



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

Issue: November 2013

Since 1977

Upcoming Events:

- **Friday Morning Meet up 10 AM @ Biltmore Square Mall**
- **BCARES Meeting - EOC Nov 21 - 7 PM**
- **Meeting @ AB Tech Nov 7 - 7:30 PM**
- **WCARS Christmas Dinner - Dec 7**

**President's Message
by Scott - W4IYS**

Some of us have not seen each other in a very long time so please if you will let's close 2013.

With a visit to the Christmas party or a last get together party and a December 7 remembrance.

Christmas Party starts at 6 PM bring a dish and let's have some fellowship, I am looking forward to it! Also a good way to start 2014.

Scott - President

Meeting Information:

Next Meeting: Jan 2

Meetings are at AB-Tech in the Sycamore Building Room 201 at 7:30 PM

Should Buncombe County schools close due to inclement weather our meeting will be canceled.

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WCARS Officers 2013

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Vice President

Norman Harrill - N4NH
253-1192 | nharrill@bellsouth.net

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Bob Dockery - WD4CNZ
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Treasurer

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Executive Committee:

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298-6685 | rtsp71@aol.com

Dean Blair - K2JB

423-3082 | k2jb@bellsouth.net

Linda Harris - KJ4CRL

298-6685 | rtsp71@aol.com

Trustee - W4MOE

Norman Harrill - N4NH

Quartermaster & Webmaster

Lee Johnson - KB4QDQ
242-1630 | leejohnsonster@gmail.com

Hamfest Chairman - 2013

Jeff Weller - KJ4TEI
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WCARS - BCARES Liaison

Ginny Todd - KK4BRE
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Smoketest Editor

Paul Tilley - KK4BRD
669-8311 | kk4brd@gmail.com

ARES-EC, Buncombe County

Tony Jones - KJ4CRO
686-3796 | tbjones12@bellsouth.net

BCARES

I would like to thank all who came out and made the Shut In Run such a success, and STEVE N4SET for organizing the whole thing. We all had fun and nobody was hurt. We are gaining experience in the use and performance of our equipment. We are showing ourselves and others that we are professionals in the use of Ham Radio Equipment. Keep up the good work.

The next meeting will be Thursday Nov.21 2013 7:00pm at the EOC Building. Bring your 24 HR TO-GO Kit.

Tony - KJ4CRO
Buncombe County ARES - EC

Net Information 146.910 PL 91.5:

- **WCARS Information Net Monday @ 9:00 PM** - Club information, announcements and informal comments
- **BC-ARES Net Wednesday @ 9:00 PM** - Emergency communications practice and training, formal net followed by informal comments
- **Simplex Net Monday & Wednesday night following the nets 147.525** - Informal net to map communications in Buncombe County without the use of a repeater.

What you missed ... Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2013

Prepared by Bob - WD4CNZ

The November 7, 2013, meeting of the Western Carolina Amateur Society was called to order at 1930 hrs by Scott McCabe W4IYS, Club President.

He welcomed everyone and invited all to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

He then asked everyone to introduce themselves by name, callsign (if any), and QTH. Approximately 35 members and guests were present for this meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were printed in the latest edition of SMOKETEST (club newsletter) and is available on-line at the WCARS web site.

Tickets for the 50-50 drawing were sold prior to the opening of the meeting (half of the proceeds serve as a door prize and the other half goes into the Club treasury).

A reminder that the annual Christmas Party is set for 7 December at 1800 hrs at the Candler Masonic Lodge. All members are encourage to join in the fellowship.

There will be a change in editors for the SMOKETEST. Max - KE4GPU has volunteered to take over SMOKETEST. Paul - KK4BRD cannot continue due to work and other responsibilities.

The OFFICERS for 2014 will be:

President

Scott McCabe - W4IYS

252-0583 |esmccabe@charter.net

Net Controllers Needed

The WCARS Information Net that is called every Monday night at 9 PM has two openings for those interested in getting some Net Control experience or wishing to help out.

The Second (during the winter), and occasional Fifth Monday of every month currently does not have anyone able to fill the Net Control duty.

This is a good net to start off in to get Net Control experience. A script is available on the WCARS.org website, to assist you in calling the net.

Over all this net is easy to call, it is laid back with only a minimal amount of protocol that is followed.

If you are able to assist the club please let Scott know and you will be added to the Net Control rotation.

BC-ARES is also looking for Net Controllers to assist in the Wednesday night net at 9 PM. If you are interested in participating in ARES and would like to help out with some net control duties contact Tony.

Changes to Smoke Test

Starting in January there will be a new format, delivery method and editor of the club newsletter. Instead of getting a PDF in your email once a month the news letter will be placed into a blog located at

<http://wcarssmocketest.wordpress.com/>

Max - KE4GPU will be taking over the newsletter.

