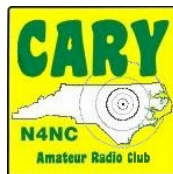


# Feedline



www.qsl.net/n4nc/  
N4NC@arrl.net

The Voice of The Cary Amateur Radio Club N4NC

August 2002

## CARC FEEDLINE

**Editor --** Keith Zeringue, W4KAZ  
w4kaz@arrl.net

The deadline for submission to the Cary Amateur Radio Club FEEDLINE newsletter is the second Thursday of the month. Information should be forwarded by e-mail to the editor at w4kaz@arrl.net.

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### CARC Officers for 2002

**President** Ed Stephenson, AB4S  
**Vice Pres.** Clare Owens, N2RJB  
**Secretary** Lee Swanson, N4AJF  
**Treasurer** Susan Jones, WA4AKB

### Other 2002 Volunteers

**N4NC Trustee** : Will Harper, K4IWW  
**Swapfest Czar:** Alf Johnson, KQ4FP  
**Field Day Czar:** Herb Lacey, W3HL  
**Listserv admin:** Will Harper, K4IWW  
**Website admin:** Susan Jones, WA4AKB

### CARC Contact Information

Mailing Address:  
Cary ARC  
P.O. Box 53  
Cary, NC 27512  
E-mail: n4nc@arrl.net  
Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc/>

## Pheedline Phun Phacts

Kaz, W4KAZ

Thanks to Eric Haywood, KG4CXW, of Durham, for his work in getting Congressman David Price as a co-sponsor of HR 4720 the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act", which relates to the antenna and covenant issues. Good work Eric!

The dog days of summer....or was that "mosquito" days? It's mostly the latter around my house, especially after the much needed July rain, which luckily waited until after the Swapfest to begin (but just barely!). The rain has disappeared, but the 'skeeters are still here.

The 2002 Swapfest seemed to go off without any major problems. There was a bit of a tense moment providing electricity for "The Signman", but a bit of re-arrangement and duct taping of an extra extension cord to a different outlet put him in action long before the doors opened to the public.

This years' indoor area had a good selection of used HF gear available, as well as the relatively normal HT fare. All indoor tables were spoken for as the doors opened to the public.

The outdoor flea market area was a bit underutilized, but there was a good overall turnout. I was able to find a nicely over built homebrew antenna tuner out in the parking lot, for a not too-unreasonable price (thanks Dave!).

Congratulations to the winner of our Grand Prize drawing, KG4MYI, David. Enjoy that mobile rig!

**The program** for the August meeting will be "Antenna Tuner 101", by Herb, W3HL. Transmatches? Reactance Tuner Outers? T networks? Tank circuits? Shunt feeds? L networks? Pi networks? If you can tune a random wire, can you tuna fish????? Come find out. (Bring yer own fish...just kidding...)

Also, come to the meeting to find out how we did at Swapfest 2002.

# Swapfest 2002

Stop! Check in....



