



The Amplifier

Tar River Amateur Radio Club

February 2012

President	Robin Keller, WA4WPD	252-459-9345
Vice President	Bruce Batchelor, N4XUN	252-823-1463
Secretary	Les Zavadil, W4FRA	252-446-7816
Treasurer	John Faulkner, KR4SV	252-442-7946
VE Director	Bill Thomas, N2BT	252-442-6131
Newsletter Editor	Les Zavadil, W4FRA	252-446-7816

WEB SITE: www.tarriverarc.org

Next Meeting - Note Date

Tar River Amateur Radio Club meets on the **second** Monday of the month. The February meeting of the Tar River Amateur Radio Club will be held Monday, February 13, at the Rocky Mount American Red Cross Offices, 326 S. Franklin Street. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. Talk-in on WA4WPD repeater: 145.290-, PL Tone 107.2. The February program will be 2012 Agenda.

2010 VE Exam Schedule

Bill, N2BT

The Tar River Amateur Radio Club, Rocky Mount, NC, will hold ARRL/VEC Amateur Radio Exams in 2010 as follows.

Apr. 7	
Jun. 2	Aug. 4
Oct. 6	Dec. 1

Walk in candidates are welcome. No preregistration required.

Exams will start at 10 a.m. and will be held at:

The Braswell Memorial Library

727 N. Grace Street (corner of Grace and Peachtree Streets)
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Please bring the following items when attending a testing session.

- Photo identification (drivers license)
- Social Security Number
- Original amateur radio license
- Copy of amateur radio license
- Test fee of \$15 payable to ARRL/VEC (checks preferred)

For further information visit our club website at www.TarRiverARC.org or contact

Bill Thomas N2BT
VE Team Coordinator
Rocky Mount, NC
(252)-442-6131

Email: N2BT@arrl.net

THIS NEWSLETTER MAY BE REPUBLISHED OR REPRODUCED BY CLUB MEMBERS IN WHOLE OR IN PART IN ANY FORM WITHOUT ADDITIONAL PERMISSION.

President's Corner

Robin, WA4WPD

Thank you for the plant. I'll try to keep it living. One quick story. I met Kathy on 40 CW. I had one crystal for 40 novice. Most everyone else had the same. Making contacts could be challenging. One night I answered a CQ. Really strong. Turns out it was Kathy, nine blocks away. Really good copy. No fading at all. You just never know what will happen on the bands.

Thanks to all of ya'll for covering my absence.

Congrats on getting all the J-Poles built. Another useful addition to the Red Cross kits.

There is important bit of club business. I'll go over at the meeting. Also we need to set the agenda for the year.

See ya at the meeting.

Upcoming Hamfests

Feb. 4 – FrostFest, Richmond, VA

Feb. 4 – Charleston, SC

Mar. 10 - 11 – Charlotte, NC

Apr. 7 – RARSfest, Raleigh, NC

Apr. 20 - 21 – SVHFS Conference, Charlotte

Contests

Feb. 4 - 6

Vermont QSO Party

10-10 Winter Phone QSO Party

Minnesota QSO Party

British Columbia QSO Party

Delaware QSO Party

Feb 10 - 12

CQ WW RTTY WPX

Louisiana QSO Party

OMISS QSO Party

New Hampshire QSO Party

Feb 13 - 20

School Club Roundup

ARRL Int'l. CW DX Contest

Feb 24 - 27

CQ WW 160 Meter SSB

Mississippi QSO Party

NORTH CAROLINA QSO PARTY

ARRL & CQ Sign Agreement

(Hicksville, NY and Newington, CT - Jan. 24, 2012) - CQ Communications, Inc. (CQ) and ARRL - the national association for Amateur Radio, have signed an agreement to begin providing support for CQ-sponsored operating awards by the ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW) electronic confirmation system.. The agreement was announced jointly today by ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B,

and CQ Communications President Richard Ross, K2MGA.

CQ's awards will be the first non-ARRL awards supported by LoTW and will be phased in, beginning with the CQ WPX award. Additional CQ awards will follow. The ARRL's LoTW system, an interactive database recording contacts between radio amateurs was created in 2003 and has been adopted by 47,500 radio "hams" worldwide. It already has records of 400 million contacts and grows weekly. The target date for beginning LoTW support for WPX is April 1, 2012. Amateurs will be able to use LoTW logs to generate lists of confirmed contacts to be submitted for WPX credit. Standard LoTW credit fees and CQ award fees will apply.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, observed that this step gives radio amateurs throughout the world an inexpensive and convenient means of gaining credits toward CQ's popular operating awards. "LoTW has significantly increased interest and participation in the ARRL's DXCC, Worked All States and VUCC awards programs. We anticipate a similarly positive response to the addition of the CQ WPX award. Amateurs will be able to spend more time operating and less time chasing QSL cards."

