



WCARS.org
December 2008

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

President's Microphone...

The yearly Christmas party (in lieu of regular club meeting in December) is set for the Candler Masonic Lodge, December 6th at 6:00pm. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come and share the fellowship that accompanies this yearly event. Thanks to everyone who participates in the various club events during the year. Hope to see everyone at the next meeting.

73 Dean ~ k2jb

ARES The Buncombe County ARES group met on November 13th. Discussions included training courses that the served agencies now require or that may be required prior to deployment to another area, method of activation, incorporation, acquiring an ARES callsign, Red Cross-ARES MOU, Digital communications modes preferred/practical for WNC, the relationship between ARES and WCARS, WCARS van and use by ARES, what do the ARES members want to get from the meetings. The next meeting will be scheduled and announced sometime in early 09.

K8SKX

Upcoming Events

Dec-6: SKYWARN Recognition Day

Jan-10: Winston-Salem FirstFEST

Mar-14&15: Roanoke Division Convention,

Charlotte April 11: NC Section Convention,

Raleigh

NC ARRL

November 6th Minutes...Steve - N4SET
Meeting called to order at 7:40pm.

Pledge to the flag recited.

Introduction of members and guests, 28 in attendance.

KI4VIR David - Presented Treasurers report, \$4396.12 in checking, \$3954.62 in savings.

Introduction of members and guests made.

Officer nominations-elections - K2JB Dean President, KI4WCA Michael Vice President,

Secretary open, N4SET Steve Treasurer,

KN4ST Elwood Quartermaster, Executive Committee K2JB and KN4ST, Hamfest Chair open, Newsletter editor N4SET.

KN4ST Elwood - Reported on van condition and estimate to refurbish; Motion to expend up to \$1200 for renovation made, seconded and carried.

K2JB Dean - Discussion re: Spivey repeater; Echolink/IRLP, Echolink preferred; Battery b-u. WCARS Forum website to activate by 11/15, all members automatically enrolled for all forums, can register and select preferences.

K4AVL Frank - Presented the evening program - Operating Systems and Ham Radio Applications.

50/50 won by W4SKI - Paul.

Door prize won by WD4IJT - Jack.

Motion to adjourn made, seconded and carried at 9:09 pm.

Shut-In Ridge Trail Run - Nov 1st



Photo courtesy N4KOX –Russ Oder



Winning male runner Shiloh Mielke
Photo credit: Joe Scorsone AA4DP

As the communications provider, the day began for WCARS at about 0900 for this 30th Annual event. The weather was crisp and clear on the Blue Ridge Parkway at the French Broad River overlook staging area. Assignments were made, and deployment to the designated stations completed about 0930. The race began at 10:03am.



Photo courtesy N4KOX –Russ Oder

As the race progressed, the clear weather and distant vistas made running or operating in support of the event a most enjoyable day for everyone. The views alone made working this race worthwhile.

Shiloh Mielke completed the course in 2:17:57 to claim his third consecutive win.



Winning female runner Amber Moran
Photo credit: Joe Scorsone AA4DP

Amber Moran was the female winner of this grueling 17.8-mile trail race that included three 3,000 feet of elevation gain from the start at the NC Arboretum to the finish at Mt. Pisgah. Her time was 2:44:30 in only her first attempt on the course. Fortunately for everyone, no emergencies arose, and only minor injuries were incurred by a few participants during the event.
N4SET

VE Exams

Dec 5 and 6 Sponsor: ARRL University of TN
ARC Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Bobbie E. Williams (865) 983-0055
Email: BOBBIE@usit.net Location: Walkins
allowed until start of testing session 1128 E
Weisgarber Rd Call to confirm! Cell: 865-254-
3067 Knoxville, TN 37909

20 Dec Sponsor: WCARS Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-
ins allowed) Contact: Stephen C. Shaffer (864)
862-3549 Email: AF4RN@bellsouth.net
Location: Red Cross Building 940 Grove Rd
Arrive 8:15 AM for paperwork Greenville, SC
29605

Dec 27 Sponsor: ARRL Time: 10:00AM (Walk-
ins allowed) Contact: Richard M. Sawaya (865)
429-2422 Email: N4JTQRMS@gmail.com
Location: Sevier County Rescue Squad Building
1165 Dolly Parton Pkwy Hwy 411 Sevierville,
TN 37862

Contact VE for Exam Dates:

Burnsville, NC - 147.375 Yancey County Public
Library - Town Square Burnsville 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

