



WCARS.org  
October 2012

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

### President's Microphone

See you all at the next meeting please vote then come to the meeting and vote again.

Also don't forget JOTA and Shut in info in this Smoketest lets finish this year strong..... come give us a hand we need you!

Thanks

Scott

**Meeting for November is on the 15th  
W. Asheville Library  
7:30 PM**

### INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTE

**Club meetings are subject to the  
following:**

**Should Buncombe County offices close  
due to inclement weather, the library will  
close. If that happens, our meeting will be  
canceled.**

### WCARS Elections

Nominations will be voted on at the November meeting, please attend to vote your nominee for officer positions. Three officer positions will remain the same, Treasurer, Quartermaster and Newsletter Editor.

Elections will be held during the November meeting (November 15th). Please make an effort to attend as this is an important function of the club.

### Meeting Minutes for October 11, 2012

The October 11, 2012, general meeting of the Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society was called to order at 1932 hrs by Scott W4IYS, President/presiding.

He then invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

He then asked everyone to introduce themselves giving their name, call (if any), and QTH.

He asked Steve N4SET, WCARS Treasurer, to give his report: Checking: \$1892.87, Savings: \$14,356.11, and total assets: \$16,242.50.

### BCARES

Anyone interested in getting on packet and increasing the packet system in Buncombe County should contact Carl - N4AA at carl\_n4aa@charter.net for more information or check-in the BCARES net on Wed. night on 146.910 (PL 91.5) net begins 9 PM.

## Meeting Minutes for October 11, 2012

Upcoming club event:

Nov 3: Shut-In Trail Run - volunteers needed contact Steve N4SET

Nov 15: Next general WCARS meeting

Dec 8: Christmas Party, Masonic Lodge. Bring a dish to share.

Jan 3, 2013: first general meeting of new year

A request by "balloon chasers" was received asking if they could use the Club repeater during the event.

Permission was granted "OK as long as no priority traffic was ongoing at that time..."

Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) is set for October 19 for set up of a demonstration station and information table.

Operations to be performed for the station and meeting the public on October 20.

Norman N4NH commented about the newly proposed changes from the FCC. He DOES NOT support the changes and asked everyone to contact the FCC via card or letter (HARD COPY PLEASE) with a yes or no to these changes. Contact Norman with any questions.

Proposed officers for 2013 to be voted on at a later meeting:

President: Scott W4IYS

Vice-President: Norman N4NH

Secretary/PIO: Bob WD4CNZ

Treasurer: Steve N4SET

## Meeting Minutes for October 11, 2012

At Large: Lucinda KJ4CRL, Randy KI4VLW, Dean K2JB

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2039 with refreshments and fellowship following.

Submitted by Bob Dockery WD4CNZ

WCARS Secretary

### Submissions for Smoketest

Smoketest is needing contributions, if you have setup a new system, made a new antenna, made interesting or overseas contacts or any other radio project why not submit it to the newsletter and share it with the club.

It is your newsletter to share ideas, projects or if you are needing help or looking for radio related items.

If you do have something you would like to put in Smoketest you can send it by email: [kk4brd@gmail.com](mailto:kk4brd@gmail.com) or if you prefer postal mail:

KK4BRD

207 E College Street

Black Mountain, NC

28711

**Your participation will help  
make Smoketest better!**

## 2012 Christmas Dinner

The Christmas Dinner will be held December 8th at the Masonic Lodge in Candler at 6 PM.

As customary those attending you are asked to bring two dishes to the dinner, meat will be provided . A map and directions will be provided in the November edition of Smoketest.

## Jamboree On the Air

The Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society and The Daniel Boone Council, BSA will participate in the 55th JOTA as part of the Scout Show to be held at the WNC Agriculture Center, October 21.

WCARS will operate on 40m, 20m and 2m during the time the scout show is open to the public. Scouts will be allowed to participate in amateur radio as part of JOTA. Come and be part of a global event.

What is JOTA?

When Scouts want to meet young people from another country, they usually think of attending a World Jamboree. But few people realize that each year more than half a million Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2010 JOTA had just over 700,000 Scout participants from nearly 6,000 amateur radio stations! Modern technology offers Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without leaving home. JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur (ham) Radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event. With no restrictions on age or on the number of participants, and at little or no expense, JOTA allows Scouts to contact each other by ham radio. The radio stations are operated by licensed amateur radio operators. Many Scouts and leaders hold licenses and have their own stations, but the majority participate in JOTA through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs.



