



# The Amplifier

Tar River Amateur Radio Club

April 2010

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

## Next Meeting - New Location!

Tar River Amateur Radio Club meets on the first Monday of the month (**except when it is a holiday**). The April meeting of the Tar River Amateur Radio Club will be held Monday, April 5, 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 April program will be IRLP.

## 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.

June 5	August 7
October 2	December 4

Walk in candidates are welcome. No preregistration required.

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
- Test fee of \$15 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)

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

April. Tax time. RARSFest. Field Day planning. Red Cross volunteer packets.

I can't do much about April. Just a friendly reminder that with spring time comes thunder storms. Lightning can ruin your day. Check arrestors, Disconnect when not in use, that kind of stuff.

Tax time, I say that only because that and RARSFest come so close to each other. Me thinks all that shiny new stuff I want, then that check I have to send to uncle Sammie. Life's just cruel.

Don't forget all those little parts and connectors you need. Pick em up. Maybe you want a new rig. Or an antenna. Or that do dad thing a ma jig. RARSFest is the place to go.

It's time start Field Day planning. A lot of it is done. We need to start a working dialog. I have a conflict this year. I can help some before hand, and Sunday breakdown. I will not be available Friday evening or Saturday.

That brings me to the Red Cross packets. Every one at last months meeting received paper work to be get enrolled into the Red Cross DSHR system.

## Upcoming Hamfests

- April 3 – RARSfest
- April 10 – Wilmington, NC
- April 17 – Morganton, NC
- April 23 - 24 – SVHFS Conference
- May 8 – Reidsville, NC
- June 19 – Kinston, NC
- June 12 – Winston-Salem, NC
- July 17 – Cary Swapfest
- August 7 – Fayetteville, NC

## Contests

April 1 - 5

- Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party
- LZ Open 40 Meter Contest – CW
- QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party – CW
- SP DX Contest
- EA RTTY Contest
- MO QSO Party
- Low Power Spring Sprint – CW

April 9 - 12

- Montana QSO Party
- EU Spring Sprints – CW
- Japan International DX Contest – CW
- PSK31 Flavors Contest
- QCWA Spring QSO Party
- Georgia QOS Party
- Yuri Gagarin DX Contest – CW

International Vintage Contest  
VHF Spring Sprints – 144 MHz

April 14 - 18

- CWops Test – CW
- Holyland DX Contest
- EU Spring Sprints – Phone
- EU EME Contest
- TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest
- ES Open HF Championship
- Michigan QSO Party
- EA QRP Contest – CW
- Ontario QSO Party
- YU DX Contest – CW
- ARRL Rookie Roundup – Phone

April 20 - 25

- VHF Spring Sprints – 222 MHz
- John Rollins Memorial DX – CW
- EU EME Contest
- Ten-Ten Spring CW Contest
- SP DX RTTY Contest
- Helvetia Contest
- QRP To The Field – CW
- Florida QSO Party
- Nebraska QSO Party
- WSJT Sprint

April 28

VHF Spring Sprints – 432 MHz

## 2010 Club Dues/ARRL Dues

It is the end of the year and Fred is now accepting 2010 dues payments. TRARC dues are 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: Fred Winner KE4LXW, 8972 Lancaster Store Rd., Castalia, NC 27816.

## DX Info

{TNX to various ARRL email newsletters and ARNL}

BULGARIA, LZ. Members of the Balkan Contest Club will be QRV with special event call sign LZ132GO from March 1 to 31 to commemorate the 132nd anniversary of the liberation of Bulgaria from the Ottoman empire. QSL via LZ1ZF.

RODRIGUES ISLAND, 3B9. John, G3LZQ is QRV as 3B9WR from Cotton Bay, IOTA AF-017, until April 2. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using mainly CW. This includes an entry in the upcoming RSGB Commonwealth Contest. QSL direct to home call.

THE GAMBIA, C5. Niels, OZ8KR is QRV as C56KR from Bakuto. Activity is holiday style on 80 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL direct to home call.

LEBANON, OD. Fred, DL6SN is QRV as OD5/DL6SN until the end of 2010. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using mainly CW. QSL via DO8LA.

FRANZ JOSEF LAND, R1FJ. Victor is QRV as R1FJM and has been active on 15 meters using CW around 0630z. QSL via RX3MM.

SRI LANKA, 4S. Alexander, UX4UL is QRV as 4S7ULG from Colombo until April 7. Activity is mainly on 20 and 10 meters using RTTY and PSK. QSL via UY5ZZ.

