

# Ham Chatter



Volume 57 Issue 3

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

March 2023

Editor, Mark, KG4GVJ

Email: [hamchatter@w4amc.com](mailto:hamchatter@w4amc.com)

## REMINDER

New time and location for the General Meetings  
for BARC.

See page 6 for details

**BARC General meeting March 14,  
6:30pm**  
*All members, families and guests are  
invited to attend.*

Sheppard Memorial Library, 530  
Evans Street, Greenville, NC.  
Access is at the parking lot.

### Speaker:

Michael Walker VA3MW, Subject will  
be on FlexRadio.

**Reminder, Dues was due  
January 1, 2023**

### Amazon Smiles Ending

Yup, Smiles is ending by February  
20th. Thank you for helping in your  
support thru Smiles.

**BARC Board Meeting - March  
28, 2023. The meeting will be on  
ZOOM at 7:00 PM. All members  
invited. See Zoom information.**



## 2023 Presentations

March 14, 6:30pm

Michael Walker VA3MW, Subject will be on FlexRadio.

Mike VA3MW will spend about an hour showing how today's HF radio is not only better than yesterday's super-het radio, but you get more performance for your dollar. He will show how your radio now 'scales' towards the future and not grow old the day you bought it.

### Bio

Mike has been an active Amateur since 1974 and loving every minute of it. From Repeaters, HF, HF Contesting, Satellites and starting is currently tinkering in EME digital modes and 10Ghz microwave. As well as being a GA Pilot, he loves HF Station integration, and remote HF operation and currently represents FlexRadio Systems with the Marketing and Education team. He is very well versed in the FlexRadio technology. Technology is truly his hobby.

Contact Info:

Michael Walker VA3MW  
[FlexRadio Systems](#)  
512-535-4713 x222  
[Book an appointment with me](#)

Technical Support: <https://helpdesk.flexradio.com/hc/en-us/requests/new>



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Hello Fellow Hams and Friends,

2-23-2023

I am passing along information for my ham friends in Carteret County. The Carteret County Amateur Radio Society (CCARS) has a motorized wheelchair that was donated to their club for the use of a needy individual. The current user no longer needs it and has returned it to CCARS so that someone else can have use of it.

The wheelchair is a high end motorized chair that originally sold for approximately \$20,000. The only stipulation for use is to agree to return it to CCARS when no longer needed. I do not have information on maintenance but can find out if someone has interest.

The wheelchair is being offered to anyone (Ham, relative, etc) in Eastern NC, basically in Beaufort, Pitt, Craven, Jones, Carteret Counties. It is currently located in Newport NC and the borrower will need to provide for pickup and transportation.

For further information contact me and I will pass along requests for more information to CCARS. Please feel free to pass along this information to other local club members (Danny Garris, Beth Gonzales)

73 and Respectfully,  
Gary Faust NG9T

(Photo's on President's corner)

## New BARC Meeting Time and Location for 2023 6:30pm

BARC member meetings will have a new time and location beginning with the January 2023 meeting. Thanks to Scott James (K9SPJ) and Sheppard Memorial Library the meetings will move to the main library in downtown Greenville in meeting room A. The day remains the same - second Tuesday of each month - but the meeting start time shifts to 6:30pm to allow BARC attendees to enter before the library closes to the public at 7:00pm. The room entrance is just inside the main entrance, on the left just beyond the Coca-Cola machine.

The library's address is 530 Evans Street, Greenville. The parking lot is accessed from Reade Circle or Dickinson Avenue. The exterior doors are locked at 7:00pm, so if you arrive after that you will need to call K9SPJ on the 146.520 2-meter simplex calling channel for entry.



## VE News

To find the next VE testing session please go to the ARRL web site: <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session> and find one in your local area.

Practice taking the test on line with <https://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com>. Study material at: <http://www.arrl.org/courses-training>.

The contents of this Newsletter doesn't necessarily express the opinion or views of Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club or it's members. No offence is intended.

## Happy Birthday

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members birthdays :

03-09	NW4S	Jeff
03-17	KG4CZV	Dave
04-16	KJ4DMV	Geraldine
04-18	WB4PMQ	Macon
04-28	K4EEP	Reggie

Please let me know of any additions or corrections. If yours is missing, I don't have it! Email [hamchatter@w4amc.com](mailto:hamchatter@w4amc.com)

## Next VE Session

Please bring to the Test the following, required:

- Photo ID (drivers license)
- Original Amateur Radio License
- Copy of Amateur Radio License
- Original CSCE's
- Copy of CSCE
- Test fee (Cash) .
- ◆ FRN number is required. \*
- ◆ A valid Email address will need to be provided.

See this link for further information: <https://w4amc.com/get-your-license-ve/>

Gil Cartoons Courtesy of ARRL's 2021 Calendar(2020) and Gil, a Collection of Classic Cartoon from QST(1986-2007)

Articles in the Chatter may be from the ARRL Newsletters, ARES Newsletters and Section Managers. Others may be Material provided by others. Please respect possible copyrights.

## Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

*Please inform the Vice President and Ham Chatter of any changes or needs. This can be of death announcements, sickness or prayers requested.*

## Presentation Ideas Needed

Please send ideas of new presentation topics and presenters to our VP Judy W3JUJ

Email: [info@w4amc.com](mailto:info@w4amc.com)

## BARC Needs YOU!

BARC needs to know where You think we should go as a Club.

Service the Community, Contesting, Teaching, Elmering, What? Give us your thoughts.

## *In This Issue*

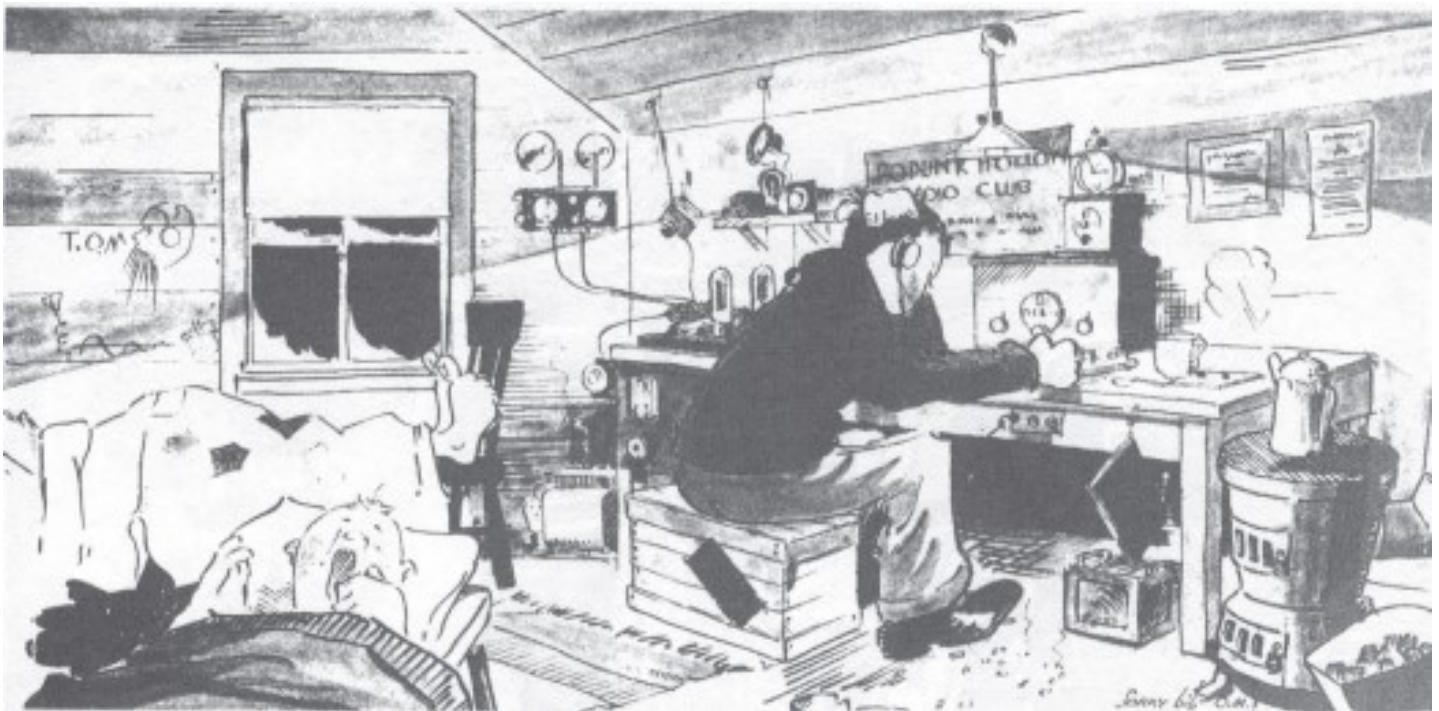
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## BARC's President's Corner, Beth, KN4FZB



Greetings to you all as we begin March. The days are getting longer and we spring forward to gain an extra hour of sunlight on March 12. Of course, it's really only an extra minute at sunrise and sunset, but we can easily convince ourselves that we are beating Mother Nature at her own game. Our upcoming meeting (March 14) will feature a talk about Flex Radio SDR with Mike Walker, VA3MW. We will have a breakfast meet up on Saturday, March 18, and Spring herself arrives March 20. As we emerge from winter, I'm excited about the spring happenings. I love hamfests, local festivals, and just getting out of the house a little more. I'm really looking forward to putting some BARC events on the calendar and I'm trying to check in to more nets too. And Field Day will be here before you know it. So, come on out to the meetings, whether the regular member meeting or the board meeting. Come to breakfast, chat and let's share some ideas to maximize our use of the "extra" daylight.





## Gary NG9T's PARC President's Corner



Hello Local Hams and Friends,

I hope that everyone is having a good 2023. It sure feels like spring is just around the corner. It's really nice to be able to get outside and work on antenna projects again. I'm working on an antenna that will get me back on 80m so that I can get into the local 80m Net on Tuesday nights. I'm building a folded doublet that would only be 40 feet long. It's made primarily out of 450 and 300 ohm ladder lines. If interested, google "linear folded 80m doublet"..

Here in Beaufort County, the PARC hams are working to bring ZOOM to our monthly meetings. We had our February meeting on ZOOM and we think that it will be a good addition to our meetings. I'm looking forward to bringing some programs to the meetings using ZOOM.

PARC is a fun club that works toward advancing the Ham Radio hobby and helping interested people to learn about radio and to become licensed Hams. We give exams to new Hams and to Hams looking to upgrade their licenses. We participate in Field Day, Winter Field Day, POTA activations, Youth on the Air, Boy Scouts, contests, etc. We are always looking for ways to keep Ham Radio an interested hobby and for ways to get young people involved.

I have a very nice Cushcraft R7 10-40m vertical antenna that was gifted to me by Peter Van Houten N4PVH. It may be an older model of the popular Cushcraft family of vertical HF antennas but it is in excellent condition. I dismantled all of the joints of the aluminum tubes and cleaned and coated them with electrical grease. I took apart the matching box and cleaned all of the connections. I also replaced missing capacitance hat wires and made new radials that do away with the need for ground radials. I've used the antenna and it is resonant on all 7 bands and performs very well. Now that it is in great operating condition, I would like to gift it to a new local ham. If you are new to the hobby and are working to get on the air on the HF bands then this is a great antenna to get you started. Email or call me and I will be very glad to help you put it up at your QTH

Do you or a family member or friend need a motorized wheelchair?? CCARS (Carteret County Amateur Radio Service) has a high end wheelchair that was gifted to the club, with the agreement that it would be used by a ham or family member then returned to the club when no longer needed. It comes with 2 new batteries, it reclines, has the comfort kit that makes the seat cooler and more comfortable, has reverse and four forward speeds, a 24v charger, users manual, and straps for tying down for transporting. Currently the wheelchair is in Newport and would need to be picked up. Let me know if you or a family member is in need of this most gracious gift..

Upcoming Events:

VE Exams March 11 at 10:00am.  
Beaufort County Emergency Management Building  
1420 Highland Dr

Washington NC 27889  
Please email me to reserve a spot.

Club Meetings:  
We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at:  
Zion Episcopal Church  
7302 US 264 East  
Washington, NC 27889  
Next Meeting: March 16

Nets:  
2m Net 1st Thursday of each month at 8:00pm  
Bath repeater 146.955mhz PL131.8  
Alternate: Washington Repeater 147.255 PL131.8  
Upcoming Net: March 9

80m Net every Tuesday at 7:00pm  
3807 SSB (or close by if freq in use)

Breakfast Every Wednesday at 9:00am at:  
Shep's Grill  
129 N. Market St  
Washington, NC 27889

Gary Faust, NG9T  
President, Pamlico Amateur Radio Club  
[gfaust1963@gmail.com](mailto:gfaust1963@gmail.com)  
(252)531-4982



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BARC Board – January 25, 2023

Attending:

Beth Gonzalez, KN4FZB  
Judy Taber, W3JUU  
Peter VanHouten, N4PVH  
Dave Wood, W4EJ  
Bill Dawson, WA4SLC  
Dave Langley, W4YDY  
Scott James, K9SPJ  
Mark Raysin, KG4GVJ  
Susan Jones, WA4AKB

Upcoming Meetings:

February 14 Meeting is on Winlink  
Saturday, Feb 18, “Ham and Eggs” – breakfast at Great Harvest from 8:30 – 10:30  
March 14 Meeting – Michael Walker, on Flex Radio

Treasures’ Report:

25 paid members  
\$3353,97 in Treasury  
Email will be sent to users reminding them that dues are past due.  
Dave Woods will work with Terry Munday to ensure that Tax exempt status is registered with State of NC

Memberships:

When on-line memberships are processed:

Beth gets the from  
Dave gets a notice from PayPal and must request that it go into BARC’s account.  
Dues received are about 50% PayPal and 50% check.