## Jamboree On the Air (continued)

When does JOTA happen?

JOTA is held the third weekend in October of each year. JOTA takes place starting Saturday at 0000 hours local time (12:00 AM) to Sunday, 23.59 hours local time (12:00 PM), though some activity continues over from Friday to Monday to take advantage of long distance (DX) time differences.

Band	WOSM Calling Frequencies	Suggest Band Segments for US Stations	Notes
80 m	3.940 & 3.690 (1)	3.920 - 3.940 3.670 - 3.690 (1)	(1) Extra Segment
40 m	7.190 & 7.090 (2)	7.180 - 7.200 7.270 - 7.290	(2) 7.090 not available in Region 2
20 m	14.290	14.270 - 14.290 14.320 - 14.340	
17 m	18.140	18.140 - 18.150	
15 m	21.360	21.360 - 21.400	
12 m	24.960	24.960 - 24.980	
10 m	28.390(3)	28.350 - 28.400 (3)	(3) Includes Novices & Techs
6 m	50.160	50.160 - 50.200	

### Useful Internet Sites:

K2BSA Amateur Radio Association

<http://www.k2bsa.net>

BSA JOTA Information

<http://www.scouting.org/jota.aspx>

World Organization of the Scout Movement JOTA Information

[http://scout.org/en/information\\_events/events/jota](http://scout.org/en/information_events/events/jota)

ARRL JOTA Information

<http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota>

By Harry - KC4EZN

## Update on AD4D

As many of you know Dorothy (Dot) - AD4D had a fall that resulted in needing medical treatment, she has been transferred to a long term care facility for at least the next 20 days and is no longer at the hospital. She does not have a phone or TV, the number to the facility is 828-454-9260.

To send Dorothy a card or letter by postal mail:

Dorothy M. Mc Cracken, AD4D  
1701 Old Clyde Rd.  
Clyde, NC 28721

## Cleaning out Ham Closet

FOR SALE: feel free to make offers

1. Radio Shack 2M Mobile HTX242 w/mic \$50 - great condition
2. Mobile 2M antenna w/mag mount - \$15
3. ADI AT 201 HT with rubber duck ant + battery pack - \$40
4. Davis WX Monitor II with anemometer/wind direction unit - \$25
5. Kenwood HT 215A with rubber duck ant. + drop in charger unit - \$25
6. 10-15-20 mtr mobile antenna with clamp on mount - \$15

Call (after 10:00 am please): (828) 254-01513

Bob Dockery WD4CNZ 72 Ormond Ave, Asheville, NC 28806

## Shut-in Ridge Race 2012

The Shut-in Ridge Race will be on November 3, 2012. BC-ARES may use the event as the yearly S.E.T., the event will also provide an opportunity to gain experience in event / emergency operations.

The race begins at the Arboretum Education center and concludes at the Mt. Pisgah trailhead.

If you would like to participate in this event please contact Steve - N4SET at [n4set.wnc@gmail.com](mailto:n4set.wnc@gmail.com) or by other means.

## WCARS / VEC Exam Schedule

**Asheville** - AB-TECH, Rm 134, Elm Bldg

**9:00 AM on the THIRD SATURDAY of:  
January, April, July and October**

VE Team Leader: Bob Helton - KS4FX  
Phone: 828-684-0249

**2:00 PM on the THIRD SUNDAY of:  
February, May, August and November**

VE Team Leader: Steve Lankford - AG4BY  
Phone: 828-768-2141

**Burnsville** - Yancey County Library

Contact:

VE Team Leader: David McCarty - W4TDM  
Phone: 828-657-1044

**Marion**

Contact:

VE Team Leader: Harriet Fullbright - K4ICU  
Phone: 828-291-7521

**Rutherfordton** - Isothermal College

Contact:

VE Team Leader: Bruce Tessineer - AD4OJ  
Phone: 828-657-5464

**Waynesville**

Contact:

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 and December

VE Team Leader: Harley Bullman - AJ4PI  
Phone: 828-645-0889

**For other locations contact:  
Norman Harrill  
N4NH@arrl.net / 828-253-1192**

## From the Editor

Summer seems to be gone now with the cooler weather settling in. I've been busy working on various radio projects and have had some lengthy delays on the main project.

