



WCARS.org
November 2009

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

President's Microphone...

The Shut-In Ridge Run is November 7th. We have several volunteers to work this event. This is an excellent opportunity to provide a public service and hone your emergency communications skills. The November meeting is important for the club to elect officers and make appointments to positions that will become vacant this coming year. All members should be present to make their voice heard. Hope to see everyone there.

73 Dean ~ k2jb

HR 2160 Gains More Cosponsors



As of October 14, five more Congressional Representatives -- Tom Latham (R-IA-4), Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA-46), Scott Garrett (R-NJ-5), Candice Miller (R-MI-10) and John Olver (D-MA-1) -- pledged their support for HR

2160, The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009, bringing the **total number** of cosponsors to **30**, including original sponsor Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX-18). HR 2160 is also sponsored by W. Todd Akin (R-MO-2), Michael Arcuri (D-NY-24), Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD-6), John Boozman (R-AR-3), Madeleine Bordallo (D-Guam), Geoff Davis (R-KY-4), Bob Filner (D-CA-51), Bart Gordon (D-TN-6), Brett Guthrie (R-KY-02), Maurice Hinchey (D-NY-22), Michael Honda (D-CA-15), Mary Jo Kilroy (D-OH-15), Zoe Lofgren (D-CA-16), Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO-9), Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI-11), Charlie Melancon (D-LA-3), Dennis Moore (D-KS-3), Bill

Posey (R-FL-15), Bennie Thompson (D-MS-2), Michael Turner (R-OH-3), Peter Welch (D-VT), David Wu (D-OR-1) and Don Young (R-AK).

Click here for information on how to encourage your Congressional representative to sponsor HR 2160.

From ARRL

Club Website www.WCARS.org is on-line again. The web host reinstalled club web pages from a prior date, which required only updating the pertinent sections to restore the site completely.

N4SET

Hamfest Calendar

Nov 7-8

Georgia Section Convention (Stone Mountain Hamfest and Computer Expo) Alford Memorial Radio Club, Gwinnett County Fairgrounds, 2405 Sugarloaf Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA

<http://www.totr-radio.org> Talk-In: 146.76 (PL107.2) Contact: Randy Bassett, KR4NQ PO Box 1282 Stone Mountain, GA 30086-1282 Phone: 770-978-9181 Fax: 770-978-9181

Email: hamfest@totr-radio.org

Nov 15

JARSFEST, Johnston Amateur Radio Society, American Legion, 605 North Wall Street, Benson, NC <http://www.jars.net> Talk-In: 147.270 +600 Contact: Bill Lambert, AK4H 8917 NC 50 N Benson, NC 27504 Phone: 919-894-3352 Fax: 919-894-3219 Email:

blambert1@mindspring.com

VE Exams

Nov 7

Sponsor: GASTON COUNTY ARS
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: CYRUS B ROWE
(704)864-4388

VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: GASTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
1555 E GARRISON BLVD
AUDITORIUM
GASTONIA, NC 28054

Nov 7 & Dec 5

Sponsor: MARA CLUBHOUSE 146.985
Time: 9:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: LARRY S WITHROW
(828)652-4195

Email: 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

Nov 14

Sponsor: KG4LVO
Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: EDWIN A FLOWERS
(828)342-5216

Email: 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

Greenville, South Carolina - 146.61 **First Saturday 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

WCARS Information Net (Callsign W4MOE)

9/28/09; with K2JB as NCS; 14 check-ins
10/5/09; with K2JB as NCS; 13 check-ins*
10/12/09; with N4SET as NCS; 15 check-ins**
10/19/09; with K2JB as NCS; 13 check-ins*
10/26/09; with K2JB as NCS; 12 check-ins*

*Simplex net, club repeater down

**Pisgah repeater (146.760), club repeater down

Senate Introduces Companion Bill to HR 2160

On October 6th, Senator Joe Lieberman (D-CT), along with Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), introduced Senate Bill 1755, The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009, similar to HR 2160 - - also called The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009... Right now, S 1755 has been read twice in the Senate chamber and referred to that body's Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. HR 2160 -- now with 27 sponsors -- is in the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

SB QST ARL ARLB031

ARRL



ARRL to Participate in the Combined Federal Campaign (Oct 21, 2009) -

- For the eighth year

running, the US Office of Personnel Management has designated the ARRL to participate in the 2009 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). In the past, this campaign for federal government civilian employees, US Postal Service workers and members of the military has generated more than \$160,000 for ARRL programs since it first became an option for giving by federal employees to the League. The CFC provides an easy way to support ARRL's effort to represent its members and all radio amateurs. Similar to the United Way, the CFC encourages individuals to pledge by payroll deduction to non-profit organizations of their choice. The ARRL encourages eligible radio amateurs to consider the League when designating campaign recipients. Payroll deduction through the CFC is an easy way for participants to support ARRL over and above their annual membership. Such contributions support programs that are not funded by member dues, enriching ARRL's ability to serve its members and all of Amateur Radio. Those wishing to select the ARRL to receive all or part of their payroll deductions should designate organization 10099 when completing their CFC donor forms. Donations to ARRL can be designated for Diamond Club contributions, the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund or the ARRL Education & Technology Program. Donors may also make unrestricted contributions to the League. One important note: Since the CFC does not provide the ARRL with the names of individual donors, the ARRL Development Office would appreciate a copy of the donor form to ensure that each contribution is applied according to the donor's wishes and the contribution or pledge can be properly acknowledged. The 2009 CFC ends December 15.