CQ President Richard Ross, K2MGA, said he is very pleased to be able to move forward with Logbook support for CQ awards. "We have had excellent results with electronic confirmations for several years," he said, "and I am glad that we are now able to begin expanding that convenience to those participants in our award programs who use Logbook of the World. We look forward to a smooth launch for WPX, and to the expansion of LoTW support to include the rest of our award programs as well."

ARRL (www.arrl.org) is the national association for Amateur Radio in the United States and publisher of its membership journal QST. CQ Communications, Inc. (www.cqcomm.com) is publisher of CQ Amateur Radio and several other magazines. There are currently over 700,000 Amateur Radio licensees in the USA and approximately 2.5 million worldwide.

To learn more go to <
<<http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world%3e.%20>
www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world> .

2012 Club Dues/ARRL Dues

It is the beginning of the new year and Fred is now accepting 2012 dues payments. TRARC dues are \$15. Please pay early and let's all try to recruit one new member this year.

If you are interested in becoming a 'new' ARRL member, we now have a special form that you can completely fill out, pay thru the club, and the club keeps \$15. If you are RENEWING your membership in ARRL, you may now pay thru the club, and it keeps \$2. ARRL dues are \$39 per year. There are others options also.

Help support your club.

Pay your dues at the meeting or send your check to: John Faulkner, KR4SV, 634 Piedmont Ave., Rocky Mount, NC 27803.

DX Info

{TNX to various ARRL email newsletters and ARNL}

CROATIA, 9A. In celebration of the 20th anniversary of the allocation of the 9A prefix, all private and club stations here may add the number 20 to their call signs.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the city of Bad Honnef, special event station DL150BH is QRV until December 31. Activity is on all band and modes. QSL via bureau.

PHILIPPINES, DU. In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Philippine ARA, special event call 4G0LD is active during 2012. QSL via bureau.

TIMOR-LESTE, 4W. Vlad, UA4WHX is QRV as 4W0VB. Activity has been on 20, 17, 15 and 12 meters using CW. Length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

IRELAND, EI. In celebration of the 80th anniversary of the Irish Radio Transmitters Society, special event station EI80IRTS is QRV during all of 2012, including the upcoming CQ IR contest in March. QSL via EI4GXB.

NEW CALEDONIA, FK. Ante, 9A4DU is QRV as FK/9A4DU from the FK8KA club station. QSL to home call.

ENGLAND, G. Special event station GB80PW is QRV one day each month in celebration of the 80th anniversary of the magazine Practical Wireless. Activity is on 40 meters using SSB and PSK31. QSL direct to G3XFD.

MALPELO ISLAND, HK0. A group of operators are already QRV as HK0NA in their spare time as they prepare for the team of operators to arrive on the island. So far they have been active on 160, 80, 40, 17 and 12 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via N2OO.

SAUDI ARABIA, HZ. Tom, HZ1FI has been QRV on 160 meters around 1800 to 2200z. QSL via DL2RMC.

SUDAN, ST. Robert, ST2AR is usually QRV on 80 and then 40 meters using CW around 0400z. QSL via S53R.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Look for a group of operators to be QRV as T32AU, T32CO, T32LJ, T32TR, T32TX, T32WW and T32XX from Kiritimati Island, IOTA OC-024, from January 17 to February 2. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. They will be QRV as T32XX as a Multi Op entry in the upcoming CQ WW 160 Meter CW contest. QSL via operators' instructions.

LAOS, XW. Larry, XW0ZJZ has been QRV on 20 and 40 meter CW around 1600 and 1700z, respectively. QSL via E21EIC.

SENEGAL, 6W. Francis, F6BLP is QRV as 6W7SK from Mbour until February 3. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands using mostly CW. QSL to home call.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the RMS Titanic on April 15, 2012, Schoenau club members are QRV as DM100MGY until December 31. QSL via bureau.

REUNION, FR. Pierre, F8APV will be QRV FR/F8APV from January 22 to February 10. Activity will be on 40 and 30 meters using CW from 0100 to 0400z and then SSB on 20 meters from 1700 to 1900z. QSL to home call.

WALLIS AND FUTUNA ISLANDS, FW. A group of operators will be QRV as FW0R from Wallis, IOTA OC-054, from January 24 to February 23. Activity is on all bands and modes with two stations active. QSL via HA0NAR.

COLOMBIA, HK. Lothar, DK8LRF is QRV as HK3JCL until March 26. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB, PSK31, RTTY and Pactor. QSL to home call.

