



# THE GROUND WAVE

Official Journal of the Wayne County Amateur Radio Association  
**GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA** **146.850MHz REPEATER**

✦ KD4AAG Dave - President ✦ KS4LR Carl - Vice President ✦ KI4RK Kirk - Secretary ✦ WD4HTE Muss - Treasurer ✦  
KD4FV Ray- Trustee ✦ W4NZS Craven- Director ✦ W4WYV George- Director  
*March 2005* <http://www.qsl.net/k4cyp/> *ARRL CLUB*

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Spring is just a few weeks away. It is always a beautiful time of year. For most people it means pretty flowers, farmers in the field working the dark, damp soil to the surface, and getting the bright colors out of the closet. To us Ham's it is just as exciting. We get to mount the antennas, run coax, and listen to bands opening up on the HF radio. The most important seems to be Hamfest. We get to sell old equipment, buy different equipment, and see ideas that Ham's have come up with.

At the FrostFest near Richmond I saw one man buy a piece of equipment. You could see the excitement in his eyes as he carried it out of the building while the seller looked pleased to make the sale. One seller told me his wife told him he was not to bring some things back home. I bought a few cables, connectors, and fuse kits from him for 50 cents. After that I looked in the vehicle, I could imagine in few months I would be selling some of the stuff I bought after Rhonda had told me to get them out of the way and not to bring them back home.

You probably know the feeling. Like Spring, the club has made a few changes. We are planning our first March night meeting on Thursday, March 24 at 7:00. We will be meeting at Boondoggles, across from Blockbusters on Spence Ave.

There have also been some ideas passed around about making the 146.850 tone one that is the same as those located on repeaters near us. We could then add one tone card and talk on repeaters with an old radio that still has a lot of sentimental value. As we talked about the repeater it became clear that our members are really proud of the repeater and service it provides. A lot of good ideas were presented to help keep the WCARA repeater a proud part of our amateur radio history and service.

It was also mentioned that we have received tremendous support from Mr. Craven and the repeater crew that has worked with him. We are fortunate to have those that work to ensure WCARA's repeater represents us well.

The field day committee has secured the grassy area beside the

Berkeley Mall near French's Cleaners for a Field Day site. It would be helpful if several people would take a role and help with the Field responsibilities.

Albert's work on the Website and Jim's work on the newsletter are getting a lot of positive comments. Great work guys!

In *World Radio Magazine*, March 2005 issue on page 31, Jerry Wellman, W7SAR wrote. "Remember that people volunteer and get involved because they are allowed to make a difference. They're called. They're given some responsibility. They're given something to do. They're asked to offer input. They're listened to."

"If you want to get rid of your people, don't call them. Don't ask them to get involved. Ignore them. They'll go away".

I have openly sought input from our members, SERA, and other clubs. I have tried to be open and honest with everyone. Feel free to present your ideas and opinions to me, the directors, and other club members. See you at breakfast.  
73, Dave

## **Dates to remember:**

**SkyWarn Training at Boondoggles on Spence Ave, This Saturday March 12 at 7:30AM**  
**Charlotte Hamfest March 12-13**  
**North Carolina State Convention**  
**Mecklenburg ARS, March 12 & 13<sup>th</sup> contact**  
<http://www.w4bfb.org/hamfest>

**WCARA Quarterly Nighttime Meeting March 24 at Boondoggles, 7PM**  
**Raleigh Hamfest April 17**

**Wayne County Field Day June 25 at Berkley Mall**

Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air October 15, New Hope Methodist Church.

**MORE AMATEUR RADIO WEB SITES**

ARRL

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

Ham Radio On-Line

[www.hamradio-online.com](http://www.hamradio-online.com)

QRZ.COM

[www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

**Print your license**

<http://amateur.mailpen.net/Generate.html>

Albert Lioen N4ZFG managers Our very own

WCARA Site: <http://www.qsl.net/k4cyp>

**Ham License TESTING**

Triangle East Amateur Radio Association has testing in Smithfield. They test at 9:30 at the RED CROSS BUILDING in Smithfield.

It is located at on Third Street. Follow Hwy 70 Business to Smithfield, Turn left on 301 after going under the railroad bridge, go about 1/3 mile and turn right onto Third Street. The building on the right. Test in 2005 cost \$14. Contact Norman KA4PUV (919) 716-6813 (W) or (919) 269-6859 (H).