AZORES, CU. Operators SP5UAF and SP5ES will be QRV as CT8/home calls from Sao Miguel, IOTA EU-003, from March 17 to 29. Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes. This includes activity in the upcoming Russian DX contest and CQ WPX contest. QSL to home calls.

CHAD, TT. Elke, TT8ET is active on 20 meters using SSB around 0730 to 0800z. QSL direct.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, V2. Babs, DL7AFS and Lot, DJ7ZG will be QRV as V21ZG from Antigua, IOTA NA-100, from March 16 to April 4. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via DL7AFS.

SERBIA, YU. Members of Radio Club Marica-Zemun are QRV as YU140Z until May 31 to celebrate the 140th anniversary of the Voluntary Fire Brigade in the city of Zemun. QSL via YU1AVQ.

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. Tim, NL8F will be QRV as E51COF from Rarotonga, IOTA OC-013, from March 20 to 30. QSL via K8NA.

IRELAND, EI. Olivier, ON4EI will be QRV as EJ8GQB from Bere Island, IOTA EU-121, from March 21 to 29. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

HAITI, HH. Operators Jan, K4QD and Don, AF4Z will be QRV as HH4/home calls from the Northwest Haiti Christian Mission from March 22 to April 2. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY as time and the availability of AC power permits. QSL to home calls.

BONAIRE, CURACAO, PJ2. Michal, OK7MT and Vit, OK5MM are QRV as PJ4/home calls from Bonaire, IOTA SA-006, until April 1. QSL direct to home calls.

SEYCHELLES, S7. Gav, GM0GAV and Rob, GM3YTS will be QRV as S79GM from March 21 to April 1. Activity will be on the low HF bands using CW and possibly RTTY. QSL via operators' instructions.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Operators Steve, 9M6DXX, Derek, G3KHZ, Steve, G4EDG and Mike, K9AJ will be QRV as T32MI from Malden Island, IOTA OC-279, T32SI from Starbuck Island, IOTA OC-280, T32CI from Caroline Island, IOTA OC-281 and T32VI from Vostok Island, IOTA OC-282. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB with four stations activity on each island. QSL all calls direct via SM6CAS

A DXpedition is being planned to operate from the Laguna Grande de la Sierra, Columbia. The callsign will be 5K7SNC. Announced dates are April 1st and 2nd on 7140 kHz only. QSL via HK3OCH. For more details and possible updates please visit QRZ.com under the callsign 5K7SNC.

IK5ZUI, will be active as 5R8UI from Nosy Be Madagascar starting early March. He will be there up to a year. No QSL information as we go to press.

UX4UL will be active as 8Q7IA from the Maldives through May 18th. Activity is mostly CW and PSK.. QSL via UY5ZZ.

DF7ZS, will be on the air from Madeira Island signing portable CT9. This. between March 24th and the 31st. Activity will be holiday style and will focus on the WARC bands. QSL via DF7ZS.

From Uganda, 5X7JD will be on the air until 25 May. QSL as directed on air.

HA5AO will be on the air from Lesotho as 7P8AO through March 28th using all modes and bands. QSL only via his home callsign.

DL7AFS and DL7ZG will sign V21ZG from Antigua for 18 days starting 16 March. They will concentrate on RTTY, PSK and SSB. This is another one to QSL as directed on the air.

5R8UI will be on the air from Madagascar until the end of the year. QSL to IK4ZUI.

NP3D will be active portable HR2 from Honduras between March 19th and the 29th. He will operate on all of the High Frequency bands using all modes, but will focus on 160 meters. QSL via W3HMK, RW6HS, or via Logbook of the World.

Amateur Radio special event station ZS10WCS will be on the air through July 12th to celebrate the 2010 Soccer World Cup being held in South Africa between June 11th and July 11th. The call will be used by members of various South African Radio League affiliated clubs. Operations through May 31st will only

be on weekends. Between June 1st and July 12, ZS10WCS it will be on the air 7 days a week. QSL with a Self Addressed Envelope and one International Reply Coupon to PO Box 1721, Strubensvallei, 1735, South Africa. (SARL)

On the air -- or maybe off the air is a better term for this. Word that the long awaited 3C0C operation from Annobon Island has suffered a setback. due to repairs being made to the islands lone airport runway. On March 12th the ham radio operations planners announced that they had received a statement from Equatorial Guinea informing them that repairs to the runway will begin shortly and are expected to last two to three months. During that time no aircraft can land on or depart from Annobon. DXpedition planners say that travel by boat is not a reality due to the small number of available water craft and the time it would take. For more details and updates please visit [www.3c0c-annobon.com](http://www.3c0c-annobon.com) on the World Wide Web. (3C0C)

A multi-national group is planning to operate from Kurdistan in Northern Iraq between April 2nd and the 12th. The team has received a ten day visa issued by the government of Kurdistan. No other information is available as we go to air.