MALPELO ISLAND, HK0. A group of operators will be QRV as HK0NA until February 8. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY with 10 stations. QSL via N2OO.

JAPAN, JA. Special event stations 8N1JARL, 8N5JARL, 8N8JARL, 8N9JARL and 8N0JARL are QRV until March 31 to commemorate the conversion of the JARL from an Incorporated Association to a General Incorporated Association. QSL via bureau.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. Take, JG8NQJ is QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 for three months. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and some SSB in his spare time. QSL to home call.

CURACAO, PJ2. Tom, AA9A will be QRV as PJ2/AA9A from January 21 to February 4. Activity is

holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

GREECE, SV. Special event station SX1912 is QRV in commemoration of the unification of Macedonia and Greece 100 years ago. QSL via bureau.

ANTARCTICA. Slava, UA1PAI is QRV as RIIANA from the Russian base Molodezhnaya until mid March. Activity is on all bands. QSL via RK1PWA.

PITCAIRN ISLAND, VP6. A group of operators are QRV as VP6T until February 4. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY with three stations active around the clock. QSL via G3TXF.

Word that the long planned Sable Island DXpedition has been postponed. According to AA4VK and WA4DAN, a recent winter storm with twenty foot swells pushed water onto the sand runway making it unusable. Al Wilson, the Officer in Charge of Sable Island made an assessment of the landing area and reported there was no possibility of a flight to the island at that time. Also, resumption of air operations to Sable would depend on how quickly the water would drain from the landing area and if any other storms affect the island. At that point, the DXpedition planners decided to postpone the operation. For the latest on when the operation might be rescheduled please check www.cy0dxpedition.com on the World Wide Web.

Keep an ear open for special event station 4G0LD to be active during 2012. This operation is to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Philippine Amateur Radio League. QSL only via the Bureau.

G3PHO will be on the air as 9H3C from Malta's Gozo Island between March 8th and the 15th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters and possibly 160m. Look for him to be an entry in the RGSB Commonwealth Contest. QSL via his home callsign or Logbook of the World.

JS6RRR will be operational stroke KH2 from Guam between February 10th and the 14th. Activity will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB, FM, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via JS6RRR.

IK2GZU will be in Tanzania to do some work at a new hospital and orphanage between March 4th and April 4th. He plans to be active during his spare time as 5H3MB on the HF bands. QSL via IK2GZU, direct or by the Bureau. Also, via Logbook of the World, but only after his return home.

OE3GEA will take to the airwaves stroke 6Y5 from Jamaica between February 2nd and the 12th. This will be yet another holiday style operation, mainly using CW. QSL to his home address.

F8APV will be active from Reunion Island from January 22nd until February 10th signing portable FR. QSL as directed on the air.

JA6CNH will be active as XV2CNH from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam between February 10th and the 15th. Activity will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via JA6CNH, direct only.

DF7ZS will be active from Aruba Island March 21st to the 27th signing P40S. QSL direct to DF7ZS as his address on QRZ.com.

Members of the Buddies in the Caribbean will mount a mini-DXpedition to Grenada between February 1st through the 9th. The team specializes in 100 watts or less low power radios and the Buddipole portable antenna systems. They will have fixed operations from a cliff-top villa and portable operations from various points on the island. Modes used will be CW, SSB, and the Digital on 160 through 10 meters. Licensing is not yet complete, but each operator is expected to receive their J3/callsign. QSL via Logbook of the World, eQSL, or regular mail to operator's home callsign and include a self addressed stamped envelope if you go the postal route.

JA1XGI will be active from Hawaii as W8XGI/KH6 between January 31st and February 4th just prior to his upcoming trip to Tonga. Operations will probably be on 20 through 6 meters with an emphasis on 30, 17 and 12 meters. He is expected to operate mainly CW, with some SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via JA1XGI, direct or by the Bureau. QSO's will be uploaded to Logbook of the World.

DL7AFS and DJ7ZG will be operational as V21FS and V21ZG, respectively, from the Villa Sundowners on the island of Antigua beginning March 5th for an unknown stay. Focus of this operation on 160 through meters as propagation conditions allow. Modes noted are RTTY, PSK and SSB. QSL via the DARC German QSL bureau or direct to DL7AFS.DX

EA1CYK/P will be operational from Deception Island in the South Shetland group during his spare time until March of 2012. He has been spotted with a good signal on 10 meters QSL via EA7LS.

