

Ham Chatter



Volume 57 Issue 9

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

September 2023

Editor, Mark, KG4GVJ

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

BARC Elections in November

Looking for Volunteers and nominations this September for the 2024 Board positions. Please consider it, goes a year for most of them, you can go longer if you find you don't mind doing it. Let us know at the picnic.

Dear BARC Members:

Please do not forget the September 12th BARC meeting at 6pm is being hosted by Dave Wood and his XYL at his house (8816 Eagle Cross Road, Fountain, NC 27829)... Very generous act to provide the picnic and the fixings for a great time. Please respond to Beth for a head count. Will see what items we need to bring.

Beth is trying to set up a FOX HUNT at the picnic so bring your HT's and any portable Yagi antennas incase we get a Fox!

Do bring your treasures to sell at the swap meet. Bring a table and a chair to hold your things and to sit on. Bring your drink cup, we will provide the ants to get into the food...



2023 MS Bike Historic New Bern Ride Sept 9-10, 2023

BARC General meeting Sept12, 6:00pm in person. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

September 12, BARC Picnic, Dave Woods 6pm
8816 Eagles Cross Rd
Fountain, NC 27829

Fox hunt possible and swap of equipment

Oct 10, 2023 Speaker:
Dale Burmester
About FT8 Digital mode.

BARC Board Meeting - Sept 26, 2023. The meeting will be on ZOOM at 7:00 PM. All members invited. See Zoom information.

Speakers

October 10, 2023 Speaker Dale Burmester about FT8 Digital mode.

Dale Burmester, KA9SWE, has been a ham radio operator since 1985 and has held an Amateur Extra license for the last decade. Dale made his first digital mode HF contact using PSK31 in 2009 and continued on his HF digital mode journey using JT65 in 2010, JT9 in 2013, FT8 in 2017, and FT4 in 2019. The KA9SWE log-book contains over 28,000 entries with LOTW confirmed 5 Band Worked All States and 202 DXCC contacts. A Kenwood TS-480SAT running 25 Watts or less into a vertical multi-band antenna is responsible for the majority of those contacts. In 2015, Dale placed 1st in the CQ WW 160m DX contest "Single Operator - Low Power - W1" category. The KA9SWE shack runs Ham Radio Deluxe, WSJT-X, and JT-Alert on a Windows 11 PC. Dale is also a registered professional engineer in the state of Wisconsin and manages the Economic and Stakeholder Planning team at ATC (<https://atcllc.com>).

Classes

Hello All,

<https://fillingstation1075.com/amateur-radio-license-class-information/>

Attention to all Technician Class Licensees: Pete Wene, WA5T, pete@wene.net will be teaching another Ham Radio Class, this time for the General Class License. This General Class will start on September 30, 2023. The class is open to ALL TECHs and Generals that may need a review. There will be 7 class sessions and a licensing test after the last class. We will meet at the same place as before, at the Filling Station <https://fillingstation1075.com/> in Pollocksville, NC. The 2-hour Class times are from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM Noon. The classes are FREE but you will need an ARRL General Class Study Guide, 10th Edition. You can get the study guide from the ARRL store or Amazon. Also, take a minute and register for the class using the following link, [Amateur Radio License Class Information - The Filling Station | Nutrition - Education - Connection \(fillingstation1075.com\)](#)

If you have ever considered upgrading to General Class Ham Ticket now is the time!!! With the Technician license, you are restricted in modes, frequencies, and power. The General license is where Amateur Radio opens up and comes alive!!! Your only restriction, as a General, with respect to the Extra license is a small amount of bandwidth on several bands, otherwise, you have FULL Ham Radio privileges!

Any questions about The General Class contact:

Peter M. Wene, WA5T, email: pete@wene.net

President KARS (Kinston)

VP WCARA (Wayne Co.)

ENC Trustee (Eastern NC)

Member SCARS (South Coast Amateur Radio Service)

Member NBARC (New Bern)

VP [NBARC] (Temp until the end of 2023)

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>.
www.hamradioPrep.com
HamStudy.org

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 :

| | | |
|-------|--------|------------|
| 09-01 | KG4NSC | Pat |
| 09-01 | KC4ROR | Rose |
| 09-05 | KQ2V | Bro. Simon |
| 09-06 | KD4MTT | Mike |
| 09-14 | WA4DAN | Murray |
| 09-20 | W4FA | John |
| 09-26 | KC4HHW | Billy |
| 09-29 | WA7FXB | Albert |
| | | |
| 10-02 | AC4PW | Martin |
| 10-19 | N4DN | Donald |
| 10-28 | K4BMH | Byron |
| 10-31 | K4ZYD | Terry |

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:

Judy W3JUJ and the lost of her home to a fire.

<https://gofund.me/3a048969>

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

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

| | |
|---|----|
| Presidents Corner - KN4FZB | 4 |
| BARC Board meeting | 5 |
| Presidents Corner—NG9T | 8 |
| Greetings from High | 11 |
| Yabba and other Clubs | 22 |
| | |
| ARES/EmComm | 27 |
| Columns from the Past or new postings | |
| W1AW Operating | |
| ARRL Emails, News and Radio in the News | 34 |
| NBARC Newsletter | |
| | |
| Hurricane Resources | |
| Nets: | 48 |
| Ham AD's | 50 |
| BARC & PARC Calendar of Events | 52 |

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BARC's President's Corner, Beth, KN4FZB



Hello ham friends,

Is the heat wave over yet? September means fall and cooler weather, right? I'm looking forward to fall.

Jorge and I celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary back in August. We spent our honeymoon at Yellowstone National Park back in 2003. I didn't realize it then, but we encountered some situations that made an impression on me and contributed to my ham radio journey.



First, there were forest fires in the park and the surrounding areas. We were advised at our hotel to stay alert for fire advisories. But we had unreliable cell phone service and no tv or radio in the hotel room (Lake Yellowstone Hotel). We did get a few stations in the car, but often left the car at a trail head to go see the sights or do a little hiking. I was really nervous about the lack of information. We laugh about it now, but I insisted that we pack our bags and bring them with us each day when we left the hotel so that we would have our belongings and return tickets if the fires reached the hotel. They never did, but it made me wonder about how people remained informed in places like that.

BARC Board Meeting on Zoom 8/29/23

Voting Board members: (need 4)

- President: Beth KN4FZB,
- V.Pres: Judy W3JUU,
- Secretary: Peter N4PVH,
- Treasurer: Dave W4EJ,
- Trustee #1: Bill W4SLC
- Trustee #2: Scott K9SPJ

Non Voting Committee Members:

- Gerald KN4CKL, VE
- Webmaster: PVH,
- Ham Chatter Editor: Mark Raysin,
- Susan Jones.
- Dave Langley W4YDY (OM)

- NOT PRESENT:
- Public Relations/Historian: Sherry
- QSL/Equipment: Richard
- VE Liaison: -

Items for discussion:

— YEAR END PARTY—

Christmas Party is @12/11/23 at 6 pm at Immanuel Baptist Church, confirmed.
Thank you **Mark**

—TREASURER REPORT—

Dave: Checking: 3819.75

Peter: Expenses, upcoming: Upgrade battery & solar to trailer. Need estimate pending.

—TRUSTEE REPORT—

Bill W4SLC: FCC renewal for W4AMC. Working on renewal-Application is now inactive, will probably need to re-apply but first get the online account for that

FRN number active so that the fees can be paid. FCC web page has been broken.... FRN# 0001510130

In the future, documents should be kept in the BARC file box passed to the president when elected. FCC account and PW? **Scott** to access FCC and re-establish account access. **Susan** to possibly contact Billy Stewart to see if FCC came thru.

—
Judy working on January 2024 meeting speaker as this year is full (check the web page). Possibly Bernie WA4MOK on Portable Antennas. Pending talks: Murray Adams, Sky warn talk... no dates

Scott to do Local Repeater talk in November CONFIRMED: "Get The Most out of Local Repeaters"

—MEETING IDEAS—

Could do a vertical antenna test vs dipole at picnic meeting.

Or do a fox hunt. Possibly BARC buy a Fox for hunting.

Beth Tried to borrow Al's Fox. No answer from Al.

BARC to purchase Fox, COST: Fox \$86-165, \$23 cable, Member needs attenuators, antennas and HT,. Motion was made: Beth to Purchase Fox <\$201 , motion carries.

Beth to look at attenuators and tape measure antennas that we can build at a meeting. N4PRS.org for fox hunting locally, **Beth** to contact them for advice on fox hunting.

—
Need to get a speaker on use of IC7300 especially before FD. so that members understand how to use radios.

Contact Icom sales person Will Jourdain AA4WJ — **Beth** to contact him.

Check YouTube for video on "IC7300 Beginner's Guide" etc...

—
Peter suggested looking into speaker to talk about SDR-Play digital receivers that can provide spectrum scope and decode digital signals. Inexpensive computer dongles that provide new functionality.

—
Peter: Need to check out W1REX web page about building inexpensive kits from QRP transceivers to keyers and other interesting circuits. He provides online help in the form of a build-a-thon. He connects to the meeting by zoom and we are building stuff. He explains the workings and trouble shoots our building problems right during the meeting. Kits are inexpensive like \$20.

Check web page: <https://www.qrpme.com/>

—INSURANCE—

Beth to search for liability insurance at FD (like tower climbing) and equipment

coverage, ARRL? Ask **Dave**. what we had last year, find old documents. No current coverage.

—TAXES—

Terry IRS Filing for club.

—SATURDAY AFTER BREAKFAST MEETING—

Peter's Farm: October after Saturday breakfast, Visit the farm and try out vertical antennas, Hexbeam, antenna analyzers etc. October 14th Sat right after breakfast at Great Harvest Bread Co. **DAVE** to bring service monitor and other equipment to measure effective radiation and compare antennas.

—NEW MEMBER—

Chad Sawyer KM4CPB, voted in as a member in good standing (need to put into Membership list.) WELCOME!

—NOTES—

Beth to circulate Picnic questionnaire: Who is coming and they should bring covered dish and a chair.

—OTHER LOCAL ACTIVITIES—

New Bern MS Bikeathon, September 9-10, 2023

ARRL Roanoke town hall meeting NCARRL.org Sept 14, 2023, online

Respectfully submitted, Peter N4PVH



Gary NG9T's PARC President's Corner



Aug 27, 2023

Hello Ham Friends!!

Coming up shortly on the second weekend of September is the annual North Carolina State Parks On The Air Event. This is meant to be a semi-casual contest for POTA activators and hunters alike. The rules are pretty straight forward and can be found on the ncpota.org website. The hope is to activate 107 POTA Sites, mostly North Carolina State Parks, over the course of a weekend, September 9 - 10. All hams from North Carolina and beyond are invited to participate.

There is a list of the parks to activate on the website, most of which are NC State Parks and also includes some recreational areas and nature preserves. You do not have to sign up in advance but you can email the event coordinator at info@ncpota.org and put your name or your club's name on one of the qualifying parks if you wish to do so.

The ultimate goal is to have fun and enjoy amateur radio in the great outdoors! You can activate a park alone or with a club, or you can stay home and be a hunter and give the activators the QSOs needed for the activations. Check out the rules to see the Modes, Bands, and the Exchange. Let's see if we can activate all of them!!

NEXT MEETING PARC now meets on the **SECOND THURSDAY** of every month instead of the third, and will be meeting on September 14. Location stays the same:

Zion Episcopal Church @ 7:00pm local time

7302 HWY 264 E

Washington, NC 27889

2m Net: EVERY THURSDAY Except for the night of the monthly PARC Meeting. Time and frequency stays the same: Net control for September will be Tom WT4TK.

Bath Repeater 146.955 PL131.8 at 8:00pm local time

Alternate: Washington (Chocowinity) Repeater 147.255 PL 131.8

80m Net: Every Tuesday at 7:00pm local time on 3.807mhz If the frequency is in use, look for the net in between 3.800 and 3.820

Net Control for September will be Dave W3DET..

VE Exams: Next exam date is Sept 9, 2023. Exams are given by appointment only. Our VE Coordinator is Tom Kottke WT4TK, assisted by Al Mullis K4GOE. You can contact Tom at tkottke@centurylink.net to schedule an exam. .

I hope that everyone has a great summer!! See you on the air!!

73

Gary Faust NG9T PARC President

Using your VHF recreational marine radio

By MIKE KARLOVICH
ABC-Pamlico

Do you have a VHF marine radio on your boat when you go out? You definitely should! The primary purpose of a VHF marine radio is safety, your safety plus the other people on board, other boaters, and marinas nearby. Cell Phones don't always have signal and what is the cell number for the coast guard anyway. Your VHF radio will get you the fastest response to help.

Channel use is important. Channel 16 remains the primary channel to send and listen for distress broadcasts. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) requires all boaters monitor channel 16 when on the water, and to provide aid in a distress situation. Keep in mind when using Channel 16 that all conversations are recorded by the USCG. Channel 9 is also used as the hailing channel, in some areas there is a lot of communication happening and this allows more options when there is a distress situation. Channel 22 is used for the Coast Guard operations, vessels in distress, and in addition to notices to mariners.

When you need to communicate to bridges, for example, when you need to request an opening, channel 13 is what the bridge tender is listening on.

Recreational marine channels

68, 69, 71 and 72 for communication among boaters. If you are new to using a VHF radio, I suggest keeping a channel chart at the helm when on the water. Many VHF radios



KARLOVICH

have a dual watch / triple watch feature to monitor Channel 16 for emergencies and 9 for hailing and in triple watch, another channel of your choice. An excellent feature.

