

Wake County ARES

While the rest of North Carolina was enjoying the first hot, sunny day of 1998, about 50 people were working hard to cleanup after the hurricane that hit around Raleigh the day before. It seems a mock hurricane landed in Wake and Franklin counties during the night of 15 May. Saturday morning, the Red Cross called their volunteers for help. The chapter house in Raleigh was opened along with a shelters in Raleigh and Wake Forest and a service center in Wake Forest. Once all operations were closed, a post-drill briefing was held to review the success and the places improvements could still be made. By 3 pm the hurricane was long gone and all damage was undone.

Most of the damage was north of Raleigh. (Somehow this hurricane managed to land here but not damage anywhere around the area.) Red Cross said that they were able to get all facilities opened in record breaking time. They were quite pleased with their ability to respond more quickly and efficiently than in the past.

I received a call at 7am on Saturday 16 May. and was asked to come to the Raleigh chapter house and to get two other hams for assignments to be made. At 8 am we had a briefing to advise the status of the event. Within an 1.5 hours the two shelters were opened and the service center was opening. Shortly after the shelters opened, we had hams staffed in 3 of the 4 locations (actually all 4 were staffed because the service center and shelter in Wake Forest were in the same room.) The drill ended at 12:30 pm, right after lunch was served.

HAM radio came through again! This is the first time Red Cross decided to try a new method of communications, cellular phones. N4YRD advised them that cellular communications were not necessarily the best method of communications in a large disaster; however, they were worth

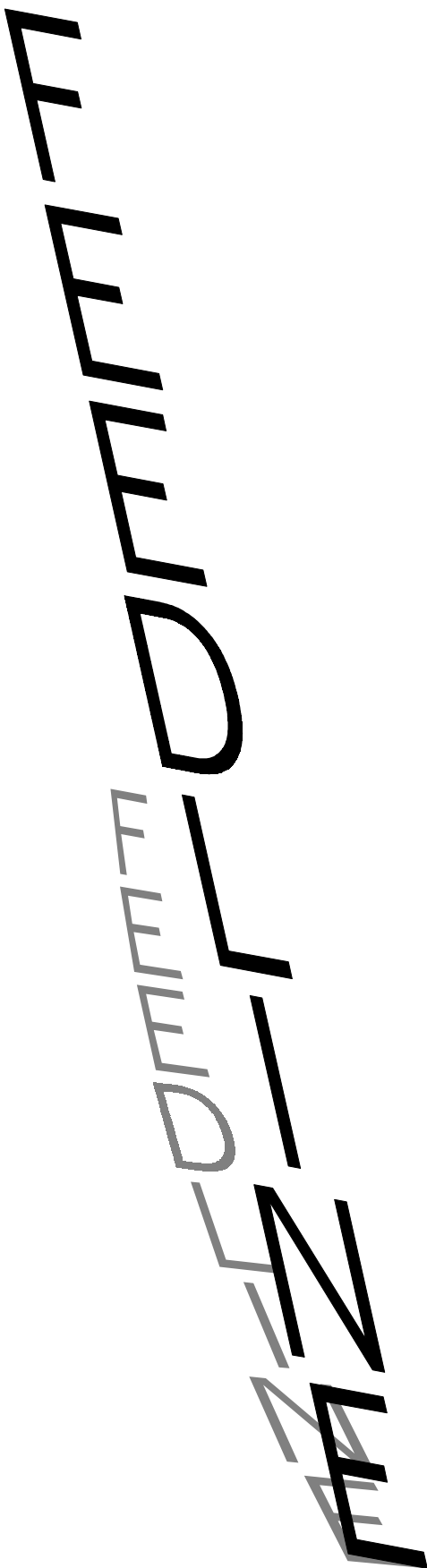
trying since Red Cross handles many different sizes of disasters. As usual, cellular phones failed!!! The service center phone never worked once it arrived in Wake Forest. Ham radio was the only communication method available to them for the drill, except for why they cheated and used the shelter's phone. Another chance to shine came at the very end of the drill. The Raleigh shelter, directly across the street from the chapter house, could not be reached by cellular phone to tell them to close down the drill. This phone had worked all morning with no problems at all. When contacted by ham radio, the phone appeared to be working; however, it did not ring when called from headquarters. The much desired message was delivered over the ham air waves; and, immediately after, the phone started working again.

I stayed for the briefing after the drill. Red Cross did not have their communications person in attendance so the presiding officer allowed me to talk on behalf of communications. It was pointed out that their first attempt at high-tech communications failed, even under the best of circumstances; and, that amateur radio was able to handle the communications in every event. In fact, several of the workers in headquarters at the chapter house found it much easier to ask ham radio to pass a message than to look up the phone number and call the phone at the shelter.

Just a few people put on a good enough show to prove, once again, amateur radio is still a method of communication that local agencies can count on to serve in a disaster. About the only way we can let them down is to not show up when requested.

