



[WCARS.org](http://WCARS.org)  
August 2009

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

### President's Microphone...

This year's Field Day event went well at our former location at the AB Tech Enka campus. Thank you to our hosts, and to everyone who participated or visited us this year. Our annual Hamfest on July 25<sup>th</sup> at the Haywood County fairgrounds was a resounding success. WCARS faired very well financially, and all who visited seemed to enjoy our offerings this year. Thanks to everyone who helped make this year's event a special one indeed. Hope to see everyone at the next club meeting.  
73 Dean - k2jb

### Upcoming Events

August 8: Cape Fear ARS Swapfest, Fayetteville  
August 18: McGuire Nuclear Drill  
Sept 5 & 6: Shelby Hamfest, Dallas

### Net Manager for CN still needed

We're in serious need of some help with both the early and late sessions of the Carolina's Net. Check-ins, liaison stations, and net control operators are needed, but our most acute need is for someone to serve as net manager. Don't let your CW speed be a barrier. Sending stations will always slow to whatever speed you can copy and I'll bet after a few weeks on the net your CW speed will increase considerably! The CN nets cover both North and South Carolina, so your friends from

across the border are also needed. CN-Early meets on 3573kHz at 7:00pm and CN-Late meets on the same frequency at 10:00pm.  
NC ARRL Section News

### BCARES Disaster Drill

During the June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> drill, Buncombe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (BCARES) was able to:

- communicate locally on 2m simplex;
- establish HF, VHF communications at Buncombe EOC
- establish HF, VHF, Winlink and 2m packet communications at the Asheville Red Cross office
- establish local HF and VHF nets with liaisons to statewide HF and VHF nets
- assist Army MARS with their Winlink operation at Buncombe EOC

As with any exercise, we can improve our operations by critiquing our actions. Please think about the drill and tell me:

- 1-what worked? can it be improved? how?
- 2-what didn't work? why didn't it work? what can we do differently to make it work?
- 3-what should have been done that wasn't?
- 4-what was done that shouldn't have been?
- 5-what changes need to be made for the next time (hopefully a drill not the real incident! )

Thanks to all who participated.  
73 Dick K8SKX EC BCARES

## July 2<sup>nd</sup> Minutes...Bob - WD4CNZ

The July 2, 2009, general meeting of WCARS was called to order at 1931 hrs by President Dean Blair K2JB with an invitation to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Each attendee was then asked to introduce themselves by giving their name, callsign (if any) and QTH. 32 persons were in attendance for this meeting.

The Minutes of the June meeting were published in the latest issue of SMOKETEST. As there were no changes, additions, or corrections, a motion was made and voted to dispense with a reading of those Minutes.

Tickets for the 50-50 drawing were sold just prior to the opening of the meeting with 1/2 of the proceeds to go to the lucky winner and 1/2 going into the club's treasury.

Mr. Dan Henderson N1ND was a special member/guest for the meeting. Dan works at ARRL HQ in the capacity of Regulatory Information officer as well as keeping membership in WCARS.

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

A brief overview of Field Day activities was given by Dean K2JB with pictures shown that were received from several members at the event. WX conditions were described as "VERY HOT" throughout the event. Total points were still being calculated at meeting time. An update on totals will be forthcoming via the WCARS web page.

Dean presented comments about the status of repeaters on Mt. Mitchell and others and discussions with Blue Ridge Broadcasting. A future meeting in Charlotte is forthcoming to hopefully iron out problems with future operation and location of repeaters.

MOVAN update: The transmission "disintegrated" when trying to leave the Field Day site. An estimate of \$800 was given as cost for replacement/rebuilding. A motion was made and voted to allow the Executive Committee authorization to spend monies to repair the transmission as needed.

The Blue Ridge Bonanza Special Event Bike Ride is coming in September and WCARS is the "sponsor" for the last stop in the event.

An update was made about the Hamfest with some details about that many vendors are wanting spaces. July 24 is set up with July 25 as Hamfest date. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR SETUP AND OPERATION FOR THE EVENT.**

Everyone was asked to bring food items for the potluck dinner on set-up Friday evening.