Ham Chatter – Mark – KG4GVJ –

Getting February PDF for ready for Peter  
Discussion of making a “Ham Chatter Digest” available containing only local news and news from Add links to information of National Interest. For example, the semi-monthly ARRL newsletters are available near the top of [www.ncarrl.org](http://www.ncarrl.org)

Callsign Trustee – Bill Dawson, WA4SLC

W4AMC needs renewal in 2023.  
W1VOA is good until 2035.  
There is now a \$35 fee for renewals.

Continuity of Operation

In the event that an officer becomes unavailable, need to have access to passwords, bank accounts, etc.

Backup for PayPal? Change “takes an act of congress”. Dave will pass login info to Beth.

Peter, Dave, and Beth are on Bank account

W4AMC has a credit card for which Dave Woods has ordered a replacement

Website: Peter has as part of other websites.

Peter is currently Admin

When it comes for renewal (date?) Peter can split it off.

Facebook – multiple sites

W4AMC Friends, W4AMC Members Only, ARES-Eastern NC

Peter will add Scott James and Beth Gonzalez as administrators

Do we need to streamline

LOTW – Richard Cambell W4JNC – (QSL Manager) Peter to provide Laptop

Future activities, PR, Recruiting

Oakwood School – Peter is contact, equipment belongs to school. Do Youth on the Air and other programs with them?

Beth – Table at Piratefest in April?

Offer Classes

VE – club needs new Liaison – must have at least 3VEs for a session Gary still has materials.

Monthly email about club after meetings – make emails “from” come from BARC rather than Peter

BARC has been very active in past JOTAs and public events. Many photos are available on the archived website. (<https://qsl.net/w4amc/>)

Upcoming Events

Meeting 2/14

NC QSO Parties – Feb 25-26

Orlando Hamcation Feb 11

Pirate Fest – April 15 – Beth will look into getting a table



**GREETINGS FROM THE HIGH COUNTRY**

Feb 13, 2023

At 1:30 pm, near Tweetsie Railroad, the expected snowfall has not materialized. However, at midnight last night, there was sleet and freezing rain. Tree limbs here are drooping with a significant coating of ice. If there had been much wind, I am sure that we would have had power outages. The temperature has risen to 38 degrees and, unlike what I have seen on the webcams at Beech and Sugar, there is not much wind in this part of the High Country. Blue Ridge Energy is currently working on a small number of outages affecting a couple hundred members in western Watauga and Ashe Counties, plus some in Alleghany County.

With all the hype over the Super Bowl, customers are anxious to get their power restored and I am sure that the line crews want to get home and get settled in for the big game.

While I have been working on this newsletter, the weather has changed.

At 4:00 p.m. a slight breeze came up and the temperature dropped slightly. It is now 4:30 pm and the temp is 33 degrees. The promised snowfall has finally arrived involving a large flakes that are quickly covering my lawn. At 9:30 pm, my deck, lawn and car are covered with snow and the temperature is 29.8 degrees.

**UPCOMING HAMFESTS**

The Clingman Hamfest, which will be held on March 4 at the Clingman Community Center, located between Wilkesboro and Elkin, is expected to draw a couple hundred attendees who have interests in CB and ham radio.

Details can be found at <https://www.clingmanhamfest.com/>.

Mark your calendar for the Charlotte Hamfest which will be held on Friday afternoon and Saturday (March 10 -11 at Cabarrus Arena & Events Center – Gold Hall, 4551 Old Airport Road, Concord, NC 28025.

Talk-In: 146.655 (No Tone), Backup on 146.940 (118.8Hz) . There is a large indoor flea market, forums, hourly door prizes as well as several valued Grand Prizes as well. The Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society- W4BFB is the event organizer. Details can be found at <https://charlottehamfest.org/>.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society will hold its 49th Annual RARSFEST on April 8 in the Jim Graham Building at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh.

There is an indoor flea market, walk-in testing, satellite demos, forums, food and dealers. Online registration for admission and flea market tables is now open. Talk-In On W4DW, 146.64 MHz - 0.6 Offset, No Tone. Details can be found at <https://www.rarsfest.org/>.

The DAYTON HAMVENTION which is the largest hamfest held in the United States is coming up on May 19, 20, and 21. There is a saying that if you cannot find what you are looking for at Dayton, it probably cannot be found anywhere. The Hamvention is held at the Greene County Fair and Expo Center, 210 Fairground Road, Xenia 45385. Coordinates are 39.702 N – 83.9420 W.

Facilities include indoor dealer spaces, forums, demonstration of ham EmComm vehicles and a variety of food options typical of a fair event.

Located nearby is the Air Force Museum with its collection of military aircraft and not far away is the National Voice of America Museum. You should consider that it can be hard to get close-in lodging so make a reservation now if you plan to go to the Hamvention. Details can be found at <https://hamvention.org/>

The ORLANDO HAMCATION is now history and it seems as though it was well attended (possibly #2 in attendance in the US) but there was a lot of rain on Friday night which made for a soggy flea market. There are several buildings for dealers and forums and I hope to make my fifth trip to Hamcation in Orlando next year.

#### ARRL BOARD INFO

Speaking of hamfests, recently a number of west coast hamfests were cancelled with the effect that there were fewer Division Conventions.

Ham clubs, which once sought recognition for their regional hamfest being designated as a Division Convention began taking the position that hamfests were costing money (i.e. not breaking even or making money for the host club) due to increased facility fees, decreased attendance, fewer dealers wanting to compete with on-line sellers and the increasing age of many hams who may not feel they are up to a trip or for walking around a hamfest all day.

The minutes of the mid-January ARRL Board meeting may not be available for until late in February but at least one Director, Mike Ritz (W7VO) gave a detailed report about the meeting.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8fDCx-dzcc>)

The Board meeting covered several important topics including but not limited to:

a. ARRL created a grant program with a \$150,000 budget to provide grants to help clubs to incentivize them to continue to hold hamfests and compete for Division Convention status.

Because of concern that some of the regional hamfests may cease to exist, ARRL is developing a grant program that could offer grants up to \$5000 per club and per hamfest to offset financial losses and have clubs to continue hosting Division Conventions. More details should be forthcoming soon.

b. There was a highly contentious issue involving a Director who published a Technician Licensing Guide. The Ethics and Elections Committee spent held two eight hour meetings on this issue and made a recommendation to the Board. There are several videos on the web about this controversy posted by the particular Director, some supporters and some critics who have all weighed in on the controversy over the book.

You may want to spend a few minutes to learn more about the controversy.

c. Rules changes have been proposed for Field Day 2023 which affect

power limits and point calculations. You will hear a fair representation as to why some recent rule changes are being retained and others are being modified.

d. The Clean Signal Initiative, which has been talked about for several years, is about to get off the ground and would involve ARRL in setting equipment standards.

Despite the ARRL Board meeting being held almost a month ago release of the minutes of any ARRL Board meeting typically takes six weeks to receive approval from each Director; as a result the official minutes have not yet been released.

A slightly different version of the reasons why the Board acted as it did on these and other topics can be gained by watching Director Dick Norton (N6AA) who gave a talk at Quartzfest which was held a week after the ARRL Board Meeting in January. A streaming video of his comments at Quartzfest can be found at <https://forums.grz.com/index.php?threads/2023-quartzfest-arrrl-south-west-division-forum-with-n6aa.849715/>

UPCOMING OPERATING EVENTS

During the last weekend of this month, there are two State QSO parties involving North Carolina as well as South Carolina. The South Carolina QSO party will be held on February 25 (Saturday) with the goal of encouraging operators to attempt to make contacts with as many South Carolina stations in as many of the 46 South Carolina counties as possible. Information can be found at <http://scqso.com/>

The North Carolina QSO party will be held on the following day, February 26. Points are accumulated according to the contacts made. There are bonus points for contacting six special event stations, the suffixes of which spell out "W R I G H T" to honor the 120th anniversary of the Wright Brothers flight at Kitty Hawk. Information about the NC QSO party can be found at <https://ncqsoparty.org/>.

NC TRAFFIC REPORT

W4DNA, Dave Roy, is the Section Traffic Manager and he prepares a monthly report which is submitted to ARRL HQ and to me. His report appears in full near the top of the NCARRL webpage (ncarrl.org). However, due to limitations of the ARRL email system (txt files only), Dave's Excel file is truncated in this report.

W4DNA - NC Section Net Report - JANUARY 2023

NET	NMGR	QNI	LISTED	PASSED	TIME	SESSIONS	TFC %
SECTION NETS							
CN	AA4MP	371	150	146	609	62	97.33%

CSN	KI4KZS	127	23	23	563	31	100.00%
NCEN	WK4WC	407	108	102	499	31	94.44%
NCMN	W3OJO	362	172	169	569	31	98.26%
THEN	K4SEH	208	1	0	280	15	0.00%
LOCAL NETS							
CWTN	N4CNX	420	79	79	534	31	100.00%
ENCTN	W4DNA	78	6	6	140	26	100.00%
PCTN	W4TTO	289	75	75	343	31	100.00%
TOTAL		2262	614	600	3537	258	97.72%

## UPCOMING AUXCOMM TRAINING

NC Emergency Management will be offering the Auxiliary Communications Course (AUXCOMM) in Manteo (Dare County) on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (April 21, 22 and 23, 2023). The course will soon be listed on TERMS

(<https://terms.ncem.gov/>) and will be coordinated by Virginia Enzor, NC4VA.

The prerequisites include:

- a. Possession of a valid amateur radio license
- b. Completion of the on-line FEMA ICS100c, 200c, 700b and 800d. These courses can be found at <https://training.fema.gov/is/crslst.aspx?lang=en> and there are no fees to complete the courses.
- c. Sustained experience in participating in an EmComm net.
- d. Endorsement from the local Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ i.e. the county emergency manager) for you to take the course, endorsing the candidate's Position Task Book and using the student in future EmComm activations.

The FEMA ICS prerequisite courses typically take about one hour each and a certificate is earned after completing an on-line exam.

Students who travel from home and complete the Auxcomm course will receive reimbursement for mileage, lodging and meals at rates established by the Office of State Budget and Management.

## FCC ACTIONS

The FCC publishes a Daily Digest which summarizes its recent actions as well as proposed changes in rules and procedures. It is free and anyone can subscribe to it at <https://www.fcc.gov/proceedings-actions/daily-digest> .

Although it is rare for an action to be taken against an amateur radio operator, even for egregiously offensive operation, the FCC Field Agents do enforce rules in the Broadcast, Public Safety and Aviation services.

Your attention is directed to:

- a. <https://opendata.fcc.gov/stories/s/wgq8-eb5c>
- b. [https://www.insideradio.com/free/the-fcc-s-back-to-pirate-hunting-four-property-owners-face-2-million-fines/article\\_c47bd68a-cf69-11ec-b014-3fee8f3116f7.html](https://www.insideradio.com/free/the-fcc-s-back-to-pirate-hunting-four-property-owners-face-2-million-fines/article_c47bd68a-cf69-11ec-b014-3fee8f3116f7.html)
- c. <https://thedesk.net/2022/12/fcc-miami-broadcast-pirate-radio-station/>
- d. <https://www.fcc.gov/enforcement/orders>
- e. <https://www.fcc.gov/enforcement/orders/1823>

#### HAM ESTATE PLANNING

As difficult as it is to face our mortality, the truth is that many hams have spent lifetimes accumulating cherished radio equipment, transceivers, go kits, portables and mobiles, as well as antennas and towers. Most of us know to the dollar what we paid for this or that item but few of our family members have much of a clue of how to the actual vs. sentimental value of our collection of equipment.

If you became ill and could no longer enjoy your lifelong collection that you accumulated, what are your wishes as to how the equipment should be disposed of? Do you have a club you want to help by gifting the equipment to them while also urging them to sell the excess stuff in order to endow a club station in honor of your life and the impact you had on your club?

Is there a school or university nearby that you would like to see have a ham station? Does the club or school know of your wishes?

Have you thought about how much work is involved in dismantling a ham station and then selling the stuff?

We have had two (SK) members who left all their radio and computer equipment to the local club items which we sold and purchased new antennas, hardline, a repeater and other items as well for the benefit of the club. Collecting, disposing of and selling the equipment was an ordeal that was not simple.

RATPAC recently devoted one of its twice a week video meetings to the topic of Ham Estate Planning. You may want to watch the video and make some notes as to what are your wishes about your station. The video can be found at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ybz4z\\_6YLOM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ybz4z_6YLOM)

#### CLOSING COMMENT

I try hard to present interesting items in the 68 newsletters which have come out while I have you're your Section Manager. The newsletters are produced twice a month and I try to cover items of interest across the ham population.. Many readers have dropped me notes or spoken with me at hamfests and I appreciate your feedback.