**This club also offers training and exams**

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club  
Based in Greenville, NC  
[www.qsl.net/w4amc/](http://www.qsl.net/w4amc/)

**Field Day Report**

I have been in contact with the folks at the Mall and it seems we will be able to use the field between Berkeley Mall and Eastgate for our field day operations. It is the same spot that the Mall uses for its fireworks display on the 4th of July. Lots of room and a few trees around for antenna supports. We could also rent a port-a-john for use during the activities. As you know, there is a handi-mart right across the street from this field for snacks, drinks, etc. Plenty of parking for ourselves and hopefully spectators...

More to come as the event gets closer...Ray, KD4FV

Local Amateur Radio Operators meet every Saturday morning from 7 until 8:30 at Central Lunch on Center Street. The meetings are open to anyone interested in Amateur radio, shortwave listening and radio electronics. Information: Dave Price 221-9993.

**CB Twenty**

Harold gives WCARA a 10% discount in return for advertisement by word of mouth and maybe a few newsletter adds.

Contact Harold at 919-778-4112. They are located at 214 S.Berkeley Blvd, just outside SJAFB Main gate. Don't forget to mention your membership in WCARA for 10% off.

**SKYWARN TRAINING THIS SATURDAY**  
**March 12 Breakfast Meeting at 7:30AM at Boondoggles on Spence Ave in Goldsboro**

We Just had our first round of severe weather for this year, with the hail and severe thunderstorms that passed thru on Tuesday March 8. Our training this Saturday is very timely.

Make reports on the 146.880 repeater for Central Carolina SkyWarn. Web Link: [www.ccskywarn.net](http://www.ccskywarn.net)

73 de W4DNA - Dave  
AEC Central Carolina SkyWarn  
ARRL VE  
ARRL ARECC Mentor  
[Ins378@arrl.net](mailto:Ins378@arrl.net)

## Minutes of the WCARA Business Meeting for February

### **Saturday Feb 26, 2005 at Central Lunch**

Dave Price called the meeting to order at 825. Dave Welcomed out newest members.

#### Announcements:

March 12 2005, a Skywarn meeting will be held along with our Breakfast Meeting at Boondoggles on Spence Ave, across from Texas Steakhouse. A breakfast buffet is available, and the cost including drink and tip will be around \$10.50.

Kinston Hamfest is Sunday, March 6, at the Kinston Fairgrounds, of NC 11 South. Muss has tickets available, cost \$4 each or 3/\$10 in advance, plus you get entered for the registration prize.

March 24 2005 at 7PM will be our first quarterly night time dinner meeting.

Will be held at Boondoggles on Spence Ave.

#### Old Business

Ray Lane and the field day committee have procured a site in the empty lot behind Berkeley Mall, off of Mall Drive. The site has trees on one side, is a grass field, and is within walking distance of food. Parking permission has also been secured.

A motion was made, and a unanimous vote taken to proceed with the WCARA/GARC joint field day at this location.

Items to be discussed in an upcoming meeting: Roger Casey suggested we rent a porta potty. Also, the committee will look into obtaining a boom truck to use with antennas.

#### Treasurers report:

Muss reported that there is \$860 in the treasury, and \$65 in an outstanding deposit. Total funds of \$925.

#### New Business:

Carl Deaver will head up a club raffle. Tickets will be \$1 each. Some sort of ham radio was suggested to purchase as the prize. The actual prize will be determined at a future meeting.

Due to the length of the following discussion, and the rapidity of the comments and difficulty in hearing and recording them all, the following is offered as a concise summary of the next issue.

President Dave Price then gave a dissertation on the merits of changing the 146.85 repeater tone to 100.0 Hz, so that older radios, boy scouts, and those with limited resources could use both 2 meter repeaters in Wayne county. He stressed that many new potential hams have been turned away by the \$200-\$300 entry level price tag of new rigs. It was felt that a more inexpensive entry level price would encourage and bring in more new and young hams. Dave held up a radio he said was obtained at the Richmond Virginia hamfest last week, that would fill the bill. The radio would be able to access all the county's repeaters if his suggestion was implemented, at a cost of less than \$50 including the antenna.

Secretary Kirk Ellis then spoke and added a couple of more reasons to implement a county wide tone plan, such as helping out in an emergency, being able to rapidly switch over and use the 145.33 repeater in case 146.85 was down again for an

extended period like last year. Also, we could equip the county EOC with an inexpensive radio, and in the event of storms or other emergencies, the standard tone would facilitate handling emergency traffic.