Volunteers are **NEEDED** for concessions from purchase to operation. Three people are needed on the gate to sell tickets to the event.

A volunteer is needed as "POLE BARN CHIEF" to supervise and coordinate the spaces and operations in the pole barn.

Volunteers have signed up as "talk-in ops" with equipment and antennas.

Database phone number sheets were distributed for members to call attendees of previous years to the Hamfest to remind them/invite them to this year's hamfest.

Dan N1ND spoke on HR2160 which deals with pending legislation that can impact ham radio operations in housing developments. WCARS members are **ASKED** to write Senator Heath Schuler asking him to support HR2160 and PRB1.

An update was given by Dick K8SKX regarding the "earthquake drill" for Buncombe County and North Carolina the previous week. Buncombe County ARES teams were set up and participated. The drill was done from 0700 hrs on Tuesday into 1700 hrs on Wednesday. Communications were set up on 2M, 75M, and 40M cooperating with the Tar Heel Emergency Net with 80+ operators checking in. The event showed the worth of ham radio with actual communications links in the Raleigh area actually broke down (not part of the planned operations). Ham radio filled the "gap" and enabled operations to continue.

Norman Harrill reported that exams at the Hamfest would be given at the Clyde Fire Department with team from the Haywood ARC exam team.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn/voted. The meeting adjourned at 2043 hrs.

## Silent Keys

With deep regret WCARS records the loss of fellow amateur Bobbie Williams, who died July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009, after a period of declining health. Mr. Williams was retired from the US Navy as Chief Engineer and was also employed later in life by Newport News Shipbuilders. As an avid



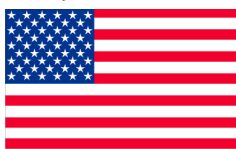
enthusiast of Ham radio, Bobbie held the call sign KG4KHH, and could routinely be heard on local nets, in addition to always attending the monthly club meetings. His deportment both on the air and in individual relations was a shining example of the finest in ham radio.



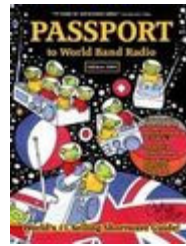
With deep regret WCARS records the loss of fellow amateur Riley T. Cumberland, who died unexpectedly on July 12, 2009 in Snowshoe, W.Va. Mr. Cumberland was a US Marine Corp. Veteran serving during the Vietnam era. He worked as an elevator constructor and was the owner of Mountain Elevator, Inc.



Riley was an avid amateur radio operator and a volunteer for emergency communication, using the call sign AF4SQ. His knowledge of radio and electronics theory was legendary. With a quick wit, knowledgeable look and infectious laugh, Riley would always leave those he touched feeling better about themselves and their place in life, often imparting one of his "Riley-isms".



73 KG4KHH and AF4SQ  
WCARS and the ham community will indeed miss each of you.  
N4SET



**Passport to World Band Radio:** In "Limbo" (Jul 20, 2009) -- The publisher of Passport to World Band Radio told readers that the future of the seminal SWL guide is in "limbo." Acknowledging on the

Passport's Web site that "solid content" is essential to the success of a publication, publisher Larry Magne cited "other considerations" as the impetus behind the decision to possibly cease publication. While Magne gave no exact reason for the decision, it reflects the decline in popularity of shortwave listening, as well as the availability of shortwave schedules on the Internet. Magne said that Passport to World Band Radio, which just released its 25th edition this year, will continue "to maintain the WorldScan® database and uphold all proprietary material. Among other things, this should help allow for an orderly return to production...should conditions allow. For Passport readers and our small team alike, this is a seminal moment. After all, Passport to World Band Radio goes back a quarter century and has had something like a million readers worldwide. But the future has its own rhythm that confounds prognostication. There may yet be more chapters to this story. Stay tuned."

