



# The Amplifier

Tar River Amateur Radio Club

January 2008

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WEB SITE: [www.tarriverarc.org](http://www.tarriverarc.org)

## Next Meeting

The January meeting of the Tar River Amateur Radio Club will be held Monday, January 7, at BODDIE NOELL ENTERPRISES, located at 1021 Noell Lane in Rocky Mount. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. The January program will be a presentation by Ricky Hale, Edgecombe County Probation Officer.

## 2008 VE Exam Schedule

Bill, N2BT

The Tar River Amateur Radio Club, Rocky Mount, NC, will hold ARRL/VEC Amateur Radio Exams in 2008 as follows.

February 2	April 3
June 7	August 2
October 4	December 6

Exams will start at 9 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
- Original certificate(s) of successful completion
- Copy of certificate(s) of successful completion
- Test fee of \$14 payable to ARRL/VEC (checks preferred)

For further information visit our club website at [www.TarRiverARC.org](http://www.TarRiverARC.org) or contact

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

Email: [N2BT@arrl.net](mailto:N2BT@arrl.net)

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## President's Corner

Robin, WA4WPD

January. New month. New year. What will it bring?

Bruce has the program for January. The first Monday is on the 7<sup>th</sup> this year. So it's NOT being moved. It actually is on the first Monday. With this in mind, one order of business is to examine the calendar and decide which meetings will be shifted in 2008.

Also in January is a Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge class. It's the weekend of the 19th and 20th. All we need are a few volunteers with HT's. Class size will be limited. This should give us more time to better cover the material and ensure each scout gets the required five QSO's. The material will be the same as last time. IF you want copies or changes made please contact me as soon as possible.

The February meeting will be at the Nash County EOC. It will be a training session for us by Nash EOC staff members. As such there are no plans to cover club business in February. Please bring all issues for the January meeting.

Speaking of February. It's time for the NC QSO party. The club has had several winners. Anyone going to operate this year? I have not made plans. But I plan to. It's at 1700 UTC Feb.24 through 0300 UTC Feb.25 (10 hours) this year. I might try it from Wilmington to home this year. Since I'll be in Wilmington that weekend it might be a good thing.

That's it for now. See y'all at the meeting.

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## Upcoming Hamfests

Feb. 2 – Frostfest, Richmond, VA

Apr. 6 – Kinston, NC

Apr. 12 – RARSfest, Raleigh, NC

April 25-26 – SVHFS Conference, Orlando

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## Contests

Jan. 1

ARRL Straight Key Night  
New Years Snowball Contest  
SARTG New Year RTTY Contest  
AGCW Happy New Year Contest

Jan. 5 - 6

ARRL RTTY Roundup  
Kids Day  
EUCW 160 Meter Contest – CW

Jan. 12 - 17

North American QSO Party – CW  
DARC 10-Meter Contest  
NAQCC Monthly Straight Key Sprint  
Midwinter Contest

Worked All Britain Top Band Phone Contest  
Hunting Lions on the Air  
070 PSKFest

Jan. 19 - 20

ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes  
*(ARRL VHF Contest Rules have been updated go to the ARRL Web Site for new rules.)*  
North American QSO Party – Phone  
HA DX Contest – CW  
LZ Open Championship – CW  
International United Teenager Contest  
UK DX RTTY Contest

Jan. 26 - 27

CQ WW 160-Meter Contest – CW  
BARTG RTTY Sprint  
REF French Contest – CW  
UBA Contest – Phone  
Winter Field Day  
YLISSB QSO Party – SSB  
Classic Exchange – CW

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## 2008 Club Dues/ARRL Dues

This is just a reminder to everyone that the 2008 TRARC dues are now due... \$15 per yr for individuals \$6 per additional family member for family's.

**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 for regular and \$36 for SENIORS per year. There are others options also.**

Help support your club.

Pay your dues at the meeting or send your check to: Fred Winner KE4LXW, 8972 Lancaster Store Rd., Castalia, NC 27816.

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## IARU Region II Band Plan

*The following is from the ARRL Letter (Editor's notes are in italics):*

**MISLEADING AND INCORRECT RUMORS SURROUND IARU REGION 2 BAND PLAN**

Misleading and incorrect rumors are surrounding the recently revised band plan of IARU Region 2 <<http://www.iaru-r2.org/band-plan/>>, adopted at its triennial conference in Brazil in September. The following statement was authorized by ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN.

During the conference, held September 10-14 in Brasilia, representatives from IARU Region 2 societies met in committees prior to a final plenary

session and adopted recommendations concerning a number of items important to Amateur Radio in the region. These included plans to improve emergency communication, enhance education and reduce interference to national emergency nets, as well as revising the Region 2 HF band plan.

The revised Region 2 band plan for 160-10 meters takes effect January 1, 2008. The band plan is based on the band plan adopted by IARU Region 1 <<http://www.iaru-r1.org/Spectrumbp.htm>> at its conference in Davos, Switzerland in September 2005.