There is also a channel 16 button on the radio console and/or microphone; use this button to switch to channel 16 quickly to broadcast, especially a "Mayday" call when having or seeing an emergency.

I strongly recommend learning all you can about the features that come with your VHF Radio. These radio features when used save time plus dramatically improve communication and safety. Many VHF radios have built in GPS or can pair with the boats GPS, this allows you to communicate your GPS location when you need help.

One advanced feature you should learn is Digital Selective Calling, DSC for direct boat-to-boat calling and for making a distress call. This feature greatly improves the information and who is contacted as quickly as possible. Boaters reg-

ister their radio plus other information with the FCC. The FCC returns a Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) number. This number identifies the boat's radio, boat description and owner. The boater enters their MMSI number into the radio allowing the coast guard more information about the boat and the owner. When making a distress call with DSC it automatically increases power, identifies the radio hence boat and owner to the Coast Guard and all vessels within reach.

To hail another boat directly via DSC is also worth learning about, by programing another boater's MMSI number into your radio you can set them up just like a speed dial number in your phone. Using this feature, you can hail that boater directly, they then will respond on their radio and you have direct communication without using channel 16 or 9.

This article is given the courtesy of your local America's Boating Club of the Pamlico. A 2-1/2 hour seminar, All about FHF-DSC Marine Radio, is being offered September 26th. To register or learn more information contact Kelly at pspsed@gmail.com. We also invite you to visit our website at <https://pamlicosailand-powersquadron.org> to learn about more boating safety and education.

From the Washington Daily News,
2023?

Upcoming Hamfests:

Shelby Hamfest Sept 1 - 3, 2023 www.shelbyhamfest.org

AB4OZ Hamfest Sept 16 Golden Corral Parking Lot 3551
Grenelle St Raleigh NC 27603
QRZ: AB4OZ for more info.

Lexington Hamfest Sept 23 www.w4par.org

Pamlico Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes August 17, 2023

Call to Order: President Gary NG9T called the meeting to order at approximately 7:10 pm with 11 members present in person and 2 by Zoom,

Pledge Allegiance:

Meeting Minutes: Davey W4LOR 1st motion to accept meeting minutes George AG8AR 2nd

Treasurer's Report: Available United Bank balance is \$3,115.31.

Repeaters: No update made

VE Examinations:

Tom WT4TK / Al K4GOE shared the position of VE Coordinator for this testing session. No one has registered to take the exam as of this meeting. The next exam date is September 9th, 2023 at EOC.

Field Day 2024: Discussion of new site VFW Hall and plans to survey the area. Scott K4WSP, George AG8AR, Cheryl KX4EC, Gary NG9T, Al K4GOE committee to locate site deadline February 2024.

Business:

Davey W4LOR made a motion that the new Constitution and Bylaws 2023 be accepted as written and David KQ4HEX 2nd. 13 Yea 1 Present. POTA activation statewide September 9-10 Gary NG9T has reserved Historic Bath State Historical Site on POTA Website. Reminder Christmas Party will be held at Wayne's KB1WE house.

HF/DX: Drew KQ4JZB made his first ham contact!

Ham Fests & Contests:

Contests:

August 19-20 NA QSO Party SSB

Please reference ARRL Contest Corral, also the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at www.contestcalendar.com

Ham Fests:

08/12/2023 Cage Fear Amateur Radio Society Swapfest Fayetteville

08/12/2023 Tidewater Hamfest and Swap meet Portsmouth VA

09/01 – 09/03/2023 Shelby Hamfest

Next 2m net: *Every Thursday of the month 8:00 pm unless* Tom WT4TK is calling for September

Next 80m net: *Every Tuesday at 7:00 pm* Dave W3DET for September

Next Meeting: Will be held on **September 14, 2023** 7:00 pm @ Zion Episcopal

Next VE Session: Will be **September 9, 2023** Test starts promptly at 10:00 am @ EOC

August Refreshments: Were provided by Marcian KC4TOI, Tom WT4TK

September Refreshments: Will be provided by Marcian KC4TOI, Cheryl KX4EC

50/50: \$42 collected Scott K4IBX won and donated his half to the club.

Program: Electronic issues, delay

Respectfully Submitted, Cheryl KX4EC

GREETINGS FROM THE HIGH COUNTRY

August 5, 2023

We are having some wet weather through the end of this week. Thursday has been damp and my weather station has recorded .92 inches of rain since midnight and it is about 3:30 p.m. So we may get a lot more rain. In fact, NWS Blacksburg indicates that Saturday may be the nicest day through next Wednesday. Because of the extended period of rain, I have been working on getting you a newsletter. Saturday, however, turned out to be a beautiful day and I will be heading out to a club picnic.

IMPORTANT MATTERS

Potential interference from Financial Interests seeking to Use HF to transmit financial data over HF.

The ARRL has filed comments with the FCC in opposition to Docket RM-11953. RM-11953 involves a request from a coalition of financial traders who have asked the FCC to amend its rules to allow the coalition to use high power (20KW with an ERP of 200 KW) transmissions over high frequency (2.5 to 25Mhz) transmitters located near New York and Chicago to transmit financial trading data.

The financial firms submitted data to the FCC that claims that, comparing microwave, fiber and HF radio, a system using HF transmitters offers faster delivery of data and lower overall cost than the other two systems.

ARRL has submitted data that shows that the data transmissions on the edge of various ham bands will cause interference to ham operations. Information concerning the proposal and the ARRL filing in opposition can be found at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Farrl.org%2Fnews%2Farrl-files-comments-against-seriously-flawed-hf-rules-petition&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb4d85862a4864e2c776f08db95c270b7%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638268434569025469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cN7XAY%2F9E7%2FTUuWGmBxn6S29Y72kicS5tx96G59Nsn0%3D&reserved=0>

ARRL DUES INCREASE

By now you most likely have learned that the ARRL Board of Directors voted to increase the dues that members pay each year to support the activities of the League. In addition to raising the dues from \$49 each year to \$59 per year beginning January 1, 2024. Members wishing to receive a print copy of QST will pay an additional \$25 per year.

Information on the various changes in the dues structure can be found at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.arrl.org%2F2024-dues-rates&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb4d85862a4864e2c776f08db95c270b7%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638268434569025469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZTqXU3kDnyLIMTrMkCkE4rWHS83DtI3x7VpLMGIhxEY%3D&reserved=0>.

Minutes of the ARRL Board meetings typically are not released for several weeks after a meeting. Until those minutes are posted on the ARRL webpage, it will not be possible to know if the vote on the dues increase was unanimous or what other decisions the Board made regarding proposed changes to ARRL By-laws.

GIVE THE GUY A BREAK

Over the past three months or so, I have been receiving reports of deliberate, malicious interference in the Raleigh area which involves disruption of communications between two friends, one whom is some distance away from Raleigh, who like to are chat on a two meter simplex frequency.

It saddens me that anyone will go to the trouble to deliberately drop an interfering carrier on their conversation just to cause aggravation.

In a time that ham radio needs to attract more people and to show them how a good operator conducts himself, it is discouraging that there is so much garbage on various ham frequencies, some of which is not suitable for young people to hear.

If you hear malicious interference, profanity or obscenity, make a note of the time, frequency and other details and your report will be passed on to Riley Hollingsworth, head of the ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Saturday and Sunday, September 9-10, NC Parks on the Air Event which involves activation of many of the NC State Parks and Historic Sites.

Information can be found at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fncpot.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb4d85862a4864e2c776f08db95c270b7%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638268434569025469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ffCqNxNntO7mIARsvq9C9dhjSi4wT1dlT43rIWgE1oQ%3D&reserved=0>. Look over the information and choose a site where you would like to operate and then get on the air from one of the parks or historic sites.

HAMFESTS

Saturday, August 12, is the date of the 24th Annual Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society Swapfest. Held at the Cumberland County Shrine Club, 7040 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC 28301. Information can be found at

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcfarsnc.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb4d85862a4864e2c776f08db95c270b7%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638268434569025469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HrScKiX3F7wnhCKIK380P%2B1pHBOM1%2FkkH98ScHtmIA%3D&reserved=0> .

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 1-3, The Grand-daddy of them All, the Shelby Hamfest will be held at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds in Shelby NC. Information can be found at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fshelbyhamfest.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb4d85862a4864e2c776f08db95c270b7%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638268434569025469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Iik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0m%2BLJTTNIOsG%2Bej7i7ltzo%2BXa6PRZ5iPFaHqYq0eJoc%3D&reserved=0>

Saturday, September 9, Swapfest at the Asheville Radio Museum (located on the campus of the A-B Tech. Information can be found at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.avradiomuseum.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb4d85862a4864e2c776f08db95c270b7%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638268434569025469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Iik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QvD7wjWVbelGpUrYIZJPNPrA8PB%2BThe0p13IHLh8uI%3D&reserved=0> .

UPCOMING PUBLIC SCHOOL ARISS CONTACT

The Bowman Middle School in Bakersville (Mitchell County) NC has been selected for participation in the ARISS program. Students at the school will have the opportunity to talk to an Astronaut aboard the International Space Station at a time that has not yet been determined but will be sometime during the period of August 28-September 1. Dan Hopson K4CF is their teacher. As soon as more information about the time of the contact is known, a special edition of the newsletter will come out and keep you informed.

REPORT FROM WAYNESVILLE HAMFEST

The Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society hamfest held near Waynesville last Saturday was a great success. Along with Roanoke Director Bill Morine, I represented NCARRL and got to say hello to many old friends.

I thought that attendance was good and the flea market area had a lot of people looking for bargains. Big congratulations go out to WCARS for putting together a successful hamfest!

EVEN PROFESSIONALS MAKE MISTAKES

I came across an article that focused on NASA's efforts to re-establish contact with Voyager 2 which was launched 40 years ago from Cape Canaveral. Voyager 2 has traveled 12.3 billion miles away from Earth and has contributed to what we know of the universe and deep space.

A story carried by NPR reported on Voyager 2's discoveries:

"Its primary mission was to study the outer solar system, and already, Voyager 2 has proved its status as a planetary pioneer. Equipped with several imaging instruments, the spacecraft is credited with documenting the discovery of 16 new moons, six new rings and Neptune's "Great Dark Spot."

Voyager 2 is also carrying some precious cargo, like a message in a bottle, should it find itself as the subject of another world's discovery: a golden record containing a variety of natural sounds, greetings in 55 languages and a 90-minute selection of music”.

A mistake occurred on July 21 when an incorrect command was sent to Voyager 2 which caused it to turn its antenna away from Earth that in turn caused a loss of contact with the craft. This was followed by two weeks of diligent listening for signals from Voyager 2. If NASA cannot command Voyager 2 to re-aim its antenna, an automatic reset scheduled in October should give Voyager 2 an opportunity to reorient itself and continue on its journey into deep space while resuming sending data back to Earth. Signals from Voyager 2 take 18 hours to reach Earth. Info can be found at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.npr.org%2F2023%2F08%2F02%2F1191341035%2Fnasa-voyager-2-spacecraft-contact&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb4d85862a4864e2c776f08db95c270b7%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638268434569025469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Z%2FeWBFKY7u42PUXNc6l9ChlhfaHaP86HWybMk5E0MW4%3D&reserved=0.>

At 9:30 pm on Friday night, I received a report that NASA successfully re-established contact with Voyager 2 and has commanded it re-aim its antenna toward Earth by means of a communication with Voyager 2 that takes over 18 hours to to Voyager in Deep Space from Canberra.

Information can be found at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnypost.com%2F2023%2F08%2F04%2Fnasa-relinks-with-voyager-2-after-accidentally-losing-contact%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb4d85862a4864e2c776f08db95c270b7%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638268434569025469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6OK9ViTvXSoxMGycSQvqJoAOwSE2Mcrf8FPxhKhDQ2o%3D&reserved=0.>

NATIONWIDE EMERGENCY ALERT TEST ON OCTOBER 4 2023

FEMA and the FCC have announced that there will be a nationwide test of the Wireless Emergency Alert and the Emergency Alert System. At approximately 2:20 p.m. each cell phone in the United States should receive an alert message while the EAS message will be broadcast over all radio and tv stations and cable systems. Information can be found at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.fema.gov%2Fpress-release%2F20230803%2Ffema-and-fcc-plan-nationwide-emergency-alert-test-oct-4-2023&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb4d85862a4864e2c776f08db95c270b7%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638268434569025469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RqzSyAeBNHt%2BKfXXFkbrEFHf7zWiLDNWSidP579KUs8%3D&reserved=0.>

FAIR RADIO CLOSING ITS DOORS

Hams who have been around a while will recognize Fair Radio Sales, a company that began selling military surplus radio equipment for over half a century. Their newsprint catalogs had pictures of obscure military communications equipment and a number of people I know purchased top of the line, but government sur-

plus, receivers, amplifiers, power supplies and a multitude of other modules, subassemblies and other items that got repurposed for amateur space communications as well as indestructible ham equipment. Information on how they plan to dispose of their inventory can be found at https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffairradio.com%2F%3Futm_source%3Dtwitterfeed%26utm_medium&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb4d85862a4864e2c776f08db95c270b7%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638268434569025469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2F7iNBcKNXZNBnK96GnlaLaCBCZAm7qpotOsG6a50jwA%3D&reserved=0

HELP NEEDED

The Tarheel Emergency Net, which has existed since 1947, is in need of additional net control stations. The net meets each night at 7:30 p.m on 3923 KHz and the duty as net control station typically takes less than 20 minutes per week. Contact Scott Sutton (K4SEH) at k4seh@arrl.net and offer to help out.