If you send me an invitation to speak at your club, I will try to find a way to travel to your meeting or to participate in it by way of technology.

Best wishes,  
Marv, WA4NC  
NC Section Manager

-----  
ARRL North Carolina Section  
Section Manager: Dr Marvin K Hoffman, WA4NC [wa4nc@arrl.org](mailto:wa4nc@arrl.org)

Feb 19, 2023

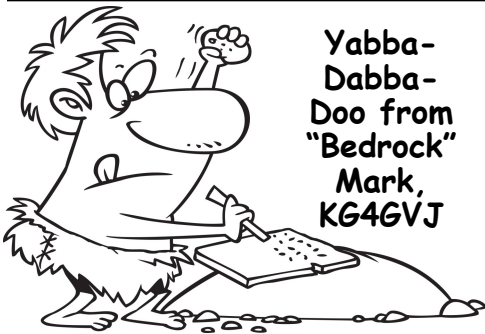
John Gendron, NJ4Z, has been named the 2022 Roanoke Division Service Award winner. The Roanoke Division Service Award is the highest and most prestigious recognition of an ARRL member operator in the four states of the division who has shown consistent and extensive leadership. First licensed as a Technician in 2016, John quickly advanced to General and Amateur Extra while simultaneously revitalizing both ARES in his area and the York County Amateur Radio Society (YCARS) in Rock Hill, South Carolina. The September 2022 issue of QST featured a story on the efforts John spearheaded in reinvigorating the YCARS club. He also has a YouTube channel called "From The Hamshack". Active in Parks On The Air (POTA), John can often be found activating Carolina parks, and when he's in his shack he's an avid DX chaser.

John is the 55th winner of the award, which began in 1968 and is bestowed annually. Judges for the award are past recipients of the accolade. The award is also nicknamed the "Vic Clark" Award after one of the original winners, Vic Clark, W4KFC (SK), who was Roanoke Division Director and later ARRL President. The list of all 55 winners as well as a history of the award can be found on the Roanoke Division's website at: [www.arrl-roanoke.com](http://www.arrl-roanoke.com). Nominations for the 2023 Roanoke Division Service Award to name the 56th recipient will open in January 2024.

'73 de Jim Boehner, N2ZZ  
Roanoke Division Director

Bill Morine, N2COP  
Roanoke Division Vice Director

-----  
ARRL Roanoke Division  
Director: James F Boehner, N2ZZ  
[n2zz@arrl.org](mailto:n2zz@arrl.org)



Hi Folks,

Well, it's been a busy Month, one way or another. I've finally put in a radio into my car with some objections from the wife who was worried about possible damages to the car. A bit easier to spot the car now also. Note: Found out I forgot to change a line in the APRS, wrong call sign was going out when I was testing it.

I also extended my HF Fan dipole up a bit. It's now about 24 feet at the center and 12 feet at the sides. But, it's a bit odd looking (Twisted a bit). I may need to take it down later and modify it a bit. Not easy when I'm doing it alone (20 feet of steel pole is heavy). I haven't used the radio yet, as I was also busy programming my mobile radio for the car also.

One complaint about the Newsletter is same stuff being published every month. Sorry. Some items might stay up until the event is over in case of a new viewer of the newsletter is interested. Some might be a quick reference on items like Nets, resources etc. I went ahead and removed some items and moved more items around. This can be a work in progress.

## Interested in the Ham Chatter?

If you are not receiving *Ham Chatter* email notices and would like to receive them, please send an email to [hamchatter@w4amc.com](mailto:hamchatter@w4amc.com) so we can get your email address and put you on the list. You may miss some important BARC notices. -  
*KG4GVJ*

## Help the Editor.

Do you have something to say or post? Want to write an article? Any ideas? Comments and notice's of help needed (Personal or club needs or activities? Can be BARC related or other Club's) are welcomed. Have interesting photo's or articles? Done something related to radio? Please let us know and we may add them to the Ham Chatter and web page Blog.

Send it along to the [Editor at Ham Chatter](#). We will see if we can fit it in soon.

## Be a Net Control

Volunteer to help with the Weekly Net for BARC, or other nets. All are welcomed. It's great practice for if you need it for later, it's like First Aid training. A script is available to read off of to help in the progress on the web site.

## PUBLIC SERVICE?

**Website for NC hams** who are interested in public service, Check it out at <https://hpsnc.org/>.

## Public Service Events

Greetings Volunteers,

[Ham Public Service North Carolina \(HPSNC\) website](#) where you will find the new event list and other information about volunteering for public service events. You can [sign up via this new website](#). The [RARS website public service page](#) still has the schedule and other information posted and you can still sign up there as well. However, all sign-ups will move to the new website in the near future. The HPSNC website includes a blog page where I plan to post articles of interest, photos, information about public service, etc., so keep an eye on that space.

As you are all aware, each event needs several volunteer radio operators to ensure the transmission of consistent, accurate, and timely information to the event organizers. I will be asking for volunteers throughout the season and relying on all of you to help make this year a success. I am also working hard to add new volunteers to the roster this year.  
73,

Jeremy Lindsley – K2HJX  
On behalf of HPSNC  
(Edited down, from Feb 2022)

## CHARLOTTE HAMFEST - MARCH 10-11

Sponsored by W4BFB – Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, Inc.



## Dates – Times – Location

Friday, March 10, 2023: 3:00PM – 7:00PM

Saturday, March 11, 2023: 8:30AM – 4:00PM

Location: Cabarrus Arena & Events Center – Gold Hall

Address: 4551 Old Airport Road, Concord, NC 28025

Talk-In: 146.655 (No Tone), Backup on 146.940 (118.8Hz)

Minutes from I-85, Concord Mills Mall, and Charlotte Motor Speedway

## Admission Ticket Prices

All Tickets are good for both Friday and Saturday  
\$12 Pre-Order

\$14 (Cash) / \$15 (Credit) at the door

Children 12 and under are free when accompanied by an adult

Free Parking

Concessions will be Credit only

## Hamfest Prizes

At the Charlotte Hamfest, you will always have several chances to win some great prizes! We offer a pre-registration prize for simply ordering your admission tickets ahead of time. We will also have a Grand Prize offered on both Friday Night and Saturday Afternoon. You do not need to be present to win any of these three prizes. We will also be giving away many Hourly Prizes. You must be present to claim the Hourly Prize when your name is drawn. All Hourly Prizes must be claimed by 2:30PM Saturday. Be sure to pick up extra prize tickets in advance, at the front entry door, or the show office for \$1 each, or 6 for \$5! \*Prizes are subject to change

Deluxe Coax Crimp Kit

Pre-Registration: Deluxe Coax Crimp Kit  
LDG AT-600 Pro II

Friday Grand Prize: LDG AT-600 Pro II  
Yaesu FT-710

Saturday Grand Prize: Yaesu FT-710

One \$50 ARRL Gift Certificate, Two \$25 ARRL Gift Certificates  
\$50 - Lifetime Access to all N3FJP Logging Software

\$50 - Lifetime Access to all N3FJP Logging Software  
Alpha Antenna

Hourly Prizes: (5) \$100 Alpha Antenna Gift Certificates

Easy Way Ham Books

Hourly Prizes: (5) Easy Way Ham Books  
DX Engineering

Hourly Prizes: (2) \$100 DX Engineering Gift Certificates.

**RARSFEST - APRIL 8, 2023**

From: Nancy KB2TNR <[rarsfest@icloud.com](mailto:rarsfest@icloud.com)>

I'm Nancy Torborg, KB2TNR, the Chair of RARSfest, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's hamfest.

Each Spring for the last 48 years, the Raleigh (NC) Amateur Radio Society has presented RARSfest™, our radio club's hamfest.

This year, RARSfest will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2023 in the air-conditioned Jim Graham building at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. This is the largest hamfest in the mid-Atlantic, typically attracting nearly two thousand visitors from North Carolina and neighboring states. In addition to a huge indoor flea market (230+ tables) and dozens of commercial vendors, we also offer license exams, demonstrations, a build-an-

antenna session, hourly door prizes, ample free parking, DXCC card checking, meetings and forums – and this year’s ARRL North Carolina State Convention.

We did not mail sales flyers this year (it was getting too expensive!).

You can purchase tickets online (we now take credit/debit cards in addition to PayPal) <https://www.rarsfest.org/admission.php>

or you can print out an order form (attachment) and mail in your check.

Tickets are \$10 before April 1st; \$12 at the door.

We won’t be mailing you your tickets (again, expense). Simply pick them up at the dedicated “Will Call” table!

If you have items to sell, you can either get a flea market table <https://www.rarsfest.org/fleamkt.php>

We have lots of exciting returning and new vendors:

Amateur Satellite Corp. (AMSAT)

ARRL NC Section

ARRL / RARS Info & Membership

Blue Wireless

Central Carolina Skywarn-NWS

DSS Tech Services/Fluke Repair

DZ KitsNew!.gif

Electronic Product Design, Inc.

G & G Electronic

The Ham Badgers

Ham Public Service NC

Ham World

JARS COMNew!.gif

KE4WMF/RNew!.gif

N4OOC's Attic

Phase Dock Inc.

QCWA

QuickSilver Radio

Real Time Relief

RF Connection, Inc.

Satellite Headquarters

Summit Outdoors GearNew!.gif

The Sign Man of Baton Rouge

Southeast Repeater Association

Tarheel Designs LLCNew!.gif

TARPN

The Wireman, Inc.

And several exciting vehicles are coming!

To bring all this excitement to the Triangle, we need VOLUNTEERS!

Please go to <https://www.rarsfest.org/helpwanted.php>

to register. You can do “Talk-in” from home! Working the “Stage”

or “Admissions” is perfect for someone with limited mobility.

Please check out our re-vamped website:

[www.rarsfest.org](http://www.rarsfest.org)

Nancy KB2TNR Torborg

RARSFest 2023 Chair, [rarsfest@rars.org](mailto:rarsfest@rars.org)

## Pamlico Amateur Radio Club, K4BCH

### Club Meeting Location:

Zion Episcopal Church  
7322 US Highway 264 East  
Washington, NC 27889

### Contact info:

Pamlico Amateur Radio Club  
C/O Cheryl McGuire KX4EC  
530 Jamaka Rd  
Washington NC 27889

### Club President:

Gary Faust NG9T  
[gfaust.parc@gmail.com](mailto:gfaust.parc@gmail.com)  
(252)531-4982

PARC is a 501c3 non-profit organization legally form under the laws of North Carolina.

The club meets at 7pm on the THIRD Thursday of each month. The Club Net monthly on the FIRST Thursday at 8pm (EST).

These monthly Nets offer practice in Message-handling procedures in the event of actual emergencies. The formal portion last about 20 minutes, followed by informal comments from Net check-ins. The Net VHF frequency is 146.955 MHz, minus 600 offset, PL tone 131.8 operated through the Bath, NC repeater. A new club repeater is at 147.255 MHz, plus 600 offset, PL tone 131.8.

PARC 80M Net every Tuesday at 7pm (EST) on 3.807Mhz or close by if frequency is in use.

**Weekly Wednesday Breakfast:** All are invited for breakfast every Wednesday morning at 9:00am EST at Shep's Grill at 129 N. Market St, Washington NC 27889. Parking is in the rear and rear door entry is best.

## Club News

Pamlico Amateur Radio Club's next VE session is set for March 11 at 10:00am, 9:30am for applicants to complete their paperwork. We will continue to give exams during odd numbered months.

Exam location continues to be:

Beaufort County EOC  
1420 Highland Dr  
Washington, NC 27889



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**KG4GVJ's Antenna Project in Feb 2023**

Using an external tuner to keep SWR hopefully in a good range for the radio. A little too much coax than needed, but better than too short. I have some short pieces of wood closet pole clamped at the pole joints (2 each, 10 foot metal poles) to strengthen it. SWR at end of coax to Antenna was very high in the 80/75 Meter, But gets better as I go up on the other bands.







## ARES/AUXCOMM News



The five USB channelized 60-meter frequencies are available for interoperability (communication between services). By convention, Channel 1 is designated the calling channel. This convention is established to train the amateur radio community to reach out on Channel 1 in times of national emergency, for information from the federal government. The amateur radio community uses 60 meters on a secondary basis with federal agencies. This and similar 60-meter interoperability exercises are conducted during the first full week of each month. More information [here](#). - *ARRL News*

## ARES Resources

- [Download the ARES Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Field Resources Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book \[Fillable PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book \[Word\]](#)
- [ARES Plan](#)
- [ARES Group Registration](#)

Note from Editor: This section is added for information for those interested in Emergency services. Pitt County doesn't have a active ARES Presence. But the practices and lessons available can be useful if working for or helping pass traffic in times of need.



