



WCARS.org
November 2010

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

President's Microphone

Cooler weather, Thanksgiving, WCARS Christmas Party, Christmas and finally New Years. It's a full schedule between now and the new year.

Just remember that the November meeting will be our last "official" meeting for 2010. In December there will be NO regular meeting, as we will have the Christmas Party on December 4th.

At the October meeting the slate of officers was presented and with no objections and no other nominations from the floor, the following will lead WCARS for the 2011 year.....

President, Scott McCabe, W4IYS
Vice President, Carl Smith, N4AA
Secretary, Deryn Blackman, KJ4TED
Treasurer, Steve Emory, N4SET
Quartermaster, Deryn Blackman, KJ4TED

My thanks to all of the above for offering their services for next year.

We have already settled on the Hamfest Chairman for 2011 and that will be Randy, KI4VLW.

We were glad to learn that Doris Gaylean, KG4RPY is recovering from her heart problems. We look forward to seeing her soon.

73,
Scott, W4IYS

SHUTIN TRAIL RACE

The Shutin Trail Race on the Parkway will be handled by the BCARES this year. Dick Burns, K8SKX has put together a plan and enough volunteers to handle the communications requirements for the Race.

The Race is being held on Saturday, November 6th starting at 10-AM from the Arboretum area and extending up the parkway to Mt. Pisgah.

This will be conducted as an exercise for the BCARES and they would appreciate your cooperation as they will be using the 16/76, 147.105 and/or 31/91 repeaters on that date. It will be conducted as a "Directed Net" operation with the Net Control directing the communications activities.

November MEETING

The next WCARS meeting will be
November 4th at 7:30 PM
in the Simpson Building Auditorium
at AB Tech.

PROGRAM

Dean Blair will continue his program from last month on the Tiger Cruise aboard the aircraft carrier.

PLAN AHEAD !!!

The WCARS annual Christmas Party is scheduled for DECEMBER 4th at 6-PM. The location will be at the Hominy Lodge (same as last year).

You will find directions and a map to help you find the Lodge, on page FIVE.

If you will be coming, remember that it is a covered dish affair and you are requested to bring TWO...TWO dishes. The meat and cornbread will be provided.

DUPONT RESCUE EXPERIENCE

At the October meeting we had a guest speaker, Shawn Haynes, KG4YVS, a Dupont Rescue Experience Instructor. He is an Asheville City Fireman.

Shawn gave us an overview of the Dupont Rescue program with an invitation for us to come and observe and perhaps later join their program.

This year, they will conduct the program on November 5, 6 & 7 at the Guion Farm at the Dupont State Forest. They will have talk-in on the 145.27 repeater, if you are not familiar with the location and would like to go and see the program in action.

Points of contact are: Jeremy Edmonds, KG4HFT or Shawn Haynes, KG4YVS. Shawn's phone number is 828-230-3652.

WEB SITE: <http://www.dupontrescue.com>

MINUTES OF WCARS Meeting 7 Oct 2010

Bob Dockery, WD4CNZ, Secretary

The October 7, 2010, meeting of WCARS was called to order at 7:30pm by club president Scott W4IYS.

He invited everyone to join in the pledge of allegiance.

Each attendee was then asked to introduce themselves by name and callsign (if any).

Mr. Jay Wilson WØAIR was introduced by Bob Dockery WD4CNZ as a visitor and general manager of DERA (Disaster Emergency Response Association). Jay is a native of Asheville but now lives in Denver, CO.

The Treasurer's Report was given by club Treasurer Steve Emory N4SET.

It was announced that the "MOE VAN" is no longer in the Club inventory. The radio gear will be installed in a trailer unit sometime in the future. Needs and capabilities of such a unit are being considered before the Club will make a purchase.

Randy, KI4VLW informed the group about future plans for next year's hamfest regarding facilities and costs being considered. Plans are still in the early stages as to prices, location, date, etc.

An update was given about the generator's performance for the Club repeater and showed it has worked well since installation.

President Scott told the group the slate of officers for next year to be voted on and include:

President: Scott McCabe, W4IYS

Vice President: Carl Smith, N4AA

Secretary: Deryn Blackman, KJ4TED

Treasurer: Steve Emory, N4SET

Quartermaster: Deryn Blackman, KJ4TED

Since there were no further nominations from the floor, the group moved to go ahead and vote on this slate of members for 2011. A motion was made to elect them by acclamation and the vote was unanimous.

The annual Christmas Party is set for December 4 at the Hominy Lodge in Candler starting at 6:00pm. See SMOKETEST for a map and directions. The event is a covered dish supper and each member was asked to bring two dishes of food to share.

