



WCARS.org
October 2008

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

President's Microphone...

As we enter this autumn season, we have requests to provide communications for special events from the Blue Ridge Bonanza, the Shut-in Trail Run, and other events. I encourage every member to participate in these events to the extent possible. Not only do we provide services to the sponsoring agency, but generate welcome attention for the club and amateur radio in general. Thanks to everyone who helped with our club events already this year. Hope to see everyone at the next meeting.

73 Dean - k2jb

ARES The Buncombe County ARES group was scheduled to meet on September 18th. This meeting was canceled in view of the current fuel shortage. The meeting will be rescheduled.

K8SKX

Upcoming Events

October 1: Carolina Cycling Time Trials, Lowes Speedway
October 11: Pfafftown Hamfest
October 12: Charlotte Crop Walk
October 12: Maysville Hamfest
October 18: State ARES Meeting, Morganton.
October 18th/19th - UCP Ride Without Limits, Triangle Area.
October 18-19: Scouting Jamboree On The Air.

September 4th Minutes...Steve - N4SET

Meeting called to order at 7:31pm.

Pledge to the flag recited.

Introduction of members and guests made.

Motion to waive reading of minutes of August club meeting made, seconded and carried.

K2JB Dean- HS Senior Project - Guy Tracy to attain Amateur License. Club to provide communications for Blue Ridge Bonanza Special Event 9-26 & 27, and Shut-In Trail Run 11-1.

KI4VIR David - Presented Treasurers report, \$3953.81 in savings, \$4670.09 in checking.

K4BNP Tommy - Presented the evening program - Emergency Preparedness.

K2JB - Presented solar cycle predictions.

50/50 won by KG4RPY - Doris.

Door prize won by KI4OFL - .

SERA Journal won by K3AEB - Kelley.

Motion to adjourn made, seconded and carried at 8:26 pm.

October 18: Lung Strong 15k/5k, Cornelius.

November 1st - Beach to Battleship Triathlon, Wilmington.

November 1: Diabetes Walk, Charlotte.

November 2nd: City of Oaks Raleigh Marathon.

November 16: JARSFEST, Benson.

NC ARRL

Hams Assist as Recovery Process Begins for Ike

Hams in Harris County -- the Texas county where Houston is located -- and the surrounding area are responding to calls to assist served agencies with Points of Distribution (POD) starting today around the Greater Houston area. These PODs, scheduled to run from 8 AM-8 PM Tuesday or until all supplies are exhausted, are set up to distribute water, ice and food to area residents dealing with Ike and that storm's aftermath.

According to Joe Gadus, KD5KTX, an ARRL Public Information Officer in the South Texas Section, members of ARES South Texas District 14 -- under the leadership of District Emergency Coordinator Jeff Walter, KE5FGA -- are manning at least six PODs in Harris County. "These hams will be providing communications between the National Guard units at the PODs and the Harris County Office of Emergency Management to coordinate the delivery and resupply of food, water and MREs (meals ready to eat) to the victims of Hurricane Ike," he said. "Most of the participating amateurs are also victims [of the storm], having suffered property losses and power outages expected to last approximately three weeks."

Bill Rimmer, N5LYG, who is assisting with the deployment, said those assisting with the PODs are required to have a mobile VHF radio with a mag mount antenna and 50 W of power. "[Hams] will most likely be transmitting from [their] car using the car battery for power."

According to ARRL South Texas Public Information Coordinator Lee Cooper, W5LHC, Texas State RACES is manning the station at the State EOC from 7 AM-10 PM until further notice, and the Saltgrass/SWlynx linked repeater system is running a linked UHF/VHF Net at the request of State EOC. "They are mostly handling reports of where there is and is not power and gas," he said. "All of us up and down I-35 corridor are all standing by

awaiting requests [to assist]. We've received lots of damage reports. I suspect that the areas where we may be needed are either still blocked from access due to road debris or flooding, or possibly so much of the towns are just gone that communication [assistance] is not going to make a difference."