## Important Links

ARRL Home: [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

Find an ARRL Affiliated Club:  
[www.arrl.org/clubs](http://www.arrl.org/clubs)

Find Your ARRL Section:  
[www.arrl.org/sections](http://www.arrl.org/sections)

Find a License Class in your area: [www.arrl.org/class](http://www.arrl.org/class)

Find a License Exam in your area: [www.arrl.org/exam](http://www.arrl.org/exam)

Find a Hamfest or Convention:  
[www.arrl.org/hamfests](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests)

Email ARRL Clubs:  
[clubs@arrl.org](mailto:clubs@arrl.org)

## The ARES Letter

### ARES<sup>®</sup> Briefs, Links

On the evening of Monday, February 6, 2023, there was a 7.8 magnitude earthquake that mainly affected Turkey and Syria as well as other neighboring countries with almost 35,000 dead (at press time) and more than 16,000 injured, with likely many more. According to information received from the emergency coordinators of the IARU Region 1 countries and, especially from Greg Mossop, G0DUB, the emergency communications coordinator for this region, communications in Turkey have been mainly on VHF, but transmissions in Turkish have also been heard on 28.540 MHz, although they can also use 3.777 MHz and 7.092 MHz. For this reason, we ask our colleagues in IARU Region 2 (the Americas) to protect those frequencies and assess the evolving situation for opportunities to serve the relief effort.

As for Syria, it has been reported that apparently there are not many radio amateurs there, so we do not know if there is any frequency in use in that country. Aziz Sasa, TA1E, Turkish emergency communications coordinator, suggested that any help from other countries should be coordinated through the Turkish embassy in each country. Humanitarian aid groups from several European countries are currently moving into the affected regions.

We appreciate the concern of colleagues from IARU Region 2 member societies regarding this earthquake. We offer our condolences to all the people and colleagues in the countries affected by this terrible disaster. - *Statement by Carlos Alberto Santamaría Gonzalez, CO2JC, Emergency Coordinator, IARU Region 2*

### Tennessee County's "Hurricane William" ARRL/ARES SET

The [Williamson County, Tennessee ARES](#) Simulated Emergency Test (SET) was designed as a county-wide emergency communications exercise to test our organization's ability to provide communications for our primary served agency, the Williamson County Emergency Management Agency (WCEMA), as well as the National Weather Service (NWS).

The exercise scenario entailed a slow-moving, heavy rainmaking "Hurricane William," which had been downgraded to a tropical storm. Carrying substantial moisture up from the Gulf of Mexico, William caused significant flooding in Williamson County requiring evacuations and the opening of multiple shelters. To add an extra level of complexity to the exercise, the event simulated a county-wide Public Safety radio system outage.

Exercise play began on Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 0800 CDT, ended at 1100 CDT, and concluded with a hotwash (after-action discussion and evaluation) at the WCEMA EOC from 1145 to 1215. ARES and SKYWARN play occurred throughout the 3-hour exercise period.

The exercise was formally closed at 1215 following the completion of the hotwash.

The exercise was led by the WCARES Emergency Coordinator, Jeff Standifer, WB5WAJ.

During the SET, eight WCARES mobile radio operators connected the Williamson County ECOMM 911 dispatch center to 10 Emergency Response partners from multiple municipal agencies, includ-



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ing Law Enforcement, Fire & Rescue, and EMS.

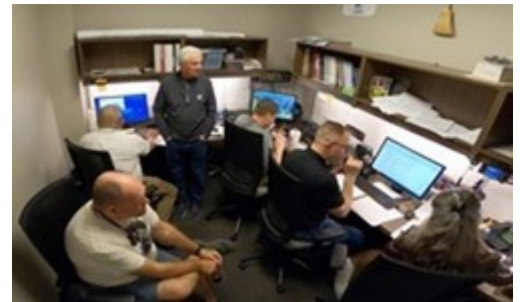
Three simulated shelters were activated in response to the simulated flood event. Seven radio operators established stand-alone radio operations at the three sites using their own power and radio equipment to provide status reports back to Net Control and the Williamson County Emergency Management Agency.

The Net Control Team included an additional seven operators utilizing multiple modes, including our WCARES 5-linked repeater system and backup repeater, DMR, and Winlink.

Communication was managed between the three shelters, the 10 emergency response partners, and other participating WCARES members who provided requested information regarding shelter status, weather, and flood conditions as well as the status of public utilities. Vital information was obtained from field sources and relayed to the Williamson County Emergency Management Agency and the National Weather Service.

We quickly re-learned the importance of the consistent use of tactical call signs. Net Control depended on tactical call signs to help them quickly identify and manage heavy traffic from multiple mobile operators and shelters. We also confirmed that a handheld is insufficient for use as a backup or secondary radio. When the primary radio is engaged in Winlink traffic, an additional mobile radio is needed for voice communication. In spite of our linked repeater system, terrain in certain locations within the county negates the use of low-powered handheld radios.

The 2022 SET successfully demonstrated that WCARES has the skills, depth, and commitment to serve our community by providing communication support for activated emergency shelters and continuity of communication in the event of a catastrophic Public Safety radio system outage. -- [Jeff Schwartz, KC1DWP, Emergency Coordinator, Williamson County, Tennessee](#) [Schwartz served as Chair of the WCARES Exercise Committee that designed the 2022 SET exercise. He is an active member of the Net Control team. -- Ed.]



Net Control operations at the Williamson County Public Safety Center, AuxComm Room. L to r, Scott Grey, KD4VVC; Phil Sherrod, W4PHS; Marty Vanek, KN4MNA; Trey Spain, KI4ZIN; Will Daughtrey, KO4DNR; and Net Manager Laura Marler, N4CLO. [Photo courtesy Cliff Batson, N4CCB]

## Amateur Radio at the 2023 Loppet Winter Festival

With around 3,000 participants, the Minneapolis City of Lakes Loppet Winter Festival ([City of Lakes Loppet Winter Festival - The Loppet Foundation](#)) is a weekend of mostly Nordic urban ski and fat tire bike races. Two of the events are fairly long, up to 31 km, with four aid stations. I was asked for 2023 to pull together a team to provide medical communications. The injury rate is low (not much heatstroke), but the race course winds through wooded parks, and sections are not accessible by road, so snowmobile transport is required. We are out in temperatures down to -4 F for 6 hours each day. I sat down with our boss, Dr. Bixby, and asked who was staffing the aid stations. He said, "You are." Several of us have been trying to close the gap on first aid training, but this was new.

In fact, there was a large and highly qualified medical team assigned but they were on patrol in hilly and crash-prone areas. Aid stations were more transport hubs near roads. The injuries we see are often from a tumble, and worsen with a "fast," i.e., icy, course. I staffed up with half hams, and half

US Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteers. The Auxiliary members are good as Strike Teams -- they do not require extensive supervision and are experts in Incident Command. We are participant facing - more like operations, less like logistics.

A mashup of communications systems were used. We brought DMR radios, the event used borrowed hospital P25 radios, and we all used *WhatsApp* for live messaging. The event was packed for 2023, and the parking lots were full. I decided not to bring our mobile tower trailer repeaters to save room, and used existing borrowed DMR machines.

The first day we had a lot of problems with a busy DMR time slot on the repeater, even using a local talk group. For several hours, unrelated out-of-area (internet) traffic was using the system and we could not get in. We tried a different repeater, (which was not in one of the radio model code plugs for the area) and had similar issues. One thought was to use the Statewide talkgroup, but that seemed ill advised for 2 days. The analog FM machine I signed out as backup was not in the DMR code plug in several of our radios.



Peter Corbett, KD8GBL, issuing last-minute directions and loaner ski poles to Tim Neu, N0TJN. [Photo courtesy Erik Westgard, NY9D]

The result was better on another machine the second day. The repeater owner suggested unplugging the internet cable from the repeater, which helped. My boss in ARES, SEC Benton Jackson, K0BHJ, says "all emergencies are local" - so the value at an event of a repeater acting as a wide area Internet hotspot seems limited.

We tested DMR simplex, which is another possibility. We found some newer code plugs, which were missing on our portable repeater, based on an earlier fixed system which was just taken out of service.

Peter Corbett, KD8GBL, brought up our [Trivnetdb](#) database in Azure. This was loaded with the event participant names and bib numbers. These could then be queried and updated based on the situation. And we had our chat feature and even capacity graphs. Our Medical Director was impressed. The idea is fast, crisp incident response, without delayed or garbled medical messages.

We really did a good job: at one incident, our aid station rep ran an injured skier situation on the P25 radio very professionally. I like the role as Event Lead, as I can reach into the organization leadership team without causing waves.

My phone rang. It was the Race Director, saying, "Where are you? I'm in a snow tractor. Prepare to hop in -- the main sound system has failed and we are reading out finish results." As we are in the backup communications space, when we were in charge of the PA systems, we bought a spare PA mixer we found on eBay, and it saved the day. Also notable was the part at the Leads Meeting when applause broke out when it was announced ham radio was, again, all in to help. -- *Erik Westgard, NY9D, ASEC-T Minnesota Section*

## Get the CISA Auxiliary Communications Field Operations Guide (AUXFOG)

*Interoperability: "The ability of emergency responders to communicate among jurisdictions, disci-*

*plines, frequency bands, and levels of government as needed and as authorized. System operability is required for system interoperability."*

Volunteer organizations such as community emergency response teams and auxiliary communications volunteers (e.g., amateur radio operators) play key roles in emergency communications and preparedness. Volunteer emergency communications operators and groups using amateur radio have been providing backup communications to event planners, public safety officials, and emergency managers at all levels of government for nearly 100 years. Often, amateur radio services have been used when other forms of communications have failed or have been disrupted. Today, nearly all the states and territories have incorporated some level of participation by amateur radio auxiliary communication operators into their [Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans](#) and [Statewide Communication Interoperability Plans](#); this allows them to quickly integrate the operators into response efforts, which can strengthen communications and operations during incidents of any scale. You can download the Auxiliary Communications Field Operations Guide (AUXFOG) and other valuable FOGs on the [Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency \(CISA\) website publications/resources page](#). You can also download an electronic copy from the Apple and Google App stores.

## All Aboard the CERT Train

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) concept is a major, growing concern in the quickly evolving arena of emergency management on a micro versus macro scale, and deserves the full attention of ARES -- and indeed any radio amateur -- as a top priority for the coming year.

CERT is the wave of the future -- the immediate future -- as limited resources for disaster response at all levels of government (local, state, and federal) are bumping up against the ever-increasing needs of the populace due to the elevating incidence and ferocity of natural and manmade disasters. The CERT concept is part of the answer to this dilemma: residents on a street or in an apartment complex will network and be trained to take care of themselves in the first critical post-disaster hours and possibly days when no outside help is available. Think of the CERT program as a kind of block party, only instead of socializing over hot dogs and hamburgers, neighbors get together to train and plan to look after each other when dealing with the effects of a disaster. When you really think about this concept, it has implications that are of a serious, life-and-death nature.

The CERT program is a FEMA program, part of its Citizen Corps and Ready campaigns, but had its origins in forward-thinking fire and EMS units in southern California decades ago. Neighbors are trained in conducting an initial assessment of their own homes and survival kits. They learn to reduce the immediate dangers presented by a disaster by turning off utilities, suppressing small fires, evacuating the area, and helping others. They learn to treat people in the immediate area. They learn to implement their own Incident Command System -- they establish a command post, staging area, and medical triage and treatment areas. They learn to collect damage information and develop a plan of operation based on life-saving priorities and available resources. And they learn to establish and maintain communications with responders and the outside world.

The radio amateur, especially an ARES-registered operator, is the ideal candidate for forming and leading a neighborhood Community Emergency Response Team. A critical part of the CERT's planning and operations is radio communications, and we as radio amateurs have the experience and credibility for this emergency support function out of the gate. Become a CERT leader! Every journey of recruiting a dozen homes on a street for a CERT begins with the first, perhaps your next door neighbor. Talk to him or her "over the fence" and start planning and drafting your team. Read and use the FEMA publication [CERT User Guide](#). There are many resources to help you! You can start

with [FEMA's Independent Study Course on CERT](#). A reader recently called my attention to a new library of disaster-related training with numerous videos, including several on *Neighborhood Preparedness and Response*. I haven't had a chance to review the materials yet, but I will. The library can be accessed at the [Just In Time Disaster Training](#) website.

FEMA has a number of resources available to the CERT members and leader. You can get the [CERT National Newsletter](#) as well as [Search CERT programs by location](#).

You can [register](#) a new CERT *program* with FEMA online. This page is for registering CERT programs only, however, not to register individuals or individual teams sponsored by a local CERT program. To be an official CERT program, the program must be operated by a local emergency response organization such as your local Fire Department or Office of Emergency Management and endorsed by the local Citizen Corps Council, if your community has one. The program coordinators must conduct the CERT Basic Training Course and hold a CERT exercise at least once a year. There must be a point of contact to be posted with other program information on the national CERT website.

Search to find a CERT program in your locale to help you set up and establish your neighborhood CERT. The CERT concept can also be extended to workplaces -- the same ideals apply!

### **Conclusion: You are On Your Own! "Winging It is Not an Emergency Plan"**

The government's promotional language often reads like this: "When a disaster or overwhelming event occurs and responders are not immediately available, CERTs can assist..." Let's examine what they're really saying in plain terms: When your house and family are in immediate danger in the first minutes and hours after a disaster, you are on your own. There will likely be no EMS, fire, police or any other agency responders to save you and your family and neighbors. Your survival is up to you alone, based on your preparations and the help from your immediate neighbors on your street. Your chances will be greatly enhanced with an organized neighborhood response -- the kind of response that is at the heart of the CERT concept. Make it your New Year's resolution to form your own neighborhood CERT! -- *Rick Palm, K1CE*

# OOPS!



Local hams took part in an unscheduled "fox hunt" on Sunday morning, February 14. The bugle sounded about 10 a.m. when a signal appeared on the input of the local Greenville repeater (147.09 MHz.)