CLOSING COMMENT:

This is a very busy time for ham radio and for me as your Section Manager.

Activities in the past 30 days and in the next 30 days include hamfest visits, club visits, POTA activities, newsletter production, Silent Key reporting and following up on malicious and interference complaints.

As a priority I take time to maintain several repeaters that I seldom get to use but know that the time spent makes it possible for others to enjoy amateur radio.

When I sit back and think about things, I feel that amateur radio often misses opportunities to reach out to school science teachers by helping them get their ham licenses. I bet that most of us have unused amateur equipment that could be given to a local school as part of an effort to get more young people involved in the amateur radio. In the coming year I will seek opportunities to publicize opportunities to work with schools to get more school-based clubs established.

For me, emergency communication remains a priority--we are now in the time of year that severe weather, as well as hurricane, are very likely. Each of us should check our antennas and rigs to insure we are ready if our community is affected by storms. Reach out to your local emergency management agency and see if there are ways in which you can be part of the EmComm community.

Do not be surprised if the EM agency inquires whether the member hams have completed the required ICS training courses which are free and can be completed on line. If you need help finding the courses, please feel free to drop me a message and I will steer you in the right direction.

Marv, WA4NC Mkhoffman2006@gmail.com ARRL North Carolina Section

Section Manager: Dr Marvin K Hoffman, WA4NC wa4nc@arrl.org

GREETINGS FROM THE HIGH COUNTRY

Aug 26,2023

Make no mistake. It is summer time. When the temps hit the mid-80's in the High Country, it is summer time. When the National Hurricane Center is tracking multiple depressions with their potential to reach hurricane strength, it is summer time. When I see the Charlotte weather forecasters talk about heat indexes over 100 degrees, it is summer time.

ARRL MATTERS – ROANOKE DIVISION MEETING

By now, you have heard about the ARRL dues increase (to \$59 per year) plus the additional fee to receive a printed copy of QST. Life membership fees are not yet set while an actuarial firm advises on how long members will live and how much of the life member fee should be set aside to cover the member's expected longevity.

Roanoke Division Director Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, and Vice Director Bill Morine, N2COP, have arranged an electronic Town Hall at which time they will discuss the dues increases and the financial situation facing the ARRL.

Mark your calendars now for the next Roanoke Division Town Hall. It will be Thursday, September 14th, from 8:00 to 9:00 PM. Meet your elected ARRL officials as they discuss recent events at ARRL, including the purpose behind the dues increase, plus an update on legal and regulatory matters impacting Amateur Radio. Join Division Director Jim Boehner N2ZZ and Vice Director Bill Morine N2COP along with Section Managers Dan Ringer K8WV from West Virginia, Jack Smith KE4LWT from Virginia, and John Gendron NJ4Z from South Carolina. You'll enjoy this fast-paced videoconference as you learn what issues are affecting you and other Hams in our region. Look for a hyperlink to the event in the second week of September, and plan to join the hundreds of others who will be watching.

Unfortunately, the date chosen for the Roanoke Division meeting conflicts with my longstanding promise to accompany my grandson on a trip to look at colleges as he plans his future after this, his high school senior year.

This meeting is an opportunity for you to ask your leaders about the status of various bills in Congress (antennas, band width, Technician privileges and other long-pending bills designed to encourage the FCC to move on ARRL rule making petitions that go back six years and longer).

UPDATED NOAA TROPICAL STORM FORECAST

In the past week, NOAA updated its forecast for the severity of the 2023 Hurricane Season. Taking into account the near record temperatures in the Atlantic Basin, NOAA has increased its forecast for "ABOVE NORMAL" hurricane activity and predicts:

- a. 14-21 Named Storms
- b. 6-11 Hurricanes
- c. 2-5 Major Hurricanes

A discussion of their tropical storm forecast can be found at

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.noaa.gov%2Fnews-release%2Fnoaa-forecasters-increase-atlantic-hurricane-season-prediction-to-above-normal&data=05%7C01%7C%7C01a2799024a1446874d608dba6a2790a%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638286988980706784%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjE6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%7C%7C%7C>

[3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CoZ3KLsYbXr%2BrOjZQNIzo%2Bai6ooR83xcDhfuRng6MUo%3D&reserved=0](http://www.w4amc.com/3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CoZ3KLsYbXr%2BrOjZQNIzo%2Bai6ooR83xcDhfuRng6MUo%3D&reserved=0)

CURRENT ACTIVITY IN THE TROPICS

Readers are urged to keep an eye on the Tropics, including the Gulf of Mexico and the Southeastern Atlantic. While the path of Tropical Depression 10 is still undefined, there are models that suggest the Eastern North Carolina will be drenched but other models show a track farther west and closer to the mountains. Stay tuned as there could be storm activity North Carolina later in the week.

Current and accurate information can be obtained from the [National Hurricane Center](#). Information about regional weather over defined broad areas can be obtained from these NWS Forecast

Offices:

[Wilmington Area](#)

[Northeastern North Carolina – Wakefield VA,](#)

[Raleigh Area](#)

[Northwestern North Carolina – Blacksburg VA](#)

[Southern Mountains – Morristown TN](#)

[Southwestern North Carolina – Greenville SC](#)

HOW ABOUT A DAY AT THE STATE FAIR?

A group of ham radio operators is planning to showcase amateur radio at the upcoming NC State Fair (which runs from October 12 to October 22) in Raleigh. This is a project that will take numerous operators since operation will occur over two shifts (0900-1500 and 1500-2100) each day. Operations will be in a tent on the Fairgrounds. Admission tickets will be provided for operators as will free parking. Contact Travis Russell, KN4WJL (kn4wjl@proton.me) to sign up for one or more of the operator slots.

HOW ABOUT A TRIP TO A STATE PARK FOR A POTA ACTIVATION?

The North Carolina Section is sponsoring a statewide activation of state parks and state historic sites on September 9-10. Look over the list of sites that is posted at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fncpota.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C01a2799024a1446874d608dba6a2790a%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638286988980706784%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjIhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=S7UBeWLTefu3sWvRwY1PO2TFpTXpbyL0EJMM7Li4mnk%3D&reserved=0> and plan to operate from one of the amazing sites across the state. Huge thanks go out to Zach Thompson KM4BLG and his team for putting this event together.

UPCOMING PUBLIC SCHOOL ARISS CONTACT

Students at the Bowman Middle School in Bakersville (Mitchell County) NC will participate in a unique opportunity to participate in the ARISS program (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station). Contact

between Astronaut Warren Hoburg, KB3HTZ, and the students will occur at approximately 10:30 a.m. on Monday, August 28. Huge congratulations go out to their STEM Teacher Dan Hopson, K4CF, for securing this ARISS event as well as an earlier ARISS contact for students at the Harris Middle School in Spruce Pine on October 11, 2022.

SECTION TRAFFIC REPORT

Set out below is a portion of the Section Traffic Report prepared and submitted by Dave Roy, W4DNA NC Section Traffic Manager. The complete report can be found at ncarrl.org. Thanks go out to Dave and the various traffic handlers.

W4DNA - NC Section Net Report - JULY 2023

| NET | NMGR | QNI | LISTED | PASSED | TIME | SESSIONS | TFC % |
|------------------------------------|--------|------|--------|--------|------|----------|---------|
| SECTION NETS | | | | | | | |
| CN | AA4MP | 293 | 107 | 91 | 496 | 62 | 85.05% |
| CSN | KI4KZS | 103 | 15 | 15 | 489 | 31 | 100.00% |
| NCEN | WK4WC | 354 | 75 | 75 | 406 | 31 | 100.00% |
| NCMN | W3OJO | 358 | 149 | 145 | 529 | 31 | 97.32% |
| THEN | K4SEH | 216 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 54 | 20 |
| LOCAL TRAFFIC NETS | | | | | | | |
| CWTN | N4CNX | 416 | 80 | 80 | 504 | 31 | 100.00% |
| ENCTN | W4DNA | 111 | 9 | 9 | 237 | 25 | 100.00% |
| PCTN | W4TTO | 232 | 52 | 52 | 264 | 31 | 100.00% |
| SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP NETS | | | | | | | |
| MNN | KI4FAQ | 307 | 0 | 0 | 275 | 30 | |
| TOTAL | | 2390 | 487 | 467 | 3554 | 292 | 95.89% |

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

- September 1-3, Shelby Hamfest, September 1 -3, Cleveland County Fairgrounds. Info at shelbyhamfest.com
- September 9, Vintage Radio Flea Market, September 9, Asheville Radio Museum. Info at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.avrldiomuseum.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C01a2799024a1446874d608dba6a2790a%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638286988980706784%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWJoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FoP5wzPfn10dN%2Fyc3itcFIlg1tWcurAdULEo0kdsSI4%3D&reserved=0>
- September 23, Lexington NC Hamfest, 366 Livestock Market Road, Lexington. Info at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.w4par.org%2F2023-lexington-hamfest&data=05%7C01%7C%7C01a2799024a1446874d608dba6a2790a%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638286988980706784%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWJoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=r97PjfyzQBhm5ubx4qJpzkSxseNB41fEQtdJXa5J%2FU%3D&reserved=0>

- October 14, Winston-Salem Fall Fest, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, 5422 Robinhood Road, Winston-Salem.

IS YOUR CLUB LISTING AT ARRL CURRENT AND CORRECT?

Club leaders are encouraged to make sure that the information about your club is listed on the arrl.org webpage and is correct.. Go to

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.arrl.org%2Fclubs&data=05%7C01%7C%7C01a2799024a1446874d608dba6a2790a%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638286988980706784%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWJoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4PwjMSKqcwd2ax%2FZQbRjH1Mqo0y2SjF8rRxtZQ3MEc%3D&reserved=0> and follow the instructions for how to update the information about your club.

NC ARRL IS WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT

This is the 80th newsletter that I have produced since becoming the North Carolina Section Manager on April 1, 2020. A number of members have sent kind and complementary notes about the content of the newsletter and the effort that goes into producing them.

A few readers have been critical and feel that I spend too much time on general topics in amateur radio, as well as on EmComm, and feel that I fail to place enough emphasis on upcoming contests and DXpeditions which I feel are heavily covered in other media.

There will be an election in a few month in which the approximate 4500 NC Section members will have an opportunity to choose who will serve as the NC Section Manager. Nominating petitions will come out in October, returned in December and voting will occur in January. Ballots will be counted in February 2024 and whomever you choose will serve as Section Manager for two years beginning on April 1, 2024.

In some Sections, there is very little competition in ARRL elections.

Two years ago in North Carolina, there was a spirited election for the North Carolina Section Manager term that began in 2022. However, in the North Carolina Section elections in 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2020 only one candidate filed a nominating petition and, in accordance with ARRL Bylaws, the single nominee for Section Manager was declared elected without ballots being sent to members.

32 YEARS AND COUNTING

I earned my Technician license (KD4EGV) on August 27, 1991 and later earned my Advanced and Extra licenses becoming WA4NC on June 11, 2000. Amateur radio has changed a lot during that time and, sadly, a number of my friends from back then are now Silent Keys and are missed.

Whether you are new to ham radio or have been licensed for a long time, I hope that you enjoy the many ways in which ham radio can be fun, interesting and of service to your community.

Best wishes,
Marv, WA4NC
NC Section Manager
mkhoffman2006@gmail.com

August 27 2023 NC Section Newsletter – ADDENDA

1. UPCOMING OPPORTUNITY TO WORK W1AW/4

The CDXA has asked that NC ARRL members be advised of the upcoming opportunity for licensed operators to work W1AW/4 between September 27 and October 4. I hope you will work W1AW/4 during the designated timeframe. This opportunity is open to all hams and membership in CDXA is not required.

Here is a release from the Carolina DX Association concerning the W1AW/4 Activation:

“Hello All,

In case you were not aware of our April activity, you may have already heard about the ARRL dedicating 2023 as “The Year of the Volunteer.”

To that end, ARRL has organized an activity event spanning 2023 called “Volunteers On The Air (VOTA)”. ARRL members get ‘points’ for each contact they make with another ARRL volunteer or member. No special codes are required, no sequence numbers need to be exchanged, and no section information needs to be passed. Just make a contact with a fellow ARRL member, and you each receive a point.

To participate all members must upload their logs to the Logbook of The World (LoTW) to receive points. Your points are calculated when the QSO is matched. This could be a FT8, CW, simplex 2M FM, RTTY, or a SSB rag-chew contact.

To add more interest to the year-long operating event and to help demonstrate the ARRL volunteer value, each level of volunteer activity has been assigned a point level which is shown at:

https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.arrl.org%2Ffiles%2Ffile%2FVOTA%2520-%2520Volunteers%2520On%2520The%2520Air%2FVOTA_2023_Points_v5_1.pdf&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb173f625083e4c16fcb208dba7345266%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638287615379979815%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hLcOTprc9pVteUCevioWvLlly5%2FXQKV9idm5aU6MqmQ%3D&reserved=0

For example, if you contact the North Carolina Section Manager, you’ll get 175 points for that one contact.