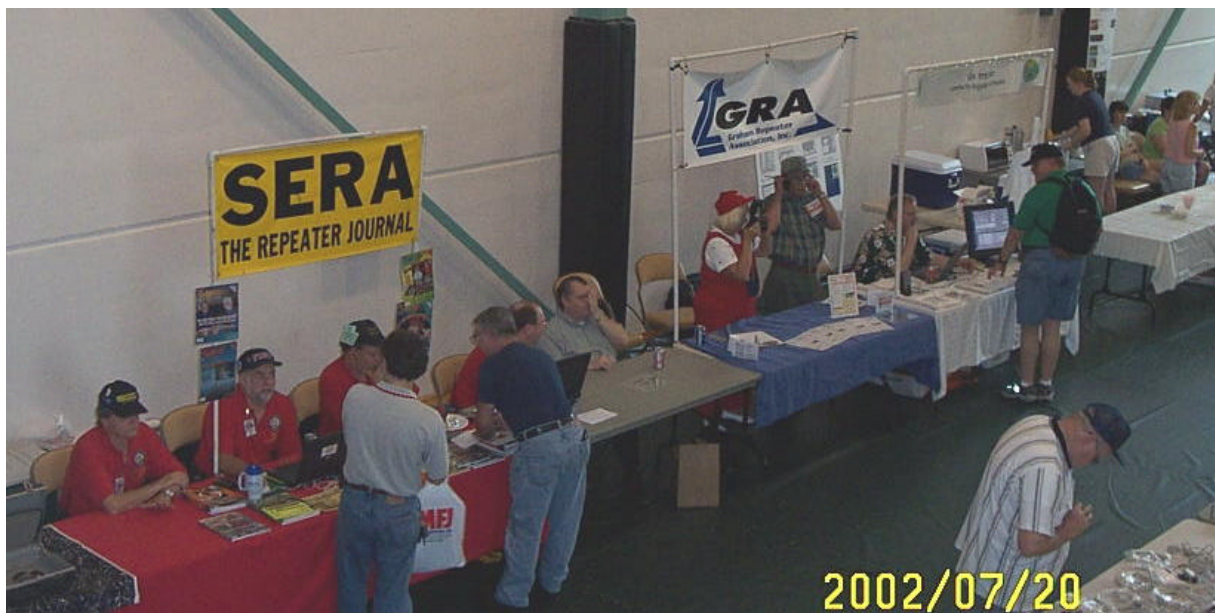
for "Sunrise over the tail-gaters"



Some of this years' Vendors....



and some of the groups





**and a fine selection of boat anchors, too!**



**The payoff, a fully stocked hamfest!**



## Section Manager Makes Presentation to Cary ARC



North Carolina Section Manager John Covington, W4CC (on left), during our 2002 Swapfest presents the Cary ARC with a certificate recognizing 25 years of membership in ARRL.

Accepting is Cary ARC president, Ed, AB4S (center) with Al, KQ4FP (right), 2002 Swapfest Czar looking on.

## Shelby Hamfest—Labor Day Weekend

It's that time of year again...yep, already! Make plans now. The website for more info is <http://www.shelby.net/n4fan/> (This link will re-direct you to the correct site). Place is the same, Cleveland County Fairgrounds, August 31<sup>st</sup> and Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002.

## Virginia Beach Hamfest

There is a new location and a date change for the Virginia Beach Hamfest. The dates are September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, and the location is the Pembroke Mall, exit 17B North off Rte 264 East. See their website at <http://www.vahamfest.com> for complete details.

## Is The “Hamfest” Becoming An Endangered Species ?

Kaz, W4KAZ

The ARRL reports that attendance at the Dayton Hamvention dropped 5 percent to 24,832, and almost 4000 less than the year 2000 attendance of 28,804. (Peak Hamvention attendance was 33,669 in 1993).

Wayne Williams, K4MOB, wrote an excellent article on this subject (SERA Repeater Journal, November 2000, also available online at <http://www.vahamfest.com/article.htm>).

I would add one observation to those made by Wayne. E-bay. The E-bay area for ham gear is very active, and sellers there seem to get what I consider outrageous prices for their used gear. It's very difficult for a hamfest to compete with a venue such as E-bay for a seller. My guess is that the day of bargain buys on used gear at hamfests will soon go the way of the buggy whip. I sure hope that I am wrong.

## Fuel Cell Update

Kaz, W4KAZ

Well, it would appear that a company called MTI Micro, a subsidiary of Mechanical Technology has developed prototypes using Direct Methanol Fuel Cell technology, which they have licensed from Los Alamos National Laboratory. Currently, they appear to be competing with Casio, Toshiba, Hitachi, and Motorola to get the product on the market by 2004. Stay tuned...but don't toss the NiMh batteries out yet! See [infoworld.com](http://www.infoworld.com) for the full report by Matt Berger <http://www.infoworld.com/articles/hn/xml/02/08/08/020808hnmit.xml?0809fram>

## **SERA Gets K4MOB Memoriam Vanity Call**

Frank A. Lynch, W4FAL, SERA NC Vice Director

The SouthEastern Repeater Association, Inc., was granted K4MOB on July 23, 2002 as an in memoriam vanity call. K4MOB was the station license of Wayne Williams (SK), the editor of the Repeater Journal for over 23 years, and a familiar face for many many years at area hamfests.