What you missed ... Meeting Minutes

Vice President

Norman Harrill - N4NH

253-1192 | nharrill@bellsouth.net

Secretary

Ginny Todd - KK4BRE

virginiaatodd@students.abtech.edu

Treasurer

Steve Emory - N4SET

658-0261 | n4set@arrl.net

Executive Committee:

Randy Harris - KI4VLW

298-6685 | rtsp71@aol.com

Dean Blair - K2JB

423-3082 | k2jb@bellsouth.net

Paul Tilly KK4BRD

669-8311 | kk4brd@gmail.com

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Trustee - W4MOE

Norman Harrill - N4NH

Quartermaster & Webmaster

Lee Johnson - KB4QDQ

242-1630 | leejohnsonster@gmail.com

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**

What you missed ... Meeting Minutes

Hamfest Chairman

Jeff Weller - KJ4TEI

683-5271 | weller_j@bellsouth.net

WCARS - BCARES Liaison

Ginny Todd - KK4BRE

virginiaatodd@students.abtech.edu

WCARS / Smoketest Blogger

Max Cooper - KE4GPU

cdcooperiv@gmail.com

BC-ARES Contact Information for 2014:

BC-ARES EC & Carolina Mountain Area REACT

Tony Jones - KJ4CRO

686-3796 | tbjones12@bellsouth.net

Carolina Mountain Area Skywarn

Paul Tilley - KK4BRD

669-8311 | kk4brd@gmail.com

A report of the Shut-In Run as made with the winner completing the distance in 2 hours, 24 minutes. Many thanks to Steve for organizing this annual event.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Steve N4SET.

The Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) had 14-16 scouts learning and using ham radio for the event.

What you missed ... Meeting Minutes

A mobile antenna "jack stand" was demonstrated by Randy KI4VLW. Anyone wanted to have one of these units should call Reed at 254-8015. He will discuss costs and materials when you call for more information.

The meeting program: "What The Heck Is D-Star?" was presented by Dave Anderson K4SV and Jeff Youngblood NC4J. They explained how basic repeaters work and now can use D-Star digital data system along with voice that is sent via an encoder into a digital data stream and received via a decoder back to voice. All occurring at high speed. D-Star allows radio to radio via Internet so an operator can talk to ANYPLACE in the world! "DV DONGLE" allows a computer to use the Internet to communicate with another computer/amateur radio station much like ECHO LINK.

The D-STARR reflector allows radio via Internet like a big "chat room"--almost anywhere in the world!

The 50-50 drawing was made and prize awarded.

There being no further business before the group, the meeting was adjourned at 2108 hours with refreshments and fellowship following.

SUBMITTED BY BOB DOCKERY
WD4CNZ, WCARS CLUB SECRETARY

WCARS Prayer List

Keith Galyean
Doris Galyean
Donnie Grindstaff
Roger Grindstaff
Norman Harrill
Linda Harris
Carl Smith
Reid Todd
Jack Graffing
Norma Graffing

Tommy Queen
Connie Duncan
Gerald Morgan
Walt Lewis
Lynn Weller
Hilland (Borden) & Evelyn Sabaiston
Dan Henderson
David Brown
Kevin, Mitzi and Ethan Kemp

6 Meter Net

Jimmy Johnson N4YR called me and he is looking for someone to be a net controller one or two mornings a week. He is wanting to start up a morning net on his 6M repeater that is on Mt. Mitchell. If anyone is interested please either call me 298-6685 or send me an e-mail rtsp71@aol.com and I will give you Jimmy's phone number so you can talk to him about calling the net. It will be an informal net and should not be that difficult to call. If you can only call the net one day a week that would be fine. He wants to have it around 9am and should not last long. He has linked his 6M repeater to a 440 repeater that is in Black Mountain, KY and the coverage should be good.

Randy - KI4VLW

From the Editor

Thanks to everyone who contributed and supported Smoke Test during my time as editor.

The new format may look odd and difficult at first, but give it a chance, you will find that the interactive portion of the blog will allow you to have a larger role in the newsletter.

Max is working out an arrangement to have the blog content printed for those of you who are on postal delivery.

See you at the Christmas Party!

73s,

Paul - KK4BRD

Solar Weather



NOAA Solar Forecasts

Updated at: 2013 Nov 15

Sunspot Number: 76

Flare	0-24 hr	24-48 hr
Class M	50%	40%
Class X	15%	05%

Spotless Days

Current Stretch: 0 days
 2013 total: 0 days (0%)
 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

Geomagnetic Storms

Mid-latitudes	0-24 hr	24-48 hr
Active	10%	20%
Minor	01%	05%
Severe	01%	01%

Interplanetary Magnetic Field

B_{total} : 5.1 nT B_z : 4.2 nT south

High-latitudes	0-24 hr	24-48 hr
Active	15%	15%
Minor	20%	25%
Severe	10%	25%

The Radio Sun

10.7 cm flux: 176 sfu

HF Conditions	Day	Night
80 m - 40 m	Poor	Good
30 m - 20 m	Poor	Good
17 m - 15 m	Good	Good
12 m - 10 m	Good	Poor
VHF Conditions	Day	Night
Aurora	63.9°	
6 m EsEU	Band Closed	
4 m EsEU	Band Closed	
2 m EsEU	Band Closed	
2 m EsNA	Band Closed	
EME Deg	Fair	

Local / Regional Nets



HF/VHF/UHF Net Information				
NET NAME	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

Local / Regional Repeater List		
Frequency / offset / PL	Location	Notes
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	

Christmas Party Directions

December 8th - 6 PM

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

Take 19-23 to Candler.

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

Go 75 yard 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.

“A” marks the spot!