The program was presented by Shawn Haney KG4YVS as the "Dupont Rescue Experience." He explained how this was a training camp held in the Dupont State Park involving land navigation, wilderness search and rescue, rope access, survival, and man tracking skills. Amateur radio is heavily involved and promoted at this event.

November 5, 6, and 7 are the days set for this event. For further information contact Shawn via sphaynes@gmail.com or call him At 828-230-3652. The website is: www.dupontrescue.com

Shawn related a personal experience as how amateur radio helped save his life during rescue work in the eastern part of the state during a hurricane several years ago.

Dean K2JB announced the Shut-In Race and asked for members to assist with radio communications at checkpoints to assist needs of runners in the event. The event is set for November 6.

Dean then presented a slide show of his "Tiger Cruise" on his vacation. He had joined his nephew and many others aboard the USS Eisenhower on a cruise of this huge US aircraft carrier. Due to time limitations he could only present the first half and the second half will be presented at the next WCARS meeting in November.

The drawing for the hat/mug and 50-50 prizes were made and awarded.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09pm with refreshments and fellowship following.

SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST

This is an annual event and the North Carolina ARES SET will be conducted on Saturday, November 13 at 0900 for a duration of 2+ hours.

Currently available information is available at <http://www.ncarrl.org/ares/set2010.html>. Note that additional details will be added as the exercise date approaches. Please look at that info on a regular basis and remain informed. County ARES groups are not required to participate in the State SET, but it is encouraged.

Note: this year's SET will be a very different event from most of the SET exercises in recent years.

NC ARES WESTERN MEETING

The annual NC ARES Western Meeting will take place on October 30th in Morganton, NC from 0900 - 1300. This meeting will cover some new subjects, such as WebEOC and updates about ongoing projects such as Winlink and ICS training opportunities.

Information about that meeting may be found at: <http://www.qsl.net/kd4ozi/DEC/STATE%20MEETING%202010%20WB.htm>.

Anyone interested in attending the Western Meeting may contact either Dick Burns, K8SKX or Tommy Queen, K4BNP. They would like to have as many BCARES members as possible attend this meeting.

Once again, I ask that any information for Smoketest be forwarded to me no later than the 20th of the month if at all possible.

Later than that and it may not make the next issue of Smoketest.

Thanks....Carl Smith, N4AA

N4AA@dxpub.com

828-683-0709

CONTESTING FOR THE REST OF US

Contesters are a special breed, and a breed we should look up to. The biggest contests of the year in terms of activity are coming up: the "November Sweepstakes". The CW portion is November 6-8, and the Phone version is November 20-22. When you hear a seasoned contester in action, you are hearing the essence of Amateur Radio. Cool, concise, efficient and meticulous are adjectives which describe them. Contesters are many times the ones we admire when we wish we could become better operators.

Like anything in life, contesters have worked hard to achieve their success. What's more interesting is that in more casual day-to-day operating, contesters still stand out as exemplary operators. Their habits spill over to normal operating. If you want to become a better operator, there is no substitute for getting on the air, becoming a better listener, and trying a contest or two. But where to begin?

Here are some suggestions:

First, if you have expanded HF privileges as a General or Extra, devote an uninterrupted block of time to an upcoming contest. The November Sweepstakes are overwhelming, but you will hear contesting at its utmost. Concentration could net you some unexpected QSOs you might not otherwise get. If you can handle Sweepstakes, you can handle any contest. Listen to segments an hour at a time so you won't burn out.

Soon you'll begin to see patterns and rhythms which will help you.

Next, work your way up to the pace of Sweepstakes. State QSO parties are a wonderful starting point. In CW, there are some 4 hour sprints that will really help your CW skills to improve. An excellent source for all kinds of contests, especially ones for rookies, is WA7BNM's Contest Calendar at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal>

Finally, in North Carolina, 46% of all Amateur Radio licensees are Technicians. Many are seeking a migration path to motivate them to General. With the upper bands opening up again, 10 meter contesting is making a comeback. Techs have the grandfathered Novice CW privileges plus HF SSB privileges 28.300-28.500 MHz. Try a 10-10 contest. More info at <http://www.ten-ten.org> Also, the VHF Sweepstakes are January 22-24. Try some 6 meter or 2 meter sideband. According to the "Most Wanted Grids" map at

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/FFMA/Most%2520Wanted%2520Grids%25202007.pdf>

North Carolina is home to three highly desired Maidenhead grids: FM25 and FM26 in the Outer Banks, and FM13 at Kure Beach, Fort Fisher and a portion of Bald Head Island. Have your club sponsor a "DXpedition" in a rare grid or close to home, and open up the world of contesting to Technician licensees.

Getting on the air is the best prescription to becoming a better operator. Happy Halloween to all, and be safe. C U DN THE LOG.

