

The Feedline.

Volume 2014, No. 8

Web site: www.qsl.net -- Web Guru: Susan, WA4AKB; Club call sign: N4NC; Trustee: Will, K4IWW; Pres. Larry, KD4HSL; V.Pres. Jim, W4VCF; Sec'ty Don, KW4DON; Tres. Herb, W3HL. Dues: \$10 from April to March.

The August meeting of the Cary Amateur Radio Club will be held on Thursday, August 28, at the White Plains UMC, 313 SE Maynard Rd., Cary, NC, in the lower level of the Activities Building, which is behind the Church Building. The meeting will start on or after 7:31 pm. The program this month will be presented by Paul Stroud, AA4XX, active in and a supporter of QRP radio (low power, >5 watts). While some would say that life is too short for QRP, Paul will certainly show some techniques applicable to all aspects of Amateur Radio.

For those of you who have email capability, the Cary Amateur Radio Club will be sending meeting notices (and recent news items) in a PDF file called "The Feedline." This is a resurrection of the old Feedline that was sent out as hard copy via the USPS, years ago. Now, we are avoiding the printing and mailing costs of even the postcards we used in the interim. Some of you may be receiving this having not previously received a postcard. Now, we want to include as many as we can to enlarge the foot print of Amateur Radio.

Notice: If you are receiving this document via the US Post Office AND you have an email address, send an email to W3HL@ARRL.NET giving your name and call sign, so you can be added to the distribution list for the PDF file.

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August 23: CFARS Swapfest, 16th Annual, Fayetteville, NC,
<http://www.cfarsnc.org/>

August 30-31, Shelby Hamfest, Shelby, NC, Labor Day weekend.
<http://www.facebook.com/ShelbyHamfest>
Order Tickets online: www.shelbyhamfest.org



16th Annual Ole Fashioned
CFARS SwapFest
Sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society
Fayetteville, North Carolina
Saturday
August 23, 2014
8:00am to 12:00 noon
Cumberland County Shrine Club
7040 Ramsey St (US Hwy 401 N)

No Admission!! No Fee for Tables!!!
Please help us keep this event free
by placing a monetary contribution in
the donation box so we can cover the rent
on the building!!!

Talk-in: K4MN Repeater 146.910 (-) CTCSS 100Hz

VE Test Session Walk-ins Only Registration 9:00am Testing 9:30am

Information and Table Reservations: David KR4OE kr4oe@nc.rr.com
(910)624-1394

ARRL VE Testing: Pat N4UGH n4ughpat@aol.com
(910)425-8003

Set-up begins at 6:30am. If you need tables please call or email in advance. On the morning of the Swapfest see David KR4OE for tables.

Table Reservations highly recommended. All tables used last year.

Tail Gating available - - also FREE!!!



Dear Larry Schroeder,

I am the volunteer coordinator for the Raleigh office of the National MS Society. We are looking to recruit additional HAM and SAG support for our Bike MS: Historic New Bern Ride, which is scheduled for September 6-7, 2014 in New Bern, NC.

As you are the president of Cary Amateur Radio Club, I was hoping you would be willing to share information regarding this event with your membership. I have attached a copy of our HAM/SAG recruitment flyer. We would also be interested in sending a staff person or volunteer to your next organization meeting. If this would be possible, please let me know what date, time, and location would work best for you.

Any volunteers who would like to register can contact me at diane.hartley@nmss.org or 919-792-1014 or register online at www.bikemsnewbern.org <<http://www.bikemsnewbern.org>>.

Thank you, and we look forward to hearing from you. Diane Hartley

From the August 14, 2014, ARRL Newsletter
The HF Spectrum is likely to have more elbow room in the future!!!

Shortwave Broadcasting "of Marginal and Continuously Declining Impact," Committee Concludes

The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) Special Committee on the Future of Shortwave Broadcasting foresees a dim outlook for the medium. The Committee this month released its assessment of the current and projected use of shortwave radio as a platform for programming by US international media.

"United States international media must optimize delivery by audience/market," one main finding concluded. "While there is still a critical need for shortwave in key countries, it is a medium of marginal and continuously declining impact in most markets." The report said that even in countries where shortwave radio will enjoys significant usage levels, "audiences will migrate to other platforms as they become more accessible."

Among other things, the Committee reviewed audience-based research, including analysis of user experiences and user choices, as well as opportunities and limits of the medium. It also examined "the characteristics and listening experience of shortwave users in the BBG's target markets, the use of shortwave radio by the BBG's networks, the networks' relative success in reaching their target audiences through shortwave, and the costs of operating the BBG's shortwave transmitting facilities."

The panel recommended that the Broadcasting Board of Governors take "an aggressive approach to reduce or eliminate shortwave broadcasts where there is either minimal audience reach or the audience is not a target audience based on the BBG's support of US foreign policy."

The report said that its evidence suggested that declining use of shortwave radio is primarily due to the availability of high-quality content on "preferred platforms" such as AM and FM radio, podcasts, and mobile streaming, which are more widely used for audio consumption.

The committee found that shortwave use does not increase during times of crisis. "Audiences continue to use their existing platforms (TV, FM, and the Internet) or seek out anti-censorship tools, including online firewall circumvention, private chat software, flash drives, and DVDs to access content," the report said.

The report also said that shortwave radio was "a relatively expensive platform to operate and maintain" and that digital shortwave radio (ie, Digital Radio Mondiale or DRM) "is unlikely to become an established mass media distribution methodology in enough of the BBG's current or future markets to justify the costs."

The committee said it largely supports the reductions in shortwave radio broadcasts previously approved by the Board. Those include recent cutbacks in a number of Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and Radio Free Asia broadcasts. But, the committee added that given the current situation in Ukraine and nearby states with significant Russian-speaking populations, it recommended that the BBG revise its fiscal year 2014 operating plan to ensure that "shortwave broadcasts in Russian to Russia and the Caucasus be continued at current levels, subject to re-evaluation during FY16 budget formulation processes."

A fact sheet also is available. -- *Thanks to Southgate Amateur Radio Club News via G0SFJ*