I hope to have a full time Packet station running by the end of October. If everything checks out good on test day with Carl - N4AA, I don't see any delays in making that happen.

For JOTA this year I will be attempting to demonstrate Packet Radio, hopefully it will go good and with minimal problems.

All members are invited to come out to the Ag Center on Saturday Oct 20th to help out at JOTA.

Just a reminder to WCARS members that the WCARS information net is held every Monday at 9 PM all are welcomed to call into the net.

And on Wednesday nights at 9 PM BCARES net is held, members are encouraged to call in and participate. If you are monitoring and the net is not called after a couple of minutes have passed with no one starting the net; you are encouraged to call the net and make a log of call ins. This is good practice in case there is a real emergency where the usual operators are not able to call the net.

If you have something you would like to send to Smoketest please send it to [kk4brd@gmail.com](mailto:kk4brd@gmail.com).

## Regional Hamfests

### Paulding County ARC Hamfest

When: September 15th  
Where: Earl Duncan Park (Paulding Meadows)  
724 Paulding Meadows Drive  
Dallas, GA  
Talk-in: 146.895 + (PL 77.0)

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### ARRL / TAPR Digital Communications Conference

When: September 21st to 23rd  
Where: Sheraton Gateway Hotel Atlanta Airport  
1900 Sullivan Road  
Atlanta, GA

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### SEDCO / W4DXCC VIII Convention

When: September 28th  
Where: Main Stay Suites  
410 Pine Mountain Road  
Pigeon Forge, TN

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### The Rock Hill Hamfest

When: October 6th  
Where: Faith Assembly of Rock Hill  
2800 Faith Blvd.  
Rock Hill, SC  
Talk-in: 147.030 - (PL none)

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### ARC of Augusta, GA Hamfest

When: October 13th  
Where: Blythe Area Community Center  
3129 Highway 88  
Blythe, GA  
Talk-in: 145.490 - (PL none)

### Al Brock Memorial Hamfest

When: October 20th  
Where: Senior Center  
406 Riverside Parkway NE  
Rome, GA  
Talk-in: 146.940 (PL 88.5)

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### Gray Hamfest

When: October 20th  
Where: Bristol Motor Speedway  
151 Speedway Road  
Bristol, TN  
Talk-in: 145.290 - (PL 103.5)

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### Hamfest Chattanooga 2012

When: October 27th  
Where: East Ridge Community Center  
1517 Tombras Avenue  
East Ridge, TN  
Talk-in: 146.79 - (PL none)

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### Sumter "Open Air" Hamfest

When: October 27th  
Where: Sumter Jaycee Hut  
314 Pine Street  
Sumter, SC  
Talk-In: 0147.015

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### 21st Annual Winter Hamfest

When: January 5, 2013  
Where: Smokey Mountain Expo Center  
25E near exit 8 on I-81  
1615 Pavilion Drive  
White Pine, TN



## The ARRL Letter

Materials in the ARRL Letter are taken from The ARRL Letter online, full credit is given to The ARRL Letter and the American Radio Relay League, as per republication guidelines require.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter>

### Last Man Standing Producer Cancels Special Event

Due to concerns over perceived violations of Section 97.113(a)(3), Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, has cancelled the Last Man Standing Special Event Station planned for October 28. Amodeo had applied for and received a 1x1 call sign -- K6T -- to use for the event that would have taken place on the show's set. Last Man Standing stars Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT. "Although the intent of the Special Event Station was to celebrate and promote ham radio, it might be interpreted as promotion for the show and that cannot be permitted," Amodeo explained. "While we are disappointed with the cancelation of what would have been a fun, one-of-a-kind event, I know that as a licensed amateur and producer of broadcast programs, compliance with the FCC rules takes precedence. We will find other fun ways to use our station and promote ham radio soon. Mike Baxter's fictitious station, KA0XTT, will continue to appear on the set of Last Man Standing, but the radios will remain silent." Last Man Standing begins its second season on Friday, November 2 at 8/7 Central.

### Silent Key: Sean Smith, KG4WSS, Killed in Consulate Attack

09/18/2012

Sean P. Smith, KG4WSS, of Falls Church, Virginia, was killed when the US Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, was attacked on September 11. He was 34. Smith was one of four Americans, including Chris Stevens -- the US Ambassador to Libya -- who was killed in the attack.



