

Feedline



www.qsl.net/n4nc/

The Voice of The Cary Amateur Radio Club N4NC

April 2001

Next Meeting:

Thursday, April 26, 2001, approximately 7:31 p.m. at White Plains United Methodist Church. Talk-in on 145.39. The program will be a talk and an on-site foxhunt presented by the Piedmont Trackers.

A tribute to W4FNB – SK

We regrettably acknowledge the loss of our beloved club member Bill Hales, W4FNB. Tributes to Bill can be found on the CARC web page at <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc/w4fnb.html>.

FCC advises several hams about transmit-frequency QRM during split operation:

The FCC recently sent advisory notices to several hams who may have caused QRM on their transmitting frequencies while operating split to work SSB DX on 40 meters. The complaints stemmed from operations during February. "While this may not have been malicious interference, please be advised that amateurs must operate in accordance with Section 97.101 of the Commission's rules, which sets out the general standards for operation of an Amateur Radio station and specifically covers frequency sharing and interference," FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth wrote. Since most of the rest of the world only has access to 7.000 to 7.100 MHz--still in the US CW subband--US stations working 40-meter SSB must listen for DX stations in the US CW band while transmitting "up" within the US 'phone allocation. (ARRL Web News 04/04/01)

Thought for the Day

IF THE AUTOMOBILE HAD FOLLOWED THE SAME DEVELOPMENT AS THE COMPUTER, A ROLLS-ROYCE WOULD TODAY COST \$100, GET A MILLION MILES PER GALLON, AND EXPLODE ONCE A YEAR KILLING EVERYONE INSIDE.

--- Robert Cringely

FIELD DAY NEWS

Preliminary field day discussions have been held with Glenn Crissman, KF4RDN, the President of W4ATC, the Amateur Radio Club at North Carolina State University. The discussions centered around a joint venture between N4NC and W4ATC. This joint adventure would be held at the NCSU Faculty Club picnic area. This joint adventure has been accepted by the StARS group and planning will be commenced in the near future. Currently, it is anticipated that a 2A station set-up will be used with a possible UHF/VHF station. With active participation and a large turn-out, this Field Day should provide fun and the chance to provide elmering to amateurs with limited experience in HF communications. Please provide feedback concerning the manning of stations, providing equipment, support and manpower.

Possible Section Manager Visit

While visiting the booths at the Charlotte HamFest, a discussion was struck up with Will Harper, K4IWW, and John Covington, W4CC. John is the current Section Manager of North Carolina. During the conversation, John noted that he would like to visit the CARC May meeting. Follow-up discussions with John will be conducted during the month of April to finalize plans. Please make arrangements to attend this meeting for a chance to meet and talk Amateur Radio with the Section Manager and how possible plans or changes might affect the Amateur community. Bring a friend and lets have a large turn-out.

CARC Meeting Minutes - 22 Mar. 2001

The meeting was called to order by Mike, WA4KE, at 7:35 P.M. He welcomed all, and then reminded us that the 2001 dues are due in March. An attendance sheet was circulated by Lee, N4AJF.

Susan, WA4AKB, talked about the CARC web page. It is hosted on qsl.net, and this part of qsl.net is supported by donations. A \$20.00 donation by CARC was approved, for 2001. Will, K4IWW, spoke briefly about the List Server.

Swap Fest - Will, K4IWW, reported on the status of the swap fest. We have workers signed up, flyers distributed, an ad in the SERA Journal, and some dealers registered.

Treasurers Report - by Susan, WA4AKB. She reported as follows:

Checking - \$1845.20

Savings - \$1247.15

Cash - \$ 45.40

Total - \$3137.75

Field Day - Mike, WA4KE, brought up Field Day. We are trying to find another location, as the feeling was that Bond Park has outgrown us. Herb, W3HL, mentioned the Town Hall site as a possibility. Other sites mentioned were Umstead Park, or a joint effort with the NC State club at N. C. State. This will be re-addressed at our next meeting. Mike, WA4KE, is looking into a Czar for this year.

The formal meeting was ended, and refreshments were available in preparation for the auction. Dues were also collected at this time.