Next, Director at Large George Peacock spoke up. He presented the counter argument that the tone did not need to be changed, that this was not an inexpensive hobby, and that if someone could not afford the \$300 entry level for ham radio, that it was beyond their means as a hobby.

Ted Hall spoke up, and issued support for Dave's suggestion, as did Repeater Trustee Ray Lane. Paul Leeper and Glenwood Spence also offered verbal support for the change. The floor was then turned over to member Roger Casey.

Roger offered several supporting reasons for proceeding with the change and said that the club should do this, as it costs us nothing

A few other comments in support of the change were heard briefly by several other members.

One of the directors (Craven I believe) stated that this was a decision that rested with the board of directors. At this point, the item was referred to the directors. All seven were present, and the directors voted as follows:

Against changing the tone to 100Hz  
George Peacock  
Craven Malpass  
Wilbert Musselman  
Carl Deaver

In Favor of changing the tone to 100Hz

Dave Price  
Kirk Ellis  
Ray Lane.

The change to 100Hz was defeated.

Then, someone suggested a change by both clubs to 88.5 Hz to fit in with the SERA band plan of fall 2004, (since rescinded), might work, and that many other area repeaters were using 88.5.

Ray Lane, President of GARC, was asked by Secretary Kirk Ellis if GARC would be willing to make the change. He said he would have to discuss it with GARC's directors or members.

At this point, the meeting was adjourned at 859 AM.

#### Directors Meeting

After the meeting, the directors held an impromptu meeting, with the exception of Ray Lane, who had to leave for work. Discussion continued; 88.5 seemed to be a reasonable compromise position. Kirk Ellis, Dave Price, George Peacock and Carl Deaver all favored this solution. I did not recall Muss commenting on the proposal. Craven questioned if the issue should be studied further first. Kirk then asked for a vote; however, Craven and Dave indicated that the vote would be postponed, pending a response from GARC to see if they would be willing to change their tone to 88.5. Craven mentioned he may put the repeater back on carrier squelch on a trial basis and see if it has interference. The directors meeting adjourned at about 9:15 AM.

Respectfully Submitted

Kirk Ellis, KI4RK  
WCARA Secretary

## **SPECIAL NOTICE**

**Our Breakfast Meeting this Saturday, and our first quarterly night time meeting will be held at Boondoggles Restaurant. *Boondoggles is located at 335 North Spence Avenue in Goldsboro NC, in the Cobblestone Shopping Center, across the street from Texas Steakhouse. There is a meeting room in the back. Boondoggles offers buffet and menu items.***

***Reminder: Dues are due for 2005. See Muss WD4THE or [wamuss@juno.com](mailto:wamuss@juno.com)***

### **ITEMS FOR SALE\***

**811-ameritron amp for sale used about twice has 10-meter conversion completed. It's like new. Paid 600 sell for 400.00\$\$ Contact Paul Leeper (W0EME) 919-778-5716**

**Yaesu FT230R 2 Meter Mobile Radio, 25 Watts, Synthesized, Great inexpensive radio for new hams or those on a budget.**

**Note: I'll add the Ramsey \$10 CTCSS encoder to it if you will get the encoder kit from Ramsey. This will let you work area repeaters that require tone. Contact Kirk Ellis, KI4RK 919-242-6000 or [e.kirkellis@netzero.com](mailto:e.kirkellis@netzero.com)**

**50 foot windmill tower, galvanized complete with the following antennas. Hy-gain TH-7. HS 3 Element 17 Meter beam all stainless Hardware , rotator, all cables Two meter vertical, etc. 1 Kenwood 2 meter mobile 50 watt 100.00 See Henry Simmons W4HS, 735-0972**

**FT-100D Mobile 2 thru 160 meters (New \$800) Remote Cable for detaching control head (New \$70) Sale Price \$650.00 Contact Carl Dever KS4LR at 751-1779 If not home, leave message.**

**Lots more stuff for sale at [www.eham.net](http://www.eham.net) and <http://swap.gth.com/>**

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\*Please let us know when these items are sold. These ads for three months . Call or email to renew them.

### **NOTE**

**Dave, KD4AAG is looking for Volunteers to call the Tuesday Night. Please contact Dave**

**Interim Editor: Kirk Ellis..Articles, announcements, ads for items for sale (ham related) and editorial comment are welcome. Please contact me at [e.kirkellis@netzero.com](mailto:e.kirkellis@netzero.com)**