West Texas

While Ike did not directly impact West Texas, remnants from Tropical Storm Lowell are affecting residents of that area. ARRL West Texas Section Emergency Coordinator J.T. Caldwell, WA5ZFH, reported that the levees in the town of Presidio are holding, "but water is close to the top." Just last week before Ike hit, that town was more than 11 feet above flood stage resulting from rains left by Lowell. Mexican authorities have been dumping water from their reservoirs that feed into the Rio Grande, causing that river to flood.

"Additional water is being released from Luis Leon dam in Mexico," Caldwell said. "The forecast calls for the river level to rise sequentially each day over the next four days. No one currently expects the levees to hold at that point. Residents have been advised that if they hear sirens, immediately leave and seek higher ground. The shelters here have since been combined into one shelter at the Presidio Elementary School with about 120 people in it right now."

Saying that an Incident Management Team (IMT) is scheduled to get to the area sometime this morning to oversee operations, Caldwell said, "We will hopefully have a bit more information" once they arrive.

ARRL

October Meeting - The next WCARS meeting will be October 2, 2008, 7:30 p.m. in the Simpson Auditorium, Simpson Bldg, at AB Tech. Program: To be announced.

Blue Ridge Bonanza

This Special event will operate on September 27th-28th from 13:00-21:00 local time. 13 stations are spread along the Blue Ridge Parkway from Mile Post 0 through Mile Post 408.

The object is to work as many of these stations as possible during the weekend.



If you work any Blue Ridge Bonanza station and send us a SASE you will receive a Blue Ridge Bonanza QSL card.

If you work 7 or more stations you will receive a Blue Ridge Bonanza certificate.



If you work all 13 stations you will receive a special clean sweep certificate.

The list of stations is as follows:

Mile Post	Name	40M	20M	ARC Sponsor
0	Rockfish Gap	7.225	14.225	Valley
45.6	Buena Vista	7.230	14.230	Covington
61.6	Natural Bridge	7.235	14.235	Lexington
76.5	Apple Orchard	7.240	14.240	Roanoke Valley
84	Peaks of Otter	7.245	14.245	Roanoke Valley
100	Mill Mountain	7.250	14.250	Roanoke Valley
176	Mabry Mill	7.255	14.255	Franklin County
188.8	Ground Hog Mtn	7.265	14.260	Roanoke Valley
199.5	Fancy Gap	7.270	14.265	Roanoke Valley
213	Blue Ridge Music Center	7.275	14.270	Briar Patch
217.5	Cumberland Knob	7.280	14.275	Forsythe
317.4	Linville Falls	7.285	14.280	Forsythe
408.6	Mount Pisgah	7.290	14.285	WCARS

All Virginia Stations will be using the call W4CA. All North Carolina stations will be using the Call W4NC.

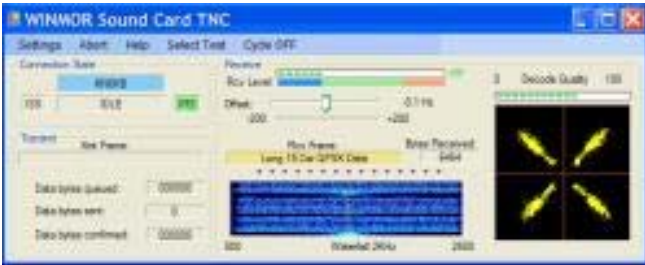
Submit a list of stations contacted including Call Sign, Mile Post, Location Name, Date, Time, Frequency and Signal Report and an SASE to:

AB4YZ
Ray Crampton
1670 Catawba Road
Troutville, VA 24175

The Roanoke Valley Amateur Club (W4CA) and The Forsythe Amateur Radio Club (W4NC) sponsor this event.

