



The Amplifier

Tar River Amateur Radio Club

June 2007

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WEB SITE: www.tarriverarc.org

Next Meeting

The June meeting of the Tar River Amateur Radio Club will be held Monday, June 4, 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 Field Day planning.

2007 VE Exam Schedule

Bill, N2BT

The Tar River Amateur Radio Club, Rocky Mount, NC, will hold ARRL/VEC Amateur Radio Exams in 2007 as follows.

June 2	August 4
October 6	December 1

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 or contact

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

Email: N2BT@arrl.net

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President's Corner

Robin, WA4WPD

It's June.

There are two big events this month.

First is the American Diabetes Association NC Tour De Cure. This is a two day event over the weekend of June 9-10. Yes I know it's a "public service" style event. But I like these. I will be participating. What's even more interesting this year is their use of 440 repeaters for the whole course. We'll see how it goes. Look at <http://www.hampublicservice.org/TDC.php> for more information.

Talking of 440. Anyone see the story that the Department of Defense has asked certain 440 repeaters to cease operation? Could it happen here? Yep. The ARRL is attempting to negotiate a compromise. Those of us who use 440 need to follow this. Remember, Amateur Radio is the SECONDARY user of the 440 band.

Second is Field Day. It will be held at the Rocky Mount Fire Training Grounds this year. As always the date is the fourth full weekend in June (June 23-24). There will be setup of antennas Friday afternoon. The RV, ERV and computers will show up Saturday morning. This will be topic for the June meeting.

The Fire Training Grounds can be found on Atlantic Avenue. Off of US 64 take the Atlantic Avenue exit. Turn towards town (south). The entrance is beside US 64.

Come one and all.

Upcoming Hamfests

June 3 – Manassas, VA
June 9 – Winston Salem, NC
July 21 – Cary, NC
July 28 - Waynesville, NC
Aug. 4 – Vinton, VA
Aug. 19 – Westminster, MD
September 15 - 16 – Virginia Beach, VA
Oct. 28 – Westminster, MD

Contests

June 2 - 3

2007 Alabama QSO Party
SEANET Contest
IARU Region 1 Field Day
Look Around in the Field Contest

June 9 - 11

ARRL June VHF QSO Party
ANARTS WW RTTY/Digital Contest
Asia-Pacific Sprint - SSB
Portugal Day Contest - SSB

GACW WWSA CW DX Contest

Bill Windle QSO Party - CW

June 16 - 17

Kids Day Operating Event

West Virginia QSO Party

All-Asian DX Contest - CW

SMIRK QSO Party

Quebec QSO Party

Summer Meteor Scatter Contest

Spanish Islands Contest

June 23 - 24

ARRL Field Day

His Majesty King of Spain Contest

QRP ARCI Milliwatt Field Day

Digital QSO Club Digital Pentathlon

June 1 - PSK

June 8 - MFSK

June 15 - Olivia

June 22 - Hellschreiber

June 29 - Throb

2007 Club Dues/ARRL Dues

This is just a reminder to everyone that the 2007 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.

NC Section News

PRB-1 BILL PASSES IN NC HOUSE!

North Carolina House Bill H1340, was reported favorably out of the House Ways and Means Committee on May 3, and unanimously approved by the full House on May 8. The bill has been referred to the Senate. Thanks to all of you who contacted your state representative as the House bill was considered. None of us imagined this would happen so quickly! We will need you to make the same great effort to build support with your state Senator as soon as a number is assigned for the companion bill. Thanks also to the bill's sponsor Rep Danny McComas (R-New Hanover) and to former Wilmington Mayor Hamilton "Ham"

Hicks, KB4BR, for shepherding the bill through the House with overwhelming success.

H1340 would not help us much with restrictive covenants and home owners associations. But it does require municipalities and counties to require ordinances based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations regulating placement, screening or height of Amateur Radio antennas or antenna support structures "must reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communications and must represent the minimum practicable regulation necessary to accomplish the purpose" of the city or county. In addition, the measure would establish a minimum regulatory height of 90 feet "unless the restriction is necessary to achieve a clearly defined health, safety, or aesthetic objective" of the city or county.