Gerry Williams gave me her permission to apply get Wayne's call using the "club in memoriam option" for SERA, and we are very proud to have it continue to be heard on the air. SERA has a 75 meter net on 3977 @ 8:30AM on most Saturday mornings. Also look for K4MOB on the air on 146.55 at most NC hamfests.

## **TEARA Testing Sessions Relocate Temporarily**

Norman, KA4PUV

The location for the Triangle East Amateur Radio Association (TEARA) August through November VE sessions in Smithfield, NC is being changed from the Smithfield Public Library to the Smithfield Fire Station due to library renovations. Dates and times remain the same.

The fire station is located about one block from the library on Fourth Street, near it's intersection with Market Street (US 70 Business). If you are coming west from Raleigh, it will be a right turn from Market onto Fourth. From Goldsboro, it will be a left turn. (NOTE: Some intersections downtown do not allow left turns. I'm not certain about this one, so you may need to circle the block to get onto Fourth.) Directions will be posted on the library doors on exam days directing people to the fire station, and staff will be aware of the move as well.

Dates for the remainder of the year are as follows:

- August 17
- September 21
- October 19
- November 16

All sessions begin at 9:30 am.

We should be returning to the library in January 2003 after the renovations are completed.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Norman Young at [normany@m...](mailto:normany@m...) or [ka4puv@a...](mailto:ka4puv@a...)

## **SignMan of Baton Rouge Adds CARC**

Rick, KV5A

We have added the Cary ARC name badge to our web site. Please visit:  
[www.thesignman.com/clubs/index.html](http://www.thesignman.com/clubs/index.html)

and then click on the link to the Cary Amateur Radio Club web page which will take you to:  
[www.thesignman.com/clubs/cary.html](http://www.thesignman.com/clubs/cary.html)

We welcome your suggestions and comments regarding the information on the page. Please let us know if you would like to change anything on your page.

Editor's note: He's also added pages for the Durham FM Association and Brightleaf ARC...W4KAZ  
<http://www.thesignman.com/clubs/durham.html>  
<http://www.thesignman.com/clubs/brightleaf.html>

## Rep. David Price Co-Sponsors HR 4720

"Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act"

Gary Pearce KN4AQ, NC Section Public Information Coordinator

Thanks to efforts by Eric Haywood KG4CXW of Durham, Congressman David Price (D-NC) has agreed to co-sponsor the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act, H.R. 4720. This bill would expand PRB-1 antenna protection to cover private "CC&R" contracts enforced by homeowners associations. Price is the representative for North Carolina's 4th US Congressional District, covering most of the Triangle.

Introduced on May 14 by Rep Steve Israel (D-NY) at the request of the ARRL, H.R. 4720 consists of one sentence:

For purposes of the Federal Communications Commission's regulation relating to station antenna structures in the Amateur Radio Service (47 CFR 97.15), any private land use rules applicable to such structures shall be treated as a state or local regulation and shall be subject to the same requirements and limitations as a state or local regulation.

More information on H.R. 4720 can be found on the ARRL web site:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2002/05/14/102/>

Haywood wrote to Rep. Price in early June, asking him to co-sponsor the bill. Price responded with a concise analysis of the bill, showing that he understood it and its importance to Amateur Radio. Price is a co-sponsor of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act, H.R. 817, which is also currently before Congress.

Price was concerned, however, that "such a task would be more difficult than reasonably accommodating modern satellite television dishes, and I would like to know more about how reasonable accommodation might be defined in this case."

Haywood replied that accommodation wouldn't be that hard. He said Amateurs are resourceful in ways to erect antennas that are difficult to see, but that when these antennas are eventually discovered in a "restricted" environment, the Amateur is forced to take them down. He concluded, saying, "reasonable accommodation could be defined as 'anything other than outright refusal to work towards a reasonable and mutually beneficial agreement.'"