As indicated, WCARS will set up and operate the station at milepost 408.6, Mount Pisgah. Elwood - KN4ST, Randy - KI4VLW, and Paul - W4SKI will begin on Friday evening with the set up. Volunteers are welcome to come and visit, operate, learn, and have some fun. N4SET - Steve





New HF Digital Protocol to Debut at DCC Winlink 2000 network

WINMOR, an HF digital protocol designed for use with the Winlink 2000 network, will be unveiled at the upcoming ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference in Chicago, September 26-28.

According to developer Rick Muething, KN6KB, WINMOR will effectively eliminate the need for external PACTOR hardware. "This new protocol is implemented through a Windows application that uses a computer sound card for all the analog-to-digital conversion. It

provides error-free ARQ transfers within 200, 500 or 2000 Hz bandwidths," Muething said. In terms of throughput, Muething said that the 200-Hz WINMOR mode appears to equal the performance of PACTOR I. In WINMOR's 2000 Hz mode, its performance rivals PACTOR III. "WINMOR is a work in progress," Muething said. "We won't be pulling the wraps off a finished application at the conference. We're close, though. I'd like to see on-air testing in 3 to 6 months."

Conference information and registration is available online or by telephone at 972-671-8277. Rick Muething's presentation paper, WINMOR. . . A Sound Card ARQ Mode for Winlink HF Digital Messaging is included in the conference proceedings. Proceedings will also be available for sale on the ARRL Web after the conference.

ARRL

Section SET is October 4

We'll have another chance soon to prove our readiness - the 2008 North Carolina Section Simulated Emergency Test (SET). Plans for the event will be finalized soon. The SET is scheduled for Saturday, October 4 from 8am to 12 noon. The test scenario will involve a major hurricane hitting our coast, causing widespread flooding along the coast and into the piedmont area. The mountains will also experience landslides due to heavy rainfall. Many portions of our state will suffer from power outages and communications disruptions. Less affected areas of the piedmont will have to deal with an influx of evacuees from other areas. The Tarheel Emergency Net will be active on 3.927MHz from 8am, opening immediately after the North Carolina Morning Net. We'll move to

7.232MHz if needed because of propagation. The Tennessee and South Carolina Sections are holding their SET on the same date and we will send liaisons to their section nets. I encourage everyone to hold their local SET the same day as the section event so that we can more accurately simulate a regional disaster. But local SET's can be held anytime from September to January, just make sure your results are reported to headquarters by January 30, 2009.

Communications to EC's during the SET will occur on the North Carolina ARES mailing list. The general ARRL section email distribution will be used to alert every one of needs as the "storm" approaches. A summary of the drill activities will be posted next week on

www.ncarrl.org.

NC ARRL

For Sale: MFJ 948 Manual Tuner \$50. Brute .2mHz - 30 mHz AM/FM/CW-100watt SSB 250watt Amp, \$100. N4ZYE - Ed Ballew 828-484-9195

ARRL VE Schedule

Contact VE for exam dates, Yancey County Public Library - Town Square Burnsville, NC, David McCarty, W4TDM, 391 E. Main Street, Burnsville, NC 28714, 828-675-9044, Barry McKinney, Rt 2 Box 1122, Burnsville, NC 28714, 828-682-9270 (Walk-ins only)

Contact VE for exam dates, Columbus, NC, Wayne Ackerman, W3GYK, 621 Laurel Lake Drive, Unit B-104, Columbus, NC 28722-7436, 828-894-5542

Contact VE for exam dates, Rutherford County, NC, Isothermal College, Spindale, NC, F. Bruce Tessinear, KD4OJ, P. O. Box 341, Henrietta, NC 28076, 828-657-5464; A. B. Brackett, AB4E, 117 Toney Rd, Bostic, NC 28018, 828-245-6334

04-Oct Sponsor: UNIVERSITY OF TN ARC Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: BOBBIE E WILLIAMS (865)983-0055 Email: BOBBIE@USIT.NET VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: WALKINS ALLOWED UNTIL START OF TESTING SESSION 1128 E WEISGARBER RD CALL TO CONFIRM! CELL: 865-254-3067 KNOXVILLE, TN 37909