ARRL



This 1960s era radio provided about 10 watts of crystal controlled AM, with a tunable receiver. The IF was not particularly selective but many of these kits were built. Simple to operate and with nothing like the facilities or range of modern radios.  
VKFAQ - VK1DA

## Field Day 2009

June 27<sup>th</sup> dawned with all indications the day would be hot. For those who gathered at the AB Tech Enka Campus for the annual event, hot would be the order of the day. Field Day (FD) for this year proved to be especially hot as participants set up their gear on the sun baked asphalt.



KN4ST's station is closely examined by KD4IMA, K7DXF and others.



K7DXF looks on as W4SKI assembles the beam for his band, to be mounted on the club van crank-up tower.

Several participants operated the bands through Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. FD results from ARRL should be available in the near future. N4SET



KG4OPM launches the retrieval line for a wire antenna with his trusty crossbow.



K4AVL assembles his homebuilt 20-meter vertical.



K2JB described the purpose of FD activities to visiting Asheville Mayor Terry Bellamy.

## Hamfest Calendar

**5-6 Sep** Shelby Hamfest, Shelby Amateur Radio Club, <http://www.shelbyhamfest.org>  
Talk-In: 146.88 & 147.12 Contact: Robby Hamrick, WA4RH Box 1408 Ellenboro, NC 28040 Phone: 828-453-9121 Email: [chairman@shelbyhamfest.org](mailto:chairman@shelbyhamfest.org) Dallas, NC Gaston County Park 1301 Dallas-Cherryville Highway Div: Roanoke Sect: North Carolina

## VE Exams

**01-Aug-** Sponsor: MARA CLUBHOUSE 146.985 Time: 9:00AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: LARRY S WITHROW (828)652-4195 Email: [AF4HX@CHARTER.NET](mailto:AF4HX@CHARTER.NET) VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: MCDOWELL ARA CLUBHOUSE EAST COURT STREET ACROSS STREET FROM COURTHOUSE REGISTER AT 8:30 AM MARION, NC 28752

**08-Aug-** Sponsor: KG4LVO Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: EDWIN A FLOWERS (828)342-5216 Email: [KG4LVO@YAHOO.COM](mailto:KG4LVO@YAHOO.COM) VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: ANDREWS PUBLIC LIBRARY- CONFERENCE RM 871 MAIN ST BUSINESS US 19 AT WALNUT ST TESTING FEE \$15 ANDREWS, NC 28901

**15-Aug-** Sponsor: LINCOLN COUNTY VOLUNTEER COMM Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: CLIFFORD H BROMMER (704)483-7291 Email: [WD4PIC@INFIONLINE.NET](mailto:WD4PIC@INFIONLINE.NET) VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: LIFE SAVING CREW HALL 322 N ACADEMY ST CELL PHONE: 704-634-4004 LINCOLN, NC 28092

Greenville, South Carolina - 146.61 **First Saturday of each Month**, 8:30 AM Red Cross Building - 940 Grove Road Walk-ins normally accepted Sue L. Chism, N4ENX 139 Mustang Circle Simpsonville, SC 29681-5753 864-967-0001

Asheville, North Carolina - 146.91 & 146.76 & 224.60 2:00 PM, **third Sunday, second month of quarter** Room 134, Elm Building - AB Tech Walk-ins only Steve Lanford, AG4BY 101 King St. Weaverville, NC 28787 828-645-3511 Michael Robinson, AD4XZ 99 High Point Rd. Weaverville, NC 28787 828-626-3270

Hendersonville, North Carolina - 146.64 & 442.450 Mountain Home Fire Department, Hwy 25 9:00 AM **Second Saturday of second month of quarter** Sid Hendricks, W4IOE 144 Duncan Creek Rd Fletcher, NC 28732 828-684-8130 Michael Parente, AI4GR PO Box 2577 Hendersonville, NC 28793 828-891-8970

**Contact VE for Exam Dates:**

**Burnsville, NC** - 147.375 Yancey County Public Library - Town Square Burnsville David McCarty, W4TDM 391 E. Main Street Burnsville, NC 28714 828-675-9044 Barry McKinney Rt 2 Box 1122 Burnsville, NC 28714 828-682-9270