LEADERSHIP ROLES

In my job as Section Manager I get to see the best of ham radio.....and sometimes the worst. The worst generally involves a squabble between groups of hams. You know the saying: "If there's three hams in a city there's going to be at least two radio clubs!" I understand the passion folks feel for this hobby and how opinionated we can become. That passion can bubble over when things aren't going the way we think it should. Friction between hams is of particular concern when it involves ARES because it puts our services at risk and compromises our ability to provide emergency communications. If one of our served agencies gets involved or even hears about it, it's very embarrassing and gives them the perception that we aren't professional and can't be reliable in an emergency. Their thought might be that if we can't manage ourselves, then how can we manage in a disaster?

If you're a leader in the ARRL - and especially if you have a leadership role in ARES - as EC, DEC, AEC's etc., I encourage you NOT to get involved in controversial issues, disputes and squabbles. As amateurs we're all volunteers and the only way we can make decisions is by collaboration and consensus. If it looks like that isn't going to happen, consider recusing yourself from the issue and use your EC appointment as an excuse. The risk is that if you offend any of your constituents then they aren't going to want to volunteer for your next public service event, training exercise, or disaster. I'm not suggesting that you shouldn't get involved in a local club - that's important of course. But it's also important for you as an EC not to take a central role in an issue that is going to cause lots of dissension in the local ham community. That means that sometimes things won't go the way you think they

should. But is having your way in a situation really important enough to lose 1, 2, 3 or 10 volunteers at your next public service event?

The issue I think is that an EC has the most difficult management task there is - managing volunteers. You can't motivate them with pay, promotion or glory. They have to WANT to work for you because it's a cause they believe in or maybe it's just because they like you. So it's important that we have EC's who can get along with mostly everyone, because you're going to need mostly everyone when the big one hits!

WITHER HAMFESTS? - Ward Silver, N0AX

Note the difference between "wither" (meaning to shrivel or dry up) and "whither" (meaning "to what place? where?"). Very often, I hear hamfest more closely associated with the former as attendance falls and familiar events "go dark." Is the hamfest doomed?

To be sure, on-line auction and for-sale sites have decimated the amount and diminished the quality of equipment and parts for which hamfests were once the premier source. After all, with information on nearly anything available for the effort of a few keystrokes, why go to all the trouble of making the trek, standing in line, and wandering the aisles? Without that guaranteed need, can the traditional hamfest survive? Well, probably not if the primary focus remains on selling and buying - technology has overcome the tailgate laden with dusty boatanchors and heaps of semi-identifiable gadgetry.

Instead, let's look at what the hamfest can provide that the on-line venue just can't: demonstrations, seminars, classes, and lectures, competitions, equipment testing, and of course: face-to-face meetings and license exams.

These just don't work as well over the Internet. A hamfest that evolves from an "intergarage junque transfer" to more of a convention-style show may very well prosper.

Today's newer hams - in their 30's and 40's - need a good reason to mark off a weekend day on the refrigerator calendar. They need to have an experience unavailable on line and they should be able to take away something of value.

Dayton is coming up this weekend and the enthusiasm on the email reflectors and Web sites is palpable, even as the legendary flea market continues to shrink. Around 25,000 hams will flock to southwestern Ohio this weekend to partake of the main activities, hold their own sub-hamfests, meet old friends, make new friends, check out the new gear from all the manufacturers - drinking great draughts from the

deep well that is Amateur Radio in the 21st century. Wither hamfests? I don't think so!