07-Oct Sponsor: GREENWOOD ARS Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: DEWEY E WILLIS (864)445-7574 Email: W4DEW@ARRL.NET VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: AMERICAN RED CROSS BUILDING 520 EPTING AVENUE, GREENWOOD, SC 29646

07-Oct Sponsor: MARTINSVILLE PHARA W4VEC-VEC Time: 7:30PM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: DAVID G GLEASON (276)638-1257 Email: AE4YK@HOTMAIL.COM VEC: W4VEC VEC Location: HENRY COUNTY ADMIN. BLDG 3300 KINGS MOUNTAIN RD TALK-IN 147.285 TONE 107.2 EMAIL AE4YK@HOTMAIL.COM

MARTINSVILLE, VA 24112

11-Oct Sponsor: KG4LVO Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: EDWIN A FLOWERS (828)321-2136 Email: KG4LVO@YAHOO.COM VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: ANDREWS PUBLIC LIBRARY-CONFERENCE RM 871 MAIN ST BUSINESS US 19 AT WALNUT ST TESTING FEE \$14 ANDREWS, NC 28901

11-Oct Sponsor: ROANE COUNTY ARC Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: KEITH V DALTON (931)261-4599 Email: WV4G@ARRL.NET VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: ROANE COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD 2735 ROANE STATE HIGHWAY HARRIMAN, TN 37748

11-Oct Sponsor: LINCOLN COUNTY VOLUNTEER COMM Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: CLIFFORD H BROMMER (704)483-7291 Email: WD4PIC@INFIONLINE.NET VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: LIFE SAVING CREW HALL 322 N ACADEMY ST CELL PHONE: 704-634-4004 LINCOLNTON, NC 28092

18-Oct Sponsor: WCARS-VEC Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: STEPHEN C SHAFFER (864)862-3549 Email: AF4RN@BELLSOUTH.NET VEC: Western Carolinas ARS VEC Location: RED CROSS BUILDING 940 GROVE RD ARRIVE 8:15 AM FOR PAPERWORK GREENVILLE, SC 29605

19-Oct Sponsor: ROANOKE VALLEY ARC Time: 2:00PM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: RAY V PILLOW (540)380-2116 Email: KK4HR@ARRL.NET VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: AMERICAN RED CROSS 352 CHURCH AVE SW PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED! (8-5 M-F) 540-375-2107 ROANOKE, VA 24016

Shut-In Ridge Trail Run

WCARS needs volunteers to provide communications for this the 30th Annual event.

Details:

Nov 1, 1400Z-2200Z, Asheville, NC, W4MOE. A 17.8-mile trail race. 14.285 7.280 146.910 146.520. QSL. W4MOE Shut-In Race, PO Box 1488, Asheville, NC 28802. w4moe@bellsouth.net



**ARRL Continuing
Education Online Course
Registration Source: ARRL
- Date: 2008-09-17**

Registration remains open through Sunday October 5, 2008 for these online course sessions beginning on Friday October 17, 2008: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002); Antenna Modeling (EC-004); HF Digital Communications (EC-005); VHF/UHF -- Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). Each online course has been developed in segments -- learning units with objectives, informative text, student activities and quizzes. Courses are interactive, and some include direct communications with a Mentor/Instructor.

Students register for a particular session that may be 8, 12 or 16 weeks (depending on the course) and they may access the course at any time of day during the course period, completing lessons and activities at times convenient for their personal schedule. Mentors assist students by answering questions, reviewing assignments and activities, as well as providing helpful feedback. Interaction with mentors is conducted through e-mail; there is no appointed time the student must be present -- allowing complete flexibility for the student to work when and where it is convenient. To learn more, visit the Continuing Education course-listing page or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator.

JOTA Activity

Few people realize that each year about half-a-million Scouts and Guides "get together" over ham radio for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). Since 1958 when the first jamboree-on-the-Air was held, thousands of Scouts and Guides have "met" each other through this event. It's also a great opportunity to interest young people in Amateur Radio as a hobby. This year's JOTA will be held October 18-19.