**Columbus, NC** Wayne Ackerman, W3GYK 621 Laurel Lake Drive, Unit B-104 Columbus, N C 28722-7436 828-894-5542 Rutherford County, North Carolina - 147.24 Isothermal College, **Spindale, NC** F. Bruce Tessinear, KD4OJ P. O. Box 341 Henrietta, NC 28076 828-657-5464 A. B. Brackett, AB4E 117 Toney Rd Bostic, NC 28018 828-245-6334



**Hot Doggett 100 and Devil's Fork Metric Century Ride.** The Madison County ARC Team provided communications for

this annual event. Volunteer operators set up stations along the 100-mile route and provided essential communications for the event worker and riders. Allen Stines, KF4ZDS, [kf4zds@arrl.net](mailto:kf4zds@arrl.net), performed Net Control duties on the 224.360 repeater. While there were a few crashes involving injuries to riders, no other serious incidents arose during the entire ride. Madison County ARC thanks those who helped during this countywide event. N4SET

**WCARS Information Net** (Callsign W4MOE)  
6/29/09; with K2JB as NCS; 10 check-ins  
7/6/09; with K2JB as NCS; 13 check-ins  
7/13/09; with K2JB as NCS; 15 check-ins  
7/20/09; with N4SET as NCS; 16 check-ins  
7/27/09 with K2JB as NCS; 17 check-ins

## Rules for Rendering Hand Salute of U.S. Flag



New Law Allows Retirees and Vets to Salute Flag  
Traditionally, members of the nation's veteran's service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the

national anthem and at events involving the national flag only while wearing their organization's official headgear.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 contained an amendment to allow un-uniformed service members, military retirees, and veterans to render a hand salute during the hoisting, lowering, or passing of the U.S. flag.

A later amendment further authorized hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel. This was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on Oct. 14, 2008.

<http://www.military.com/benefits/resources/rules-for-rendering-hand-salute-of-u.s.-flag>

W4IYS - Scott

## HR 2160 (Jul 14, 2009)

On July 13, three more Congressmen -- John Boozman (AR-3), Bob Filner (CA-51) and Dennis Moore (KS-3) -- pledged their support for HR 2160, The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009. This brings the total number of co-sponsors to 18. Originally sponsored by Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee (TX-18), HR 2160 is also sponsored by W. Todd Akin (MO-2), Michael Arcuri (NY-24), Roscoe Bartlett (MD-6), Madeleine Bordallo (Guam), Bart Gordon (TN-6), Brett Guthrie (KY-02), Michael Honda (CA-15), Mary Jo Kilroy (OH-15), Zoe Lofgren (CA-16), Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO-9), Thaddeus McCotter (MI-11), Charlie Melancon (LA-3), Bennie Thompson (MS-2), Peter Welch (VT) and David Wu (OR-1).

ARRL

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

## The Amateur's Creed

The Radio Amateur is:

**Considerate**...never knowingly uses the air in such a way to lesson the pleasure of others.

**Loyal**...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to their fellow radio amateurs, their local radio club, and to the American Radio Relay league, through which Amateur Radio is represented.

**Progressive**...with knowledge abreast of science It is well-built and efficient. Operating practice is above reproach.

**Friendly**...slow and patient sending when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are marks of the amateur spirit.

**Balanced**...radio is their hobby. They never allow it to interfere with any of the duties they owe to their home, job, church, school, or community.

**Patriotic**...their knowledge and their station are always ready for the service of his country and their community.

Who wrote the Amateur's Creed?