K9OT and KB9LIE will operate portable FP to activate Miquelon Island between July 5th and the 14th. They will operate CW and SSB primarily on 80 to 10 meters and possibly 6 meters as well. QSL as directed on the air.

The 3W6C team will activate Côn Cỏ Island near Viet Nam on amateur radio satellites from April 10th to the 18th. Satellites to be activated include AO-07, AO-51, HO-68, SO-50, and SO-67, each on an as available basis. For additional information and operating plan, please visit [www.3w6c.qrv.ch](http://www.3w6c.qrv.ch).

X4UL, is now active as 4S7ULG from Colombo, Sri Lanka. He will be there through April 7th working mainly on 20 and 17 meters P-S-K. QSL via UY5ZZ.

TONGA, A3. Hugh, K6HFA is QRV as A33A from Niuafu'ou Island, IOTA OC-123, until April 2. Of late, he has been active on 20 meters around 0600z. QSL to home call.

BAHRAIN, A9. David, A92IO has been active on 40 meters around 0100Z. QSL direct.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5. David, W5CW is QRV as VP5/home call until April 6. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. He will be active as VP50V in the CQ WW WPX SSB contest. QSL direct to home call.

VIET NAM, XV. Retu, OH4MDY is QRV as XV2RZ until April 6. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters. QSL direct to XU7MDY.

OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT. The following operations are approved for DXCC Credit: Tunisia, 3V3S, 2009 operation; Angola, D2CQ, current operation.

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## **NC Section News**

### **ECAC REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED**

At its January meeting, the ARRL board approved the formation of an Emergency Communications Advisory Committee (ECAC). The purpose of the committee is to advise the board on emcomm matters national in scope and help the league prioritize its efforts relating to emergency communications. ARRL Roanoke Division Director Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, has appointed South Carolina SEC Charlie Miller, AE4UX, as our division representative. Charlie won last year's Vic Clark Award for his service as an SEC and he will be an effective representative for us on the committee. Charlie is anxious to hear your input and you can reach him at [ae4ux@arrl.net](mailto:ae4ux@arrl.net).

### **ADVANCED EMCOMM COURSE**

The ARRL has announced that a new Advanced Level Emergency Communications course will be released by HQ in late March or early April. The new course combines material from the former Level 2 and Level 3 EmComm courses, with significant updates and focus on emergency communications training for leaders and managers. The completion requirements include numerous FEMA ICS courses. While the course content will be open to all ARRL members, to take the test and receive credit for the course you must be nominated by a Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator. Look for the syllabus on [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) in a few weeks.

### **PREVIEW -- NC STATE CONVENTION**

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society is hosting this year's North Carolina State Convention on Saturday, April 3 from 8am to 3:30pm at the Exposition Center Building at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds. Some of the forums this year include APRS (bring your laptop to install APRS software used in the forum); ARRL where you can meet new NC SM Bill Morine, N2COP; D-Star led by ARRL contributing Editor Gary Pearce, KN4AQ; and SKYWARN Spotter Training. RARSFest will again feature the always popular "Youth Lounge" with activities for the kids. QSL card checking for ARRL awards will be available and VE exams will be given at 9am.

## MEDIA HITS

Mitchell County ARES received some great coverage on WLOS TV of their work to provide backup voice and email communications for Spruce Pine Blue Ridge Regional Hospital. Some pictures are available at <http://www.main.nc.us/MARC/WLOS.html>.