ARRL

New Israeli Battery

A new kind of portable electrochemical battery that can produce thousands of hours of power - and soon replace the expensive regular or rechargeable batteries in hearing aids and sensors and eventually in cellphones, laptop computers and even electric cars - has been developed at Haifa's Technion-Israel Institute of Technology...

This new battery can provide thousands of hours of power. The unique battery is based on silicon as a fuel that reverts to its original sand. The battery can also be left on the shelf for years and inserted into a device to provide immediate power...

The work was conducted with a grant from the US-Israel Binational Science Foundation, and an article on the battery was just published in the journal *Electrochemistry Communications*...

For the complete story by Judy Seigel Itzkovich, go to

<http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1255547719698&pagename=JPost%2FJParticle%2FShowFull>

From N4KOX - Russ

Not DX, but a list of **Famous / Infamous Hams** Al, N4ZA found this; K2JB forwarded it for your interest. Go to <http://www.qsl.net/w5www/famous.html> N4SET

BCARES SET

On October 31st, Buncombe County ARES will conduct a local Simulated Emergency Test (SET). The exercise will include message handling, tactical communications, repeater/simplex, on/off net operations, and other activities to determine what works and what doesn't.

K8SKX - Dick - BCARES EC

THE SMOKE TEST

The Official Publication of the
Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
 PO Box 1488, Asheville, NC 28802

www.wcars.org

W4MOE/146.910 - /PL 91.5 Spivey Mountain/Asheville

2008 OFFICERS

President	Dean Blair	K2JB	655-1830	k2jb@arrl.net
Vice-President	Michael Brown	KI4WCA	Unlisted	brownpiggin@gmail.com
Secretary	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wncgeneao@aol.com
Treasurer	Steve Emory	N4SET	658-0261	n4set@arrl.net
Executive Committee	Dean Blair	K2JB	665-1830	k2jb@arrl.net
Executive Committee	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
Trustee	Norman Harrill	N4NH	253-1192	nharrill@bellsouth.net
Quartermaster	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	elwood3@charter.net
Awards Chair	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wd4cnz@arrl.net
Public Information	Bob Dockery	WD4CNZ	254-0513	wd4cnz@arrl.net
Hamfest 09	Elwood Miles	KN4ST	253-4490	Elwood3@charter.net
Smoke Test Editor	Steve Emory	N4SET	658-0261	n4set@arrl.net

American Radio Relay League Affiliate No. 0602 WCARS meets at 7:30 PM the first Thursday of each month at the Simpson Building at AB Technical Community College. Everyone is welcome to attend. Membership dues are \$20 per year payable in January.

Net	Freq (MHz) offset/PL	Day	12 Hr Time	NOTES
WCARS Information Net	146.910-/91.5	Monday	9:00 pm	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Oasis Shrine Radio Corp. Net.	145.190	Sunday	9:00 pm	
BRARC Net	146.640/91.5	Sunday	8:00pm	
Good Morning Net	146.760	M-W-F	9:00 am	Informal, Everyone Welcome
Madison Co. Am.Rad.Com.Tm	224.660/100	Tuesday	9:00 pm	Madison Co. Emerg. Comm. Net
Buncombe Co. Emerg Mgt Net	146.910/91.5	Wednesday	9:00 pm	Directed Net, ARES / RACES
Haywood County 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

October 1st Minutes...Bob - WD4CNZ

The October meeting of WCARS was called to order at 7:29pm with President Dean Blair presiding. He then invited the group to join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Each attendee was then asked to introduce themselves with callsign and home QTH. As the Minutes were published in the latest issue of SMOKETEST, a motion was made, seconded, and voted to accept those as published in lieu of reading the Minutes. The Treasurer's report was presented with a balance after fees and expenses of \$10,123.64. The report was accepted with thanks.

Dean commented about the NC Mountain State Fair event and his observations of the reactions of interested visitors. The event was a cooperative effort with the Blue Ridge ARC (Hendersonville). The ILRP link was of particular interest by visitors. Ideas for next year's event were exchanged.

Norman N4NH spoke about planning new ham classes to start Jan 19, 2010. He asked everyone to pass the word and keep him informed of the numbers who may attend so that he can plan the needed facility size.

