935 hrs by Scott W4IYS. He invited everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Attendees were then asked to introduce themselves giving their name, callsign (if any), and QTH.

N4AA stated that he and others were working to resolve problems with email as the meeting Minutes of previous meetings were not getting to him for distribution to members.

KI4VLW gave an update on Hamfest preparations with a call for help because everyone was needed and welcomed anyone to any capacity. Twelve vendors were signed up so far to date with more being invited. Updates and hamfest announcements are coming via local nets. Everyone was asked to make the hamfest announcement on any nets that they check into and pass the word via every mode. He stated that a big call for help is being made for setup and help at the concession stand.

He reminded everyone that Set-up is set for Friday (July 23) starting at 0800 hrs for RV's to be set up and 1000 hrs for starting work for the event setup.

N4AA offered to send out a special newsletter to/for/about the hamfest needs/wants/calls for supplies and help needs.

Tonja, (did not get callsign), gave information regarding the concession stand as to prices, items to be offered for sale, sources, etc. as related to last year's hamfest and projecting for this year's event.

Forums are being planned under various topics.

Prizes to be given were described (CARL: add list here if/when known)

Talk-in is planned for 146.91 (tone 91.5) and 147.390 (tone 94.8) with talk-in by W4IYS.

Attendees were asked to take a handful of last year's tickets (with telephone numbers) and give folks a call to share an invitation to this year's event and to ask them to share the invitation with other nets and friends in their areas.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Steve Emory N4SET and was accepted with thanks by the group.

The 1/2 and 1/2 drawing was made and awarded.

Further action on the MOE Van was tabled to the next meeting.

Attendees were invited to join in the Friday morning Museum Net on 3.976 at 0830.

The meeting was adjourned at 1857 hrs. Followed by fellowship and snacks in the lobby.

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Treasurer's Report - via Steve Emory N4SET, Treasurer
Period: Jun 3 - Jun 30, 2010

Prior balance: \$1839.38
Deposits: Membership: \$10
Hamfest Receipts: \$205.00
Club Activity: \$35.00
other: \$2.03

Prior balance + deposits: \$2091.41
Total expenses for the month: \$1731.45
Savings account balance: \$7476.49
Checking + Savings Balance at end of period: \$9,207.94

Minutes submitted by Bob Dockery, WD4CNZ

Something To Think About . . .

THE SITUATION:

In Washington DC, at a Metro Station on a cold January morning in 2007, this man with a violin played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time, approximately 2,000 people went through the station, most of them on their way to work. After about 3 minutes, a middle-aged man noticed that there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds, and then he hurried on to meet his schedule.

About 4 minutes later: The violinist received his first dollar. A woman threw money in the hat and without stopping, continued to walk.

At 6 minutes: A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.

At 10 minutes: A 3-year old boy stopped, but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head the whole time. This action was repeated by several other children, but every parent - without exception - forced their children to move on quickly.

At 45 minutes: The musician played continuously. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while. About 20 gave money but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of \$32.

After 1 hour: He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed and no one applauded. There was no recognition at all.

No one knew this, but the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth \$3.5 million dollars. Two days before, Joshua Bell sold-out a theater in Boston where the seats averaged \$100 each to sit and listen to him play the same music.

This is a true story. Joshua Bell, playing incognito in the D.C. Metro Station, was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about perception, taste and people's priorities.

This experiment raised several questions:

*In a common-place environment, at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty?

*If so, do we stop to appreciate it?

*Do we recognize talent in an unexpected context?

One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be this:

If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made . . .

How many other things are we missing as we rush through life?



2010 MIRIAM SMITH, KB4C, MEMORIAL AWARD

Carl Smith, N4AA (r) presents the Miriam Smith award to Russell Oder, N4K0X (l)

Congratulations to **RUSSELL ODER, N4K0X** for receiving the KB4C Miriam Smith Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to amateur radio emergency and public service communications in Western North Carolina. It is particularly significant in that previous recipients of the award select the individual who will receive it each year.

This prestigious award was presented by Carl Smith, N4AA at the annual Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society's Hamfest held in Waynesville, NC on 24 July 2010.

This award has been presented annually since 1996 in memory and honor of Miriam Smith KB4C who passed away July 26, 1995. She was very instrumental in organizing and refining emergency communication procedures for Western NC amateurs and especially in working out coordination with public officials about the capabilities of amateur radio during times of emergency and disaster relief.

More Hamfest

We were honored to have not one, but TWO ARRL officials attend our Hamfest and conduct an ARRL Forum for the attendees.

Bill Morine, N2COP is serving his first term as the elected Section Manager (SM) for North Carolina. He lives in Wilmington. The SM is the highest level elected ARRL official in North Carolina.

He gave us an overview of what is happening, ARRL wise, in North Carolina and his view of how he sees the future.

The second ARRL official was Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, the Vice Director for the Roanoke Division. Jim lives in Aiken, SC and this is his first term as our Vice Director.

He gave us an update on the happenings at the higher level of the ARRL and things going on at the FCC which could affect amateur radio.

Bill Morine took the opportunity to appoint Bob Dockery, WD4CNZ to the position of Public Information Official (PIO) for Western North Carolina. Bob previously held this position and we welcome him back into that role.