Columbus, NC Wayne Ackerman, W3GYK 621
Laurel Lake Drive, Unit B-104 Columbus, N C
28722-7436 828-894-5542 Rutherford County,
North Carolina - 147.24 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

Greenville, SC - 146.61 8:30 AM Red Cross
Building - 940 Grove Road Sue L. Chism,
N4ENX 139 Mustang Circle Simpsonville, SC
29681-5753 864-967-0001



ARRL Continuing Education Online Course Registration (Nov 26, 2008) --

Registration remains open through Sunday,
December 7, 2008, for these online course
sessions beginning on Friday, December 19,

2008: Amateur Radio Emergency
Communications Level 2; Antenna Modeling;
HF Digital Communications, and Radio
Frequency Propagation.
ARRL

Hamfest Calendar

Jan 3 - 18th Annual Morristown Hamfest,
Lakeway Amateur Radio Club, Smoky
Mountains Expo Center, 1615 Pavilion Drive
White Pine, TN <http://www.lakewayarc.org>

Talk-In: 147.030+ Contact: June McClary,
AI4SO 2105 Tobes Creek Road, Cosby, TN
37722 Phone: 423-487-0332 Email:
ai4so@hughes.net

Special Events

Dec 5-Dec 8, 0600Z-0559Z, San Angelo, TX.
Donald Goff, AB5BG. Remembering Pearl
Harbor. 28.400 21.300 14.265 7.235.
Certificate. Donald Goff, 1210 Ardmore, San
Angelo, TX 76905. ab5bg@wcc.net
Dec 6-Dec 9, 1400Z-0400Z, Linthicum, MD.
Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio
Club, W2W. Pearl Harbor Anniversary. 14.241
14.041 7.241 7.041. Certificate. W2W, MS
4015 Box 1693, Baltimore, MD 21203.
www.hemarc.us

Dec 7, 1500Z-2245Z, Baton Rouge, LA. Baton
Rouge and USS Kidd Amateur Radio Clubs,

W5KID. Pear Harbor Day. 15 20 40 m Gen
bands. QSL. USS Kidd Special Event, 305 S
River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.
www.lsu.edu/brarc/uss_kidd.htm
Dec 7, 1600Z-2100Z, Wichita, KS. Wichita
Memorial VFW Post 3115, W0VFW. Pearl
Harbor, Radio Silence at 1855, time of first
bomb. 14.283. Certificate. Marc Hammann,
Wichita Memorial VFW Post 3115, 4801 West
Douglas Ave, Wichita, KS 67209.
www.vfw3115.org

ARRL

NCEN-TEN Schedule Change


Beginning Tuesday, November 25 the North Carolina Evening Net (NCEN) will begin at 5:30pm EST on 3.923MHz. We'll move back to 6:30pm when conditions improve - or daylight savings time returns, whichever comes first. Since we'll lose some checkins at this early hour, ARES folks who would normally check into the Tarheel Emergency Net are asked to check in to the NCEN to make sure we have enough outlets for traffic. Also beginning Tuesday, November 25, the

Tarheel Emergency Net will move to 1.945MHz at the usual time, 7:30pm EST, on every night except Monday. We'll continue to try 75m on Monday nights. I know many of you don't have 160m antennas, but you may have something up that will load on 1.945MHz at least good enough for the Tarheel Net. It will give you a good excuse to try something new! These changes are in effect until further notice. Thanks for your flexibility. David Roy, W4DNA NC Section Traffic Manager w4dna@nc.rr.com

Free online exam practice tests

Hamilton Carter - KD0FNR has announced that he has made available free online ham exam practice tests. Users can track their test scores over time and see which sub-elements are giving them the most trouble. You can see all the practice tests at: <http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/>

Please let him know if you find it handy, or if you think of any ways to make it better. A link from the WCARS website to these exams can be added if found useful. Contact Hamilton at hcartner333@gmail.com
N4SET

 **WorldRadio** to Cease Print Publication (Nov 13, 2008) -- In a joint statement, *WorldRadio* Publisher Armond Noble, N6WR, and *CQ* Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, announced that *WorldRadio* magazine will no longer be published as a print magazine. According to the announcement, *CQ* Communications Inc has acquired

WorldRadio and plans to continue it as an online publication on *CQ's* Web site. *WorldRadio* subscribers will have their subscriptions transferred to *CQ* magazine. Readers will be notified of details as plans are finalized.
WR6WR