G3SWH and G3OLU will be active from the Hawane Resort in western Swaziland between February 21st to the 29th. Propagation permitting, they plan to have two stations on the air for as many hours every day as is possible. Operation will be on CW only on 80 through 10 meters. QSL via G3SWH

An international group of operators plan to visit Pitcarin Island and operate as VP6T between January 20th and February 4th. According to a web posing the operation hope to make at least 30,000 contacts while

on the island. Operations will be on 160 through 10 meters including the 30, 17 and 12 meter bands. Modes to be used include CW, SSB and RTTY. The VP6T log will be uploaded to Logbook of the World during the operation if possible. QSL Manager is G3TXF. In addition to the usual routes they will also be using the new Online QSL Request Service provided by ClubLog. For more details and the suggested frequencies please visit [www \(dot\) vp6t \(dot\) org](http://www.dot.vp6t.dot.org).

Robert Busch, DL7VOA at Germany's DX News Letter reports that there is a good chance that Malyj Vysotskij or MV Island will probably be deleted from the DXCC entity list next year. As of this moment the DX News Letter has not heard of any further DXpeditions being planned for that location. (DL-DXNL)

Ham Vendor News

YAESU

Yaesu Reorganizes (as announced here last month), and announces Entry into Digital Voice/Data Market - Yaesu amateur radio equipment is once again being manufactured independently after four years as a subsidiary of Motorola. The company also announced plans to enter the digital voice and data segment of the amateur market. A PDF file of the Yaesu Brochure can be downloaded from :
<http://www.yaesu.com/downloadFile.cfm?FileID=7146&FileCatID=151&FileName=DigitalCommunicationsGuide%5FE%5B1%5D.pdf&FileContentType=application/pdf>

N3FJP

N3FJP has upgraded all of his contest logging programs and is currently working on an upgrade to his Amateur Contact Log, general logging program. To upgrade registered users just download and install the new version, using the password that was originally provided. Scott has also just made available his Amateur Exam Study program 1.3.

Ham Gear for Sale or Trade

If you have any ham gear or other electronic gear to sell or trade, send a copy of your ad to W4FRA@arrl.net.

FOR SALE – TARHEEL Model 10-80 Screwdriver HF Antenna with whip, 20 ft. control cable, and rocker switch control....(just never used much)....paid \$300+.....asking \$175. KE4LXW@hughes.net, Fred Winner, KE4LXW, 252-459-4332.

FOR SALE – Antennas – 1. (2) CUSHCRAFT 11 element 2m beams; 2. - (1) 5 element 2m beam; 3, (1) 440 ISOPOLE 'Vertical' antenna (AEA); 4.(1) 440 HOMEMADE 440 BEAM; 5. (1) CUSHCRAFT 7 element 220 beam (rear mount);

6. (2) 440 beams (rear mount) (NEW still in box) (All in fair to good condition) FRED WINNER KE4LXW, KE4LXW@hughes.net. 252-459-4332.

FOR SALE – Kenwood TS-690S, HF and 6 Meter Transceiver with optional internal ATU installed and original hand mike; original box, Operator's Manual and External Control Instruction Manual; Operator's Manual, External Control Instruction Manual and Service Manual on CD; Kenwood SP-23 External Speaker; third party (HoseNose) CAT cable; \$575. Les Zavadil, W4FRA, w4fra@arrl.net, 252-446-7816.

Wilson Amateur Radio Association

2012 Officers

President: Howard Klino, K2IMO
Vice President: Don Flowers, W4XTC
Secretary/Treasurer: Coy Mitchell, KI4HAJ
Member-At-Large: Lee Hunt, K4WLH.
ARES Liaison: George Diering, W3GJD
Repeater Trustee: Howard Klino, K2IMO

Next Meeting

The February meeting of the Wilson Amateur Radio Association will be Monday, February 6, at 1900 at the Wilson County Emergency Communications Center, 1817 Glendale Drive SW, Wilson. The front door will be unlocked from 1800 to 1900.

2 Meter Nets

Tuesday:	146.880	2115	Skywarn
Thursday:	146.760	2000	WARA

The Wilson ARES Net is combined with the WARA Net on the second Thursday of each month.

The 146.880 repeater is negative offset, no tone and the 146.760 repeater is negative offset with a 131.8 tone.

ARES Conference

Members of Wilson ARES will be attending the Environmental & Safety Training Conference held in Raleigh on February 8th. Sponsored by the Wake County Emergency Planning Committee, topics will include, the role of a volunteer during disasters, Skywarn & NWS, NC Fire Code updates, Hazmat, Nuclear Power Plants, Reporting protocol, and Stress management during emergencies.

Coming Events

The Town of Black Creek, NC has announced their "Main Street Festival" will be held on October 13, 2012 from 0900-1600.

Other event dates in Wilson County for 2012: (TBA), Air show-(Fly-In), LOWE'S Safety Day (in August), Stantonsburg Festival (in September).