CDXA has been selected to represent NC for two weeks this year. The first week began at 00:00 UTC Wednesday, April 12 and ended 23:59 UTC Tuesday April 18. Our second opportunity is coming up shortly. CDXA is again spearheading the NC activation which is from 00:00 UTC on September 27th to 23:59 UTC October 3rd. CDXA has created a registration form on the CDXA Website at: <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcdxa.org%2Fvota-nc.php&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb173f625083e4c16fcb208dba7345266%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638287615379979815%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=p4mWWt8gPAwq6xMHlyhqD1vshzqgdYss1fNtF3Jfr1c%3D&reserved=0>

Any CDXA member that can operate a station in NC can register. Registrants choose the desired; date, time period, mode and band. For this event, ARRL limits our band/mode operations to one station on a band/mode at any given time. For example, for 20 Meter band operations, there can be only one station on CW, one station on Phone, and one station on Digital. You may sign up for any open period per day and the periods will be assigned on a first come first served basis by timestamp. Please only sign up if you are sure that you will be able to operate and submit your log. WARC and 60m bands are not included.

Activators will use the W1AW/4 call sign and must provide an .adi logfile to a link that will be provided to activators by me and preferably, to me also by October 15th. I will take all of the files and generate a master log file for the ARRL. You may use any logging program capable of generating an .adi file; only electronic logs will be accepted.

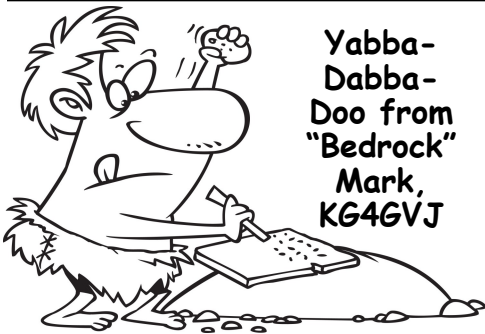
Time to promote your club and thank the numerous volunteers while having the experience of being a "rare one".

2. In my newsletter yesterday, I overlooked the NWS weather forecasting office at Newport NC which serves a large portion of Southeastern North Carolina. Their web address is <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.weather.gov%2Fmhx%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb173f625083e4c16fcb208dba7345266%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638287615379979815%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=iOuTUlz9QGTIatBzrzYnknYJTmg4R9FRt2KpJZjB3Y%3D&reserved=0> and the office provides local forecasts. Information about NOAA All Hazard Weather Radio for their area can be found at

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.weather.gov%2Fmhx%2FNAAWeatherRadio&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cb173f625083e4c16fcb208dba7345266%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638287615380136554%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5%2FnDrP%2BdQxk866irnMGVoPnEeVXLqpS3Uw6Nifhx1nI%3D&reserved=0> .

Marv, WA4NC

ARRL North Carolina Section
Section Manager: Dr Marvin K Hoffman, WA4NC
wa4nc@arrl.org



Hi Folks,

Well, I had a tough time preparing for this issue. My software couldn't be reactivated, so I had to go to a newer version. But I did learn Microsoft word can be use, but it's more of a challenge. I find I like MS Publisher.

At this time, my Solar Electric is finally scheduled September 1 for inspection from Greenville. Hopefully will pass inspection and the new meter installed by the following Friday.

Meanwhile, I finally done some checking on my HF antenna and found High SWR at the antenna. Some serious work needed to be able to adjust and straighten the antenna ahead of me. I'm going to need to lower the mast down and modify the parts holding the coax to stand-offs on the mast. Then I need to have it so I can lower the antenna without lowering the mast.

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 so we can get your email address and put you on the list. You may miss some important BARC or PARC 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.

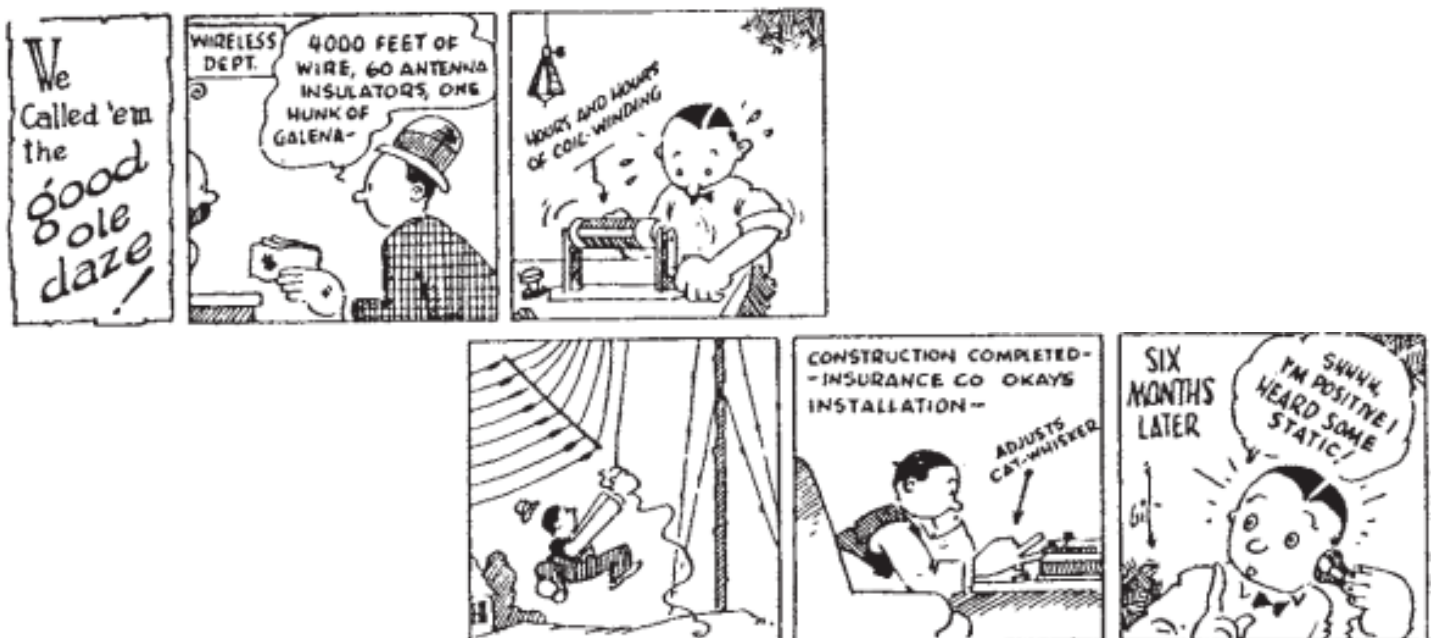
Send it along to the [Editor at Ham Chatter](#). We will see if we can fit it in soon.

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/>.



**LICENSE STUDY SESSION VIA ZOOM
Ham Radio Zoom Training Courses 2022-2023**

The following is our schedule of General and Technician class courses from November 2022 through September of 2023. (FARC) Note that we skip December after the 7th.

General:

November 9, 16, 30
Dec 7

Technician:

September. 6, 13, 20, 27

Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 9:30 pm.

The Gordon West Technician class or General class license manual is recommended in conjunction with online hamstudy.org.

Instructors:

KK4RR, AJ4TF, KA4JAH, AE4TI, K4AX. No charge for the classes.

Preregistration required: contact Richard Weinbaum at KK4RR@mac.com.

Thanks and 73,
Keith - KA4JAH

John S Carson

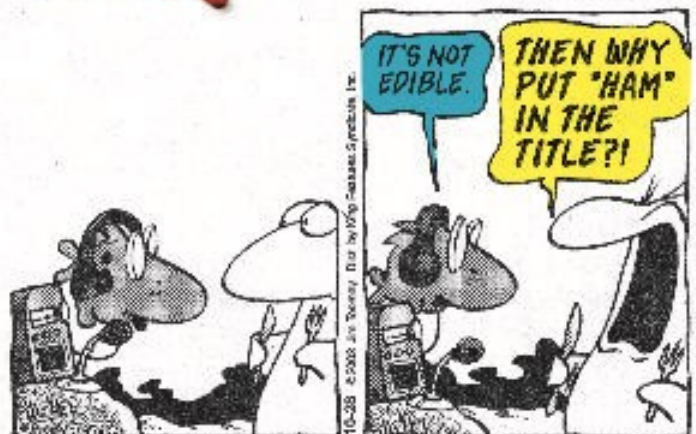
SHERMAN'S LAGOON



WB5Q

Norman, OK U.S.A

By J.P. Toomey



All Local Area FCC Exams:**WINSTON-SALEM NC**

2023

2ND Monday, 6PM at Red Cross on Coliseum Drive

No Exams are scheduled in December, the Club has its Christmas party. Sponsored by the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club (FARC), Red Cross Chapter House, 690 Coliseum Drive. Pre-Registration Only. Exams start at 6:00 PM. Bring 2 forms of identification (one with picture). Pre-registration, FRN number, are required before test session date. NOTE: COVID-19 protocols still in effect. Please bring the ORIGINAL, COPY of any CSCE's and signed license to the test session. Exam fee is \$12.00. For more information, contact: Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL, [Email](mailto:DMierisch@w4amc.com), [Phone 336-766-9675](tel:336-766-9675)

The following testing dates and sites are from:

<https://www.w4vec.org/ar.html>

GREENSBORO NC**TESTING 2ND SATURDAYS**

All sessions begin at 9:00 AM Hinshaw United Methodist Church, 4501 Gate City Blvd, Greensboro, NC 27407 ([MAP](#)) [For more information contact: David Macchiarolo- AJ4TF EMAIL](#)

[336-420-9424](tel:336-420-9424)

HIGH POINT NC**TESTING LAST SATURDAYS**

All sessions start at 10:00 AM. Location: Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, 301 Hickory Chapel Road (off MLK Jr Drive) High Point, NC 27262 [MAP](#) [Pre-registration is required. Contact: David Macchiarolo Email 336-420-9424](#)

KERNERSVILLE (?)**King/Rural Hall, NC**

Piedmont Triad VE offers free of charge testing, at the King Public Library, 101 Pilot View Drive, King, NC. This is a free of charge exam session for

subject to the \$35.00 fee to be paid to the FCC. Contact Jeff Webset at webstej <at? windstream <dot> net for next exam.

SALISBURY NC

PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY

Bostian Heights Fire Dept. Community Room

[\(MAP\)](#)

8211 Old Concord Road Salisbury, NC 28146

For more information contact:

Fred - WB4QOC [EMAIL phone 704-534-1031](mailto:WB4QOC@w4amc.com)

Last updated 1/26/22

THOMASVILLE NC

Tri-County Amateur Radio Club

Test Session at 9:30am, Davidson-Davie Community College, 297 DCC Rd. Thomasville, NC 27360 ([MAP](#)) Building: Finch *Building marked with RED arrow), room 221, Preregistration and FRN number is required before test session date. NOTE: COVID19 protocols still in effect. For more information contactL Rick Weinbaum, KK4RR, cell: 446-687-8001 email: weinbaum <at> mac <dot> com. Last updated 6/1/22

New Ham? New Upgrade?**Live in Forsyth County?****Or just want to join FARC?**

For new hams, or upgrades, who have taken an exam, please complete the information on the FARC application (usually the next-to-last page of the Newsletter), if you have not already done so, for a free membership to the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club (FARC). Mark the form "New Ham - Exam date". Even if this is not an FARC exam session, since we are limited in exam offerings at this time. Once the form is completed, bring to the next club meeting, or please scan and email to secretary <at> w4nc <dot> com [and an email to newsletter <at> w4nc <dot> com].

Exams usually will be offered before the FARC meeting (2nd Monday at the Red Cross) and start at 6:30 PM in room 109 at the Red Cross building **see above to make sure a session is offered**. You are encouraged to arrive early at 6:20 PM Preregistration is required at info <at> w4nc <dot> com.

[From the FARC Newsletter](#)

November 3, 2022 Boston Schneider

Check out KB6OVO's Emergency Story -- What Would You Do In This Case? (Reprint from a BridgeCom Systems Email)

"I was a chaperone on a girl scout bike ride down the Santa Ana River trail in Huntington Beach, CA.

On the ride, one of the girls got weak and passed out. So here we are in an obscure location and need medical help immediately.

I got on my handheld and accessed an autopatch and called 911."

"After I finally convinced the dispatcher that I was not calling from an old folks home in another city (the repeater was atop an 8 story building there,) the Fire Department was dispatched to our location.

So, here comes fire trucks roaring down the riverbed to help us.

Thank goodness, the girl just had heat exhaustion and was okay with the paramedic's help."

--

Thanks to John KB6OVO for submitting this inspiring emergency story.. He handled this situation like a pro.

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

Find an ARRL Affiliated Club:
www.arrl.org/clubs

Find Your ARRL Section:
www.arrl.org/sections

Find a License Class in your area: www.arrl.org/class

Find a License Exam in your area: www.arrl.org/exam

Find a Hamfest or Convention:
www.arrl.org/hamfests

Email ARRL Clubs:
clubs@arrl.org

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), on Saturday, August 12, [reported](#) that "more than a dozen federal agencies and departments are mobilized to assist state, county, nonprofit and private sector partners to help the people of Hawaii with recent devastating wildfires. Personnel from FEMA, federal agencies and voluntary organizations are arriving daily to Hawaii to support active response and initial recovery efforts." -- ARRL News Desk

Just Ahead: The 2023 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test -- Emergency Preparedness Takes the Spotlight

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is on the horizon, and you'll want to be ready, not only at the individual operator and station level, but also within your amateur radio community, ARRL Section and beyond. October 7 - 8 is the main, focal-point weekend for this year's national emergency exercise that will test your skills and test the preparedness of many organizations who are called into action when actual emergency situations warrant.