The ARRL **Digital Technology** for Emergency Communications Course - "This course is a great starting point for anyone interested in the public service applications of digital communications technology." Steve Ford, WB8IMY-Course Author and QST editor/ARRL Publications Manager
In this course, we will introduce you to all the ways Amateur Radio operators are using digital technology as a valuable emergency communications tool. The topics discussed during the course include:


- * Packet radio APRS
- * Winlink 2000
- * IRLP


- * EchoLink and WIRES-II
- * D-STAR
- * APCO25
- * HF sound card modes
- * Automatic Link Establishment ("ALE")


We'll help you answer questions such as:
Can you transfer supply lists or personnel assignments between emergency operations sites?
Can you get critical e-mails to the Internet if a connection goes down?
Can you relay digital images of damage at specific locations?
Can you track the locations of emergency personnel and display them on computer maps? ...and more!
(ISBN: 0-87259-124-7) #1247 -- \$49.95
<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=1247#top>
ARRL

Silent Keys

With deep regret WCARS records the loss of fellow amateurs

 **James Glenn Gaddy**, 58, of Fairview, passed away unexpectedly Tuesday, October 28, 2008, at the Memorial Campus of Mission Hospitals. A lifelong resident of Buncombe County, he was an avid HAM Radio enthusiast, having the call number **WB4FON**. He was a member of The Amateur Radio Relay League and The Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society of Greenville, S.C. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

 **Edward Joseph Zane**, 84, of Waynesville, died Friday, Oct. 31, 2008, at Haywood Regional Medical Center. Edward lived in Haywood County for the past 19 years. Edward was employed by AT&T as a supervisor and retired with 40 years of service. He was ham radio operator **N2JLE** and gardener and loved working with his hands, which included building several boats and buildings. He also loved boating, camping, fishing, was an entrepreneur and played the trumpet in a dance band for many years. He was a U.S. Army Air Corp Veteran of WWII, where he received pilot training.

 **James Earnest "Jim" Rogers Jr.** 70, of Lenoir, passed away on Sunday, Nov. 23, 2008, at Caldwell Memorial Hospital. He was an Air Force veteran and a member of the Littlejohn United Methodist Church. Jim worked as a computer analyst for Catawba Social Services and was also a member of the Free Mason Wade Hampton Lodge No. 404 of Greenville, S.C. Jim was also a member of the Civil Air Patrol of Hickory and an avid amateur radio operator with **N4EUX** as his callsign. From The News Herald, Morganton

George S. Wilson III, W4OYI, of Owensboro, Kentucky, passed away at his home on November 25. He was 76. Wilson served as the **ARRL's 11th President** from January 1992-July 1995. He resigned from the position after a stroke in 1995. Wilson's tenure in ARRL leadership included positions as Kentucky Section Emergency Coordinator, Kentucky Section Communications Manager, Vice Director and Director of the Great Lakes Division, as well as Vice President and First Vice President, eventually culminating in the position of ARRL President. Upon retirement from the League's top position, Wilson was named President Emeritus based on his lifelong commitment to Amateur Radio and the League -- one of only four people granted this honor. He also served as an Assistant Director in the Great Lakes Division. Wilson was a member of the ARRL's A-1 Operator Club and held DXCC (CW and Mixed) with 200 countries confirmed on each. From ARRL

ARRL VEC Exam Fee Increase

As of January 1, 2009, the fee to take an ARRL Volunteer Examiner (VE)-administered Amateur Radio license exam will increase by \$1, from \$14 to \$15. ARRL VE teams may retain up to \$7 of this fee to directly reimburse their teams' out-of-pocket examination expenses. According to ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, currently, VE teams keep \$6. This is the first time in four years that the examination fee has been adjusted.

VEs and VECs may be reimbursed by examinees for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in preparing, processing, administering or coordinating an examination for an amateur operator license (FCC Rule §97.527). Exam fees help the VEC recover its costs of providing its services.

WCARS VEC sponsored exam sessions are currently \$8.00.

N4SET



Recognition Day (SRD), A Special Event, will take place Saturday, December 6, 2008. This is the 10th annual event co-sponsored by the ARRL and the National Weather Service (NWS) as a way to recognize the commitment made by Amateur Radio operators in helping to keep their communities safe. According to SRD Coordinator David Floyd, N5DBZ, Amateur Radio operators can visit their local participating NWS office, working as a team to contact other hams across the world throughout the 24 hour event.

Operating hours are from 0000 UTC-2400 UTC. Last year, contacts were made in all 50 states and 40 countries during the 24 hour event. If you haven't joined in the fun, make 2008 your year to do so! http://www.crh.noaa.gov/hamradio/participating_offices.php lists participating NOAA NWS offices.