Calling frequencies include 3.570, 3.690, 3.940, 7.030, 7.090, 7.190, 14.060,

14.290, 18.080, 18.140, 21.140, 21.260, 24.910, 24.960, 28.180, 28.390, and 50.160 (all MHz). Scout participants in JOTA can earn their radio merit badge. There are several big JOTA events planned in North Carolina and there's a Yahoo discussion group setup for those interested in participating. Go to www.yahogroups.com and search for "NC JOTA". Yahoo also sponsors a national Boy Scout/Amateur Radio discussion group called "Scout Radio".
NC ARRL

"Basic Guide For Scientists"

I. Science Classification

1. If it's green or it wiggles, it's part of Biology.
2. If it stinks, it's Chemistry.
3. If it doesn't work, it belongs to Physics.

II. Rules for Laboratory Workers

1. When you don't know what you're doing, do it neatly.
2. First draw your curves, then plot the data.
3. Experience is directly proportional to the equipment ruined.
4. Experiments must be reproducible. They should all fail the same way.
5. A record of data is essential. It indicates you have been working.
6. In case of doubt, make it sound convincing.
7. Do not believe in miracles. Rely on them.

8. Teamwork is essential in the lab. It allows you to blame someone else.

9. Always leave room to add an explanation when it doesn't work.

III. Finagle's Laws, Creed, and Motto

1. First Law- If anything can go wrong with an experiment, it will.
2. Second Law- No matter what result is anticipated, there is always someone willing to fake it.
3. Third Law- No matter what occurs, there is always someone who believes it happened according to his pet theory.
4. Fourth Law- No matter what the result, there is always someone eager to misinterpret it.
5. Creed- Science is truth. Don't be misled by facts.
6. Motto- Smile; tomorrow it will be worse.

From N4K0X

Roanoke Division ARRL Service Award

Instituted in 1968 by Roanoke Division Director, Vic Clark, W4KFC, this award recognizes amateurs for a long history of significant and consistent contribution to Amateur Radio. The amateur selected would have, over the years, dedicated much of his or her time to Amateur Radio and the ARRL. Nominees and resumes are encouraged and accepted from the Roanoke Division amateur population. Winners of the Roanoke Division Service Award become members of the selection committee and vote on which nominee should be honored the next year. An individual can receive the award only once. The Roanoke Division Director does the administration of the award.

Below is a list of recipients by year.

1968 Donald B. Morris, W8JM *	1983 Karl Thompson, K8KT	1998 Norman G. Harrill, N4NH
1969 L.Phil Wicker, W4ACY *	1984 John C. Kanode, N4MM	1999 Emmie B. Patience, KA4LRM
1970 Victor Clark, W4KFC *	1985 Authur Thiemens, AA4AT	2000 Richard W. Maylott, W2YE
1971 Theodore Mathewson, W4FJ*	1986 Harold Robinson, W4QR *	2001 Tom Gregory, N4NW
1972 Ethel Smith, K4LMB *	1987 Jimmy Walker, WD4HLZ	2002 Elias (Bus) Etheridge, K4IX *
1973 Katherine Anderson, W8DUV	1988 Reynold L. Nitsch, W4NTO	2003 Les Shattuck, K4NK
1974 William Grenfell, W4GF *	1989 Clayton H. Merrell, W4FX *	2004 Ron Sokol, K4KHZ
1975 Ed Redington, W4ZM *	1990 T. Hunter Wood, W4ANK *	2005 James Boehner, MD, N2ZZ
1976 Charles Wright, W4PED	1991 Dennis Bodson, W4PWF	2005 John Covington, W4CC
1977 Monte Cone, WA4PBG *	1992 Nancy K. Draheim, NK4U	2006 Alan Bosch, KO4ALA
1978 Harold Richmond, W4CIZ *	1993 Harry D. Vorhauer, W4PVA	2007 None Awarded
1979 Theodore Cohen, N4XX	1994 James B. Macleod, W4NHV	
1980 Gay E. Milius, Jr., W4UG *	1995 Robert V. Southworth, KI4YV	* Deceased
1981 Stuart Meyer, W2GHK *	1996 Leland E. Patience, W4DRF*	
1982 Paul Rinaldo, W4RI	1997 Oliver N. Rinehart, WD8V*	

NOMINATION FORM

I hereby nominate the following Roanoke Division Amateur to receive the Roanoke Division ARRL Service Award.

