



OCTOBER 2006

*The Official Publication of*

## The Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc

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

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

October's meeting is when the nominating committee puts forth their nominations for the 2007 WCARS officers. If you are interested in a helping YOUR club by serving, please make your desires known. Voting will take place at the November meeting, no mail-in ballots will be accepted.

See you at the next meeting...73 Scott W4IYS

### GRAY Hamfest Restarted!

---this from WM4T about the Gray Hamfest:

The Gray Hamfest ran twenty years ending in 2000. It has been reformed with a group creating an association to sponsor it once again. This is the first year and due the scheduling it will be pushed back to Nov 11th, Sat. Next year it will return to it's regular date of the 3rd weekend of Oct. I am hoping that you ... (will) spread the word and contact the association president Charlie Stuchell, K4CWA ... (for more information) ... Let Charlie know that you're coming or who all is or can or maybe. Please spread the word thru nets and any other means you can.

Our website is <http://www.grayhamfest.com> and all contact information is there. Please email for any other information. PASS the word!

Thanks and with the new I-26 from Asheville, your only one hour and 5 minutes to exit 42 at Gray, TN soon to change like all yours did, will change to exit 17 later.

(The Hamfest will be) Held at the fairgrounds which is one of the largest in Tennessee so there should be all the space needed for whatever.

.....Sam, WM4T Communications, Gray Hamfest

### WCARS Election Time...or "who can we beg to serve this time?" Op Ed of K8SKX

It's voting time again: national, state, local elections to decide who will direct our country, state, and local governments. Also it's time to elect officers to direct WCARS for the next year.

I've been a member of WCARS for 20 years or so and each year it seems the same. A nominating committee calls up everyone they even suspect might be willing to serve WCARS. Sometimes they can fill the slate, often they can't. And WCARS has to "beg" someone to take an office or fill a job. The result is a few good hams, 10% or less, do 90% + of the work to keep the club alive, active or "simply" going. In the end these few good hams: burn out, get in a rut, lose interest because they never have time to ENJOY their hobby, or run out of time due to other obligations like family and work.

Remember, you get out of WCARS just what you put into it; Do nothing – Get nothing. And this it true right down to the Coffee and Donuts! If you can't help see that they get there, don't expect them.

Please come to the October meeting ready to volunteer your services or place your name on the ballot for an office, or call the nominating committee (N4NH 253-1192 or KI4NXM 683-6957) before the meeting.

### WCARS October Meeting

The next WCARS meeting will be October 5, 2006, 7:30pm in the Simpson Auditorium, Simpson Bldg, at ABTech. Program: Chet KE4VXC will discuss the club repeater and options for the future.

## Electronic Hole Theory a Fraud

Have you ever been confused by the Electronic Hole Theory of Semiconductor Physics? I do know my stuff when it comes to electronics and have done careful study of the illusory phenomenon of electron flow and here is what I have found. After years of research, I have come to realize that the hole theory may "Not be Correct." My theory, which has been proven time and time again in service shops all across the country, is this:

All electronic devices, especially ICs ...

### WORK ON SMOKE.

Yes, that what I said: Smoke. I've recently discovered that every electronic device manufactured and all IC makers encapsulate a certain amount of black smoke in every one of their devices. This smoke is what does the work and performs the magic of electron flow inside the device. Undoubtedly, you have often noticed that a component will quit working when this encapsulated smoke leaks out. I have documented this many times and it conclusively proves my theory. After all, when a storm comes up the sky get black. The lightning starts to flash through the black clouds, which must be smoke. Because the sky clears up and is no longer black the lightning stops! So the smoke is the answer to the electron flow. Proof positive: Have you even been able to operate an electronic component after the smoke leaked out? I rest my case.

© 1996,G.V.Deutschmann, Sr-SCSRvcs  
(suggested by Henry KF4ODC)

## Lightning still a threat

Just because the calendar says it's fall and the weather seems to be changing doesn't mean our threat of lightning damage is gone. The passing of a recent cold-front reminded me of this: I started hearing the thunder so went to disconnect my antenna - a 160m horizontal loop with 535 feet of wire in the open. Already there was enough static electricity on the wire to create a visible spark when I touched the grounding wire to it. I always totally disconnect the feedline and put the end in a glass quart jar to isolate it from nearby metal. This makes the antenna, from what I've read, a less desirable path to ground than other nearby objects, although nothing including the glass jar will stop a direct hit.

(continued bottom next column)

## Ham Radio not needed, we've got cell phones...

Have you heard that before? Here is an excerpt about the recent (Sept 23-24) flooding in Kentucky.

"All phone communications to the state emergency operations center (EOC) went down as early as 2 AM Saturday, returned and then went out a second time around 5 AM," Dodson reports. Emergency managers contacted Dodson to activate the Kentucky Emergency Net on 3.993.5 MHz to provide support communication between the EOC and Kentucky's 120 counties."

"Dodson says telephone service in the EOC came back around mid-morning on September 23, although the Kentucky Emergency Net remained in operation as heavy rainfall began in western Kentucky."

"Within minutes, Shelby Ennis, W8WN, in Hardin County reported via the K4ULW 146.625 repeater that all telephone service, including the Hardin County E-911 facility, had gone down," Dodson said. "Cell phones soon overloaded and also shut down, basically stranding the whole county without outside contact except via Amateur Radio." He explained that conventional telephone systems failed in Hardin County because the provider had installed all its systems in a basement area that flooded." (ARRL Letter Vol. 25:39)

Are you telling the amateur radio story of preparedness, emergency communications and willing service? Are you ready to respond? Cold and freezing weather, with its potential ice and snow storms are the way. Are you ready? Is your station? ...**Dick K8SKX**

## Roster corrections...

Please correct the following members' information in the roster printed last month.