Dean showed pictures of the Blue Ridge Bonanza Special Event with Elwood Miles providing commentary and explained the problems with the rain cover. Dean made recommendations of what to consider for future operations as only 43 QSO's were made this year with weather as a factor for low numbers.

SET will be Oct 3 from 0800-1200 with the activation of the Tar Heel Emergency Net. The scenario was presented on the evening of Oct 2. Everyone was invited to participate with particular attention of using emergency power sources where possible.

The next SKYWARN class will start soon. Interested persons are asked to contact Duke W4DK@arrl.net if you want to attend.

It was voted that the Tentec Omni owned by WCARS be traded for a Yaesu unit to go into the MOE Van.

The Shut-In Run is set for Nov. 7. T-shirt sizes and volunteer names were recorded.

Nominations for club officers for 2010 were opened. The By-Laws state that persons being nominated must give their permission to be nominated. The following shows the status at this time:

President: (open), Vice President: (open), Secretary: Bob Dockery WD4CNZ, SmokeTest Editor: (open), Field Day Chair: (open), Hamfest Chair: (open), Webmaster: Steve N4SET. Additional nominees are VERY ENCOURAGED so all offices can be filled for next year by vote of the membership.

The Program for the evening was presented by Dean about the LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD (LoTW). (this program is available free of charge from ARRL). Dean explained the basics of the format, advantages, security and how the program differs from other programs. He recommended this program for all to use.

The 50-50 drawing was won by KI4FPC who then donated the money to the WCARS Treasury--thank you!

The doorprize (mug) was won by Keith Galyen.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm with refreshments following.

State ARES Meeting

The ARES meeting held October 17, was a huge success. Thanks to Paul, KD4OZI and Michelle, KD4YTU for hosting the event. There was extensive discussion of training requirements for ARES members. Radio amateurs and other volunteers working with emergency management must to be familiar with NIMS; FEMA has developed an online training program. A poll of other section managers conducted by N4IB indicated that only a couple of sections have made NIMS training mandatory for ARES membership. Some sections have instituted two levels of members in ARES - "active" and "reserve" - to differentiate between trained and untrained members. Most sections still have no training requirements, although everyone is encouraged to complete NIMS training. The consensus of the group at our meeting was to establish two levels of ARES membership. One tier would be for amateurs with the NIMS training required by state emergency management. "Trained" members would be the first deployed and in most cases the only amateurs sent to EOC's, shelters and other served agency locations, and the only members eligible for a field assignment outside their local jurisdiction. ARES "untrained" members would be used for support assignments, such as serving as liaison stations, and encouraged to become fully trained as soon as possible. NC ARRL Former Section Manager John Covington, W4CC, presented a draft of his study on Packet Radio and North Carolina ARES. After further revision, his paper will be posted at www.ncarrl.org.

Assistant SEC Tom Brown, N4TAB, discussed the Winlink system installed at the branch EOC's and the big success we had using Winlink during the earthquake drill in June. The meeting included discussion on the ICS-213 message form and ARES implementation. State emergency management requires its use. A modified ICS-213 form is used for handling messages on the Tarheel Emergency Net. An "operator's notes" section can be added to include pertinent information. From NC ARRL

Silent Key



With deep regret WCARS records the loss of fellow amateur and former WCARS member George W. Scott, K1HPH, of New Bern. Formerly of Asheville, Mr Scott died Sunday, October 11, 2009. He was born January 24, 1925, in Boston, Mass. He was a graduate of Burdette College, Boston and also served in the US Navy. George was a member of the W.C. Amateur Radio Society, Parkinson's Support Group and a private pilot. He was a member of First Baptist Church Asheville. The family requests that memorials be made to First Baptist Church, 5 Oak St., Asheville, NC 28801 or Hospice, 1423 S. Glenburnie Rd., New Bern, NC 28562.

www.WestFamilyFuneralServices.com

Radio Amateurs Killed in Plane Crash En Route to CQWW Phone Contest

In the early AM on October 21 -- a twin-engine plane carrying four Amateur Radio operators crashed into the woods, 250 yards from the end of the runway in Jedburg, South Carolina, 20 miles northwest of Charleston. The plane -- piloted by Peter Radding, W2GJ -- carried Ed Steeble, K3IXD, Dallas Carter, W3PP, and Randy Hargenrader, K4QO. The four men were on their way to the Bahamas to operate in this weekend's CQ World Wide Phone Contest as C6APR, competing in the Multi/2 category... "How quickly can a joyous event -- setting off with close friends in anticipation of a weekend of intense radio activity -- turn to unfathomable tragedy," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "As we mourn the loss of these four well-known members of our global Amateur Radio community, our hearts go out to their families..."

Pete, W2GJ, was president of the Angel Flight (<http://www.angelflight.com>) organization for the Southeastern United States.

From ARRL