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Nominated By _____ Call _____

Please attach resume. List all significant Amateur Radio achievements. Any documentation is helpful. Attach Amateur Radio magazine reference, club newsletters, newspaper clipping, etc. Closing date for nomination is December 1, 2008. Return this form with resume and any documentation to:

ARRL ROANOKE DIVISION DIRECTOR
Dennis Bodson, W4PWF
233 N Columbus Street
Arlington, Virginia 22203

Date _____

ARRL Roanoke Division
Director: Dennis Bodson, W4PWF
w4pwf@arrl.org

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 Mountain/Asheville				
2008 OFFICERS				
President	Dean Blair	K2JB	655-1830	k2jb@arrl.net
Vice-President	Frank Florianz	K4AVL	687-8718	frank754@bellsouth.net
Secretary	Steve Emory	KF4TVD	658-0261	kf4tvd@arrl.net
Treasurer	David Wilson	KI4VIR	713-5404	davidallenwilson@hotmail.com
Executive Committee	Dean Blair	K2JB	665-1830	k2jb@arrl.net
Executive Committee	Dick Burns	K8SKX	628-3153	k8skx@arrl.net
Trustee	Norman Harrill	N4NH	253-1192	nharrill@bellsouth.net
Quartermaster	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
Awards Chair	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wd4cnz@arrl.net
Public Information	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wd4cnz@arrl.net
Hamfest 08	F.M. Thornal	KE4KZS	697-8402	ke4kzs@arrl.net
Hamfest 08	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
Smoke Test Editor	Steve Emory	N4SET	658-0261	n4set@arrl.net
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 per year payable in January.				

Net	Freq (MHz) offset/PL	Day	12 Hr Time	NOTES
WCARS Information Net	146.910-/91.5	Monday	9:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Oasis Shrine Radio Corp. Net.	145.190	Sunday	9:00 pm	
BRARC Net	146.640/91.5	Sunday	8:00pm	
Good Morning Net	146.760	M-W-F	9:00 am	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Madison Co. Am.Rad.Com.Tm	224.660/100	Tuesday	9:00 pm	Madison Co. Emerg. Comm. Net
Buncombe Co. Emerg Mgt Net	146.910/91.5	Wednesday	9:00 pm	Directed Net, ARES / RACES
Haywood County Monday Night Roundtable	147.390/94.8	Monday	8:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Volunteer Net	147.180+/136.5	Friday	9:00 pm	Info, News and Swap Net
6600 Net	145.190	Saturday	9:00 pm	Many Check-Ins - Wide Coverage
Blue Ridge Traffic Net	146.610	Nightly	9:00 pm	May be ARES / SKYWARN in bad WX
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260	Sunday	9:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540	Monday	8:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
SATERN Net	14.265	Daily	3:00 pm	Salvation Army Team Emerg. Radio net (Time is UTC)
K4UUQ Morning Net	7.225	Daily	7:00 am	Rag chew
NC Morning Net	3.927	Daily	7:45 am	SSB Traffic Net
NC Evening Net	3.923	Daily	6:30 pm	SSB Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (early)	3.573	Daily	7:00 pm	CW (20-22 wpm) Traffic Net
Tarheel Emergency Net	3.923	Nightly	7:30 pm	Directed Net, NC Emerg. Mgt / traffic
Carolinas Slow Net	3.571	Nightly	8:00 pm	Slow CW (8-10 wpm) Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (late)	3.573	Nightly	10:00 pm	CW (15-18 wpm) Traffic Net