



WCARS.org  
September 2010

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

### President's Microphone

*Scott McCabe, W4IYS*

*The following note should be self explanatory but we will talk about it at the meeting next week.*

"I am finalizing plans for the 2010 Blue Ridge Bonanza. The date is September 18-19.

Will the Western Carolina ARC participate again this year?  
If so, will You be the contact person?

In the past, your group has operated as the Mount Pisgah MP.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Phil Roark, K4WFO  
VP Roanoke Valley ARC  
540-387-4487  
<k4wfo@arrl.net>

### FCC to Allow Government Drills Without a Waiver as of September 3

In July, the FCC released a Report and Order (R&O) that amended Part 97 -- more specifically Section 97.113 -- stating that government entities sponsoring disaster and emergency drills will no longer need to apply for a waiver to hold these drills.

Additionally, employees who wish to participate in non-government-sponsored drills and exercises may do so under certain conditions.

Part 97 is the portion of the Commission's rules that govern the Amateur Radio Service. In the August 4th edition of the Federal Register, the FCC issued a summary of the R&O entitled Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Amateur Radio Service Communications During Government Disaster Drills -- noting that the effective date of these new rules will be September 3, 2010.

### HAMFESTS

**Shelby** (the "Granddaddy") Sept. 4-5, 1303 Dallas-Cherryville Highway, Dallas, NC 28034 Talk-In 146.88 and 147.12 Details at <www.shelbyhamfest.org>.

**Virginia Beach** Hamfest (an official Roanoke Div. Hamfest) Sept. 11, Virginia Beach Convention Center, Virginia Beach, VA. Talk-In 146.97. More info at <www.vbhamfest.com>.

### September MEETING

The next WCARS meeting will be  
**September 2nd at 7:30 PM**  
in the Simpson Building Auditorium  
at A-B Tech on Victory Road, Asheville.

### PROGRAM

**Dean Blair, K2JB will present the meeting program about the two days he spent on the US Aircraft Carrier Dwight D. Eisenhower and share his experiences.**

### Words of wisdom from an Old Tennessee Farmer:

*Most of the stuff people worry about  
ain't never gonna happen anyway.*

### NORTH CAROLINA SECTION NEWS

*Bill Morine, N2COP. NC Section Manager*

### 75th ANNIVERSARY FOR ARES

In the September issue of QST you will see articles celebrating the 75th anniversary for Amateur Radio Emergency Services. We in North Carolina have a great ARES team so we salute all the ARES volunteers who have contributed their services during and after disasters over the past three quarters of a century.

For those of you going to the Shelby Hamfest, Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) Tom Brown, N4TAB, and Central Branch Asst. Section Emergency Coordinator (ASEC) Steve Misel, K4WEB, will host an ARES forum on Saturday at 12:30 PM to discuss the many positive changes in North Carolina ARES.

## MINUTES - AUGUST 5, 2010

*Bob Dockery, WD4CNZ, Secretary*

The August 5, 2010, monthly meeting of WCARS was held in the Simpson Building, AB Tech Community College at 7:30-pm.

President Scott McCabe W4IYS welcomed everyone and asked all to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

All present introduced themselves with name, callsign, and QTH.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were published in the club newsletter, SMOKETEST, August issue.

Tickets were sold for the 50-50 drawing. 1/2 of the proceeds go to the winner and 1/2 go to the club treasury.

The Treasurer's Report was given by the club Treasurer N4SET.

Randy Harris KI4VLW thanked everyone for their help in the recent Hamfest in whatever capacities they served. When asked if he would serve as Hamfest chair again next year, he AGREED to chair the event in 2011.

Tonya Campbell did the concessions for the Hamfest and thanked everyone for their help and AGREED to chair the concessions again for 2011.

A motion was made, seconded, and voted to donate \$300 to AB Tech Community College from Hamfest proceeds as a "thank you" for the use of the Simpson Auditorium for meetings and other areas to administer license exams during the year.

Dean Blair K2JB gave an update on the status of the club repeater that was hit by lightning and reported that the unit is still being worked on and is not available just yet. He says that repairs and set up will proceed as soon as possible.

Dean stated that he would present the meeting program in September relating to his two days on the US Aircraft Carrier Dwight D. Eisenhower and share his experiences.