Smith -- a native of San Diego -- enlisted in the Air Force in 1994 as a ground radio maintenance specialist, including a deployment to Oman, before leaving the service in 2002 as a staff sergeant. He was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal. Smith, who had worked at the State Department for 10 years, was in Libya on a temporary assignment when he was killed; Before his temporary assignment to Benghazi, Smith served for the State Department in Brussels, Baghdad, Pretoria, Montreal and The Hague.





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### **Silent Key: Sean Smith, KG4WSS, Killed in Consulate Attack (continued)**

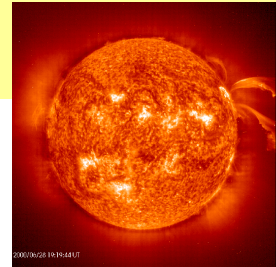
“Sean was a friend of mine, and while he was not a very active operator he was an extremely skilled electronic technician,” James Kirkham, W4HFK, told the ARRL. “He was instrumental in getting me back into the hobby after a 10 year hiatus.”

Smith was well known in the online gaming community as an avid participant of the space fantasy game EVE Online, where he was known as “Vile Rat,” one of the leaders of a gamers’ alliance and renowned for his diplomatic skill in the multi-player space warfare simulation.

“If you play this stupid game, you may not realize it, but you play in a galaxy created in large part by Vile Rat’s talent as a diplomat,” said Smith’s friend Alex Gianturco, in a tribute posted on his website. No one focused as relentlessly on using diplomacy as a strategic tool as VR.” Gianturco wrote that Smith had been under fire before, when he was posted to Baghdad. When that occurred, he usually broke off his messaging. “We’d freak out and he’d come back okay after a bit,” Gianturco wrote. “But Tuesday night, after reporting ‘GUNFIRE,’ he disconnected and never returned.” A few hours earlier that evening, Smith posted the following: “assuming we don’t die tonight. We saw one of our ‘police’ that guard the compound taking pictures.”

Smith is survived by his wife, Heather, and two young children, Samantha and Nathan. “They will grow up being proud of the service their father gave to our country, service that took him from Pretoria to Baghdad, and finally to Benghazi,” Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said in a statement. – Thanks to The Washington Post, CNN, the US Air Force, Bill Cross, W3TN, and James Kirkham, W4HFK, for the information

# Solar Weather



NOAA Solar Forecasts

Updated at: 2012 Oct 15

**Sunspot Number: 97**

**Spotless Days**

Flare	0-24 hr	24-48 hr
Class M	25%	25%
Class X	05%	05%

Current Stretch: 0 days  
 2012 total: 0 days (0%)  
 2011 total: 2 days (<1%)  
 2010 total: 51 days (14%)  
 2009 total: 260 days (71%)  
 Since 2004: 821 days  
 Typical Solar Min: 486 days  
 Updated 15 Oct 2012

Geomagnetic Storms

Mid-latitudes	0-24 hr	24-48 hr
Active	30%	10%
Minor	10%	05%
Severe	01%	01%

**Interplanetary Magnetic Field**

$B_{total}$ : 2.9 nT       $B_z$ : 0.3 nT south

High-latitudes	0-24 hr	24-48 hr
Active	15%	20%
Minor	30%	20%
Severe	40%	15%

**The Radio Sun**

10.7 cm flux: 132 sfu

HF Conditions	Day	Night
80 m - 40 m	Fair	Good
30 m - 20 m	Good	Good
17 m - 15 m	Good	Good
12 m - 10 m	Fair	Poor
VHF Conditions	Day	Night
Aurora	Band Closed	
6 m EsEU	Band Closed	
4 m EsEU	Band Closed	
2 m EsEU	Band Closed	
2 m EsNA	Band Closed	
EME Deg	Fair	

