



The Amplifier

Tar River Amateur Radio Club

June 2005

President	Robin Keller, WA4WPD	252-459-9345
Vice President	Bill Fairley, WA4TCC	252-977-1477
Secretary	Les Zavadil, W4FRA	252-446-7816
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VE Director	Bill Thomas, N2BT	252-442-6131
Newsletter Editor	Les Zavadil, W4FRA	252-446-7816

WEB SITE: www.tarriverarc.org

Next Meeting

The May meeting of the Tar River Amateur Radio Club will be held Monday, June 6, at BODDIE NOELL ENTERPRISES, located at 1021 Noell Lane in Rocky Mount. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. Please enter the building through the main entrance. Parking is available in front of the building or in the parking lot. The June program will be last Field Day Planning Session.

2005 VE Exam Schedule

Bill, N2BT

The Tar River Amateur Radio Club, Rocky Mount, NC, will hold ARRL/VEC Amateur Radio Exams in 2005 as follows:

June 4	October 1
August 6	December 3

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 web site at www.TarRiverARC.org or contact:

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

Email: N2BT@arrl.net

President's Corner

Robin, WA4WPD

It's June. Field Day is this month. Also Hurricane season starts. As I write this the first hurricane has already hit. Doesn't it know it's early? Oh well....

Now is a good time to replace last years hurricane kit with fresh items. I plan on eating the food and drinking the water in mine. Then I get new food and water.

Here a list to get you started:

- * Flashlight and extra batteries
- * Portable battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- * First-aid kit
- * Emergency food and water
- * Non-electric can opener
- * Essential medicines
- * Cash and credit cards
- * Sturdy shoes and a change of clothing
- * Copies of important papers, including bank accounts, insurance and household inventory records

I try to keep five days worth of food and water. Also, when a storm gets close, I fill all the bath tubes with water. I use this water for flushing.

There will be several businesses with hurricane preparedness displays. Some have asked for HAM radio presence. Contact Fred (KE4LXW) if you are interested in helping.

Don't forget HAM supplies either. A portable antenna, spare HT batteries. ARES has SET exercises to demonstrate what works and what doesn't. If you haven't participated now would be a good time to get involved.

The club lost a good member in May. There is a separate article about WA4TCC. His passing has put some kinks in our Field Day planning. Adam (WT4S) and Cathy (KG4OUA) are helping me fill the void. This will be discussed at the June meeting.

There is also one other thing we need to consider. Bill was going to provide the program for the August meeting. We now have an opening for August. Anyone have any ideas? Do you have pet peeve you want to share? I'm looking for a program.

See you at the meeting.

William J Fairley

WA4TCC – Silent Key

December 04, 1943 – May 10, 2005

Amateur Radio lost a great soul this week. I lack the vocabulary to express my loss. So please bear with me.

I can't remember when I first met Bill. But I do remember being impressed. Bill was the first Amateur Radio Operator I met that did not "fit the mold". He had all of the necessary technical abilities. He acquired all the certificates of his time.

He worked in commercial two way radio for a while. He work in commercial broadcast both video and radio. He worked as an EMT.

He was active in RACES before there was ARES in Texas and in NC. He held an Extra Class Amateur Radio license and was part of the local VE team.

But his technical expertise was only the start.

He was jovial. His ability to be nice all the time was amazing. I've seen him diffuse hostility with a smile and wave. Bill was the type of person you WANTED to be around.

I would like a share a quote with you.

"Moving parts in rubbing contact require lubrication to avoid excessive wear. Honorifics and formal politeness provide lubrication where people rub together. Often the very young, the untraveled the naive, the unsophisticated deplore these formalities as "empty," or "dishonest" and scorn to use them. No matter how "pure" their motives, they thereby throw sand into machinery that does not work too well at best." — Robert Heinlein

Bill understood this. He tried his best to teach me. His whole life revolved around "lubricating" his family, his church, his community and his work.

Godspeed Bill.

Robin D. Keller

WA4WPD

Upcoming Hamfests

May 28 – Durham, NC

June 11 – Winston Salem, NC

June 11 – Franklin, VA

July 2 – Salisbury, NC

July 16 – Cary, NC

July 30 – Waynesville, NC

August 6 – Roanoke, VA

August 13 – Fayetteville, NC

Sept. 3-4 – Shelby, NC

Contests

June 1 - July 5

Summer Six Meter Digital Rally

June 3 - 7

QRP TAC Sprint Contest

WW Major Six Club Contest

IARU Region 1 Field Day

June 11 - 12

ANARTS WW RTTY/Digital Contest
Asia-Pacific Sprint
ARRL June VHF QSO Party
EU EME Contest
Portugal Day Contest
GACW WWSA CW DX Contest

June 18 - 19

Kid's Day Operating Event
West Virginia QSO Party
All-Asian DX Contest
SMIRK QSO Party
Quebec QSO Party
Spanish Islands Contest

June 25 - 28

ARRL Field Day
His Majesty King of Spain Contest
QRP ARCI Milliwatt Field Day
Marconi Memorial HF Contest

2005 Club Dues/ARRL Dues

This is just a reminder to everyone that the TRARC dues are now due... \$15 per yr for individuals and \$21 for family's. Most have already paid and we thank you !