The meeting program was presented by Dave Anderson K4SV called "Building your amateur station on a budget."

Via color pictures/computer, he showed hints and ideas for using junk-box parts and hardware store items for putting together connectors and such for the station. He included grounding strategies, antenna switching methods, coax line running and feeding. He entertained questions and comments after the program.

The meeting was adjourned at 2100 with refreshments and fellowship following.

### PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

**Sept. 11-12:** MS Mile Bike Ride, New Bern.

**Sept. 18-19:** Ride Without Limits, Camp Kanata, NC.

**Sept. 25:** ADA Step Out Walk for Diabetes, RTP, NC. For all previous events go to [www.hampublicservice.org](http://www.hampublicservice.org)

**Sept. 25-26:** MS Breakaway to the Beach Ride, NC & SC. Details at <http://ms150maps.com>.

**ATTN:** Public Service leaders: after a public service event please submit an ARRL Public Service Activity Report at <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/fsd157.pdf>

## NORTH CAROLINA SECTION NEWS

*Bill Morine, N2COP, NC Section Manager*

### NORTH CAROLINA BROADBAND EXPANSION

Gov. Perdue recently announced \$255 million will be used to extend broadband services across the state. Some Hams have expressed concerns that this expansion might include Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) systems. Many will remember that utilities in North Carolina experimented with such technologies, some of which did cause interference in Amateur Radio frequencies. This new proposal will consist of both wired and wireless technologies. We will monitor the types of systems which are proposed to be installed, and should we identify any technologies which will adversely impact Amateur Radio, we will work to get such systems changed to ones which do not cause Amateur Radio interference. If you ever have concerns about any state initiatives or would like help in crafting a response to state officials about this or other state issues, feel free to send a draft copy first to our section State Government Liaison (SGL) Bob Conder, K4RLC, at [k4rlc@arrl.net](mailto:k4rlc@arrl.net). Bob will gladly review your material and make sure your content is factually accurate.

### STATE ANTENNA LAW

Cleveland County (Shelby, Kings Mountain) is revising its ordinance regulating antennas to come into compliance with the 2007 North Carolina state antenna law. Many municipal zoning officials are still unaware or unfamiliar with this law. A reminder to all that the state antenna law does not bring relief to those living in subdivisions or neighborhoods with deed or covenant restrictions. However, if you live in an area where only city or county ordinances regulate antennas, the state law does apply. You can find a copy of the law at: <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2007/Bills/House/PDF/H1340v4.pdf>

### MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS REUNION

The Veteran Communicators Reunion (VCR) is an informal organization of former military communicators and electronics techs, MARS operators, ham operators, and civil servants, who served in military communications (all services) through the decades. They will have a reunion in Charleston, South Carolina October 7-10. More information at

<http://www.veterancommunicators.org>.

## WCARS/VEC EXAMS

### ASHEVILLE

AB-TECH, ROOM 134, ELM BLDG,  
9:00 AM on the THIRD SATURDAY of:  
JANUARY, APRIL, JULY, OCTOBER,

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, W3GY

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, K4ICU**

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

The above information was reviewed/updated by Norman, N4NH August 25th.  
Items which have changed since the last publication is shown in **BOLD** print.

***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  
 Spivey Mountain, Asheville, NC

**2010 OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	Scott McCabe	W4IYS	252-0583	esmccabe@charter.net
<b>Vice President</b>	Carl Smith	N4AA / KB4C	683-4251	n4aa@dpub.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wncgeneao@aol.com
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<b>Executive Committee</b>	Dean Blair	K2JB	665-1830	k2jb@arrl.net
	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
<b>Trustee - W4MOE</b>	Norman Harrill	N4NH	253-1192	nharrill@bellsouth.net
<b>Quartermaster</b>	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
<b>Awards Chairman</b>	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wncgeneao@aol.com
<b>Public Information</b>	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wncgeneao@aol.com
<b>Hamfest Chairman - 2010</b>	Randy Harris	KI4VLW	298-6685	rtsp71@aol.com
<b>Smoke Test Editor</b>	Carl Smith	N4AA	683-4251	n4aa@dpub.com

**HF/VHF Net Information**

<b>NET NAME</b>	<b>Freq(MHz) offset/PL</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Local time</b>	<b>Notes</b>
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