To this, Rep. Price responded,

"I am convinced by your description of creative ways to accommodate the placement of amateur radio antennas in neighborhoods subject to private land use agreements. As a result, **I have decided to cosponsor H.R. 4720.**"

Sincerely,

David Price, Member of Congress

The fate of H.R. 4720 is uncertain, of course. Historically, Amateur Radio legislation has not fared well in Congress, usually dying without action at the end of a congressional session. This bill's chances will improve if all Amateurs write to their representatives asking them to support it by co-sponsorship. ARRL President Jim Haynie W4JPB said, "It becomes important for all of us to write your congressman, call your congressman and voice your support. This will have to be a grassroots effort, and we're going to pull out all the stops."

The ARRL requests that you send a copy of that mail to "ccr-bill@arrl.org."

## The Amateur's Code Element # 5

By Murray Merner, K4MHM from Greenville, North Carolina  
Reprinted by permission from October 2000 BARC Ham Chatter  
(<http://www.qsl.net/w4amc/hc/hc0010.html>)

The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M Segal, W9EEA in 1928. Every month one of the six elements of the code will be covered. The Code is a good guide for good Amateur Radio practice and for other aspects of our life. The fifth element is ...

### The Radio Amateur is:

**Balanced... radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school, or community.**

It's not hard to get over involved in the things we like to do. That can include any activity such as reading, sports, Internet, dancing, etc. We must be careful to set limits on our time so it doesn't interfere with other responsibilities. This may be a difficult thing to do because we are enjoying ourselves so much. Amateur Radio most of the time is just a pastime. It takes time whether it's participating in a contest, working on equipment or antennas, rag chewing, or in pursuit of an award. It's not hard to be involved for hours and not realize we have spent so much time hamming. Amateur Radio takes money. We must be careful that we are not spending our family finances on our interest at the expense of other financial needs.

Put first things first. We must remember our priorities and not allow Amateur Radio to divert our attention from those things we should be doing. For the most part there are more important things than Amateur Radio (except in times of emergencies). Quality family life is at the core of our society and has a great influence on the futures of our children and our marriages. Our jobs not only pay the bills, but others are relying on us to do our part. School, at any level, cannot be slighted, we must do our best to learn in order to be prepared for the future. Our community and church need us to play our part in making the place we live and worship better for all of us.

Amateur Radio is a pastime and a great assistance when call upon in emergencies, but keep it in perspective. Keeping your life balanced is a good thing and actually Amateur Radio can give balance to your life; just make sure you don't go over board. - K4MHM

### Birthdays—Recent and Upcoming

Darrell Gammon, KF4URC	August 2
Bert Carter, WA4TLI	August 19
Susan Langley Jones, WA4AKB	August 21
Glynn Furr, K4RKI	August 22
Henry Nissen, W4VUP	August 26
Mike Bezera, WB4TQD	August 27
Norman Lewis, AC4XF	September 10
Danny Hampton, K4ITL	September 15
Gregory O'Neill, AA0KO	September 26

## CARC Minutes - 18 July 2002

Lee H. Swanson, N4AJF, Secretary, CARC

The July meeting of the Cary Amateur Radio Club was held on 18 July, 2002, at the usual meeting place of the White Plains Methodist Church. The meeting was opened at 7:31 P.M. by AB4S, Ed Stephenson. Introductions were given, there were 16 in attendance, 15 members and 1 guest.

The Treasurers report was given by WA4AKB, Susan, as follows:

- Checking: \$1762.43
- Savings: \$1262.52
- Cash: ...\$90.00
- Total: \$3114.95

The Secretaries report was published in the Feedline.

For old business, Field Day was discussed by W3HL, Herb. He talked to what he called the "GOTA fiasco", as we had no takers of that. He also talked about the results of the last-minute move of the site, from the Cary High School back to Bond Park, and explained the reasons for it. Some other discussion was held on this subject. Thanks were given to Herb for being the "Czar" this year, in spite of the difficulties he did a great job.