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.

ARRL NC Section News

NORTH CAROLINA: SM, John Covington, W4CC - SEC: WA4MOK. STM: K4HA. TC:K4ITL. BM: KD4YTU. PIC: N2COP. OOC: W4ZRA. SGL: AB4W. ACC: N4JCK.

Field Day weekend is Saturday and Sunday, June 25-26. We are assembling a web page that will be posted at the beginning of June with information regarding Field Day operations (June 25-26). This information will allow radio amateurs visiting the area or without a club to locate a field day site to visit and possibly operate as well. The site is located at: <http://www.ncarrl.org/FieldDay/FDForm.html>

As usual, I hope to visit some Field Day sites this year. Due to travel time between sites, the need for sleep and other factors, I can only visit around 10 clubs each year, and I make some decisions along the route as I go. I definitely depend on directions submitted to me (or better yet, the web site so others will have it) to help decide the route, so tell me about your plans as soon as you can.

Field Day is a good opportunity to do several things:

1. Practice skills needed to deploy a station under emergency power.
2. Practice your operating skills.
3. Learn about new modes, techniques and equipment.
4. Introduce newcomers to all of the above.
5. Promote Amateur Radio to the general public.
6. Get together with your ham friends and have FUN.

Make sure your Field Day station sends an NTS-formatted radiogram to the Section Manager (that's me). My contact information is on page 16 of QST each month. The incentive of 100 points is not offered just to boost your score, but to make sure someone in your group takes the time to learn how to create a radiogram and send it properly over the air. The messages does not have to be transmitted directly to me, just another station who will relay it. Since I travel that weekend, I usually get most of the messages on Monday when I have returned. And no, I can't accept hand delivery if I show up at your Field Day site, the whole purpose is to get some practice sending messages over the air! I appreciate the 25 or so of these I get every year, and hope I get even more this time.

Hurricane season starts June 1st. Last year we had six storms that affected our state, showing that no part of our state is immune to the effects of hurricanes. However, it only takes ONE to cause major problems for us. In 1992, only one hurricane made landfall in the United States - Hurricane Andrew, the most destructive United States hurricane of record. So, don't let predictions about the number of storms for the coming season make you complacent.

Make sure you are prepared to deal with whatever kind of disaster might happen in your area. I have a document that I wrote a while back that discusses both personal disaster preparedness as well as Amateur Radio Disaster Preparedness that you might find interesting to read. It includes some links to some other disaster preparedness resources and is located at:

<http://www.ncarrl.org/ares/prepare.html>

I am sad to report some silent keys: A.B. Brackett, AB4E and Dwight Cates, W4DAC. Both were active on our HF nets and Dwight was EC of Stokes County.

Upcoming Hamfests: Williamston Saturday May 21, East Carolina Antique Radio Club Saturday May 21, Durham Saturday May 28, Winston-Salem Saturday June 11th.

April Traffic: W4EAT 904 (BPL), W0UCE 442, K4IWW 223, AD4XV 152, AA4YW 134, W4DNA 120, KI4YV 114, WA4OBR 102, KE4JHJ 80, W4LN 77, KG4YNM 69, W3HL 61, NC8D 56, W4TTO 49, KI4AHA 40, W4EHF 35, KE4AHC 34, W4NCD 30, K4RLD 26, KG4OQA 25, KE4YHR 25, K7UGT 22, N4GYR 4.

April PSHR: W4NCD 215, NC8D 156, KI4AHA 156, W4DNA 135, W4EAT 130, K4RLD 126, K4IWW 120, KE4JHJ 110, W0UCE 110, W4LN 90, KI4YV 90, K7UGT 82, KG4YNM 80, AA4YW 80, KD4FUN 55.

ARRL North Carolina Section

Section Manager: John M. C Covington, W4CC

w4cc@arrl.org

ARES Net

The Northern Coastal Plain ARES net, covering Nash, Edgecombe, Halifax, and Wilson counties, meets Tuesday nights at 8:30 p.m. on 145.290 MHz, 146.805 MHz, 146.745 MHz, 224.220 MHz, 444.500 MHz, 444.700 MHz, 442.125 MHz and 443.700 MHz repeaters. Check into the net, participate in ARES training, and enjoy the informal rag-chew afterwards.

Hurricane Awareness Display

Saturday, June 4, will be Hurricane Awareness Day at the Golden East Mall. The NWS will have a display set up from 10 am to 2 pm and we have been asked to set up an Amateur Radio Display. We will be set up near the Belk entrance. Fred, KE4LXW, is planning an 2 Meter and 440 station, an IRLP station and possibly a HF station. He would like to set up an Echolink station if someone has a laptop we can use.

Help will be needed for set-up before 10 am and takedown after 2 pm. Contact Fred, KE4LXW, if you can help.

Congrats

Congratulations to Marty, W4MY. In the 2004 ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone) Marty placed First in Class A for South Carolina; Seventh place in Roanoke Division for Class A; and 112th Nationwide in Class A. Way to go Marty!

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@trarc.org.

Input Wanted

If you would like to see something in particular in YOUR newsletter, let me know. If you have an article of interest, send it to me. – Les, W4FRA.