The March program was the Annual CARC Ham Auction. The rules were set out by Ed, AB4S. Then the auction was ably conducted, with the auctioneers being Will, K4IWW, Ed, AB4S, and Charles, KE4CDI, with the able assistance of Herb, W3HL, as person in charge of staging items to be auctions. Most of the junk was sold, with several items bringing surprising amounts of money. A good time appeared to be had by all.

The next meeting will be held on April 26, 2001.

Lee H. Swanson, N4AJF
Secretary

FOX HUNT INFORMATION

Date: Sunday, April 29, 2001

Time: 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDST

Location: Schenck Forest in Raleigh, across from the NC Museum of Art. Visit <http://www.qsl.net/nz0i/> for detailed directions to the forest.

Format: on-foot style hunt, with at least three synchronized transmitters on 146.565 MHz placed in the forest. You can begin the hunt anytime between noon and 1:30 PM.

Entry: Everyone is welcome! There will be a charge of \$4 per individual (or group hunting together) payable to the Backwoods Orienteering Klub (BOK) who is sponsoring this event. The entry fee entitles you to an excellent map and a score card.

Bring: your two-meter hand-held or scanner plus a portable beam and attenuator if you have them. Direction-finding gear will also be available for loan.

BOK will be offering two free classes: an Introduction to Intermediate Orienteering Class, and a Beginners Orienteering Class. Both classes will start at 12:30, and last 30 to 45 minutes. You can find out more about BOK, orienteering, and their classes at the BOK web site: <http://www.treklite.com/bok/>.

Questions? e-mail cscharlau@intrex.net

SHORTWAVE CORNER

British Broadcasting Corporation, the BBC

Since it was first formed as a company in 1922, five years before it received its first Royal Charter and became the British Broadcasting Corporation, the BBC has been a world leader in programme production. It has pioneered communications in radio, television and online technologies. These pages reveal some of the BBC's rich heritage - the great programmes of the past, the big themes of the present and the innovating spirit in which we enter the future. The BBC's landmarks are part of the tapestry of our lives.

Go to the following link for more information:

www.bbc.co.uk

Also, visit the BBC's radio history link:
www.bbc.co.uk/thenandnow/#

RADIO SAFETY PAGE

This page will continue to be a regular staple of each Feedline edition. Its purpose is to ensure each reader is reminded of the safety aspects involved with this hobby. These articles will center around the National Electrical Code, OSHA Accidents Reports and general safety guidelines. If you have any subject which may be of interest to the readers, please send an email message to Mike Lewis, wa4ke@earthlink.net.

Tower Safety

Along with the warm weather which accompanies the spring, so does the increase construction on communication towers. Placing a tower in one's yard not only requires location planning but also construction planning. In my opinion, one of the most important activities of tower construction may go unplanned. That activity is the contingency plan.

What if the tower person becomes sick, incapacitated or injured? This question probably never crosses the tower team's agenda. Each person thinks himself to be invincible and able to withstand physical pain in order to complete a job.

Is the ground crew able to rescue the tower person. Is the correct rescue equipment available? The lineman's belt, which many tower climbers use, is not designed for rescue work. An accident on the tower is the wrong time to check your first-aid credentials. Also, assembly of a tower work puts a large strain on the body. A person not physically fit or recovering from a illness should never climb a tower. A slight mistake and the law of gravity will ensure a quick return to earth.

Is the equipment used to ensure personnel safety kept separate from the tower assembly equipment. One of the main rules in rescue work is to ensure personal safety equipment is kept separate from other equipment and this all equipment must be in prime operating conditioning. (Translation: Don't use your personal securement carbiners to pull trees off of your roof.) Remember, your life and the life of your tower team could depend on it.

This contingency list could continue on for pages. The "what-ifs" may be large and too numerous to count but a plan could prevent a loss of a life. The purpose of this hobby is to enjoy Amateur Radio not dread the day that an accident ended the hobby for yourself or a friend.

For more information on tower accidents, go to the OSHA website, and search for tower accidents. <http://www.osha.gov/cgi-bin/inv/inv1>