For new business, the subject was the SwapFest. Alf, KQ4FP, the chairman of the 2002 SwapFest, gave a report. Will, K4IWW, talked about the status of table sales, and the setting of them up. Alf spoke again, on security before the Fest opens to the public on Saturday morning. He also asked us, for next year, to look into a more educational flyer, and to consider printing more flyers. Herb, W3HL, is supplying the equipment for Talk-in, it will be available Friday evening. There then was some discussion of some other items to be considered for this year, or next year. One is the question of when to have the drawings, to balance it between the attendance dwindling, and the desire of the dealers to stay open as long as people are buying.

Another was the question of how to better disseminate directions. They are on our web site, but we should look into adding them to our flyers. The only place the Fest address was given was on the ticket.

The need for everyone to bring plenty of \$1.00 bills was stressed. Change is a big problem, and this will help.

There will be a sign up sheet at the fest, for people to sign up for a New Ham class, to be held next winter.

Again this year, there will be a combined Fest ticket and reduced cost CARC membership, for hams who are not currently members. This worked out well last year.

We asked our members to come Friday night, for setup, and Saturday, to help with the Fest, and participate in it.



## **ARRL Foundation Grant Aids SETI League Radio Telescope Project:**

The ARRL Letter "In Brief", Vol. 21, No. 28, July 19, 2002

The ARRL Foundation has issued a \$3000 grant to the SETI League to design and construct a next-generation radio telescope prototype. The SETI League says its Very Small Array (VSA), now under construction, will combine eight standard satellite TV dishes to form a radio telescope of unique flexibility. The 1296-MHz antenna system is slowly taking shape in the backyard of SETI League Executive Director H. Paul Shuch, N6TX, in Pennsylvania. It will be used to test reception of the SETI League's ham radio moonbounce beacon <<http://www.setileague.org/eme/index.html>>. Once the array becomes operational, Shuch says he hopes its success will enable the SETI League to attract major corporate funding for a much more ambitious radio telescope array. The VSA will be used in the meantime to test engineering concepts, Shuch said. The SETI League promotes and supports a privatized search for extraterrestrial intelligence. For more information, visit the SETI League Web site <<http://www.setileague.org>>.

## **ARRL Receives Homeland Security Training Grant**

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 21, No. 28, July 19, 2002

The ARRL will receive a \$181,900 homeland security grant from the US government to train Amateur Radio operators in emergency communication. The League was among several dozen nonprofit organizations designated to receive some \$10.3 million in federal money to boost homeland defense volunteer programs. The grant, from the Corporation for National and Community Service special volunteer program, will provide free ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course training to 5200 volunteers nationwide, starting in 2003.

"ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio and is the national leader in emergency communications by volunteers who operate their own equipment on their time at no cost to any government, organization, or corporation," said the July 19 announcement from Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge. The ARRL plans to revise and update the emergency communications curriculum to incorporate additional elements of emergency preparedness and homeland security.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said he was extremely pleased by the news. "This adds legitimacy to the public service work Amateur Radio has been doing for years," he said.

ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, applied for the funding in May, inviting the Corporation for National and Community Service to become "a partner with the nation's oldest volunteer radio communications organization."

"I think this is an extraordinarily exciting day for Amateur Radio that the role of Amateur Radio in homeland security is recognized at the highest levels of government," Hobart said upon learning of the grant. The League's grant application characterized Amateur Radio as "the bedrock of communications when other outlets fail."

Citing Amateur Radio's response in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks, Hobart said the federal grant "will help continue our work in providing public service and to protect lives, homes, businesses and our frequencies, as we have for decades."

The League had sought a three-year grant of \$541,750. The \$181,900 grant covers the first year's direct program costs. The proposed budget includes the cost of a project coordinator who would be responsible for overall fiscal management of the grant.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said he was pleased that the League would be able to extend its Amateur Radio Emergency Communications program to thousands of amateurs who might otherwise not be able to afford the program. "We hope all who are interested will get on board," he said.