## 73 DE N4IB

This is my last Section News before turning their reins over to N2COP. Serving as North Carolina Section Manager for the past four years has been the most rewarding experience of my 33 years in amateur radio. I've really enjoyed getting to know so many of you and working together with you on the important work we do for our hobby and our communities. You can't have this job for long and be cynical about the future of amateur radio. Thanks to all of you for your enthusiasm and passion and for the thousands of hours you devote each month to supporting ARRL activities in North Carolina, A special thanks to the 204 ARRL appointees in our section and to those who served in my section cabinet including WA4MOK (SEC), K4HA (STM), W4DNA (STM), N2COP (PIC), WA4KE (ACC), W4ZRA (OOC), K4RLC (SGL), K4ITL (TC), and WA4AKB (OBS). I'm also grateful for the outstanding support from headquarters provided by Steve Ewald, WV1X and Leona Adams, W1LGA. I don't leave this job worn out from the stress, but enthusiastic about finding new ways to contribute. I hope all of you will join me in offering our new Section Manager Bill Morine, N2COP your support and assistance.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April 3: NC State Convention, Raleigh Hamfest

April 10: Wilmington Hamfest

April 17: Catawba Valley Hamfest, Morganton

April 24: State ARES Meeting, Raleigh

## FEBRUARY TRAFFIC

K4IWW 405, W4TTO 94, W4DNA 89, W2EAG 52, KC4PGN 48, W4FAL 43, W3HL 41, KE4AHC 31, NC4VA 29, W4EHF 22, K8SKX 20, N3PYD 2

## FEBRUARY PSHR

NC4VA 164, K4IWW 130, W4DNA 130, W4FAL 130, W4TTO 105, W2EAG 102, KI4YV 100  
FEBRUARY ARES MEMBERS = 1,797

ARRL North Carolina Section

Section Manager: Timothy B. Slay, N4IB

[n4ib@arrl.org](mailto:n4ib@arrl.org)

## W1AW 2010 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

## Morning Schedule:

<u>Time</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Days</u>
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWf	Tue, Thu

## Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)

1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)

(Station closed 1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

## Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2000 UTC (4 PM ET) CWf Mon, Wed, Fri

2000 " " CWs Tue, Thu

2100 " (5 PM ET) CWb Daily

2200 " (6 PM ET) DIGITAL Daily

2300 " (7 PM ET) CWs Mon, Wed, Fri

2300 " " CWf Tue, Thu

0000 " (8 PM ET) CWb Daily

0100 " (9 PM ET) DIGITAL Daily

0145 " (9:45 PM ET) VOICE Daily

0200 " (10 PM ET) CWf Mon, Wed, Fri

0200 " " CWs Tue, Thu

0300 " (11 PM ET) CWb Daily

## Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675  
28.0675 147.555

DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095  
147.555

VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590  
147.555

## Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM

CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM

CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud), BPSK31 and MFSK16 in a revolving schedule.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2230 UTC (6:30 PM ET), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular digital frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Thursdays and 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1400 UTC to 1600 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM ET), and then from 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC (1 PM to 3:45

PM ET) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy.

The complete W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on page 102 in the March 2010 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html#w1awsked>.

Also, just a reminder that beginning today, March 15, 2010, W1AW alternates the digital modes used for its digital bulletin transmissions. While Baudot, BPSK31 and MFSK16 still make up the digital mode complement, the schedule is altered to give more exposure to BPSK31 and MFSK16. Because of time constraints and the varying lengths of digital bulletins, there were many instances in the past when only Baudot was used.

With the new schedule, amateurs preferring either BPSK31 or MFSK16 will find these modes no longer secondary.

The regular callup is made using the mode that is transmitted first. The digital bulletin times remain at 6 PM and 9 PM eastern, daily.

The Tuesday and Friday Keplerian data bulletins will continue to be sent using just Baudot and BPSK31.

Given time constraints and bulletin lengths, all three modes may not always be transmitted.

The new digital schedule can be found in teleprinter and packet versions of 2010 ARRL Bulletin ARLB005.

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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** - Kenwood TH-215A w/manual \$50; Azden PCS-7200 220 MHz w/manual \$200; 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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**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, 252-446-5319

[jimdugan@embarqmail.com](mailto:jimdugan@embarqmail.com), [W1JFD@arrl.net](mailto:W1JFD@arrl.net)

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### FOR SALE

TH6 Antenna

Hygain Rotator

65' Rohn 25G

Tower and antenna have been dismantled and on ground

Contact KG4SPT at 252-946-7197 or

[leary1@gotricounty.com](mailto:leary1@gotricounty.com)

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### FOR SALE

ICOM IC-28H with manual and plastic mobile mount with speaker for transmission hump. TT pad on mike inop, PTT works ok, \$50.

Carolina Windom 40LP, the "low profile" version of this antenna, never used, opened to read instructions then put on shelf, \$50.

Les Zavadil, W4FRA, 252-446-7816.

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