Many thanks to AF4JG, Bill Powell; AE4MY, Frank Bridges; and N4ZUD, Terri Jaskolka for their assistance. Their several hours of effort put an-

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Feedline

Feedline is a member-supported publication of the Cary Amateur Radio Club and is published monthly. Deadline for submissions is the second Thursday of the month.

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Cary Amateur Radio Club

The Cary Amateur Radio Club meets on the fourth Thursday of the month, **7:30 p.m.** in the lower level of the Christian Life Center of White Plains United Methodist Church. The June, November, and December meetings are held off-site. Call for location of those meetings.

Next Meeting: June 25

1997 Officers

KE4ZEQ	Frank Lynch	217-1999
	President	
KE4CDI	Charles Nichols	639-1049
	Vice-president	
K4IWW	Will Harper	467-0224
	Treasurer	
W3HL	Herb Lacey	467-9608
	Secretary	

HerbLacey - W3HL

Club Notes

May 28, 1998

The May meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m., by Pres., Frank, KE4ZEQ. All present introduced themselves.

Treasurer's Report - Our Treasurer, Will, K4IWW, WAS OUT OF TOWN!!! If that doesn't send a chill up your spine, then you don't have a proper grasp of the gravity of the situation!!!

Piedmont-Coastal Repeater Network (PCRN) PCRN engineers and maintains the remarkable repeater network in and around North Carolina. It deserves your support. Suggested: \$15 per year. See Ed, AB4S for details.

SouthEastern Repeater Association (SERA) - Frank, KE4ZEQ, there are lots of rumblings at the FCC about a takeover of the 420 - 450 MHz band. We need to be solidly against any such move by the FCC. The action appears to be on the "fast track" at the FCC.

SkyWarn - Tommy Babb, KF4JKQ, is the new SkyWarn Coordinator. Amateur

Radio needs to regain the respect of the "weather community." In this area, we can be working within the coverage area of the 146.88 MHz, PCRN repeater. The e-mail address: ralskywarn@aol.com for info.

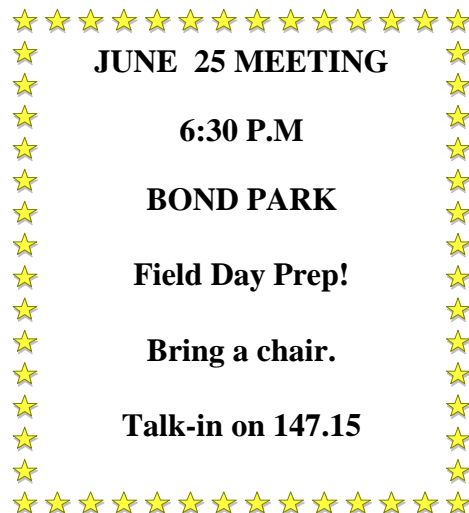
Field Day - Bob, K4HA, Czar????????? Overview of major details. The June meeting will be Thursday, June 25, 6:30 p.m., at the Field Day site - Bond Park. Bring lawn chairs and HTs to the site. Talkin: 147.15 MHz, +.6.

--- Break for Refreshments ---

Program: Pres., Bob, K4HA, gave a review of the logging software to be used for Field Day. Also, the ever popular: labeling of the SWAPFEST mailers.

Herb, W3HL

Note: CARC Mid-Summer SWAPFEST - Saturday, July 18. Please try to be involved in the 'FEST this year. The more hands we have makes the load lighter for everyone else. Our 'FEST, by design, requires a minimum of labor. But, we do need some. Also, as the time approaches, talk up the 'FEST on the air.



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other large feather in the hat of amateur radio in Wake County and with Red Cross.

Remember, these days when everyone wants to take away our frequencies for commercial use, the more large agencies we have on our side, the better. They can be a great help if we need to muster testimony to our use of the bands for public service.

73 de N4YRD
Wake County Emergency Coordinator
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Health and Welfare Report

Ed, AB4S, is doing fine following quintuple bypass surgery. His operation was on Thursday, and was able to come home Monday.

He's looking and sounding great; presidential even. (Hint: LBJ) Ed hopes to be back at work in three weeks.

Ed says he expects to see you at the meeting as well as Field Day. Just no tower climbing!

His operating team seem to have a sense of humor, so I am reprinting this list so he can give them a copy.

Things you don't want to hear during surgery.

Better save that for the autopsy.

Accept this sacrifice o lord of darkness.

BO BO! Come back with that. Bad Dog!

Wait a minute, if this is his spleen, what's that?

Hand me that....uh...thingie.

OOPS! Anyone ever survive 500mg of this stuff?

You know, there's good money in kidneys. Hey this guy's got two of 'em.

That's cool. Now can you make his leg twitch?

Damn! Page 47 of the manual is missing.

She's gonna blow. Everyone take cover.

Don't bother. I think it's sharp enough.

Did this patient sign the organ donor card?

Sterile-Shmeril. The floor was mopped.

And now, we remove the subject's brain and place it in the body of the ape.

Someone call the janitor. We're gonna need a mop.