## ARRL 2001 Annual Report Copies Being Mailed

The ARRL Letter "In Brief", Vol. 21, No. 29, July 26, 2002

Demand has been brisk for copies of the ARRL 2001 Annual Report, and requests now are being honored. While ARRL invites requests via e-mail, these will not be routinely acknowledged. Requests should include your full name, call sign and mailing address. Copies will be sent as soon as possible. ARRL members can obtain a free copy of the ARRL 2001 Annual Report with a request to Media Relations Manager Jennifer Hagy, N1TDY, [jhagy@arrl.org](mailto:jhagy@arrl.org); 860-594-0328. The Annual Report also is available for viewing via the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/annualreport/01ar.pdf>>.

## Review Under Way Of Unlicensed 2.4 Ghz Systems

The ARRL Letter "In Brief", Vol. 21, No. 29, July 26, 2002

The AMSAT-NA Board of Directors is reviewing the large number of unlicensed systems active in the 2.4-GHz band. These systems are being used for high-speed digital communications. Although these systems are not licensed, they are permitted to operate under FCC Part 15 rules with low power (100 mW or 1 W spread spectrum). AMSAT-NA and ARRL plan to develop a joint strategy regarding S band, as both organizations anticipate that interference may become a problem area as similar Part 15 unlicensed equipment proliferates.

Two amateur satellites, UO-11 and AO-40, now operate transmitters in the 2.4-GHz band, and both OSCAR-Echo and OSCAR-Eagle--two AMSAT-NA satellite projects now under development--will have S-band transmitters. In addition, various ATV systems and other amateur communication systems operate in the vicinity of 2.4 GHz. The FCC has proposed making amateurs primary at 2400 to 2402 MHz. AMSAT-NA seeks reports from amateurs who have experienced interference with 2.4-GHz reception of AO-40 from a Part 15 device. Send details to [ve3frh@amsat.org](mailto:ve3frh@amsat.org)--AMSAT News Service

## More Cosponsors Sign Aboard CC&R Bill HR 4720

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 21, No. 30, August 2, 2002

Additional cosponsors have signed aboard HR 4720, the bill in Congress aimed at providing relief to amateurs faced with private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions--CC&Rs--in erecting antennas. The list of 18 members of Congress who have agreed to cosponsor the measure includes two amateurs. They are Oregon Republican Greg Walden, WB7OCE--one of the two original cosponsors of HR 4720 with Texas Republican Pete Sessions--and Arkansas Democrat Mike Ross, WD5DVR.

Walden and Ross are believed to be the only Amateur Radio licensees in the US House of Representatives. The House now is in recess until after Labor Day.

New York Democrat Steve Israel introduced HR 4720--the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act"--on May 14. The measure would require private land-use regulators--such as homeowners' associations--to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio communication consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption. PRB-1 now applies only to states and municipalities.

In addition to Walden, Sessions and Ross, the list of HR 4720 cosponsors now includes Representatives JD Hayworth (R-AZ), Patrick Tiberi (R-OH), Patsy Mink (D-HI), Ken Calvert (R-CA), Rick Boucher (D-VA), Joseph Hoeffel (D-PA), John Duncan Jr (R-TN), Dennis Moore (D-KS), Charles Stenholm (D-TX), **David Price (D-NC)**, Bob Schaffer (R-CO), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Bart Gordon (D-TN), Charles Taylor (R-NC), and Ralph Hall (D-TX).

Visit the US House of Representatives Write Your Representative Service Web page <<http://www.house.gov/writerep/>> for information on how to contact your representative. The ARRL requests those writing or e-mailing members of Congress--whether or not they are supporting this legislation--to copy ARRL on their correspondence--via e-mail to [ccr-bill@arrl.org](mailto:ccr-bill@arrl.org) or via US Mail to CC&R Bill, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Correspondents should include the bill number, HR 4720, as well as their name and address on all correspondence.