# ***SMOKETEST***

*Official publication of the*

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

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

**www.wcars.org**

**W 4 M O E**

**Repeater: 146.91 (PL-91.5)**

**Spivey Mountain, Asheville, NC**

### **2012 OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	<b>Scott McCabe</b>	<b>W4IYS</b>	<b>252-0583</b>	<b>esmccabe@charter.net</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Russ Oder</b>	<b>N4KOX</b>	<b>628-0781</b>	<b>oderr@bellsouth.net</b>
<b>Secretary, Awards Chairman &amp; Public Information</b>	<b>Bob Dockery</b>	<b>WD4CNZ</b>	<b>254-0513</b>	<b>wd4cnz@charter.net</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Steve Emory</b>	<b>N4SET</b>	<b>658-0261</b>	<b>n4set@arrl.net</b>
<b>Executive Committee</b>	<b>Randy Harris</b>	<b>KI4VLW</b>	<b>298-6685</b>	<b>rtsp71@aol.com</b>
<b>Executive Committee</b>	<b>Dean Blair</b>	<b>K2JB</b>	<b>423-3082</b>	<b>k2jb@bellsouth.net</b>
<b>Executive Committee</b>	<b>Linda Harris</b>	<b>KJ4CRL</b>	<b>298-6685</b>	<b>rtsp71@aol.com</b>
<b>Trustee - W4MOE</b>	<b>Norman Harrill</b>	<b>N4NH</b>	<b>253-1192</b>	<b>nharrill@bellsouth.net</b>
<b>Quartermaster &amp; Webmaster</b>	<b>Lee Johnson</b>	<b>KB4QDQ</b>	<b>242-1630</b>	<b>leejohnsonster@gmail.com</b>
<b>Hamfest Chairman - 2013</b>	<b>Jeff Weller</b>	<b>KJ4TEI</b>	<b>683-5271</b>	<b>weller_j@bellsouth.net</b>
<b>Smoke Test Editor</b>	<b>Paul Tilley</b>	<b>KK4BRD</b>	<b>712-0477</b>	<b>kk4brd@gmail.com</b>

HF/VHF/UHF Net Information				
<u>NET NAME</u>	Freq offset / PL	Day	Local time	Notes
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
Franklin, NC - Winesprings Bald	147.240 + / 151.4	Daily	9-PM	
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	7.228	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 Mitchell Sunrise Net	442.225 + 107.2	Thursday	9-AM	Informal - 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.	145.190 +	Sunday	9-PM	
SATERN	14.265	Daily	3-PM	Salvation Army Team-Emergency
Tarheel Emergency Net	3.923	Daily	7:30-PM	Directed, NC Emerg. 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
???	224.600			WB4PLA on Spivey Mtn. ???
W4YK	53.630 - 100	Friday	9-PM	???
Traders Net	147.05 - 91.5	Tuesday	9-PM	
Skywarn	145.27 - 91.5	As Needed		
SC Hearts / NC Hears / SW VA Net	444.250 - 91.5	Daily	8-PM	
NC Hears	444.250 - 91.5	Daily	9:30 PM	
K4MFD Greenville - 440	444.200 + 173.8			Located on Bald Mtn. N. of Asheville
K4MFD Greenville - 6 Meter	53.400			Located on Bald Mtn. N. of Asheville Linked to N2GE 224.660 & KI4DNY 224.600 fulltime
Blue Ridge Weather Watch	145.190 -	T-T	9-PM	Directed net, Skywarn, everyone welcomed

<b>Regional Repeater List</b>		
<b>Frequency / offset / PL</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Notes</b>
145.190 -	Mt. Mitchell	
146.520 Simplex	National Calling Frequency	
146.910 - 91.5	WCARS	
146.640 - 91.5	Hendersonville	IRLP
146.610 -	Greenville, SC	
147.105 + 91.5	Hendersonville	
145.270 - 91.5	Hendersonville	
145.370 - 91.5	Greenville, SC	
147.390 + 94.8	Waynesville	
147.315 + 123	Spartanburg	
147.060 + 123	Greenville, TN	
145.410 - 127.3	Greenville, TN	
145.390 - 186.2	Greenville, TN	
146.760 -	Mt. Pisgah	
146.880 -	Shelby	
147.135 +	Brevard	
147.285 +	Tryon	
145.330 -	Tryon	
146.790 -	Anderson, SC	
146.240 +	Franklin	Connected to 151.4 Pickens, SC
442.225 + 107.2	Mt. Mitchell	
442.450 +	Hendersonville	
442.850 +	Brevard	
444.875 + 131.8	Waynesville	IRLP
224.520 - 91.5	Mt. Spivey	
224.600 - 94.8	Asheville	
224.240 -	Hendersonville	
224.960 -	Hendersonville	
224.540 -	Mt. Mitchell	
224.260 -	Mt. Pisgah	
224.200 -	Shelby	
224.460 -	Shelby	
224.360 -	Marshall	
224.660 - 100	Madison County	
53.630 - 100	Mt. Mitchell	
53.130 - 100	Hendersonville	
53.410 - 131.8	Greenville, SC	