ARRL Field Organization Leaders -- such as Section Managers, Section Emergency Coordinators, Section Traffic Managers, District Emergency Coordinators, Emergency Coordinators, Net Managers and all of their assistants, too - are among the many amateur radio operators who are developing plans and scenarios for this year's SET.

Working Together -- The Simulated Emergency Test invites all amateur radio operators to become better aware of emergency preparedness and the training that is available. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), National Traffic System™, SKYWARN™, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) and other Auxiliary Communications groups and public-service oriented radio amateurs are encouraged to participate.

This annual nationwide exercise presents an important opportunity to test one's training and to develop new skills as well. It's a prominent time to work with partner organizations and served agencies, to get to know them better and to learn what their needs may be in advance of an emergency or disaster situation. For many decades, ARRL has established working national relationships with organizations and agencies like the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), American National Red Cross, Salvation Army, National Weather Service, National Communications System, the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International (APCO-International), Citizen Corps, National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD), REACT International, Inc., Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE) and Boy Scouts of America. More details on these particular organizations and how they work with ARRL and amateur radio operators can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/served-agencies-and-partners>.

Getting to know these organizations at the local, Section, and state levels and how to work together for effective emergency and public service is an important goal. The annual Simulated Emergency Test provides the chance, and you and the radio amateurs of your community help make it happen.

Get Involved -- To find out how to get involved in this year's SET, please contact your local ARRL Emergency Coordinator or Net Manager. Check on upcoming planned activities through local, state or Section-wide nets. Contact your local club or other area clubs to find out who the Emergency Coordinator is and/or where the nearest ARES group meets or which area it serves. In addition, refer to the ARRL Section web pages at www.arrl.org/groups/sections. Your ARRL Section Manager should be able to assist as well. See page 16 of QST for contact information.

In consideration of local and Section-wide schedules and schedules with partner organizations and served agencies, ARRL Field Organization leaders have the option of conducting their Simulated Emergency Tests at another time if the main SET weekend of October 7 and 8 is not the best for all concerned. Consult with your local and/or section Field Organization leaders for details.

Additional background on the annual SET is presented in the article, Simulated Emergency Test 2022 Results, in the July 2023 issue of QST, pp. 66-68. Also, guidelines and specific SET reporting forms for ARRL Section and Field Organization Leaders and reporting participants are linked on the ARRL website at www.arrl.org/public-service-field-services-forms.

If you are the Emergency Coordinator, Net Manager, or a Section Leader who is in charge of reporting this year's SET activity on behalf of your group, please fill out online reporting forms on the ARRL website. - Steve Ewald, WV1X, ARRL Field Organization Supervisor

Here is an [article prepared by the Chair of the State of Washington State Emergency Communications Committee](#) and written by Ted Buehner, W6TOR, about new emergency power and communications trailers to support response teams, especially in rural areas such as the Cascade Mountains. The article prompted ARRL Western Washington Section Manager Monte Simpson, W7FF, to say "The innovativeness of the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management is outstanding, and they are forward leaning in the use of their amateur radio EMCOMM team that ARES is an integral part of. In March 2014, Snohomish County DEM deployed amateur radio operators to staff Mobile EMCOMM busses/coaches for local public safety at the SR530/Oso landslide." Simpson said "The hams were the primary operators of the county's 800 MHz communications system. As the Section Manager, I am proud of the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of the Snohomish County Amateur Radio EMCOMM team."

ARES LAX Northeast Exercise Demonstrates Success in Hospital Traffic Management

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Los Angeles (LAX) recently concluded its highly anticipated capstone exercise, achieving milestones in mission-focused hospital traffic management. The exercise, coordinated by [ARES LAX Northeast](#), aimed to enhance emergency communication capabilities and strengthen the resilience of the region's healthcare infrastructure.

During the exercise, participating stations excelled in sending critical hospital traffic with Winlink, including bed availability reports, mass casualty incident reports, and resource requests, utilizing a wide range of data sources. From hand-written originals in PDF format to data files in Excel, .txt and .tab formats, the exercise showcased the versatility and adaptability of the volunteer emergency communication operators deployed by ARES LAX. "The exercise challenged operators' capabilities to receive various data formats from hospitals, check them for completeness, and transmit them in the formats LA County prefers," said Jeff Liter, W2JCL, exercise author and ARES LAX Northeast Assistant District Emergency Coordinator.

Lew Soloway, AC6LS, and Jeff Liter, W2JCL, taking traffic at the Los Angeles County Medical Alert Center (MAC). [Oliver Dully, K6OLI, photo]



One of the key objectives of the exercise was to master the use of Winlink forms and spreadsheets for efficient data transmission. Liter, at the Medical Alert Center Station received 109 Winlink messages over the 4-hour operational period from seven facility-based stations. Resource requests for medications, for example, took less than 2 minutes to transmit with VARA FM Winlink, a major advantage in speed and accuracy over voice and other modes. Through rigorous training and dedication, the ARES LAX team accomplished this core objective, bolstering their capacity to manage crucial information effectively during emergency situations.

The exercise's seamless execution was made possible by the reliable retrieval of exercise materials from the internet with Winlink, demonstrating the organization's commitment to leveraging cutting-edge technology for emergency response operations.

Throughout the operational period, stations diligently maintained ICS-214 Activity Logs and Communication Logs ensuring accurate documentation of all activities. This commitment to record-keeping not only facilitated post-exercise analysis but also highlighted the team's focus on maintaining transparency and accountability.

As part of the exercise's engaging nature, stations creatively documented their experiences with fun photos, showcasing the spirit of camaraderie and teamwork that underpins ARES LAX's commitment to serving the community during challenging times.

"The ARES LAX Northeast Exercise has been a smashing success, exceeding our expectations in terms of both preparedness and execution," said District Emergency Coordinator Oliver Dully, K6OLI. "The dedication and expertise demonstrated by our team throughout this exercise will undoubtedly prove invaluable in ensuring the effective management of critical hospital traffic during real emergencies."

Notably, all stations successfully delivered their intended traffic to the Los Angeles County MAC (Medical Alert Center), illustrating the team's unwavering commitment to excellence.

ARES LAX would like to express its gratitude to all participating stations, hospital emergency managers and staff, and partners whose collective efforts made this exercise a resounding success. The exercise's valuable insights will undoubtedly inform future emergency preparedness initiatives, enhancing the region's ability to respond effectively. -- Oliver Dully, K6OLI, District Emergency Coordinator, ARES LAX [About ARES LAX: The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Los Angeles (LAX) division is a volunteer organization dedicated to providing emergency communication support during disasters and public events. Comprising skilled radio operators and communication specialists, ARES LAX plays a critical role in enhancing the resilience and safety of the Los Angeles region.]

Radio Response: Hawaii ARES Steps Up During Tropical Storm Calvin

On July 12, 2023, the first major Pacific hurricane of the season, Hurricane Calvin, activated the readiness of amateur radio operators across the state of Hawaii. As it approached the Big Island, the hurricane weakened, evolving into Tropical Storm Calvin and delivering heavy rain, flash flooding, dangerous surf, and damaging winds in its wake.

Daily briefings were convened by the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, with representatives from all major island emergency management departments and the governor in attendance. Hawaii's

The ARES Letter

ARES[®] Briefs, Links

Devastating Hawaii Wildfires Prompt ARES Response - ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio[®] is closely following updates from the Hawaii Amateur Radio Emergency Service[®], [Hawaii ARES[®]](#), as amateur radio operators respond following deadly wildfires on the Hawaiian island of Maui.

On Tuesday, August 8, wildfires, fueled by the strong winds of Hurricane Dora, were burning in Maui and Hawai'i Counties. By the next day, much of LÄhainÄ on Maui had been destroyed.

ARRL Section Manager Joseph Speroni, AH0A, who serves the Pacific Section including Hawaii and US territories in the Pacific, sent a message to members across the Section on Wednesday. "The suddenness of the Maui Disaster is shocking. It affects us all," he said. Speroni said it was difficult to know immediately the status of radio amateurs and equipment on Maui, including repeaters and gateways. "Sadly, there are now confirmed deaths and several of our ham friends have lost their homes."

Speroni reported that the ARRL Hawaii ARES website, <https://hawaiiares.net>, was modified to provide the latest emergency communications news. The website includes updates on Maui's amateur radio and communication infrastructure, including affected and operational radio systems, repeaters, and other emergency communication details.

"Wildfires have affected phones, internet, and cell services across Maui. Very limited cell contact was established with Lahaina or its ham operators due to burned fiber lines and limited numbers of hams in the area," reported one of the updates.

Hawaii has many amateur radio repeaters and an extensive internet-linked repeater system, including KH6COM, a VHF/UHF Maui countywide system with emergency backup power. An update, as of August 11, 2023, shares that the KH6COM repeater system is operational in Central Maui, Haleakala Summit, Lanai, and Molokai. "Repeaters on the Whaler and Kaanapali Beach Hotel lost linking due to fiber optics cables burned. Those in Lahaina can utilize the Pu'u O Hoku Ranch repeater at the East end of Molokai."

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Hawaii and especially the Island of Maui," said ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV. "[ARRL] was in initial contact with Section Manager Joe Speroni, AH0A, on Wednesday, August 9, and we have had daily briefs with him. This is an exceedingly challenging time for Hawaii, and we will be available as needed." ARRL has offered equipment available through ARRL Ham Aid, a program established in 2005 and funded through donations, which makes emergency communications equipment available on loan to amateur radio organizations during disaster response when communications equipment is unavailable.

Johnston emphasized that most of amateur radio communications, including any messages being relayed, are being handled on the existing repeater system in the state. On shortwave, HF stations across Hawaii are operating nets on 7.088 MHz.

ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) members from various parts of the state attended these briefings leading up to the landfall of Tropical Storm Calvin. Some were there as part of their regular jobs in disaster readiness and response, and others as volunteers. These meetings featured updates and forecasts from the National Hurricane Center and Central Pacific Hurricane Center, providing valuable insights for all in attendance.

Anticipating the looming threat, the Hawaii County Civil Defense engaged several volunteer groups, including the ARES. Under the leadership of ARES Assistant Section Manager Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI, the group was galvanized into action. As Hawaii County developed its Incident Action Plan (IAP) under the frameworks of NIMS/ICS, Kitchen contributed four ICS forms related to Amateur Radio.

Stationed at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Hilo for a cumulative 23 hours across Tuesday and Wednesday, Kitchen managed the incoming Winlink reports and directed them to the appropriate County Defense staff. Despite the relatively light number of Situation Reports (SITREPs), they resulted in consequential actions such as a welfare check by a police officer and direct communication with HELCO Power and Spectrum Internet provider points of contact concerning outages.

Reflecting on the experience, Kitchen noted, "In times like these, the value of diverse communication methods such as amateur radio with Winlink radio email and voice traffic on HF and VHF becomes vividly clear." When internet or telephone service goes down in a community, it is helpful for agencies involved in emergency management and mitigation to find out about it as soon as possible. The Amateur Radio Service may be the only means available to achieve this objective. Real time detection of problems helps everyone involved coordinate an appropriate response.

As Tropical Storm Calvin unfolded, amateur radio operators ran nets on 7.190 and 146.760 MHz (Kulani Cone repeater) to receive voice reports. Stations established their ordinary hub nets at 1800 on Tuesday, processing these reports from the spokes via the typical frequencies and modes they had previously practiced.

Kitchen further emphasized the importance of readiness and adaptability in amateur radio, stating "This event underscores the importance of practicing and maintaining our skills regularly, even in times of tranquility, with voice traffic and Winlink radio email. -- Michael Miller, KH6ML, Hawaii Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Letters: Hospital Communications

Thank you for the excellent article on hospital communications in the recent ARES Letter. [See Hospital Nets: An Expanding Role for Amateur Radio, by Ira Brodsky, KC9TC, St. Louis, Missouri, in the June 21 ARES Letter; the second part of the article appeared in last month's issue - Ed.]

I wanted to reinforce some critical lessons learned supporting hospital disaster communications as well as provide information on the significant number of hospital specific amateur radio teams on the West Coast that may assist other hospital teams. While this letter focuses on the West Coast, I would like to applaud the large number of hospital-based teams across the country including SCHEART in South Carolina, ARES in Georgia, W1VDH in Vermont, HRN in Oklahoma, HARN in Saint Louis, KCHEART in Kansas City and HEARS in Virginia to name but a few. There are about 6,000 hospitals in the United States that require redundant wireless disaster communications and amateur radio can certainly help fill that role.

There are hospital specific teams in Washington State and Portland, Oregon as well as numerous teams in California in the Bay Area, Silicon Valley, Los Angeles County, Orange County, and San Diego County. These teams educate many small communities emergency communications teams to include hospitals and health departments in their scope of operations.

Many of the West Coast teams are well documented with web pages, digital libraries, policies and other mission critical documentation. The Western Washington Medical Services Team (WWMST), Bay Area Hospital Net (BAHN), and Kaiser Permanente Amateur Radio Network (KPARN) have operated for over 25 years. WWMST covers all of western Washington from ocean to mountains, Canadian border to Oregon. KPARN covers five counties in an area the size of Indiana.

OC HEART in Orange County has a rich history and is in the process of redeveloping itself to meet current needs. The Santa Clara County ACS team has a specific hospital subgroup with superb documentation and educational outlines. LAX ARES covers Los Angeles County; an area so large, it has four sections with multiple hospitals per section.

