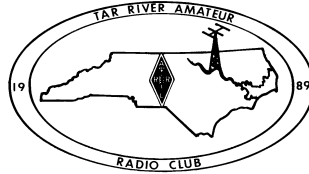


THE AMPLIFIER

P.O. BOX 267

SHARPSBURG, NC 27878



President	Jim Lewis, N4PE	459-8003
Vice President	Bobby Griffin, NF4C	443-6695
Secretary	Wendell Peed, KC4UVT.....	237-8753
Treasurer.....	Lonnie Pridgen, WB4BZZ.....	446-3389
VE Director.....	Bill Thomas, N2BT	442-6131
Newsletter Editor.....	Lonnie Pridgen, WB4BZZ.....	446-3389

WEB SITE: www.tarriverarc.com

NEXT MEETING

The May meeting of the Tar River Amateur Radio Club will be held **Monday, May 7th at BODDIE NOELL ENTERPRISES** located at 1021 Noell Lane in Rocky Mount. The meeting will start at 7 pm.

Please enter the building through the main entrance. Parking is available in front of the building or in the parking lot.

At the May meeting, Bill McDowell, K4CIA, will speak about his 40 years of Amateur Radio and DX'ing. Bill is also the North Carolina section DXCC field checker and will be available to check your QSL cards after the meeting (*Please note: QSL cards for 160 meters or those older than 10 years cannot be field checked*).

Anyone interested in meeting with **Bill, K4CIA, and Bert, WA4TLI, for supper?** They plan to be at the **Texas Steak House** in Rocky Mount around 5:45 to 6 pm before the meeting. Hope to see you there.

Bill McDowell, K4CIA, Biography

Kentuckian by birth.. born in 1939.. Nicholasville Ky...licensed in March 1955.. Elmer was friend and neighbor Frank, W4VKR (Vigilant Kentucky Rebel).. Moved to North Carolina in 1965 to attend graduate school at UNC School of Public Health. Worked at the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health 32 years, retiring in 1998. Tried rag chewing, traffic handling, contesting but always had more fun DX'ing...Original DXCC was received in 1959..signed by F. E. Handy, W1BDI in green ink! Became interested in low band dxing when the 5 Band DXCC program was started in 1970. Received

5BDXCC #75 and 5BWAS #98. 160 Meter DXCC #11 in 1978 was worked "barefooted" during the time of Loran. Have managed QSL cards for VS6DO, T5CT, HL1VR, and ZD9ZM. Used to help Stu, W2GHK with QSL cards chores when he lived in Raleigh. Main DX interests for last several years have been band country chasing, especially on the new bands of 30m, 17m and 12m. Have been participant in the ARRL DXCC Field Checking program since it inception. Presently am the only field checker in North Carolina. Enjoy antenna/tower work.. finally have re-installed my 105 footer last fall.. has Hygain TH-11 and various wires. For what its worth current DX totals are:

364 Mixed
352 Phone
338 CW

160M--195
80M---311
40M---340
30M---320
20M---362
17M---324
15M---341
12M---322
10M---341

CQ FIELD DAY de W4DCG

Field Day is an annual activity in which Amateur Radio Operators across the United States get together on the same weekend to simulate operating their radio stations under emergency conditions. This is done to help train and prepare Amateur Radio Operators to

operate under emergency conditions in case they should be called upon for assistance during and after a local, state, or national emergency.

Field Day will be June 23rd and 24th, with setup beginning on Friday around 5 or 6 PM. Setup will resume Saturday morning around 9 am and Field Day will begin at 2 pm. FD will last till 2 pm on Sunday. This year as with the last few years Field Day will be at Bridgersville, NC. Exact location will be the Bridgersville Campground at Jimmie Bridger's farm on Hwy 42 east of Wilson. Mr. & Mrs. Jimmie Bridgers, Rod (N4BNO) & Peggy Bridgers will be our Host.

Last year our club participated at the usual site on Highway 42 east of Wilson at Bridgersville. We had a triband beam, two Carolina windoms, a ten meter beam, a forty meter dipole and a two meter J-pole. Our rigs included an Icom 751A, an Icom 756PRO, a Yaesu FT 900 and a Yaesu FT 847 on ten and forty meters. We had good support, good food and good fellowship along with some pretty good working conditions. We had a group of twelve operators.

The results were 2843 QSOs and this set new records for QSOs on individual bands including 20 phone, 40 phone and 10 phone. The Tar River ARC had over 6818 total points which is the *First* in 3A operation in North Carolina and *#30* in the US.

Mark June 23rd and 24th on your calendar. You do not want to miss Field Day 2001 in Bridgerville, NC. See you there.

ARES NET

Don't forget the Nash/Edgecombe/Wilson county ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) net every Tuesday evening at 8:30 p.m.

Please check-in and become involved in emergency communications training.