At 10:30 efforts to locate the offending "fox" began: WA4MOK and N4CZT found the signal to be almost directly north of their stations; KC4IE in Rocky Mount located the signal at about 150 degrees from his station.

At 11 a.m. we knew the "fox" was in our own chicken-coup — right here in Greenville!

WA4DAN had already begun a mobile search and had an approximate idea of the location: somewhere in the 14th Street - Pitt Plaza area. W4LYM joined the hunt and located the "fox" — KS4O, Mac Whitehurst, who had left his Kenwood TS 700 in his car in the "send" position and gone to church services.

Mac apologizes for the trouble he caused, especially because that rig was the offending "fox" on two previous occasions (ed. anyone want to buy a nice all-mode two meter rig, but promise not to use it mobile?).

The experience did teach us a few things though:

- that we are not well prepared for D.F. exercises at the moment,
- that we use our two meter rigs casually and should watch them carefully, check them before leaving our cars, and lock them up,
- that "fox hunts" would be more fun on simplex (and scheduled says N4CZT),
- and finally that W4LYM can drive his car with two H.T.s - one in each hand, and the steering wheel in his teeth! Congratulations on finding the critter!

(AI4J)

March 1982, The Ham Chatter



**ARRL** The National Association for  
Amateur Radio®

## Emails



### ARRL on the Purpose of Amateur

For over 100 years amateur radio and ARRL — the National Association for Amateur Radio® — have stood for the development of the science and art of communications, public service, and the enhancement of international goodwill. Amateur Radio's long history and service to the public has solidified the well-earned reputation that "Amateur Radio saves lives."

Amateur Radio Operators, due to their history of public service, their training, and the requirement that they be licensed by the FCC have earned their status as a component of critical communications infrastructure and as a reliable resource "when all else fails."

Amateur Radio is about development of communications and responsible public service. Its misuse is inconsistent with its history of service and its statutory charter. ARRL does not support its misuse for purposes

### ARRL Podcasts

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday. ARRL Audio News is a summary of the week's top news stories in the world of amateur radio and ARRL, along with interviews and other features.



### ARRL Podcasts Schedule On the Air

Sponsored by [Icom](#)  
The latest episode of the [ARRL On the Air](#) podcast addresses the topic of scanning, with specific discussions about memory scanning, CTCSS tone scanning, priority watch, and more.

ARRL has designated 2023 "The Year of the Volunteers," to shed light on the work of the hundreds of volunteers who make ARRL and amateur radio what it is. We've got a year-long, on-air event to go with it; Volunteers On the Air (VOTA) is already taking the bands by storm just two months into the fun. In this episode, "How to Be On the Air All Year with VOTA," we talk to ARRL Director of Operations Bob Naumann, W5OV, and ARRL Radiosport Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, about rules, awards, special activations, and all things VOTA.

Of the ARRL [Eclectic Tech](#) podcast: (Episode 67) features a discussion of power generation using graphene, synchronizing clocks with cosmic rays, multifrequency "vascular" antennas, and listening to Very Low Frequency (VLF) atmospheric signals as part of NASA's INSPIRE project.

The *On the Air* and *Eclectic Tech* podcasts are sponsored by Icom. Both podcasts are available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android) as well as on Blubrry - [On the Air](#) | [Eclectic Tech](#)

### Amateur Radio in the News

["Rescued by ham radio"](#) / WMUR-TV / New Hampshire Chronicle (New Hampshire), January 31, 2023

["Contact! Raleigh students connect with International Space Station astronauts"](#) / WNCN-TV (North Carolina), January 26, 2023. -- Brentwood Magnet Elementary School of Engineering.

["Elementary school students in Raleigh use amateur radio to talk to International Space Station"](#) / WTVD (North Carolina), January 26, 2023 -- Brentwood Magnet Elementary School of

Engineering.

["Dr. Mark 'KF4MLT' Aulick memorialized at Amateur Radio Winter Field Day"](#) / Grice Connect (Georgia), January 27, 2023. -- *The Statesboro Amateur Radio Society is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["The Amateur Radio Emergency Services looks to recruit volunteers"](#) / WGXA -TV (Georgia), January 28, 2023. -- *Macon-Bibb Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®).*

["Eastern Carolina amateur radio club puts emergency response skills to the test"](#) / WITN -TV (North Carolina), January 29, 2023. -- *The Onslow Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["The dits and dahs of Morse Code in the digital age"](#) / WANE-TV (Indiana), January 30, 2023. -- *The Fort Wayne Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["People across North Central Florida learn to use ham radios for communication"](#) / WCJB-TV (Florida) January 30, 2023. -- *The Gainesville Amateur Radio Society is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Connecticut students use ham radio to talk to astronaut at International Space Station"](#) / The Bulletin (Connecticut), January 31, 2023. -- *The Norwich Free Academy Amateur Radio and Engineering Club, W1HLO, is a high school club*

["Local HAMS celebrate Kansas Day"](#) / The Gardner News (Kansas), January 31, 2023. -- *The Santa Fe Trail ARC is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Dixie Amateur Radio Club makes widespread contact during annual field day"](#) / Cedar City News (Utah), February 2, 2023. -- *The Dixie Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Helping through ham radio: Emergency services use amateur radio specialists"](#) / East Oregonian (Oregon), February 6, 2023. -- *Amateur*

*Radio Emergency Services®.*

["Local Amateur Radio System Expands In Calvert County"](#) / The BAYNET (Maryland), February 6, 2023 -- *The Calvert Amateur Radio Association is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

["Helping through ham: Emergency services enlist amateur radio specialists"](#) / The Columbian (Oregon) February 7, 2023 -- *Umpqua Valley Amateur Radio Club.*

["Join the Comox Valley Emergency Radio Communications Team"](#) / Comox Valley Record (British Columbia), February 13, 2023 - *The Comox Valley Emergency Program (CVEP).*

["Cache Valley students made live contact with an astronaut in space"](#) / Utah Public Radio (Utah), February 10, 2023. -- *Ridgeline High School Cache County District.*

["Ham radio operators and their role with sled dog safety"](#) / WJMN TV (Michigan), February 17, 2023. -- *Al Augustyn, W8FYZ, is Secretary of the Marquette Radio Repeater System.*

["Schofield club excels in international radio outreach"](#) / Aiken Standard (South Carolina), February 20, 2023. -- *The Schofield Amateur Radio and Technology Club.*

## Announcements

### USA Radio Orienteering Championships Set for April 19 - 23, 2023

Registration is now open for the 22nd USA Radio Orienteering Championships.

The event will be held April 19 - 23, 2023, at Cooper Lake State Park in Texas, and is hosted by the [New Mexico Orienteers](#), Albuquerque, New Mexico, using maps provided by [North Texas Orienteering](#) Association.

The [White Rock Lake Amateur Radio Club](#) will

provide communications support.

The name Radio Orienteering has been transitioning to this new name but it is actually the same radio navigation sport known as Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF). The sport involves using special radio receivers to find hidden transmitters in timed events.

USA ARDF Co-coordinator Gerald Boyd, WB8WFK, said the event is open to everyone of all age groups, and three medals will be awarded for first, second and third place in all groups. "We have events beginning with the Sprint," said Boyd. "Participants will have 60 minutes to find their transmitters. After that, three more events, the Fox -O, and two Classics events, all lasting three hours." Results of the competitions on April 20 - 23, 2023, will help determine the members of Team USA who will compete in the ARDF World Championships scheduled for the fall of 2023 in Liberec, Czech Republic.

Charles E. Scharlau, NZ0I, USA ARDF Co-coordinator, said they are hoping for a good turnout. "It is difficult to estimate attendance this year. We can accommodate up to 100 persons," said Scharlau. "Historically, we've had about 35 or fewer competitors in non-pandemic years, but we are hearing rumors of many people who are eager to get out and do things, so perhaps attendance will be up this year."

Scharlau said this year everyone participating in or attending the event will need to pay a \$5.00 parking fee at the park.

Detailed information about registration and the event site can be found [here](#). More information about Radio Orienteering is available on the [ARRL website](#).

## Amateur Radio on the International Space Station Contacts two US Schools

Astronauts onboard the International Space Station (ISS) were busy the last week of Janu-

ary making contacts with two schools using amateur radio.

The [Amateur Radio on the International Space Station](#) (ARISS) program arranged contacts with Brentwood Magnet Elementary School in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Norwich Free Academy (NFA) located in Norwich, Connecticut.

On January 26, 2023, nearly 400 students at Brentwood Magnet Elementary School filled the gymnasium to listen to astronaut Koichi Wakata answer questions about his experience on the ISS. Wakata told students he loves being in space but is looking forward to taking a shower when he returns in March.

He also told the students that it's not scary in space and encouraged them to pursue careers in science and engineering.

Then on January 30, 2023, astronaut Dr. Josh Cassada contacted students at NFA. During his 10-minute contact, Cassada shared with students how his career as a Navy Test Pilot helped him become an astronaut. "Do the things you love," Cassada told the students. During the remainder of the contact, Cassada talked about cargo vehicles making frequent trips to resupply the ISS and how his daily routine is different every day, including working weekends.

The NFA Amateur Radio and Engineering Club, W1HLO, members and advisors installed an amateur radio satellite ground station on the NFA campus in 2023, thanks to an Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) grant, which helped make the contact with the ISS possible.

ARISS is a unique STEM educational program which inspires young people to develop knowledge and skills through their participation in space science and amateur radio. ARISS conducts 60 - 80 of these special amateur radio contacts each year between students around the globe and crew members with ham radio licenses aboard the ISS.

ARISS is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies



that support the ISS. In the US, participating organizations include from NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN), the ISS National Lab - Space Station Explorers, [ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®](#), and AMSAT.

**The Virginia QSO Party (VQP) and Virginia's Volunteers On the Air (VOTA) Activation of W1AW/4 are set for the weekend of March 18 - 19, 2023.** Virginia amateur radio operators will, at the same time, celebrate the contributions of thousands of ARRL volunteers during Virginia's activation of the Volunteers On the Air event by contacting W1AW/4 during the VQP. In fact, W1AW/4 will be active from March 15 - 21, 2023. VQP planners are working to activate in some of the rare counties to help increase the chances of earning a Worked all VA Counties award. VQP Rules are at: [https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA\\_QSO\\_Party/2023\\_VQP/2023\\_VAQP\\_Rules.pdf](https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2023_VQP/2023_VAQP_Rules.pdf).

ARRL VOTA rules are at: <http://www.arrl.org/volunteers-on-the-air>.

## Amateur Radio Events Celebrate the Universe

Two amateur radio events are scheduled in mid-February to celebrate an astronomer who mapped the universe and an astronomer who discovered a planet.

The [Northern Arizona DX Association](#)

(NADXA) has been conducting a 10-year special event countdown to the 100-

year anniversary of Pluto's discovery. The planet was spotted in 1930 by Clyde Tombaugh at the



W7P QSL card.

Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona. This is the third year of the special event, which will run from February 11 - 19, 2023. NADXA club members will operate from the Lowell Observatory and their own stations. They will be using the call sign W7P on most bands and modes, beginning February 11 at 00:00 UTC through February 20 at 00:00 UTC. Also operating will be W7P/0 from Kansas City, Missouri. The W7P/0 station is managed by the nephew of Clyde Tombaugh, Doug Tombaugh, N3PDT. Last year's event resulted in more than 7,000 QSOs, 58 DX entities, and 17,000 lookups on <https://www.qrz.com/>.

In Poland, from February 17 - March 5, 2023, the [Polish Amateur Radio Union \(PZK\)](#) will operate nine special event stations honoring the 550th anniversary of the birth of Nicolaus Copernicus. Copernicus mapped the universe and formulated a model that placed the sun, rather than Earth, at its center.

The nine special event stations will operate from February 17 at 00:00 UTC to March 5 at 23:59 UTC, using the following call signs: SN550K, SN550O, SN550P, SN550E, SN550R, SN550N, SN550I, SP550K, and SN550NC.

All amateur operators can participate, and QSL cards and other awards will be available.

## Registration Open for the 2023 QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo

The 2023 QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo will be held on March 25 - 26, and registration is now open.

The event is a fully interactive virtual ham radio convention offering new content, networking opportunities, and more than 50 amateur radio presentations on a wide variety of subjects.

There is still time to participate in the event as a presenter. You can submit an application to present a video on a topic of your choice. The deadline for submission is February 15, 2023. Tickets are \$15, and registration information can be found at the [QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#) website.

-- ARRL is a QSO Today Expo Partner.

## Utah Students Talk to an Astronaut on the International Space Station

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) was active on February 7, 2023, with a downlink to students in the Cache County School District in Millville, Utah.

Astronomy students from Ridgeline and Sky View high schools were able to talk to Astronaut Josh Cassada, KI5CRH, with the help of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club (BARC), an ARRL Affiliated Club.



Astronaut Josh Cassada, KI5CRH. [NASA, photo]

Ten students were able to ask questions that ranged from how fast you're able to spin in a weightless environment, to which NASA project Astronaut Cassada thinks is most important to us as human beings.