While most of these teams have focused on analog technologies, Santa Clara and San Diego have well defined and implemented hospital specific digital networks that have been in operation for years. The teams in the LAX and Portland areas are rapidly implementing robust digital networks specifically to support hospitals.

Your article provided good information, which can be corroborated by the many teams already cited. From my past experience, it's good to reinforce some other critical lessons learned:

- Provide specific hospital orientations for all radio operators consistent with federal (HIPAA, CMMS) state, and hospital (JCAHO) regulations.
- Radio operators should be assigned to specific hospitals and integrated with the hospital emergency management team including any necessary identification.
- Specify and document all required training for members. Training may include classes on Incident Command Structure (FEMA ICS 100, 200, 700) as well as orientations to the hospital environment and the radio team and technical systems used.
- Amateur radio equipment at the hospital should be tested at least once per month.
- Plan redundant and backup communication paths that are documented and tested.
- Secure dedicated communication paths for hospital communications (repeater and/or simplex) between hospitals and the appropriate health agency per the regional emergency plan. This is a key communication pathway for most hospitals who may require resources in an emergency.
- Rededicate a path for communication with the local Emergency Operations Center in order to ensure situational awareness and gain access to resources.
- You will be the communications expert. Medical personnel do not like to talk on radios like amateur radio operators do, so learn to use the other hospital communication backup systems. Your

hospital may have other installed radio equipment that you may be called upon to operate in an emergency.

- Hospitals are a unique environment with significant sensitive and personal information available. Amateur radio operators may overhear or be presented with communications of a confidential nature. Be professional at all times in both attire and attitude. What happens here stays here -- do not gossip.
- An amateur radio operator who volunteers to be assigned to a hospital is unique. Many people do not like to visit a hospital, much less function in a crisis situation. Encourage and enlist as many trained radio operators as your team can manage to assure 24-hour emergency coverage. Practice monthly and share important health- or hospital-related information.

COVID-19 changed hospital emergency management. Hospitals have spent the past 2 years living in a disaster, and amateur radio needs to get our teams practicing and reintegrated with hospital staff and new plans. Hopefully, these lessons learned will assist others as they support one of the lesser thought-of parts of critical infrastructure in a disaster.

Again, well done and thank you to all amateur radio operators and team leaders specifically supporting hospitals. - Duane Mariotti, WB9RER, Kaiser Permanente Amateur Radio Network



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 inconsistent with these values and 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 Audio News is distributed through [Blubrry.com](#). You can subscribe to the podcast via your IOS or Android mobile device with your favorite podcast app, or you can listen and download episodes directly from the Audio News page at Blubrry. Each week, the current edition is available at [ARRL Audio News](#).

ARRL Podcasts Schedule

On the Air
Sponsored by [icom](#)

We talk with Steve Simons, W1SMS, the Technical Coordinator for the Connecticut Section, who shares his experiences as a TC, from coordinating with Emergency Operations Centers during an emergency, to presenting technical papers at ham club meetings, to working with the Section's Technical Specialists to help local hams with troubleshooting and other technical matters.

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

["Ham Radio Enthusiasts Battle High-Frequency Traders for the Airwaves"](#) / The Wall Street Journal (New York) August 6, 2023.

["Mississippi Amateur Radio Operators gather for annual Mississippi Simulated Emergency Test"](#) / WLOX (Mississippi) August 13, 2023 -- Amateur Radio Emergency Service®.

["Amateur Radio Society conducts Emergency Response Training and Blood Drive"](#) / Lakelands Connector (South Carolina) July 26, 2023 -- The Greenwood Amateur Radio Society is an ARRL Affiliated Club.

["Hamfest hobbyists combine electronics and communications at OCCC"](#) / KFOR - TV (Oklahoma) July 29, 2023 -- The Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs is an ARRL Affiliated Club.

["Amateur radio seeing resurgence as hobby, sport, community service"](#) / New Albany Gazette (Mississippi) July 30, 2023 -- The Grid 54 Ham Radio Group.

["Huntsville Hamfest brings thousands of amateur radio enthusiasts to the Rocket City"](#) / WHNT (Alabama) August 21, 2023 -- The Huntsville Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.

["Local Radio Club Receives Grant To Provide Classes"](#) / Cleveland County Herald (Arkansas) August 23, 2023

["ARRL Battles Stock Traders for Spectrum"](#) / In Compliance Magazine August 24, 2023

["Do you copy?": Radio club communicates with Texas missile silo"](#) / Press-Republican (Texas) August 26, 2023 -- Champlain Valley Amateur Radio Club.

["North Carolina students speak with astronaut in space"](#) / WJHL-TV (North Carolina) August 28, 2023 -- Bowman Middle School

["Amateur radio operators share Sabine Pass Lighthouse restoration story"](#) / The Orange Leader (Texas) August 30, 2023 -- International Lighthouse - Lightship Weekend.

["Part Social Media And Part Preppers' Paradise, Ham Radio Is The Perfect Hobby"](#) / The Federalist August 30, 2023 -- Roy Maynard, KJ5BVP, is an ARRL member.

Announcements

The New England Amateur Radio Festival (NEAR-Fest) will be held on October 13 - 14, 2023. NEAR-Fest is an international event run by and aimed at all radio hobbyists and enthusiasts, including hams, short-wave listeners, scanner buffs, and vintage/antique radio fans. NEAR-Fest is held biannually in the spring and fall, rain or shine, at the Deerfield Fairgrounds in Deerfield, New Hampshire. The event will begin

on Friday at 0900 ET and end on Saturday at 1500 ET. NEAR-Fest typically attracts attendees from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and other states, as well as from Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, Canada. Some attendees travel great distances. One participant from Los Angeles, California, has attended NEAR-Fest 15 times, and in 2010, one radio amateur traveled from Greece. The program will feature a huge outdoor electronic flea market and three buildings full of commercial vendors, forums, technical seminars and symposiums, demonstrations, exhibits, displays, licensing examinations, special event radio stations, and a jam session. The event is the largest of its kind in the Northeast and was once described as the "Woodstock of Amateur Radio." More information is available at www.Home-NEAR-Fest.com.

The 3rd annual Masonic Lodges on the Air (MLotA), an amateur radio special event, will occur on Saturday, September 23, 2023, from locations across the United States. The event is open to all amateur radio operators. The idea for the event grew from the realization that many Freemasons also have a love for amateur radio. The [Fulton County Amateur Radio Club](#) and Ohio's [Fulton Lodge #248](#) first hosted the event in 2021. The mission is to promote fraternal bonds within the ranks for Free and Accepted Masonic lodges and its many amateur radio operators, who are also brothers in the fraternity while encouraging contact with amateur radio operators around the state, county and world. The event will take place from 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM ET, on 80 - 40 - 20 - 15, and 10 meters SSB. Amateur radio participants are asked to honor all band plans, and all contacts must be on the phone portion of the bands. Stations may be contacted once on each band. Complete contest rules and more information can be found at cqmorelight.com/rules.

Visit the ARRL Special Event Stations database at www.arrl.org/special-event-stations to find other on-the-air events and commemorations.

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors are now pub-

lished. The meeting was held July 21 - 22, 2023 in Windsor Locks, Connecticut. Among the decisions approved at the meeting was a new dues rate, effective January 1, 2024. The minutes are available at www.arrl.org/board-meetings.

The 2022 ARRL Annual Report has been published. This yearly summary details accomplishments of our member-volunteers. Included is ARRL's Report to America, which highlights the contributions made by radio amateurs to their local communities. It may be especially valuable to amateur radio clubs and emergency communications groups to help tell the story of good works done by hams. Communications responses for New England blizzards, Oklahoma tornadoes, Colorado wildfires, and Hurricane Ian are detailed in the report which may be viewed at [this link](#).

New ARRL Video Helps Members Navigate Digital Magazines.

The video on YouTube makes it easy for members to navigate the digital editions of QST, On the Air, QEX, and NCJ.

ARRL members have [digital access](#) to four high quality magazines: QST, On the Air, QEX, and NCJ. If you have questions or concerns about how to get the most out of the digital editions, "How to View ARRL Magazines Digitally" on the ARRLHQ YouTube channel, will help walk you through it.

The video, hosted by Jherica Goodgame, KI5HTA, explores the features of the digital presentation including switching between magazines, saving to PDF, searching for content, bookmarkings, and zooming in to content. It covers the web browser version, as well as the Android and iOS applications.

If you download the ARRL magazines app for Android or iOS, ARRL will send a notification to your device when a new edition is available for reading. They are also available on Amazon Kindle.

The video can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/vmZfIC2IUIs>.

IARU Approves two Digipeating Amateur Satellites

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has coordinated two European digipeating satellites that are scheduled to launch in fall 2023. At the Technical University of Košice in Slovakia, satellite Veronika, a 1U CubeSat, is scheduled for launch on a Falcon 9 launcher on the Transporter 9 mission in October 2023.

The satellite will be equipped with a 24/7 digipeater on two different bands, as well as experimental slow-scan digital video (SSDV) transmissions. There is an education and outreach mission planned to involve Slovak grammar and high schools, and to transmit special CW and AX.25 messages on several special occasions. The satellite will be equipped with a novel Attitude Determination and Control System (ADCS) subsystem, including electromagnetic actuators and a global navigation satellite system (GNSS) receiver. This will also help to identify the satellite during the first days and weeks of orbit.

The satellite will communicate using [Space-manic's well-known Murgas transceivers](#) (BDSat-1, BDSat-2, Planetum-1). Altogether, Veronika will provide: AX.25 telemetry, a CW beacon, a digipeater, AX.25 and CW messages on special occasions for community engagement, experimental SSDV transmissions, [SatNOGS](#) integration, a decoder, and a dashboard. A downlink on 436.680 MHz has been coordinated, and it will use 9k6 G3RUH AX.25 and a CW beacon. A SpaceX launch on the Transporter 9 mission will send the satellite to a 500/600-kilometer polar orbit.

The [Romanian Federation of Amateur Radio \(FRR\)](#) is preparing the ROM-3 for launch in October or November 2023. ROM-3 is a 50 x 50 x 100-millimeter picoSAT with three missions and objectives. Its primary mission is to act as a digital amateur radio repeater. Its secondary mission is to transmit low-resolution SSDV images in a

Gaussian frequency shift keying (GFSK) mode. The tertiary mission is to transmit a CW beacon that will help amateur radio operators detect the presence of the satellite and measure basic properties of the signals, such as its strength, fading due to spinning, and Doppler to measure speed. A downlink on 436.235 MHz has been coordinated for 20 WPM on CW, 500 (bps) GFSK telemetry, and 5 (kBps) GFSK SSDV. A SpaceX launch will send ROM-3 into a 500-kilometer polar orbit.

New ARRL Propagation Book Offers Tools for Solar Cycle 25

Get an understanding of propagation by reading Here to There: Radio Wave Propagation. Available now from ARRL.

"Learning about propagation will make you a more effective operator and station builder," said Ward Silver, N0AX, editor of ARRL's newest book, [Here to There: Radio Wave Propagation](#). ["It's a key part of 'radio know-how'."](#)

Silver and contributing editors present the principles of signal propagation in an easy-to-understand style. Other contributors include Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA; Dr. Nathaniel A. Frissell, W2NAF; Frank Donovan, W3LPL; Ethan Miller, K8GU, and Hermann Schumacher, DF2DR.

Here to There: Radio Wave Propagation provides practical advice for understanding what's going on in the ionosphere and troposphere, how takeoff angle impacts your transmission, how far you can really communicate over VHF and UHF, and much more. Understanding ionospheric structures, how they form, and which bands they interact with will prepare you for practical operating and help you make the most of your time on the air. The book is timely, introduced as Solar Cycle 25 is in its upswing.

Order from the ARRL Store or find an ARRL publications dealer.

Amateur Radio Operators Serve in Ha-

wai Firestorm Relief Efforts

ARRL members, in the Hawaii Amateur Radio Emergency Service®, (Hawaii ARES®), continue to respond following to the deadly wildfires on the island of Maui.

Fire Damage at Wailuku, HI (Dominick Del Vecchio/ FEMA, photo)



The radio amateurs are coordinating with state and local officials during the response and recovery effort. On August 15, an HF SHARES gateway, and an amateur VHF VARA FM gateway were brought back online, after having been damaged. Local hams continue to update lists of frequencies and repeaters that can be used in the response.

ARRL Headquarters staff have been in daily contact with member-volunteers on the island. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Hawaii and especially the island of Maui," said ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV. "ARRL was in initial contact with Section Manager [of the ARRL Pacific Section] Joe Speroni, AH0A, on Wednesday, August 9, and we have had daily briefs with him. This is an exceedingly challenging time for Hawaii, and we will be available as needed." ARRL has offered equipment through ARRL Ham Aid, a program established in 2005 and funded by donations, Ham Aid makes emergency communications equipment available to amateur radio organizations during disasters.

Johnston emphasized that most amateur radio communications, including relayed messages are being handled on the existing repeater system in the state. On shortwave, HF stations across Hawaii are operating nets on 7.088 MHz.

On August 8, wildfires fueled by strong winds began burning in Maui, and by the next day,

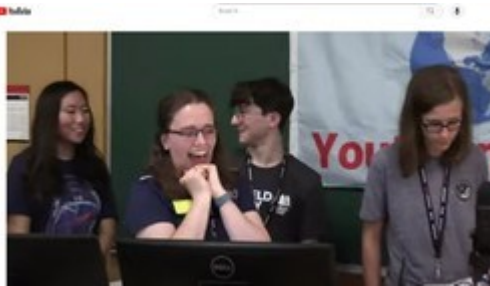
much of Lahaina had been destroyed. As of press time, 110 people have been killed in the blaze and 2,200 structures have been destroyed; 86% of those structures were residential, according to Hawaii Governor Josh Green.