73 de Bill

Bill Morine, N2COP

ARRL North Carolina Section Manager

A special thanks to Bill for providing Section News to keep us informed of what is going on around the state.

WCARS/VEC EXAM Schedule

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 STN

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

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

President	Scott McCabe	W4IYS	252-0583	esmccabe@charter.net
Vice President	Carl Smith	N4AA / KB4C	683-4251	n4aa@dxpub.com
Secretary	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wncgeneao@aol.com
Treasurer	Steve Emory	N4SET	658-0261	n4set@arrl.net
Executive Committee	Dean Blair	K2JB	665-1830	k2jb@arrl.net
	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
Trustee - W4MOE	Norman Harrill	N4NH	253-1192	nharrill@bellsouth.net
Quartermaster	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
Awards Chairman	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wncgeneao@aol.com
Public Information	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wncgeneao@aol.com
Hamfest Chairman - 2010	Randy Harris	KI4VLW	298-6685	rtsp71@aol.com
Smoke Test Editor	Carl Smith	N4AA	683-4251	n4aa@dxpub.com

HF/VHF/UHF Net Information

NET NAME	Freq(MHz) 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
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.	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 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
???	224.600			WB4PLA on Spivey Mtn. ???
W4YK	53.630 100	Friday	9-PM	???

WCARS 2010 Christmas Party ***December 4th - 6-PM***

HOMINY MASONIC LODGE

The Hominy Masonic Lodge is located at 50 Old Pisgah Highway in Candler.

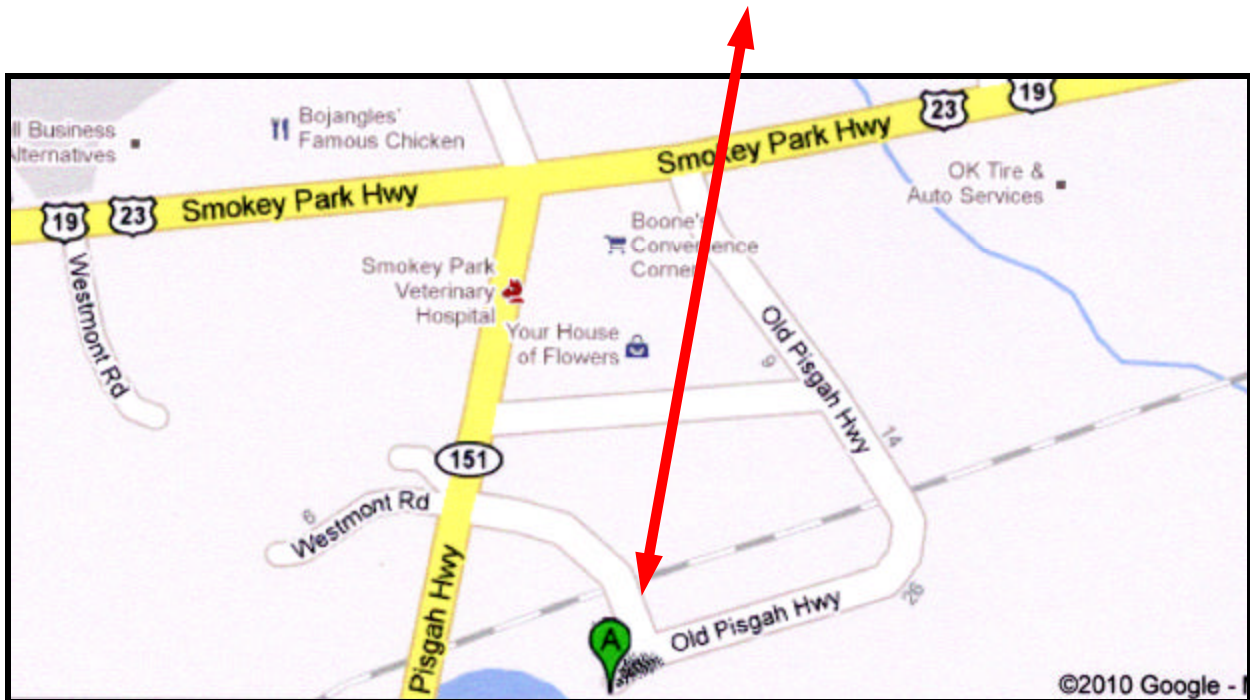
Take 19-23 to Candler.

Turn left at the traffic light in Candler at Boones Corner (NC 151).

Go 75 yards and turn left just before the bridge.

Come to the bottom of the hill.

**Cross the railroad tracks and you are looking directly at the lodge,
Labeled "A" on the map below.**



Meat and cornbread will be provided.

You are requested to bring TWO covered dishes.