A [YouTube](#) video of the entire event, including Astronaut Cassada's answers, is available.

ARISS is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the ISS. In the US, participating organizations include NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN), the ISS National Laboratory's Space Station Explorers program, [ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio](#)®, and AMSAT.

### A Barbados amateur radio operator, thought to be among the world's oldest

**operators, has died.** Winston "Woody" A. Richardson, 8P6CC, died on February 1, 2023. He was 108 years old. Richardson was born on the island of St. Lucia and was first licensed as VP6WR, before Barbados achieved its independence from the United Kingdom. "I first met him in September 1967, and we were lifelong friends," said Jim Neiger, N6TJ. "He had a modest station at Upton Terrace, in the suburbs of Bridgetown, [Barbados], and was formerly the Superintendent of the Barbados Water Authority." Richardson hosted Neiger's 8P6J contest operations, which included a number two spot in the 1980 ARRL DX CW Test, and several top-five spots in the CQ World Wide DX CW contests from 1980 to 1982. The Woody Richardson Communications Room at the Amateur Radio Society of Barbados is named after him. Richardson visited the headquarters of the Amateur Radio Society of Barbados in 2020.

## Amateur Radio Digital Communications Releases 2022 Annual Report

[Amateur Radio Digital Communications](#) (ARDC) has released its 2022 Annual Report detailing grants made for amateur radio projects.

In 2022, overall, ARDC approved nearly \$6.7 million in grants, and distributed nearly \$7.7 million.

ARDC's 2022 grants were distributed in four categories: Amateur Radio, Education, Scholarships, and Research & Development. Below is a list of the total grant amounts distributed in each category.

- Amateur Radio \$2,145,686
- Education \$2,326,744
- Scholarships \$1,561,548

Research & Development \$2,402,293

In 2022, international grant making was expanded to 13% of funded projects, which was an in-

crease from 9% in 2020, and is an area where ARDC is aiming for additional growth in 2023.

ARDC made 47 grants to amateur radio in 2022, which accounts for almost half of the total projects funded.

These included nine college amateur radio club projects and 33 community amateur radio club projects which involve network build outs, equipment upgrades, and repairs to old equipment.

Communications vehicles were commonly applied for, meaning that they were more competitive and difficult to obtain funding for. Clubs often share that these projects re-energize their membership and activities.

ARDC reviewers focused on selecting projects with strong outreach plans or opportunities to bring new people into the hobby. Projects with unique approaches and ones that aimed for big impacts stood out from the crowd. At the same time, funds were available for bread-and-butter club projects in order to continue supporting typical groups enjoying the hobby.

An example of a stand-out project is the one proposed by Bay Area Mesh (BAM). BAM's goal is "to install a resilient, high-speed, wireless network throughout San Francisco and the greater Bay Area." The network would be used by responders, volunteers, and served agencies during disasters, emergencies, and large community events.

ARDC noted in the awarding of the grant, "They're building this network using inexpensive, commercial-grade Wi-Fi equipment, running open-source software developed by the Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network (AREDN)." Using AREDN software allows BAM volunteers to set up a node with minimal expertise and effort, Advanced network technology is not needed because the software configures the network automatically.

Scholarships continue to be a focus for ARDC. In 2023, ARDC is funding 95 scholarships, bringing the all-time ARDC scholar total to 313. The [ARRL Foundation](#) was the biggest beneficiary, with a grant of \$500,000. And, in keeping with their goal

of reaching underserved groups, scholarship programs were also funded for the Society of Women Engineers and OMIK (a multicultural amateur radio organization), among others.

ARDC is a private foundation that exists to support amateur radio and digital communication science and technology.

The mission of ARDC is to support, promote, and enhance digital communication and broader communication science and technology, and to promote amateur radio, scientific research, experimentation, education, development, open access, and innovation in information and communication technology.

You can read more about ARDC at their website.

## Bouvet Island DXpedition Wraps Up

The 3Y0J activation of Bouvet Island has finished. The team concluded operations at 3:00 UTC on February 14, 2023, with around 19,000 contacts logged.

The team has boarded the S/V Marama and began their journey to Cape Town, South Africa. They expect to arrive by February 23.



Bouvet Island shrinks from view as S/V Marama takes the crew toward South Africa. 3Y0J

Photos uploaded to social media by Steve Haas, N2AJ, the team's Media Officer, [show the harsh reality of the operating environment](#). The crew operated in tents, with radios and equipment stacked on buckets.

Team Co-Leader Kenneth Opskar, LA7GIA, [took to Facebook to tell a bit of their story](#). His post highlights the physical and technical challenges the team faced. "Pileup was difficult as our signals were weak. We had good reception and very often we called 3 to 5 times to log a QSO. Many DXers called but couldn't hear us, "how frustrating," he wrote "We focused on fewer bands to maximize [all time new ones], and looking at the stats, we achieved 19,000 QSOs and 50% unique calls. And many dupes! Many are satisfied, but some are also disappointed by the performance of either the team or the DQRMers."

In response to some posts on social media questioning the methods and tactics the team used, Opskar continued, "As for Bouvet, there is no guarantee at all, whether you use two helicopters or zodiac! [We wanted] to make more contacts, but safety was and will always be more important than trying to push our limits in a risky environment."

The effort was one of the most expensive DXpeditions of all time. The team raised \$715,000 through donations and sponsorships, with each operator contributing a large sum to participate. The original plan was to operate for 22 days on the island. They had set a goal of 200,000 QSOs and hoped to operate up to 12 stations at once, across modes and bands.

As Opskar referenced, getting the equipment onto the island by boat proved to be a logistical challenge. "During the second day we got some supplies in a risky zodiac operation in high swell. We lost several objects in the surf and punctured the zodiac. The conditions on the beach were terrible. Due to the coming storm, we evacuated back to [the] Marama on day 4. Despite this, we decided to scale down [the] DXpedition... We could not fight against Bouvet, but [we] had to adjust to the weather and go ashore when Bouvet allowed us," the post said.

Without the planned kit, the team was largely limited to two radios at once. The only location on

the island that was safe to set up camp had a large terrain feature in the direct path toward the east coast of the United States. With antennas limited to wire dipoles, power limited to the transceivers' rated output, and a massive rock in the short path to much of North America, operations were hindered.

Bouvet Island has long been number two on Club Log's DXCC Most Wanted list, right behind North Korea. Previous excursions to the remote island have also faced operational challenges. Antarctic weather, dangerous ice, and rough terrain prevent it from being an easy activation.

## IARU Holds First 2023 Meeting

The 56<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Administrative Council of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was held via Zoom on January 16, with President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, presiding.

The council received reports from the officers of each of the three regions. The meeting's focus was on the International Telecommunication Union's (ITU) upcoming World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23) later this year in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The IARU effort for WRC-23 is being led by IARU Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR.

Here is a summary of the meeting submitted by IARU Secretary Joel Harrison, W5ZN:

*"Of particular interest to the amateur radio and amateur satellite services for WRC-23 is agenda item 9.1b concerning the amateur allocation in the 23 - centimeter band at 1240-1300 MHz. The Radio Navigation Satellite Service (RNSS) is seeking protection from secondary users in addition to an expanded allocation. Preparatory work for this item is being conducted within the ITU's Working Party 5A. IARU's global WRC-23 9.1b team, led by Barry Lewis, G4SJH, has been consulting with the amateur community, resulting in a [contribution](#) to the draft guidance recommendation in support of coexistence with RNSS. Details on this work can be found at [www.iaru.org](http://www.iaru.org).*

*The council reviewed a comprehensive written*

*report from IARU [Electromagnetic Compatibility] Coordinator Dr. Martin Sach, G8KDF, on his work with the International Special Committee on Radio Interference (CISPR). CISPR was formed in 1934 to set standards for controlling electromagnetic interference in electrical and electronic devices. CISPR's specific areas include radio interference measurements and static methods, and limits for the protection of radio frequencies.*

*An ongoing strategic planning review of the current IARU structure is being conducted within several Working Groups (WGs). The Administrative Council received reports from the Futures WG Steering Committee, Relationship WG, Governance WG, and the Legal WG. This work is scheduled for completion no later than July to allow discussion at the Region 1 [General] Conference in Serbia in October, with additional opportunities provided to the other two regions.*

*Region 1 has received several inquiries regarding the status of [John Devoldere's,] ON4UN, and [Mark Demeuleneere's,] ON4WW, book, Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur and is considering how this document [can] be updated.*

*The Summary Record from this meeting, in addition to previous meetings, is available at [www.iau.org/reference/ac-summary-records/](http://www.iau.org/reference/ac-summary-records/)."*

The next virtual meeting of the Administrative Council is scheduled for March 20, and an in-person meeting is scheduled for June 25 at the conclusion of Ham Radio in Friedrichshafen, Germany.

The members of the IARU Administrative Council are the President, Vice President, Secretary, and two members from each of the regional organizations. Members participating in this meeting were IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA; Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR; Secretary Joel Harrison, W5ZN; IARU Region 1; George Gorsline, VE3YV, President, and Rod Stafford, W6ROD, Sylvain Azarian, F4GKR, President, and Mats Espling, SM6EAN, Secretary, IARU Region

2; George Gorsline, VE3YV, President, and Rod Stafford, W6ROD, Secretary, and Region 3; Chairman Ken Yamamoto, JA1CJP, and Director Yudi Hasbi, YD1PRY. Assistant Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, also participated.

Founded in 1925, IARU is the worldwide voice of radio amateurs who secure and safeguard the amateur radio spectrum. ARRL serves as the International Secretariat of IARU.

**The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Amateur Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) Workshop will be held March 17 - 18, 2023, in person at The University of Scranton and virtually via Zoom.** The

workshop is open to students and citizen scientists, and all amateur radio operators are invited to attend. The theme of the 2023 HamSCI workshop is "Forging Amateur-Professional Bonds." The primary objective is to bring together the amateur radio community and professional scientists. This year, the workshop will feature a working special event amateur radio station using the call sign W3USR. In-person participants can stop by the station to operate or learn about how an amateur radio station works. The Murgas Amateur Radio Club, K3YTL, is organizing and running the W3USR special event station. The 2023 HamSCI workshop is organized by The University of Scranton with generous financial support provided by the United States National Science Foundation and Amateur Radio Digital Communications. HamSCI is an officially recognized NASA citizen science project. Registration for the in-person workshop is now open. and will close on Monday, March 6, 2023. Virtual participation is free of charge. For more registration information visit [HamSCI](#).

## In Brief...

**VOTA operations continue at a brisk pace, with tens of thousands of volunteer and W1AW portable contacts having been made.** All points for VOTA scoring must come through Logbook of The World uploads. As announced in the January 2023 issue of QST, this is not a QSL

card event (there will not be any W1AW portable state activation VOTA QSL cards issued from ARRL Headquarters). Please do not send W1AW portable VOTA QSL cards for VOTA contacts to ARRL Headquarters. W1AW portable VOTA QSL cards received by ARRL Headquarters will not be acknowledged.

**The General - Class Element 3 Question Pool Errata has been released.** The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators, NCVEC, Question Pool Committee has released the latest errata for the [2023 - 2027 Element 3 General question pool](#), which goes into effect on July 1, 2023. Nine questions were modified (G1B01, G1C01, G1C02, G5C02, G7C10, G9B05, G9C09, G9D09, and G9D10) and two questions (G9C06 and G9D13) were withdrawn from use. The [pool](#) is available as a Microsoft Word document and PDF. These changes are reflected in the new General Pool download file, dated February 1, 2023.

## Amateur Radio on the International Space Station Seeking Contact Proposals

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program is seeking formal and informal educational institutions and organizations, either individually or working together, to host an amateur radio contact with a crew member on board the International Space Station (ISS).

ARISS anticipates the contact will be held between January 1, 2024, and June 30, 2024. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine the exact contact dates. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the radio contact into a well-developed education plan.

The deadline to submit a proposal is March 31, 2023. Proposal information and more details, such as expectations, proposal guidelines, and the proposal form, can be found at [https://www.ariss.org/apply-to-host-an-ariss-](https://www.ariss.org/apply-to-host-an-ariss-contact.html)

[contact.html](#).

An ARISS introductory webinar will be held March 1, 2023, at 8:00 PM EST. The Eventbrite link to sign up for the free webinar is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ariss-proposal-webinar-for-spring-2023-proposal-window-registration-515706320487>.

ARISS is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the ISS. The United States sponsors are ARRL, the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC), NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN), and the ISS National Lab Space Station Explorers (SSE).

## W8LT - A History of Amateur Radio at Ohio State University

W8LT is the call sign for the Amateur Radio and RF Club at The Ohio State University (OSU).

The university club has a long history, and archive records indicate that 1926 was the year it officially became a club, likely making it the oldest one on campus. W8LT is just 3 years shy of celebrating its 100th anniversary.

In the early 1920s, the call sign started out as 8LT, until the Radio Act of 1927 added a "W" to all radio call signs. Then, W8LT had been closely associated with WOSU Radio, the university's non-commercial station, which began as WEAO in June of 1922. The two stations were believed to have shared a small building near campus until the mid-1950s.

In 1957, both stations were moved to small military-style Quonset huts. From July 1961 to January 1963, the club was unable to find a location anywhere on campus, so all of their equipment was put into storage in club member Bill Hale's, K8JIX, basement and brought out only for ARRL Field Day each June.