Read more in ARRL News.

STEM in Action: YOTA Campers Contact the International Space Station

On July 18, 2023, a weeklong Youth on the Air (YOTA) summer camp at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, hosted an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) radio contact.

YOTA campers show excitement upon hearing the ISS contact. (Left to right) Abby Matsuyoshi, KK7CFJ; Ruth



Willet, KM4LAO; Alex Lammers, KO4ZMC, and Tripp Sanders, K5TRP.

The purpose of the camp is to connect young amateur radio operators from North, Central, and South America through amateur radio and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) activities.

The youth talked with astronaut Steve Bowen, KI5BKB, who answered 18 questions. ARISS volunteer Ruth Willet, KM4LAO, orchestrated their activities.

"[The ARISS contact] went so wonderfully -- I'm still on a high! It never, never, never gets old," said Willet. A reporter for the Radio Amateurs of Canada magazine, The Canadian Amateur, came to watch and report on the action.

Watch a [video of the contact on YouTube](#)

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, the ISS National Lab, ARRL, and AMSAT.

Amateur Radio Operator Contacts Spacecraft

The headlines are sensational, although a bit exaggerated: "Ham Radio 'hacks' NASA Satellite". While the phrase is eye-catching for social media, the truth is just as exciting. Amateur radio astronomer Scott Tilley, VE7TIL, has made contact with [NASA's STEREO-A spacecraft](#), which passed Earth for the first time in 17 years.

The STEREO-A (Solar TERrestrial Relations Observatory) spacecraft was launched on October 25, 2006, from Cape Canaveral, Florida, with its twin sister ship, STEREO-B. Both spacecraft were on a mission to circle behind the and send images back to Earth so scientists could make 3D models of solar activity. In 2014, STEREO-B failed and was not heard from again.

"I'm having fun with STEREO-A," Tilley reported to [Spaceweather.com](#). "The spacecraft is close to Earth this summer, and I can now receive its signal using a small 26-inch dish in my backyard."

Scott Tilley's, VE7TIL, dish antenna for receiving NASA STEREO-A spacecraft. [Photo courtesy of Scott Tilley]



Tilley began hearing rumors that other radio op-

erators were picking up signals from STEREO-A on 8443.580 MHz. He decided to check it out. "The central carrier is very loud, almost 30 dB above the noise," he said. "I also noticed data sidebands, which are unusual to see on such a distant object for my small antenna."

Tilley was able to decode and demodulate STEREO-A's signal using a special program written by Alan Antonie, F4LAU, known [as SatDump](#), and now, he is monitoring almost all of STEREO-A's science instruments, including its Extreme Ultraviolet Imager (EUVI), two coronagraphs (COR1 and COR2), the heliospheric imager (HI), and a solar radio burst receiver (S/WAVES).

STEREO-A's closest approach to Earth was scheduled to occur on August 17, 2023.

Amateur radio operators who would like to monitor STEREO-A can check out [Tilley's technical blog](#) for more information.

[Thanks to Spaceweather.com and NASA for updated information in this story]

Ohio Surplus Store to Close

An iconic electronics surplus store will soon be closing its doors.

Phil Sellati, owner of [Fair Radio Sales](#) in Lima, Ohio, says it's time to close the business.

"I took over the business that my dad started in 1947, and after 50 years, it's time to close the doors," he said. Sellati has had an offer on the building and feels that it's time to move on.

There are 30,000 square feet of equipment and parts that all need to go. Sellati wants to be done with the business by October 2023, but he thinks it might take a little longer. He has even received suggestions to stay open for next year's Hamvention® in Xenia, Ohio.

Thousands of amateur radio operators, collectors, experimenters, and shortwave listeners have visited the store over the years. The shelves and

aisles are full of old military radios and receivers. The store's fall-winter 1967 catalog lists a BC-499 FM 20 - 28 megacycle five-channel, crystal-controlled receiver with a dynamotor for \$18.95; a GO-9 Navy 100 W CW transmitter for \$69.95; along with pages of meters, cords, headphones, and microphones circa 1942.

Many Fair Radio Sales visitors started visiting when they were young, and they continue to shop there now. For one radio amateur, it was a must-stop location every year on their way to Dayton Hamvention. Another amateur radio operator said he stopped there in 1980 to pick up a Teletype Model 19 that still works today!

Sellati said he likes what he does and has enjoyed coming to work, but he wonders what comes next. He said he's thinking about looking for another building and starting over.

Planning is underway for the 2023 Route 66 On the Air Special Event

on September 9 - 17. This will be the 24th year of the event has been running. It was started by the Northern Arizona DX Association (NADXA) and is now coordinated by the Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club (CBARC) in San Bernardino, California. Twenty-one special event stations along the route from Santa Monica, California, to Chicago, Illinois, are expected to participate in 9 days of operating opportunities. The special event celebrates the history of the Mother Road that began in 1926, when US Highway 66 was established. It was the first major improvement to the link between the west coast and the nation's heartland. Through stories, songs, and TV shows, the highway came to symbolize the freedom of the open road, inspiring many to see America in its entirety. The demise of Route 66 began in the 1950s, as construction began on the new interstate highway system. US Route 66 was officially decommissioned in 1986, but today, small portions of the highway still exist in several states. More information on the event will be available soon at the [Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club \(CBARC\) website](#) or on their [Facebook page](#).

Amateur Radio Responds to Disasters Across the United States

The fires are out on the Hawaiian island of Maui but extensive search and rescue operations continue.

Damaged buildings and vehicles in Lahaina. [Spc. Sean Walker, photo.]



President Biden visited the island on Monday, August 21, 2023, and told residents the federal government will provide help "for as long as it takes" to recover from the devastation.

Numerous emergency response agencies and organizations are still arriving, and volunteers are helping to provide coordinated communications on the KH6COM repeater, on 146.520 MHz, and a VHF/UHF countywide system with emergency backup power. Hawaii has many amateur radio repeaters and an extensive internet-linked repeater system.

Forecast advisory 17 for Hurricane Hilary, issued on Sunday, August 20, 2023. [NOAA]

On the west coast of the United States, after a record amount of rainfall, Hurricane Hilary has downgraded to a tropical storm and is heading toward the Northeast. The west coast area is still experiencing flooding and mudslides as residents face major cleanup operations.

Section Manager of the ARRL Los Angeles Section Diana Feinberg, AI6DF, said there weren't any amateur radio activations, but Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service and ARES groups were on heightened alert. There was minimal damage in the Los Angeles A Basin area. Feinberg also said the City of Los Angeles Auxiliary Communications Service was

activated and reported to the Emergency Operations Center, but there weren't any communication outages.

Section Manager of the ARRL Santa Barbara Section John Kitchens, NS6X, said there was more concern for the 5.1-magnitude earthquake that hit his area during the storms. "There were no actual activations, but we were ready. Our folks [took] advantage of the situation and turned it into a real-time drill," said Kitchens.

The Hurricane Watch Net, WX4NHC amateur radio station at the National Hurricane Center, and the VoIP Hurricane Net were activated on Sunday, August 20, for Hurricane Hilary. Despite having bilingual operators in each group, and the storm's impact to the Baja California peninsula, there weren't any reports from Mexico, much to the concern of net operators. WX4NHC Amateur Radio Assistant Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R, said, "Hurricanes have no borders and ham radio has no borders."

Ripoll encouraged Mexican stations to check in and pass along reports when the net was active. "We can work together to help each other and those affected by hurricanes," he said.

Tropical storm alerts were issued along the south Texas coast on Tuesday, August 22, as Tropical Depression 9 formed in the Gulf of Mexico. The storm's center moved inland over south Texas by midday, when it became Tropical Storm Harold. It caused rain and wind, but there was little to no damage. The South Texas Amateur Radio Club said their amateur radio operators were ready even though they were not activated.

While tropical storms and an earthquake impacted large portions of the country, much of the Pacific Northwest has been dealing with wildfires.

In eastern Washington, the Spokane County ARES®/ACS was activated to deploy a mobile network unit (MNU) to the Gray Fire on Friday, August 18. The MNU is a self-contained, satellite-based internet and cell (AT&T, Verizon, and T-Mobile) support system. Volunteers set up the

gear at an incident command post used by county officials.

Radio amateurs are encouraged to participate in their local ARES group.

Air Force and Marines Corps Marathons Need Amateur Radio Volunteers

This fall, amateur radio operators will have the opportunity to volunteer their services and share their communication skills at two different marathons.

The Air Force Marathon will occur on Saturday, September 16, on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. The race will begin at 7:30 AM EDT.

Bob Baker, N8ADO, Greene County Emergency Communications Volunteer Lead, for Amateur Radio Support to the Air Force Marathon said, "We need a team of ham radio volunteers to support the event by operating several networks for logistics, [providing] medical information, monitoring and tracking runners, shadowing race officials, and supporting finish line operations."

He went on to say, "We need an excess of 60 volunteers to make all of this happen. Only 75% of the required number of volunteers have signed up and we could use amateur radio operators' help."

Most of the race takes place on the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and to comply with security regulations, all volunteer applications must be submitted by August 31, 2023, to allow for background checks.

To volunteer, visit usafmarathon.com/volunteer/ and click the "Volunteer Now button." You'll be redirected to the portal at raceroster.com, where you'll need to create an account. Once you've created an account, select "Volunteer," and sign in. Select the pull-down list under "Volunteer With Us," and then scroll down and select

"Volunteer on Saturday, September 16, 2023." Continue to scroll down and fill out the required information.

Be sure to include your call sign in the appropriate box. Below that box, under "Amateur Radio Operator," click the "Add to Order box." Continue to the bottom of the web page and select your t-shirt size. Then, select "Continue" to submit your registration. Please report that you have signed in by sending a message with your name and call sign (and preferred email, if it's different from the account from which you send the message) to AFM.Hams@gmail.com

As the race date nears, you'll receive an invitation to a training session and a link to the training materials, assignment list, and communications plan. Please arrive by 5:30 AM to accommodate ID checks and road closures.

The 2023 Marine Corps Marathon (MCM) will take place on Sunday, October 29 in Washington, D.C., and Arlington County, Virginia at 7:55 AM EDT. The MCM Ham Volunteers team is looking for 150 amateur radio operators to support the event by providing race-course situation reports.

The Marine Corps Marathon, also known as the People's Marathon, expects to support more than 29,000 runners at this year's event.

Amateurs can register to volunteer at www.hamcommunity.com/mcm-register.

The mission of the MCM is to showcase physical fitness and generate community goodwill to promote the high standards and discipline of the Marine Corps. Annually ranked as one of the largest marathons in the US and the world, the MCM has been recognized as the "Best Marathon in the Mid Atlantic," "Best for Families," and "Best for Beginners."

[The World Association of Christian Radio Amateurs and Listeners](#)

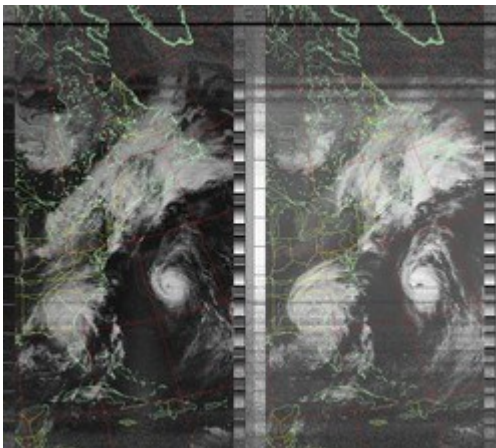
(WACRAL) special event, CHURCHES and CHAPELS On The Air (CHOTA), is on Saturday, September 9, 2023. The WACRAL organization was started in 1957 in England, by the Huddersfield South Methodist Radio Club. It's been ecumenical since 1978. CHOTA is not a contest; it has been described as an institutional space for using amateur radio to reach the public, like Parks on the Air (POTA). To date, there hasn't been any participation from amateur radio operators in the US. However, ARRL Delta Division Assistant Director Frank Howell, K4FMH, recently wrote to John Wresdell, G3XYF, manager of the CHOTA event, about getting the US involved by activating his church in Ridgeland, Mississippi. To participate, send an email to Wresdell at jhwresdell@gmail.com with the call sign you intend to use and the location of the church or chapel you plan to activate. Suggested frequencies for CHOTA 2023 are 20 meters on SSB, 40 meters on CW, and FT8. Operating times are 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM EDT. Participants who make eight or more contacts will receive an award. More information can be found at [Awards - WACRAL.ORG](http://Awards-WACRAL.ORG).

Hurricane Idalia: Amateur Radio Serves Critical Functions

Hurricane Idalia made landfall Wednesday, August 30 on Florida's Big Bend region as a Category 3 storm sustaining winds of 125 miles per hour. The storm tracked across Georgia and into South Carolina, and on Thursday morning it had moved offshore of North Carolina.

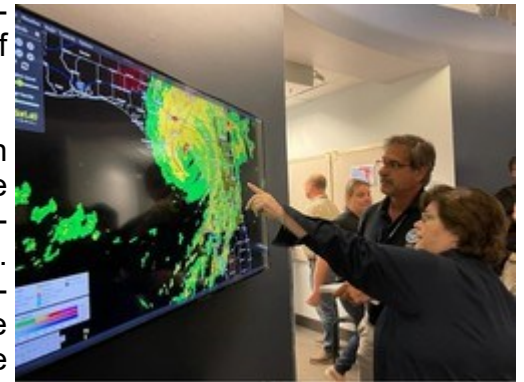
A real time visible satellite image of Hurricanes Idalia and Franklin, downlinked on August 30 from NOAA-18 at W1AW.