IARU regional band plans have been in existence for many years. They are developed, reviewed and approved at regional conferences of the IARU Member-Societies. The band plans provide voluntary guidelines and recommendations for good operating practice that are intended to assist amateurs in making the most effective use of our limited frequency allocations. They are not restrictions and carry no regulatory authority.

Unlike the US, where the FCC's Part 97 rules regulate the frequencies allocated to the Amateur Radio Service by emission designator, many countries do not have government-regulated sub-bands within their amateur allocation. Because of this, the national Amateur Radio societies in these countries look to a band plan to provide guidance for the location of operating preferences. In such cases, these countries are urged to promote incorporation or recognition of a band plan into their regulations. In the United States, however, ARRL's band plans will continue to provide guidance for recommended operating preferences including the 160 meter band <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bandplan.html#160m>> plan that was revised in 2001 on the basis of membership input.

One virtue of voluntary band plans is that they are more flexible and can be amended more easily than the FCC rules; writing them into the rules would be counterproductive. As voluntary guidelines, the band plan cannot by definition be "more severe" than regulations; however, if the band plan did not suggest an operating pattern that is a subset of the regulations, it would serve no purpose.

There is also a mistaken assumption that the new IARU Region 2 band plan is an ARRL initiative seeking regulation by bandwidth. It is not, nor is it in any way a vehicle to achieve regulation by bandwidth.

It happens that the ARRL's "regulation by bandwidth" petition, the now-withdrawn RM-11306, also drew on the Region 1 band plan. This is acknowledged on page 10 of the petition

<<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-11306/RM-11306-asFiled.pdf>>. The similarities between RM-11306 and the Region 2 band plan are the result of having some common roots, but the two are not otherwise related.

While a number of Amateur Radio organizations and publishers support and agree with the ARRL on the concept of regulation by bandwidth as an essential element to the orderly introduction of new digital modes into the HF bands, ARRL will not be pursuing a rule making until some degree of consensus can be achieved in the amateur community.

ARRL has conducted an open process of soliciting input regarding matters of importance to the Amateur Radio Service. That will continue prior to the submission of any proposals for future regulatory changes to improve the Amateur Radio Service.

As one of the 39 Member-Societies of IARU Region 2, the ARRL will, as always, continue to openly work to improve the Region 2 band planning process prior to the next conference and give its members ample opportunity to offer comments and suggestions. Members may provide input to their elected representative (identified on page 15 of QST), or to our Ad-hoc Band Plan Committee and e-mail address that was established in 2006 at <[bandplan@arrl.org](mailto:bandplan@arrl.org)>.

For a copy of the Band Plan visit the following URL: <http://www.iaru-r2.org/band-plan/>

For the other side of the story see the posts on [www.eham.net](http://www.eham.net) and the editorial in the December 2007 CQ Magazine.

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## 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](mailto:W4FRA@arrl.net).

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**FOR SALE** – IC-735 HF RIG.... excellent condition..... with manual..... asking \$500.

57 ft. free-standing commercial grade tower in three sections, PLUS the top tripod to hold antenna, asking \$300.

Garmin GPS V – paid almost \$300, will sell for \$100. Includes owners manual, quick start guide, box, 12 VDC power cable. This unit is handheld with AA batteries.

– Fred Winner, KE4LXW, 252-459-4332

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**FOR SALE** - Kenwood TH-215A w/manual \$50; Azden PCS-7200 220 MHz w/manual \$200; KLM Beam Antenna, KT-34A, 10, 15,20M w/manual \$100; 5 Rohn 25 tower sections, HyGain Mark IV Rotator, Mast, Thrust Bearings, package \$300; Radio Shack DC

Power Supply, regulated, 3 Amp, w/manual \$25; Icom IC-03AT, 220 MHz, \$100; Radio Shack HTX-202, \$50.  
- John Faulkner, KR4SV, 252-442-7946

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**FREE for Pickup** - 2004 to 2006 QST Magazines  
...free for pickup, or will meet you if I'm going that way...Les, W4FRA, 252-446-7816.

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**FOR SALE** - I have moved to New Bern and have a few ham antennas for sale. Please let the club members know.

I am asking about half price for each. All have manufacturer's assembly and installation manual and include the cables and related galvanized steel masts:

Cushcraft R7 vertical for 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, 30, & 40 Meters - estimate new about \$510, will sell for \$250

Cushcraft AR-6 vertical for 6 Meters - estimate new for \$108, will sell for \$55

Cushcraft 13B2 boom Yagi for 2 Meters SSB/CW/FM - estimate new for \$160, sell for \$80

I also have an Alinco DR-600 (works ok but needs a new lithium battery) and a mobile hand-held Icom (buttons stick). Make an offer.

Jim Dugan, W1JFD

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