KI4NXM	<a href="mailto:samhdaniel@earthlink.net">samhdaniel@earthlink.net</a>
KZ4L	<a href="mailto:kz4l@arrl.net">kz4l@arrl.net</a>

## Lightning still a threat...cont

The bottom line is that antennas can collect a significant static charge even before a storm is on top of you, one that could damage your equipment. And you know what a lightning strike can do. A few minutes of preventative will save you hours of "repair"..... **73 Dick K8SKX**

**THE SMOKE TEST**  
The Official Publication of the  
**Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc.**  
**PO Box 1488, Asheville, NC 28802**  
**www.wcars.org**  
**W4MOE/146.910 - /pl 91.5 Spivey Mtn/AVL**

**2006 OFFICERS**

President	Scott McCabe	W4IYS	252-0583	<a href="mailto:esmccabe@charter.net">esmccabe@charter.net</a>
Vice-Pres	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	<a href="mailto:elwood3@charter.net">elwood3@charter.net</a>
Secretary	Karen Smith	KG4OUP	890-5103	<a href="mailto:KG4OUP@arrl.net">KG4OUP@arrl.net</a>
Treasurer	Karl Krauss	K4PCY	674-8480	<a href="mailto:kraussmail@bellsouth.net">kraussmail@bellsouth.net</a>
Exec. Ctm	Ken Smith	KE4VMB	890-5103	<a href="mailto:KE4VMB@arrl.net">KE4VMB@arrl.net</a>
Exec. Ctm	Chet Allen	KE4VXC	258-3954	<a href="mailto:olblu@charter.net">olblu@charter.net</a>
Trustee	Norman Harrill	N4NH	253-1192	<a href="mailto:normalharrill@att.net">normalharrill@att.net</a>
Quarter Master	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	<a href="mailto:elwood3@charter.net">elwood3@charter.net</a>
Awards Chair	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	<a href="mailto:WD4CNZ@arrl.net">WD4CNZ@arrl.net</a>
Historian	Connie Duncan	KF4IQN		
Public Info	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	<a href="mailto:WD4CNZ@arrl.net">WD4CNZ@arrl.net</a>
Field Day 06 Chair	Chet Allen	KE4VXC	258-3954	<a href="mailto:olblu@charter.net">olblu@charter.net</a>
Hamfest Chair 2006	Dean Blair	K2JB	665-1830	<a href="mailto:K2JB@arrl.net">K2JB@arrl.net</a>
Smoketest Ed.	Dick Burns	K8SKX		<a href="mailto:K8SKX@arrl.net">K8SKX@arrl.net</a>

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	Time	NOTES
WCARS Information Net	146.910 - / 91.5	Monday	21:00	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Oasis Shrine Radio Corp. Net.	145.190 -	Sunday	21:00	
BRARC Net	146.640 - / 91.5	Sunday	20:00	
Good Morning Net	146.760 -	M-W-F	9:00	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Western Carolina Simplex Net	147.525	Tuesday	20:30	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Madison Cty Am.Rad.Com.Tm	224.660 - / 100	Tuesday	21:00	Madison Cty Emerg Comm Net
Buncombe Cty Emerg Mgt Net	146.910 - / 91.5	Wednesday	21:00	Directed Net, ARES / RACES
Volunteer Net	147.180 + / 136.5	Friday	21:00	Info, News and Swap Net
6600 Net	145.190 -	Saturday	21:00	Many Check-Ins - Wide Coverage
Blue Ridge Traffic Net	146.610 -	Nightly	21:00	May be ARES / SKYWARN in bad WX
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260 -	Sunday	21:00	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 -	Monday	20:00	Informal, Everyone Welcome
SATERN Net	14.265	Daily	10:00	Salvation Army Team Emerg. Radio net
K4UUQ Morning Net	7.225	Daily	7:00	Rag chew
Local Rag Chew	28.320	Nightly	21:00	Informal, Everyone Welcome
NC Morning Net	3.927	Daily	7:45	SSB Traffic Net
NC Evening Net	3.923	Daily	18:30	SSB Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (early)	3.573	Daily	19:00	CW (20-22 wpm) Traffic Net
Tarheel Emergency Net	3.923	Nightly	19:30	Directed Net, NC Emerg Mgt / traffic
Carolinas Slow Net	3.695	Nightly	20:00	Slow CW (8-10 wpm) Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (late)	3.573	Nightly	22:00	CW (15-18 wpm) Traffic Net

## Coming Events

10/5 WCARS 7:30pm Simpson Bldg, ABTech.

10/7 Rock Hill Hamfest, info at

[www.rockhillhamfest.com](http://www.rockhillhamfest.com)

10/11 QCWA #145, 11:30am J&S River Ridge

## Contests

10/7 California QSO Party

PSK Rumble 160-6m, info at

[www.n2ty.org/tara\\_rumble\\_rules.html](http://www.n2ty.org/tara_rumble_rules.html)

10/15 Pennsylvania QSO Party, info

[www.nittany\\_arc.net/paqso.html](http://www.nittany_arc.net/paqso.html)

10/22 Illinois QSO Party, info

[www.w9awe.org/ILQP2006.html](http://www.w9awe.org/ILQP2006.html)

10/28 CQ Worldwide DX Contest

Info: [www.cqww.com](http://www.cqww.com)

10/10 International CW/Digital Contest

Info: [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org)

**WCARS**

**PO Box 1488**

**Asheville, NC 28802-1488**