Eventually, W8LT found a new home in the bell tower at Ohio Stadium, a room directly below

where the bell rings after every home-game win. That location allowed a 500-foot-long wire antenna to be stretched from the tower to a nearby smokestack at OSU's power station. The result was a very powerful signal that could be heard clearly on stations around the world.

When Ohio Stadium was renovated, W8LT moved again, this time to Bevis Hall, where it remains today near the location of the old military - style Quonset huts.

Today, the club continues to grow with 15 active members, including students, staff, and alumni.

Faculty Advisor Larry Feth, K8HTC, said that the club takes every opportunity to recruit new members and offer license testing sessions.

More information is available on the [W8LT](#) website and on their [Facebook](#) page. W8LT is an ARRL Affiliated Club and participates in the ARRL [Collegiate Amateur Radio Program](#).

## World Amateur Radio Day Theme: Human Security for All

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) announced that Human Security for All (HS4A) will be this year's theme of [World Amateur Radio Day](#) on April 18, 2023.

The day is being celebrated occurring April 18th. It will be operated as a two-way radio. The HS4A campaign is...



The [concept of human security](#) measures the security of an individual by things essential to one's well-being. This includes economics, food, health, the environment, personal factors, the community, and political factors.

Amateur radio is uniquely positioned to address

those challenges by promoting technical knowledge, practical skills, innovative technology, and the deployment of backup systems at the community level that can be called upon in times of emergency.

IARU, a federation of the national amateur radio societies of over 150 countries worldwide, is the global advocate for amateur radio through its Sector Membership in the International Telecommunication Union, an agency of the U.N., and other activities.

The [United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security](#) and the [World Academy of Art and Science](#) are partnering with [IARU](#) in the campaign.

In a release, the partners wrote, "Amateur radio has repeatedly demonstrated its ability to address human security needs. It is a truly global communications medium comprising some three million radio enthusiasts connecting communities and the peoples of the world."



ARRL participates in World Amateur Radio Day each year. It was on this day in 1925 that the IARU was formed in Paris. ARRL co-founder Hiram Percy Maxim was its first president. For additional World Amateur Radio Day resources, visit <http://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day>.

Click the image below to watch a video about HS4A:

## ARRL Welcomes Kevin Beal,

## K8EAL, as the Director of Development

Kevin Beal, K8EAL, has joined ARRL staff as the Director of Development.

He has a significant background in non-profit administration, and for the last 17 years, has managed large-scale projects and teams. His previous experience includes various roles supporting organizations and higher education institutions with program management, events, alumni engagement, and fundraising.



Kevin Beal, K8EAL, is the ARRL Director of Development.

Beal has also worked on cybersecurity infrastructure training projects supported by the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) and feels that amateur radio has significant value as an emergency communications tool.

With a father who was an electronics engineer during Vietnam in the US Army Signal Corps, Beal has been surrounded by radio his whole life. "I grew up in a household of spare electronics and communications equipment where at-home repair and soldering were commonplace," he said. He's excited to grow as a licensed ham and was thrilled to make a contact from the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station as W1AW.

He joins ARRL after a career at his alma mater, Norwich University, from which he earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in inter-

national conflict management and resolution. As a cadet at Norwich University, he participated in the Naval and Marine Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NROTC) as a part of the cadre training new cadets, and he was a member of the Cavalry Troop.

Beal looks forward to getting to know ARRL donors. He and his wife live in Connecticut near ARRL Headquarters with their two daughters and their rescued hound. On most weekends during the winter, he can be found on the road taking his oldest daughter to her next hockey game.

**The rescue and recovery operations continue after a 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck Turkey on February 6, with casualties reaching nearly 46,000.** Another earthquake, this time with a magnitude of 6.4, hit the country on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. More casualties and injuries are expected. Amateur radio continues to be the major link for communication for the entire area throughout both earthquakes. Turkish amateur radio operator Aziz Sasa, TA1E, has been at the disaster areas coordinating frequencies for the teams and carrying out search and rescue operations. On Tuesday, Sasa was interviewed on the British Broadcasting Corporation's (BBC) Digital Planet program, where he talked about the continued amateur radio help during the disaster. An audio link to the program is available [here](#). While the entire program lasts 46 minutes, the interview with Sasa is within the first 6 minutes.

*Thanks to BBC and Greg Mossop, G0DUB, IARU Region 1 Emergency Communications Co-Ordinator, for the contact information. (2/23/2023 email)*





James Oberg

January 29 at 3:49 AM · 🌐



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## Amateur Radio Active in Turkey and Syria Following Earthquakes

2/07/2023

In the days following the 7.8 magnitude earthquake and aftershocks that hit Turkey and Syria on February 6, 2023, emergency communications have been active with rescue and response efforts.

The emergency communications group Türkiye Radyo Amatörleri Cemiyeti (TRAC) is coordinating primary communications.

The designated primary disaster communication frequency is 28.540 MHz (USB). In addition, 3.777 and 7.092 MHz will also be used as needed. Amateur radio operators have been asked to avoid these frequencies to allow any emergency traffic.

In a statement issued to ARRL on February 9, 2023, IARU Region 1 Emergency Communications Co-Ordinator Greg Mossop, G0DUB, said the full effects of this disaster continue to unfold along with the search for any remaining trapped people.

Here is his full statement:

"Aziz, TA1E, is now at the disaster area and coordinating frequencies for teams carrying out search operations. Many countries have sent Search and Rescue [(SAR)] resources but the only ones known to have [r]adio [a]mateurs embedded in them are Georgia and Bosnia [and] Herzegovina. The Romanian SAR team has no operators, but [it] does have communications equipment supplied by RVSU, one of the Amateur Radio emergency groups in Romania.

Aziz reported yesterday that 'due to the overwhelming dimension of the incident, some problems in coordination occur[ed]. These naturally have an impact [o]n the coordination of the incoming foreign SAR [g]roups.

As the assignment of their duty area is sometimes [a] 'last-minute decision,' and this decision is made by government officials, I would kindly ask the groups to report to me [for] that assignment. I will then [be] able to inform the groups [of] the usable frequencies in the area.'

With the large number of rescue teams deployed to the country, the challenges in coordinating teams, locations, and frequencies are to be expected.

With the death toll now over 17,000 in Turkey and Syria, the focus remains [on] getting the right help to the right place. A clear message from Aziz, when asked whether any radio operators or equipment were required, was:

'Assistance of individual radio amateurs is only possible if they are 'embedded' to SAR Teams with [International Search and Rescue Advisory Group] (INSARAG) Certification, which [has] been accredited by the Turkish government.'

At the time of the earthquake, a [European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations] (CEPT) meeting was taking place, and it has been reported that the Turkish delegation to that meeting confirmed that Radio Amateurs were being deployed in the emergency response.

Traffic is being heard on 10 and 80 meters in the Turkish language, so the request to keep frequencies in the area clear remains. The majority of emergency communications traffic remains on VHF.

The earthquake affected Syria as well. I have tried reaching the Syrian [Scientific Technical Amateur Radio] Society but with no response, as they seem to have gone QRT.

[The] full effects of this disaster continue to unfold and [are] now encompassing the needs of survivors [to]search for any remaining trapped people."

To date, there have been more than 17,000 casualties in Turkey and Syria combined, and more than 14,000 casualties in Tur-

key alone, with more than 63,000 people reported injured. Aftershocks continue and relief organizations are on site, with more aid arriving in the areas daily.

Additional and updated information is available at <https://www.iaru-r1.org/2023/turkiye-earthquake-6-february-2023/>

[Editors Note: This story was updated (2/10/2023) to reflect new information (From the ARRL web site)



**BARC Website, some Blog  
page Titles****\*\*\* Membership Dues\*\*\***

Even more than this on the  
website.

Feel free to view, comment and  
add.

Membership dues for BARC are due **January 1** every year. Membership dues are as follows and are almost the same as 2020: • Regular Member \$20.00 • Family Member \$2.00 • Associate Member (Non-Licensed) \$5.00 • Honoree Members \$0.00 • New Hams: Free first calendar year (Jan. to Dec.)

We are requesting that you send the application form in, so that we can have your correct information on file. The form can be downloaded at:

<https://n4pvh.files.wordpress.com/2020/11/application-for-membership.pdf>

Please give the application and dues to the Treasurer at the meeting or mail your dues, along with the member application form to:  
Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835

Or go to <https://w4amc.com/membership/> to use PayPal at the page bottom.

If there are any questions concerning membership status or dues, please contact [Treasurer@w4amc.com](mailto:Treasurer@w4amc.com).

Thank you for your continued support and participation in BARC.

**\*\*Renew/Join Now\*\***  
Help Support BARC.

## HURRICANE AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION RESOURCES

National Hurricane Center  
<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

Tropical Tidbits (current forecast models)  
<https://www.tropicaltidbits.com/>

Active Red Cross Shelters  
[maps.redcross.org/website/maps/ARC\\_Shelters.html](https://maps.redcross.org/website/maps/ARC_Shelters.html)

Red Cross Safe and Well  
[www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/contact-and-locate-loved-ones.html](https://www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/contact-and-locate-loved-ones.html)

Facebook Safety Check  
[www.facebook.com/about/safetycheck](https://www.facebook.com/about/safetycheck)

Hurricane Watch Net  
[hwn.org](http://hwn.org)

VOIP Hurricane Net  
[voipwx.net](http://voipwx.net)

Amateur Radio at the National Hurricane Center  
[www.WX4NHC.org](http://www.WX4NHC.org)

FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency  
[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

Ready.gov - Plan ahead for disasters  
[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

Hurricane Central - The Weather Channel  
<https://weather.com/storms/hurricane>

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## Nets to Know

[Caribbean Emergency Weather Net](#) - Meets daily at 1030Z and 2230Z on 3815 kHz.

[Hurricane Watch Net](#) -- 14.325 MHz, 7.268 MHz -- Activated whenever a hurricane is within 300 nautical miles of expected landfall. Dis-

seminates storm information and relays meteorological data to National Hurricane Center via embedded NHC station WX4NHC. Also relays post-storm damage reports and other relevant information.

[Intercontinental Net](#) operates from 7 AM to noon US Eastern Time on 14.300 MHz, providing a means of emergency communications to any location where normal communications are disrupted.

[Marine Maritime Services Net](#) -- 14.300 MHz -  
- The network acts as a weather beacon for ships during periods of severe weather and regularly repeats high seas and tropical weather warnings and bulletins from the National Weather Service and the National Hurricane Center.

[Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network](#) (SATERN) -- 14.260 MHz -- The purpose of the SATERN net is to support the Salvation Army operations in local, regional and international disaster situations. - *ARRL US Virgin Islands Section News*

## WinLink Nets and Practice

### Great Lakes Area Winlink Net

A new Great Lakes Winlink Net to promote the use of Winlink and training on the various facets of the hybrid amateur radio data/internet system. The net is open primarily to those states that border any of the Great Lakes: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York, and the Canadian province of Ontario. However, radio amateurs wishing to check in from other states or provinces anywhere are welcomed to participate. This net is modeled on the [Wisconsin ARES Winlink net](#).

The net check-in process is as follows: Send either a basic, plain text message, or use any of the forms templates on the Winlink Express platform available that will allow you to include the following line of text in the body of the message or in an appropriate part on the form you choose to send: FIRST NAME, CALLSIGN, CITY, COUNTY, STATE, COUNTRY. For example: RYAN, KB8RCR, REMUS, MECOSTA, MICHIGAN, USA.

The net is on each Wednesday, amateurs may send their messages or forms any time during the day using Winlink in any mode available, RF or via Telnet. Send your message to KB8RCR as the recipient on Winlink. - *Ryan Lughermo, KB8RCR, ARRL Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator for Data Management/Special Projects, Michigan Section; and Official Relay Station From ARES*

March 2021 Newsletter (Editors Note: Great way to learn and practice)

The EmComm Training Organization (ETO) will continue the popular Winlink Thursday exercises to foster Winlink-knowledgeable operators across the country. Procedures will include a weekly exercise for routine practice with a fourth Thursday exercise of a more challenging nature. Exercises will almost always include a Winlink Express Check-in form. Please [send questions about Winlink Thursdays](#). Questions about the ETO group can be sent [here](#).

The Canadian American Net ([CANAM](#)) aims to unite hams in the Eastern US and Canada. Some 40 amateurs from Canada and the US typically check in for each session, and the net accommodates CW and SSB. The Canadian-American Net operates 7 days a week on 7.153 MHz, with check-in starting at 1300 UTC.

**Recommend:** Programming your local Emergency Simplex frequency's into your Radio's. It's easier now than when you need them. Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club uses the Repeater frequency in Simplex in case of Repeater failure.