*The Amateur Creed was composed in 1928 by Paul M. Segal - then 9EEA in Denver, and General Counsel of the ARRL. The creed has been updated a few times over the intervening years, to update the text and put it into contemporary terms. The Amateur's Creed appears in a number of ARRL publications such as the Handbook, and is just as valid today as it has been for nearly 70 years.*

K2JB

<b>THE SMOKE TEST</b>				
The Official Publication of the <b>Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc.</b> PO Box 1488, Asheville, NC 28802 <a href="http://www.wcars.org">www.wcars.org</a> W4MOE/146.910 - /PL 91.5 Spivey Mountain/Asheville				
2008 OFFICERS				
President	Dean Blair	K2JB	655-1830	<a href="mailto:k2jb@arrl.net">k2jb@arrl.net</a>
Vice-President	Michael Brown	KI4WCA	Unlisted	<a href="mailto:brownpiggin@gmail.com">brownpiggin@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	<a href="mailto:wncgeneao@aol.com">wncgeneao@aol.com</a>
Treasurer	Steve Emory	N4SET	658-0261	<a href="mailto:n4set@arrl.net">n4set@arrl.net</a>
Executive Committee	Dean Blair	K2JB	665-1830	<a href="mailto:k2jb@arrl.net">k2jb@arrl.net</a>
Executive Committee	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	<a href="mailto:elwood3@charter.net">elwood3@charter.net</a>
Trustee	Norman Harrill	N4NH	253-1192	<a href="mailto:nharrill@bellsouth.net">nharrill@bellsouth.net</a>
Quartermaster	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	<a href="mailto:elwood3@charter.net">elwood3@charter.net</a>
Awards Chair	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	<a href="mailto:wd4cnz@arrl.net">wd4cnz@arrl.net</a>
Public Information	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	<a href="mailto:wd4cnz@arrl.net">wd4cnz@arrl.net</a>
Hamfest 09	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	<a href="mailto:Elwood3@charter.net">Elwood3@charter.net</a>
Smoke Test Editor	Steve Emory	N4SET	658-0261	<a href="mailto:n4set@arrl.net">n4set@arrl.net</a>
American Radio Relay League Affiliate No. 0602 WCARS meets at 7:30 PM the first Thursday of each month at the Simpson Building at AB Technical Community College. Everyone is welcome to attend. Membership dues are \$20 per year payable in January.				

Net	Freq (MHz) offset/PL	Day	12 Hr Time	NOTES
WCARS Information Net	146.910-/91.5	Monday	9:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Oasis Shrine Radio Corp. Net.	145.190	Sunday	9:00 pm	
BRARC Net	146.640/91.5	Sunday	8:00pm	
Good Morning Net	146.760	M-W-F	9:00 am	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Madison Co. Am.Rad.Com.Tm	224.660/100	Tuesday	9:00 pm	Madison Co. Emerg. Comm. Net
Buncombe Co. Emerg Mgt Net	146.910/91.5	Wednesday	9:00 pm	Directed Net, ARES / RACES
Haywood County Roundtable	147.390/94.8	Monday	8:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Volunteer Net	147.180+/136.5	Friday	9:00 pm	Info, News and Swap Net
6600 Net	145.190	Saturday	9:00 pm	Many Check-Ins - Wide Coverage
Blue Ridge Traffic Net	146.610	Nightly	9:00 pm	May be ARES / SKYWARN in bad WX
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260	Sunday	9:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540	Monday	8:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Mount Mitchell Rag Chew Net	442.225+/107.2	Monday	9:00 pm	Directed, Everyone Welcome
SATERN Net	14.265	Daily	3:00 pm	Salvation Army Team Emergency Net
K4UUQ Morning Net	7.225	Daily	7:00 am	Rag chew
NC Morning Net	3.927	Daily	7:45 am	SSB Traffic Net
NC Evening Net	3.923	Daily	6:30 pm	SSB Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (early)	3.573	Daily	7:00 pm	CW (20-22 wpm) Traffic Net
Tarheel Emergency Net	3.923	Nightly	7:30 pm	Directed, NC Emergency Mgt/Traffic
Carolinas Slow Net	3.571	Nightly	8:00 pm	Slow CW (8-10 wpm) Traffic Net
Carolinas Net (late)	3.573	Nightly	10:00 pm	CW (15-18 wpm) Traffic Net