ARRL volun-



teers staffed key positions across the affected region. Section Emergency Coordinator of the [ARRL Northern Florida Section](#) Arc Thames, W4CPD, led the activation of [Amateur Radio Emergency Service® \(ARES®\)](#) volunteers within the Section. Thames said the ARES volunteers would be staffing the radio room at the state Emergency Operation Center (EOC) until 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 31 and will provide additional service if needed. "So far there does not appear to be a large communications impact that would require amateur radio support," he said.

FEMA personnel coordinate with their counterparts at Florida Division of Emergency Management in preparation of response efforts to Hurricane Idalia. ARES volunteers were staffing the same facility.



[Photo: Johanna Strickland / FEMA]

The [Florida Statewide Amateur Radio Network \(SARnet\)](#) was the primary emergency communications system used during the storm. The system is a series of linked UHF repeaters that covers the entire state. There were also HF nets linking counties

ARES Newsletter Editor Rick Palm, K1CE, surveys the damage after a tree fell on his car at his home. "Our cars were smashed under this big tree in our backyard. I am using my handheld to report into the Columbia County ARES net and EOC."



Much damage here in our yard and the surrounding community, and we experienced a very scary (terrifying actually) morning yesterday, being so close to the eye as it made landfall," he wrote.

In a message to ARES leadership in the affected Sections, ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, reminded them of gear at ARRL Headquarters that can be deployed if necessary. "We have equipment assets in our Ham Aid program available to you for loan if you have a need to backfill. These can be used during - long term recovery efforts as needed," wrote Johnston.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) [approved an ARRL-requested emergency waiver to HF symbol rate](#) limits, to allow higher speed data communications in the Amateur Radio Service response to Hurricane Idalia. [Read the waiver](#) (PDF)

Many counties in the ARRL Northern Florida Section were activated. Section Manager Scott Roberts, KK4ECR, was at the Clay County EOC for 27 hours. "We had a good number of our Northern Florida counties activated, as well as other places in the state. There were four shelters open here in Clay County alone," he said. As of press time, Roberts said the final information was still being tallied, but he knew of activations Duvall, St. Johns, Escambia, Marion, and Leon Counties.

In Ocala, the Marion County Emergency Radio Team (MERT) was activated to support shelter operations on Tuesday, August 29. Marion County ARES was placed on standby to support the MERT team and other served agencies. The county was spared the brunt of the impact. Marion County ARES Emergency Coordinator Hayden Kaufman, N2HAY, said the activation identified some opportunities for improvement in the area's disaster response. "We were very fortunate to have had little to do. However, the activation provided us some insight on factors that would impede communications in an emergency," he said.

Ham volunteers worked with the County Sheriff's office to ensure the amateur radio equipment onboard the Marion County Mobile Command Center was fully operational before it was deployed to Madison County, the area most heavily impacted by the storm.

Kaufman thanked the many local volunteers for their service during the hurricane. "I am personally proud to be a member of our increasingly tight-knit EmComm community," he said.

[Hurricane Watch Net](#) (HWN) Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, said the storm called for "all hands on deck". Ahead of impact, the intensity and track of the storm greatly concerned him. "I have been watching and plotting hurricanes for over 35 years. I have witnessed, many times, a Hurricane cross a state line into another as a hurricane...two states were hit by the same hurricane. Never have I seen a storm cross three States as a Hurricane," said Graves.

The [WX4NHC amateur radio station at the National Hurricane Center](#) was also active during the storm, as was the [Hurricane VoIP Net](#).

Amateur radio operators continue to serve impacted communities through served agencies as the recovery phase begins. Check [ARRL News](#) for the latest updates.

ARRL New Jersey Sections Sign Agreement with American Red Cross

On Friday, August 25, 2023, Section Manager of the ARRL Northern New Jersey Section Robert Buus, W2OD, and Section Manager of the ARRL Southern New Jersey Section Tom Preiser, N2XW, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with representatives from the

Pictured left to right: American Red Cross Regional Disaster Officer Ed Blanchard, Section Manager of the ARRL Northern New Jersey Section Robert Buus, W2OD, and Section Manager of the ARRL Southern New Jersey Section Tom Preiser, N2XW. [Photo Courtesy of Tom Devine, WB2ALJ]

American Red Cross (ARC) New Jersey Region. The MOU focuses on disaster planning and response for communities within New Jersey during and after a disaster event.



"For the first time in a long time, both the Northern and Southern New Jersey Sections will be working together," said Preiser. "It's critically important we know who we're working with and develop a good relationship to help make our responses effective every time."

Buus agreed, stating, "It's really a win-win for everyone. We've worked with the Red Cross for many years [and] this goes a long way to strengthen relationships and provide help in all types of situations," he said.

As part of the MOU, Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) teams in New Jersey will aid with communications in support of disaster relief through training, testing, and exercises, and by providing emergency communications to support local shelter operations. This is especially important when normal communications are disrupted or overloaded.

ARES teams throughout New Jersey have supported ARC shelter disaster operations and operated ARC emergency communications. For example, the ARC Princeton office is maintained and operated by the Mercer County team, and the Gloucester County team supports the ARC Pennsauken office. Other joint ARES, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services, and auxiliary communications teams have provided ARC shelter services during past emergency activations.

ARRL Headquarters Closed Labor Day

ARRL Headquarters will be closed on Monday, September 4, 2023, in observance [of the Labor Day federal holiday](#). [There will be no W1AW bulletin or code practice transmissions](#). ARRL Headquarters will reopen on Tuesday, September 5, at 8 AM EDT (1200 UTC).

Visit the ARRL [Special Events Stations](#) database to find on-the-air events and commemorations this weekend.

ARRL wishes its members and friends a safe and enjoyable holiday!

The 16th annual Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) contest will be held on Saturday, September 9, 2023. This contest is always held on the first Saturday following the Labor Day holiday. This year, 75 Ohio state parks will be open for the event. Operating hours will be from 1400 UTC to 2200 UTC (10 AM to 6 PM ET). To sign up and read the full list of rules, visit [OSPOTA.org](https://ospota.org).

On September 11, 2023, the [Handiham Radio Club](#) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, will operate a Day in the Park special event QSO party to honor the 56th anniversary of the Courage Kenny Handiham Program and Handiham Radio Camp. The Courage Kenny Handiham Program provides tools for people with disabilities to learn amateur radio and technology skills, and to earn their amateur radio licenses. The goal is to contact as many stations as possible throughout the United States and beyond. The exchange for this special event will be your name, state or province, and your country. Contacts will be confirmed via a commemorative Handiham special event QSL card, if requested. For a list of frequencies, times, and QSL card information, visit the ARRL Special Event Stations database at www.arrl.org/special-event-stations.

The Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados (the Colombia Amateur Radio

League, LCRA) will host a worldwide special call sign activation for their 90th anniversary. The event will begin at 17:00 UTC on Saturday, November 18, and will conclude at 23:59 UTC on Sunday, November 19, 2023. Female hams will activate 11 official stations with the following special call signs: 5K0LR, 5K1LR, 5K2LR, 5K3LR, 5K4LR, 5K5LR, 5K6LR, 5K7LR, 5K8LR, 5K9LR, and 5J3L. QSL card information and more information on the bands, frequencies, and modes can be found at Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados - LCRA - Alma mater of Colombian amateur radio since 1933.

Saturday, September 2, marks the 85th anniversary of the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, W1AW. It also marks the 154th anniversary of Maxim's birth. The station is located on the ARRL Headquarters campus in Newington, Connecticut. It [transmits bulletins and code practice sessions](#) and is usually the highlight of a member's visit to ARRL. There are guest operating hours each business day, and ARRL welcomes members to come operate under the historic call sign. Look for the 2024 ARRL wall calendar, featuring images from this iconic station, available soon.



The power switch and key to "Old Betsy", ARRL Founder Hiram Percy Maxim's spark gap transmitter that sits on his old executive desk, preserved in the entrance to W1AW. A framed photo of Maxim looks on. [Photo: Joe Buglewicz for ARRL]

**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.

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

Red Cross Safe and Well
www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/contact-and-locate-loved-ones.html

Facebook Safety Check
www.facebook.com/about/safetycheck

Hurricane Watch Net
hwn.org

VOIP Hurricane Net
voipwx.net

Amateur Radio at the National Hurricane Center
www.WX4NHC.org

FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency
www.fema.gov

Ready.gov - Plan ahead for disasters
www.ready.gov

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

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 Simples 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),

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 (search for Ten-Tec Legacy nets).

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, Buy or Find:

Looking for tower sections

Ham looking for a tower or pieces of Rohn 25 tower. If you have something to sell or to get rid of, please email:

Scott Pollard K4SWP at deputyscoot@gmail.com.

Aug 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!

No Charge for Ham's selling or looking for items.

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/UlsEntry/licManager/login.jsp](http://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/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

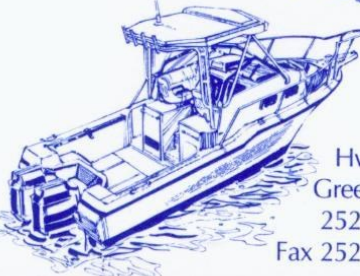
<http://www.pcra.us/>

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K4ZYD

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 Greenville, NC 27858 Fax (252) 321-2991

MARK'S MARINE, INC.



Mark Langley
 Mike Langley
KD4MTT

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 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

- Sept 9 [Ohio State Parks On The Air](#) (OSPOTA) contest 1400 UTC to 2200 UTC
 Sept 9-10 **Bike MS: New Bern**
 Sept 11 The [Handiham Radio Club](#) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, will operate a Day in the Park special event QSO part
 Sept 12 **BARC Picnic, Dave Woods** 6pm
 Sept 16 BARC Breakfast 9am
 Sept 14 **Pamlico** Meeting 7pm
 Sept 26 BARC Board 7pm Zoom
 Oct 10 BARC Meeting 6:30pm, **Speaker:** Dale Burmester, About FT8 Digital mode.
 Oct 14 BARC Breakfast 9am
 Oct 12 **Pamlico** Meeting 7pm
 Oct 20 - 23 Scouting Jamboree on the Air
 Oct 31 BARC Board 7pm Zoom Reports please for the Chatter
 Nov 14 **BARC Meeting and Elections for Board, 6:30 pm**
 Nov 9 **Pamlico** Meeting 7pm
 Nov 18-19 Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados (the Colombia Amateur Radio League, LCRA) will host a worldwide special call sign activation for their 90th anniversary.
 Nov 18 BARC Breakfast 9am
 Nov 28 BARC Board meeting 7pm
 Dec 14 **Pamlico** Meeting 7pm
 Dec 11 BARC **Christmas Party, 6 pm**, Emmanuel Baptist Church
 Dec 26 BARC—No Board Meeting

2024 Starts Here:

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:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Upcoming Section, State, Division Conventions and Hamfest

2023:

September 1-3, Shelby Hamfest, Cleveland County Fairgrounds. Info posted at <http://www.shelbyhamfest.org/>.

September 9-10, during which we will attempt to activate all 107 state parks cross North Carolina. Zach Thompson (KM4BLG) is the event leader. Information on the event can be found at <https://ncpota.org/>. A listing of the various state parks in North Carolina can be found at <https://ncpota.org/park-list/>. This will be a great event that gets hams on the air across the State and give operators an opportunity to visit and operate from our beautiful parks.

September 10, [ARRL Southern New Jersey Section Convention and Hamfest](#), Mullica Hill, New Jersey

September 22 - 23, [HRO Superfest](#), hosting the ARRL Wisconsin State Convention, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

September 23, [Red River Radio Amateur's 2023 Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Dakota Division Convention, West Fargo, North Dakota

September 23, [Spokane HAMFEST](#), sponsoring the ARRL Washington State Convention, Spokane Valley, Washington

SEPTEMBER 29-30, DX/CONTESTER MEETING IN PIGEON FORGE, TN.

Info can be found at <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fw4dxcc.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cbba58549153e4a8239f808db8407a1d4%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638248940543140172%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4Wg35r14LxUjmlDTGNcrTqtqm%2Fij%2BFbyjSIhooTNEg%3D&reserved=0>

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[7C&sdata=4Wg35r14LxUjmlDTGNcrTqtqm%2Fij%2BFbyjSIhooTNEg%3D&reserved=0](#)

October 6 - 7, [Slidell EOC Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Louisiana State Convention, Slidell, Louisiana

October 7, [Wichita Area and Kansas State Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Kansas State Convention, Wichita, Kansas

October 7, [71st Rock Hill Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL South Carolina Section Convention, Rock Hill, South Carolina

October 8, [Nutmeg Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Connecticut State Convention, North Haven, Connecticut

October 13 - 14, [Melbourne Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Florida State Convention, Melbourne, Florida

October 14, [ARRL Minnesota State Convention](#), Richfield, Minnesota

October 13 - 14, The New England Amateur Radio Festival (NEAR-Fest). The event is the largest of its kind in the Northeast and was once described as the "Woodstock of Amateur Radio." More information is available at www.Home-NEAR-Fest.com.

October 20 - 22, [Pacificon](#), hosting the ARRL Pacific Division Convention, San Ramon, California