**National Hurricane Center**  
[Voice over Internet Protocol \(VoIP\) Hurricane Net](#), Nets:  
14.325MHz, 7.268MHz

## NETS

### VHF/UHF

- ◆**BARC Net**, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆**Down East Hospital Net**, 2nd Tuesday of each month at noon  
Greenville 444.725 MHz, 91.5 tone  
N4HAJ, Traffic Net 2030 local  
Fountain 444.425 MHz, 88.5 Tone  
N4HAJ
- ◆Newport-145.450..... IRLP 8561 links to Columbia
- ◆Jacksonville-147.000- 88.5 tone
- ◆Oriental-147.210-151.4 tone
- ◆444 Newport-444.825- 88.5 tone
- ◆Swansboro-146.760- 88.5 tone
- ◆Grantsboro-145 230 - 85.4 tone.
- ◆Kinston Amateur Radio Society Net, 1,3,4 Tuesdays, 2000 hrs. on 145.47 MHz., W4OIX repeater in Kinston.
- ◆Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net, Every night, 2030 on 444.725-91.5 tone.
- ◆Wilson Amateur Radio Club Net, Thursdays @ 2000 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Nightly 2030 on 444.725MHz, 91.5 tone
- ◆Carteret County ARS (CCARS) Emergency Net, Tuesdays, 1930 on the Newport 145.45 (-) MHz, tone 100
- ◆Coastal Emergency Linking Net, Wednesday, 2100 ET on Ahoskie 145.13, Buxton 145.15, Columbia 146.835 & 443.30, Elizabeth City 146.655, Greenville, 145.35, Hertford 147.33, Williamston 145.41 & 444.25
- ◆ 220 Net, Wednesday 2000hrs, 224.840 MHz -1.6, PL 91.5
- ◆ PARC Bath Repeater 146.955 PL Tone 131.8 1st Thursday of month at 2000 hours

### HF

- Tar Heel Emergency Communications Net on 3923 kHz Nightly 1930.
- PARC Tuesday net 3.807Mhz SSB 1900 hours(EST)
- NTS CW Nets**
- ◆3.571 2000 hours, slow speed (5-8 wpm) Carolinas Slow Net
- ◆3.573 1900 hours, high speed (20wpm)
- ◆3.573 2200 hours, slow speed (12-14 wpm), South Carolina/North Carolina
- National Traffic System**
- Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net (ENCTN)  
146.685 (146.085 in) MHz (PL 88.5)  
2030E

**More Nets:**

New Swap and Trade Net - There will be a new swap and trade net starting up on 6 meters 53.25 N4YR repeater -1.0 MHz, tone is 100 Hz at 8PM.

Thursdays: 8:30 PM Forsyth County Auxcomm net on 145.47 MHz. 3rd Thursdays are training programs on Zoom at 8:00PM.

Thursdays: 9:00 PM 2 Meter SSB on 144.200 MHz

Sundays: 8:30 PM 6 meter SSB net on 50.155 MHz

Sundays: CW Legacy Net every Sunday from 12:30-1:45 p.m. every Sunday afternoon on 7.060. All speeds and brands of rigs welcome. Net control: Rick, WO8L

Tar Heel Emergency Communications Net on 3923 kHz Nightly 1930.

South Carolina/North Carolina National Traffic System CW Nets 3.571 2000 hours, slow speed (5-8 wpm) Carolinas Slow Net 3.573 1900 hours, high speed (20wpm) 3.573 2200 hours, slow speed (12-14 wpm),

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**Ten-Tec Legacy**

The nets operate on: Ten-Tec Legacy SSB 3.927 MHz on Saturday morning from 6:00 am until 9:30 am

7.195 MHz on Sunday afternoon from 1:30 pm until 3:30 pm

Any radio type is welcome. Netlogger is the preferred check-in method but CQ calls are made for those that don't have access to Netlogger. More information can be found at [www.groups.io](http://www.groups.io) (search for Ten-Tec Legacy nets).

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**Virginia EmComm ( A Winlink practice group)**

This is a Facebook Group that practices Winlink and other related modes every Wednesday. Many Hams

all over involved. All are invited to take part in it.

# Ham Ads



**Ham Ads** will be run, free of charge in Ham Chatter for three months for each renewal. Ads must be received by the last week of the month to be included in the following issue. Send ads to: **Ham Chatter, PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835. Or Email the Ham Chatter.**

## Used Radios and equipment for Sale or Buy:

**Wanted:** Looking for a vintage transmitter. A Johnson Valliant or Ranger or similar. Or a crystal controlled rig of the Adventurer or DX35 type. If you have one and can part with it, Give me a call. Glen W7GS, 252-975-1070 or at VOA in the day time 252-758-2171 Tuesday thru Saturday.

## Antenna and Tower For Sale

**Name:** Robert K Lyon (Pat)  
**Email:** [pklyon@gmail.com](mailto:pklyon@gmail.com)

**Message:** Daughter of Paul Copeland, former amateur radio operator who died in 2011, owns an antenna and tower that she would like to sell. I am a family friend trying to help Elizabeth survive. If you know anyone interested in purchasing this equipment, please have them contact me at the above email.

**Time:** September 25, 2022 at 4:59 pm

Tower is on the ground ready for inspection.

## Antennas for Sale

Little Tarheel II with mount. \$150

Hustler 6BTV Vertical Antenna \$100

offered by Kirk Blackmon N5NC in Washington, NC, Contact: [n5nc@msn.com](mailto:n5nc@msn.com)

## Cushcraft R-7 vertical antenna,

In very good condition, works very well, covers 10-40m.

I want to give it to a new ham who is working to get onto the HF bands. Will help install. Free to a good home.

Gary Faust NG9T in Blounts Creek.

[gfaust1963@gmail.com](mailto:gfaust1963@gmail.com)

March 2023



**Ham Radio Operators**

Scott N Rita Drummond · 1h · 🌐



SO SAD, to announce this:

after many years of amateur radio....

I am posting this with a heavy heart.

I love ham radio and everything that comes with it... but I am officially done in 2023!

This is taking up too much of my time. I'm struggling to keep up with the everyday chores of maintaining the home, yard work and helping with house cleaning so something must give. I have decided to get rid of all my gear and supplies.

Below is a list of what's available. Serious inquiries only, and please don't insult me with low offers.

Thanks for reading and understanding...

1. Vacuum cleaner
2. Dustpan and broom
3. Mop and bucket
4. Pots and pans
5. Toilet bowl brush and cleaner
6. Laundry detergent
7. Iron
8. Lawn mower
9. Weed eater
10. Hedge clippers

Any serious offer will be considered. Every little bit helps for more time to play radio. 🥰  
de KE5DKV

Joke posted in Facebook 2-8-2023

# Ham Ads

## Commercial Ad Rates

1/8 page, Business Card Size  
 \$10 per Month - \$100 per Year  
 Send ads to: **Ham Chatter,**  
**PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835**  
 Help support *Ham Chatter* and the club.  
**Donations accepted!**

### How to print a copy of your FCC License

by Jim, KV4SJ

To access an official copy of your license:

1. Go to: [HTTPS://wireless2.fcc.gov/UIsEntry/licManager/login.jsp](https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UIsEntry/licManager/login.jsp)
2. Log in with your FRN and password. (Also has links to find or get your FRN.)
3. Click on "Download Electronic Authorizations" in the links on the left hand side.
4. Select your call sign in the box labeled "My Authorizations" and click on the Add button to copy it into the "Authorizations to Download" box.
5. Click on the Download button to download an official copy of your license in PDF format.  
 via *Forsyth ARC Newsletter, August 2020*

### BARC on FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/w4amc/>

### Facebook and Group details

<http://www.w4amc.com/barcnews.html#BARC>

### Pitt County Repeater Association

<http://www.pcra.us/>

### *Monday & Monday, CPA's, PA*

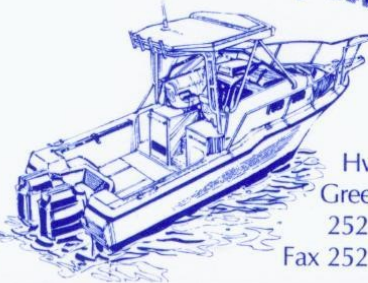
Certified Public Accountants

TERRY A. MONDAY, CPA, CVA, EA  
**K4ZYD**

105-D East Victoria Ct.  
 Greenville, NC 27858

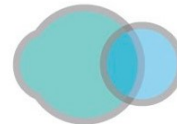
Phone (252) 321-6007  
 Fax (252) 321-2991

### MARK'S MARINE, INC.



Mark Langley  
 Mike Langley  
**KD4MTT**

Hwy. 33 East  
 Greenville, NC  
 252 758-3309  
 Fax 252 758-1396



### East Carolina Retina CONSULTANTS

**Peter Van Houten, M.D.**

2501a Stantonsburg Road  
 Greenville, NC 27834

252-758-2402

<https://ECRetina.com>

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## *Contest, Events and Meetings*

### 2023 Starts Here: Just some of the MANY contests and Events

March 1 -- CWops Test (CWT) (CW)

March 1 -- VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest (digital)

March 1 -- CWops Test (CWT) (CW)

March 1 -- UKEICC 80m Contest (phone)

March 1 - 5 -- AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest (CW)

March 2 - 3 -- Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest (CW)

March 2 -- CWops Test (CWT) (CW)

March 2 -- CWops Test (CWT) (CW)

March 2 -- NRAU 10m Activity Contest (CW, phone, digital)

March 2 -- SKCC Sprint Europe (CW)

March 4-5 . . . . . DX Contest (SSB)

March 8-9 . . . . . [International DX- Phone](#)

March 11 . . . . . VE Exams, PARC

March 14 . . . . . BARC Meeting 6:30pm Zoom

March 16 . . . . . Pamlico Meeting 7pm

March 18 . . . . . BARC Breakfast 9am

March 18-19 . . . . . **The Virginia QSO Party (VQP) and Virginia's Volunteers On the Air (VOTA)**  
**Activation of W1AW/4** <https://www.qsl.net/sterling/>

[VA QSO Party/2023 VQP/2023 VAQP Rules.pdf](#).

March 15-21 . . . . . W1AW/4 will be active <http://www.arrrl.org/volunteers-on-the-air>.

March 28 . . . . . BARC Board, 7pm, Zoom

April 1-2 . . . . . [Georgia State Parks On the Air](#)

April 11 . . . . . BARC Meeting, 6:30pm

April 15 . . . . . BARC Breakfast 9am

April 16 . . . . . Rookie Roundup (SSB)

April 20 . . . . . Pamlico Meeting 7pm

April 25 . . . . . BARC Board 7pm Zoom

May . . . . . No ARRL events

May 9 . . . . . BARC Meeting 6:30pm

May 13 . . . . . BARC Breakfast 9am

May 18 . . . . . Pamlico Meeting 7pm

May 30 . . . . . BARC Board 7pm Zoom, Reports please for Chatter

June 3-4 . . . . . International Digital Contest

June 10-12 . . . . . June VHF Contest

June 13 . . . . . BARC Meeting 6:30pm  
June 15 . . . . . Pamlico Meeting 7pm  
June 17 . . . . . BARC Breakfast 9am  
June 17 . . . . . Kid's Day (June)  
June 24-25 . . . . . ARRL Field Day (always 4th full weekend)  
June 27 . . . . . BARC Board 7pm

Contest Calendar: For more Contest and all the rules:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php>

Visit the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more events and information.

Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, [Contest Calendar](#) website. The site now includes a [5-Week Calendar](#).

There's more than I could post available.

**BARC Meetings are open to all.**

**BARC Regular Meeting** - 2nd Tuesday @ 6:30 PM Live and Zoom

**BARC Board Meeting** - Last Tuesday @ 7:00 PM ZOOM Except in December.

**Year-long -- [ARRL Volunteers On the Air \(VOTA\)](#). See also the State Activations Schedule for weekly [W1AW Portable Operations](#) including these:**

- February 22 - March 1 -- Michigan, W1AW/8
- February 22 - March 1 -- Florida, W1AW/4
- March 8 - March 15 -- Kentucky, W1AW/4
- March 8 - March 15 -- Idaho, W1AW/7

There is no W1AW portable activation on March 1 - 7 in order to not interfere with the ARRL DX Contest going on March 4 - 5.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Upcoming Section, State, Division Conventions and Hamfest

2023:

**March 3 - 4** | [Greater Houston HamFest](#), hosting the ARRL Texas State Convention, Rosenberg, Texas

**March 3 - 4** | [BirmingHamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Alabama Section Convention, Trussville, Alabama

**March 18** | [MARC St. Patricks Day Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL West Texas Section, Midland, Texas

**March 18**, The Charlotte Hamfest, will held at the Cabarrus Arena & Events Center – Gold Hall, 4551 Old Airport Road, Concord, NC 28025 <https://charlottehamfest.org/>

**March 24 - 25** | [ARRL Maine State Convention and Hamfest-](#), Lewiston, Maine

**March 25 - 26** | [QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#) (online)

**April 7 - 8** | [Green Country Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention, Claremore, Oklahoma

**April 8**, RARSFEST, Jim Graham Building at the NC State Fairgrounds in West Raleigh, <https://www.rarsfest.org/> .

**April 15** | [Sussex Amateur Radio and Electronics Expo](#), hosting the ARRL Delaware State Convention, Georgetown, Delaware.

**May 19-21**, Dayton Hamvention, Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center near Xenia Ohio, <https://hamvention.org/>

Search the [ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database](#) to find events in your area.

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BARC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone  
Down East Hospital Net - 2nd Tuesday at noon - Greenville 444.725 MHz, 91.5 tone N4HAJ  
BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATIONS

**W I V O A - W 4 A M C - W 4 U H S**