



NOVEMBER 2006

The Official Publication of

The Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc

www.WCARS.org

President's Microphone...Scott W4IYS

I'm pleased to announce that an anonymous donor has given an HF transceiver plus power supply and a 10 meter mobile transceiver to the club for use in emergency communications in memory of Marcel Andrade, WB4TRX, now a Silent Key. Marcel was a long time ham and a distinguished member of the faculty at UNCA who helped organize and guide a student radio club at the college. Thank you, donor, for your support of WCARS in honor of WB4TRX-sk.

Don't forget the election of 2007 WCARS officers will take place at the November meeting. Also nominations for the WCARS Ham of the Year will be collected by Chet KE4VXC.

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

Slate of Officers Nominated

The nominating committee for WCARS officers for 2007 presented their slate at the October meeting. The slate is: President – Scott W4IYS; VP – John AI4HY; Treasurer – Karl K4PCY; Secretary – Karen KG4OUP; Exec Committee – Ken KE4VMB and Chet KE4VXC; and Quarter Master – Elwood KN4ST.

If you want to nominate someone else for an office, you must have their permission PRIOR to making the nomination from the floor. Voting will only take place at the November WCARS meeting.

WCARS November Meeting

The next WCARS meeting will be November 2, 2006, 7:30pm in the Simpson Auditorium, Simpson Bldg, at ABTech. Program: TBA

October minutes...Karen KG4OUP

- Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.
- Introductions were made: 37 members, one “soon to be new ham” and one visitor were present.
- Karl K4PCY gave the treasurer's report: ending total balance \$10,993.71.
- Scott W4IYS gave the nominating committee's report.
- Tommy KF4PYX announced the passing of a Waynesville ham. His widow is selling all the equipment and anyone interested should contact Tommy.
- Dick K8SKX asked for information regarding nets listed in Smoketest. Also requested filler material for Smoketest. Send it to him by e-mail if possible.
- Chet KE4VXC asked for a date and place to hold the Christmas party. (Suggestion was Dec 9)
 - Said that nominations for Ham of the Year would be taken at the November meeting.
 - Workday for the repeater site to be Oct 28th 8:00am, bring your lunch.
- Chet KE4VXC discussed the repeater situation and the work that needs to be done on it.
- Henry KF4ODC gave his quiz: no one got the correct answer.
- 50/50 drawing winner was Jack WD4IJT.
- Door prize winner was John AI4HY.

Built or Homebrewed anything lately?

Why not submit a short article and maybe a photo about your project to Smoketest for publication.

FCC Omnibus Report and Order...

The FCC recently released their R&O 06-149 making a number of changes for amateurs. Each one is encouraged to read the order to see how it affects their operating privileges. Once the rules go into effect, some of the significant changes are:

- expanded the phone subbands in the 75 and 40 meter bands (Extra: 3600-4000 kHz and 7125-7300 kHz, Adv: 3700-4000 kHz and 7125-7300 kHz, and Gen: 3800-4000 kHz and 7175-7300 kHz);
- agreed to allow Novice and Tech Plus (Technician with Element 1 credit) licensees to operate in the General class CW subbands on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters (3525-3600 kHz, 7025-7125 kHz, 21025-21200 kHz, 28000-28300 kHz);
- implemented rules to discourage multiple vanity call sign filings on the same day from the same applicant;
- permitted auxiliary stations to transmit on portions of the 2 meter band;
- permitted the use of spread spectrum on 222-225 MHz;
- permitted amateurs to retransmit communications from the International Space Station;
- permitted amateur licensees to designate a specific Amateur Radio club to receive their call sign in memoriam;
- eliminated certain restrictions governing the manufacture, marketing and sale of external RF power amplifiers intended for Amateur Radio use;
- clarified that "amateur stations may, at all times and on all frequencies authorized to the control operator, make transmissions necessary to meet essential communication needs and to facilitate relief actions";
- deleted the frequency bands and segments specified for Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) stations;
- deleted the requirement to publicly announce Amateur Radio examination locations and times;
- permitted Amateur Radio stations in Alaska and surrounding waters more flexibility in providing emergency communications.

Each amateur is encouraged to obtain a copy of the R&O to see exactly how their operating privileges will change. The FCC Part 97 amendments can be found at:

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-149A1.pdf

WCARS Ham of the Year Nominations

It's time again to select the WCARS Ham of the Year recipient. Again this year Chet KE4VXC is collecting nominations. The individual should be one who has, for the past year, supported and promoted WCARS and its activities. Those who have already received this honor are not eligible again. Please give Chet your nomination at the November WCARS meeting or send it to him. The honor is presented annually at the Christmas potluck.

Meteor showers....

Meteor showers can be fun both to watch and to "work". As the meteor enters the earth's atmosphere it vaporizes leaving a trail of matter. These trails are often strong enough to reflect VHF signals allowing short QSO's, usually CW. For a successful QSO you'll need at least 100w and a beam with elevation control. However, even if you don't have the stuff to QSO, you can probably listen anyway.

Upcoming meteor showers include:

- Leonids – November 17
- Geminids – December 14
- Ursids – December 23
- Quadrantids – January 4

(thanks Henry KF4ODC for the schedule)

Nets can be fun...

...and the bands seem filled with them. Given that the weather is changing, many of us may "have more time" for radio, or at least a quick listen. Here are a couple links sent in by Glen KI4MPQ and Bob WD4CNZ. The first is a general listing of HF nets, while the second are mostly coastal and cruising nets. Give them a "look-see / listen-to":

www.w4uvh.net/nets2you.html

www.docksideradio.com/east_coast.htm

CSN frequency change

Due to the expansion of the 75 meter phone bands, CSN (Carolinas Slow Net) will change its frequency from 3.695 MHz to 3.571 MHz starting November 1. The net time (20:00 et) will not change. FYI, this can be a good place to listen to "real-time" slow CW (about 8-10 wpm).

THE SMOKE TEST
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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	esmccabe@charter.net
Vice-Pres	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
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Awards Chair	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	WD4CNZ@arrl.net
Historian	Connie Duncan	KF4IQN		
Public Info	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	WD4CNZ@arrl.net
Field Day 06 Chair	Chet Allen	KE4VXC	258-3954	olblu@charter.net
Hamfest Chair 2006	Dean Blair	K2JB	665-1830	K2JB@arrl.net
Smoketest Ed.	Dick Burns	K8SKX		K8SKX@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/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
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
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	3.571	Nightly	20:00	Slow CW (8-10 wpm) Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (late)	3.573	Nightly	22:00	CW (15-18 wpm) Traffic Net

Please send additions-corrections-deletions to the editor

Coming Events

11/2 WCARS 7:30pm Simpson Bldg, ABTech.

11/8 QCWA #145, 11:30am J&S River Ridge

11/11 Gray TN Hamfest

Info: www.grayhamfest.com

12/9 PROBABLE date of WCARS Christmas

Potluck. Note that this will replace the normal
December WCARS meeting.

Contests

11/4 ARRL November Sweepstakes – CW

11/11 Kentucky QSO party

11/11 Japan International DX Contest – info at

<http://je1cka.jzap.com/jidx/jidxrul-e.html>

11/18 ARRL November Sweepstakes – Phone

11/25 CQ WW DX Contest – CW only, the biggest
of them all. Info: www.cqww.com

12/1 ARRL 160m Contest – CW only

12/9 ARRL 10m Contest

Contest info: www.arrl.org/contests

WCARS

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