From ARRL

W1AW 2008/2009 Winter Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)
 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)
 (Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 " (5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 " (6 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0000 " (7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 " (8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 " (9 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0245 " (9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 " (10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 " (11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8175 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975
 21.0675 28.0675 147.555
 RTTY: 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095
 28.095 147.555
 VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160
 21.390 28.590 147.555

Section Manager Elections

Ballots for five Section Manager Races were counted and verified on Tuesday, November 18 at ARRL Headquarters. Four other offices were not opposed. Terms of office for these new Section Managers begin on January 1, 2009:

- Nebraska, Art Zygielbaum, KOAIZ
- New York City/Long Island, Mike Lisenco, N2YBB
- Eastern Massachusetts, Mike Neilsen, W1MPN
- Southern New Jersey, George Strayline, N3GZ
- Indiana, Raymond Andrews, K9DUR who won by ballot, withdrew due to health considerations, and John Poindexter, W3ML will fill an 18 month term by appointment

Those incumbent ARRL Section Managers not facing opposition were declared elected for their next terms of office starting January 1, 2009: Dale Bagley, K0KY (Missouri); Jim Bohner, N2ZZ (South Carolina); Dee Turner, N4GD (West Central Florida), and John Rodgers, N3MSE (Western Pennsylvania).

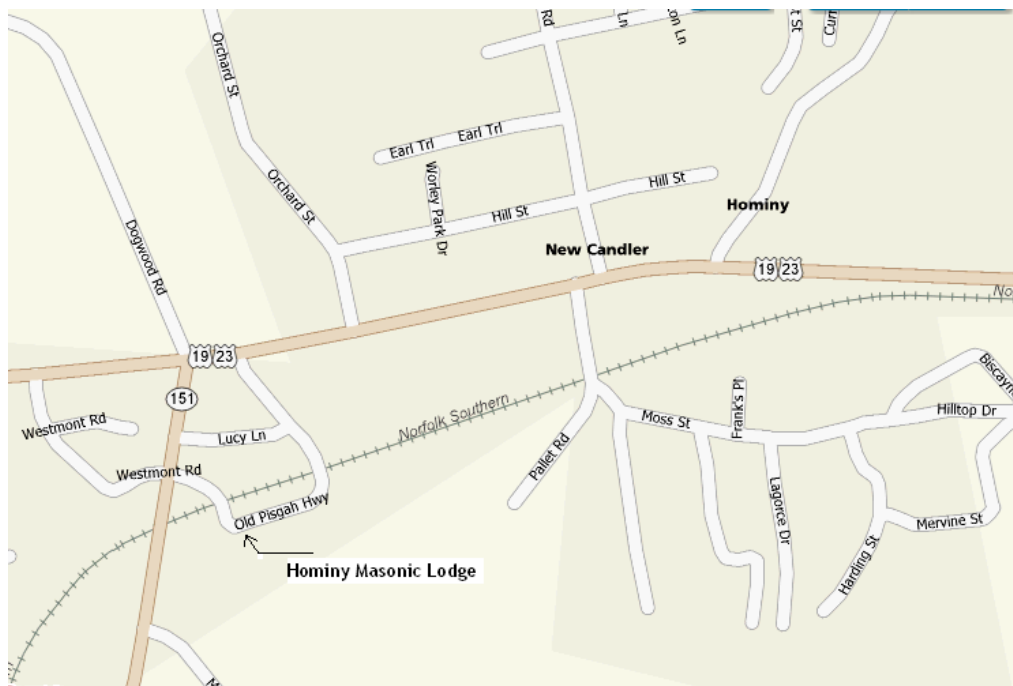
From ARRL

January Meeting - The next WCARS meeting will be January 6, 2009, 7:30 p.m. in the Simpson Auditorium, Simpson Bldg, at AB Tech. Program: To be announced.

Merry Christmas



Join the WCARS gang for the annual Christmas Party Saturday, December 6th, 2008, at the Hominy Masonic Lodge, Candler, NC.



Please bring 2 covered dishes (with food of course) and enjoy the fun!

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	Michael Brown	KI4WCA		brownpiggin@gmail.com
Secretary				
Treasurer	Steve Emory	N4SET	658-0261	n4set@arrl.net
Executive Committee	Dean Blair	K2JB	665-1830	k2jb@arrl.net
Executive Committee	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.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 09				
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