(Note from N4IB: Ward Silver, N0AX, writes the "ARRL Contest Rate Sheet" every other Wednesday and you can subscribe to the newsletter by updating your profile on www.arrl.org.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 26: Durham Hamfest, Durham

May 26: Area 13 ARES Meeting, Conover

June 9: Winston Salem Classic Hamfest

June 9-10: Tour de Cure, Cary

June 23-24: ARRL Field Day

July 7: Salisbury Firecraker Hamfest

July 21: Mid-Summer Swapfest, Cary

July 28: Western Carolina Hamfest, Waynesville

APRIL TRAFFIC

W4EAT 706 (BPL), W4UEF 293, W2EAG 190, N3BW 150, K4IWW 144, W4DNA 115, K4RLD 109, KD4FUN 100, KE4JHJ 89, W4NCD 74, W4LN 72, WA4OBR 66, K4LKN 63, W4TTO 56, W4FAL 48, KE4AHC 34, W3HL 33, KG4YNM 24, WA2YBM 21, KI4RBB 20, KI4PNL 13, KI4QHM 10, W4CC 3.

APRIL PSHR

K4RLD 185, W4DNA 155, W4LN 145, W4EAT 130, W4FAL 130, K4IWW 120, W4TTO 120, KE4JHJ 110, W2EAG 110, WA2YBM 110, KE4YHR 92, KD4FUN 90.

ARRL North Carolina Section

Section Manager: Timothy B. Slay, N4IB

n4ib@arrl.org

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.

This is a list of the Items from WA4TCC's estate. If you desire to bid for any of these items please send a message to me mailto:rdkeller@nashvillenc.com... do not send to list (If you do....Everyone on the list will know your bid). Please specify WA4TCC Estate in the subject line and identify the item for your in the text of your message. Please include your contact information. If you desire to bid for more than one item, submit separate bids for each.

The highest reasonable bid will be accepted. That is, if an item is worth \$100, please don't waste our time by bidding \$5.00 for it. Please examine the list carefully. If it says "condition unknown" it means we are either unable or UNWILLING to turn the device on and test it.

There is no financing involved. All sales are final. Cash, no checks or credit. All proceeds go to WA4TCC's widow.

All sales must be approved by WA4WPD, N4JEH AND WT4S.

- ADI AT-600** S/N 8350001047
VHF/UHF dualbander HT with external mic
replacement battery by W & W Manufacturing
One original battery
Manual
missing charger
- Aerotron External Speaker**
Hallicrafters S108 S/N 284925 / 29602
receiver
unknown condition
Missing Manual
- Hallicrafters S120** S/N 120000D 44309
receiver
manual
unknown condition
- Heathkit HD 1426** S/N 00816
Field strength meter
unknown condition
missing manual
- Icom TV-R700** S/N 03753
video from a scanner unit
- Kenwood PG-5A**
TNC data cable
new in box \$15.00
- KLM mutil 2700** S/N 93130
2meter 10 meter receive OSCAR transceiver
unknown condition
missing manual
- MFJ 280**
compact speaker
- MFJ 1278** S/N 3014854
TNC, CW, and RTTY decoder early 80's model
condition unknown
power supply
interface cable for unknown radio
Parallel cable
missing manual
- Mirage B108** S/N 5289-1181
Two meter AMP
condition unknown
missing manual
- Realistic HTX 404** S/N 0075992
440 HT
works
charger
speaker mic
missing manual

Realistic BTX 124 S/N 70200578
commercial VHF business band radio

Realistic BTX 124 S/N 70200579
commercial VHF business band radio

Vibroplex Vibrokey standard
Ham Key

Yaesu FV-107 S/N OC 030150
external VFO

Yaesu FP-107E S/N OG 020594
power supply

Yaesu FC-107 S/N OE 030700
Antenna Tuner

Yaesu FT-107M S/N OE 050118
160-10 HF transceiver
desk mic
Display malfunctions
missing manual
no WARC bands

Yaesu FTV 107/R S/N 040326
transverter 430 Mhz
new in box
was 229.95

Yaesu FTV 707 S/N 020170
2 meter transverter

Yaesu FTV 700 S/N 6K140050
6 meter transverter

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.

– Fred Winner, KE4LXW, 252-459-4332

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

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.