FIELD DAY 2001 T-SHIRTS



1998 FD T-Shirt

Anyone interested in 2000 Field Day Tee Shirts this year. The ARRL Field Day 2001 is fast approaching, we need to make many decisions this meeting dealing with Field Day. Only the May and June meetings are left before the big date. Come to the meeting and let's have a successful Field Day for 2001

VE EXAM UPDATE

Bill, N2BT

The next VE exam session will be held on Saturday, May 26th at 9 a.m.

Exams will be held at J.C. Penney conference room, Golden East Crossing Mall, NC Hwy 43 and U.S. 301, Rocky Mount, NC. Please use the catalog pick-up entrance.

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 \$ 10.00 payable to ARRL/VEC (checks preferred)

The Tar River ARC VE exam schedule for remainder of 2001 is as follows.

July 22
September 22
Nov 24

Congratulations to Wicky Thorpe, who recently received a new callsign, W4LW (formally W4WWT).

CLUB ACTIVITY CALENDAR

May

- 7 Tar River ARC Meeting
- 17 RMARS Meeting
- 18-20 Dayton Hamvention
- 26 VE Session

June

- 4 Tar River ARC Meeting
- 21 RMARS Meeting
- 23-24 ARRL Field Day

Upcoming Hamfest

Bill, N2BT

- May 5 Greenville, SC Hamfest
www.brars.org
- May 19 Williamston, NC Swapfest
www.qsl.net/w4amc/swapfest.html
- May 18-20 Dayton, OH Hamvention
www.hamvention.org
- June 2 Manassas, VA Hamfest
- June 2 Atlanta, GA Hamfest
- June 9 Winston-Salem, NC Hamfest
- July 21 Cary, NC Swampfest
- Sept 1-2 Shelby, NC Hamfest

USEFUL AMATEUR RADIO WEBSITES

Bill, N2BT

- www.TarRiverARC.com Tar River ARC
- www.qsl.net/cidxa Castalia Island DX
Association
- www.arrl.org American Radio Relay League
- www.ncarrl.org ARRL North Carolina
Section
- www.grz.com Callsign look up and a lot
more
- www.eham.net Just check it out !
- www.cestro.com/pcluster/telnet.html Telnet
access to many DX PacketCluster Systems
- www.hamvention.org Dayton Hamvention

Check out the links page on both the Tar River ARC and the Castalia Island DX Association web pages for a complete listing of useful and interesting links.

DX NEWS

Bill, N2BT

- 5/3 - 5/16 Agalega and St. Brandon
3B6RF www.agalega2000.ch/
- 7/15 - 8/3 Cambodia XU7ABR
www.dl4kq.de/00002.html

MISSIONARY-HAM & INFANT, DIE WHEN PLANE IS DOWNED

The ARRL Newsletter

Missionary from Michigan, killed after the plane in which she was a passenger was shot down last week in Peru, was an Amateur Radio operator.

The Harrisburg, Pennsylvania-based Association of Baptists for World Evangelism, identified the dead as Veronica "Roni" Bowers, 35, and her infant daughter, Charity, seven months. Roni Bowers was KD4CKM, a Tech Plus licensee.

The Cessna 185 float plane ditched in the Amazon River after being fired upon. Bowers' husband, Jim, and their son, Cory, 6, were not seriously injured in the incident. Jim Bowers is KD4CKN, a General licensee. Pilot Kevin Donaldson was shot in the leg in the incident but survived.

The Bowerses, from Muskegon, Michigan, had been serving in Peru since July 1993. News accounts say the Peruvian Air Force shot down the plane carrying the missionaries in the Amazon jungle April 20. The Peruvian military said it opened fire after the pilot ignored warnings to land, but that claim is disputed.

A communiqué from the Peruvian Ministry of Defense said that the Peruvian Air Force "deeply regrets the loss of human life." It said its actions were part of its anti-drug operations procedures. Reports say a US military aircraft associated with anti-drug

trafficking operations first spotted the Cessna but told the Peruvians the plane might be legitimate.

An investigation continues. Funeral services for the mother and infant were held April 27 in Michigan.

W4DCG REPEATER

The 146.805MHz W4DCG Repeater has its fourth anniversary coming up. On May 2, 1997 (Friday night) the W4DCG/R was put on the air at Louisburg on the Channel 47 TV Tower site.

If you have not tuned in the W4DCG Repeater, here is the frequency, **146.805** minus, with **CTCSS 118.8** tone.

I want to thank Marvin, KD4NLX, for the tower work he has been doing at the repeater site. Also thanks to Adam KG4IWI, Robin WA4WPD, Rick KF4NOV and Bobby NF4C for helping out installing the 440MHz Remote Base Module and remote base antenna.

Below are some pictures of Marvin KD4NLX replacing the Remote Base antenna on the tower at Louisburg at about 80 Feet.

