



The Amplifier

Tar River Amateur Radio Club

August 2009

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WEB SITE: www.tarriverarc.org

Next Meeting

Tar River Amateur Radio Club meets on the first Monday of the month (except when it is a holiday). The August meeting of the Tar River Amateur Radio Club will be held Monday, August 3, at BODDIE NOELL ENTERPRISES, located at 1021 Noell Lane in Rocky Mount. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. Talk-in on WA4WPD repeater: 145.290-, PL Tone 107.2. The August meeting program will be Advanced SkyWarn Training. The training is open to the public.

2009 VE Exam Schedule

Bill, N2BT

The Tar River Amateur Radio Club, Rocky Mount, NC, will hold ARRL/VEC Amateur Radio Exams in 2009 as follows.

August 1

October 3

December 5

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 \$15 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
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Email: N2BT@arrl.net

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President's Corner

Robin, WA4WPD

August. Wow. Two thousand nine is flying by.

First order of business. The August meeting will be an Advanced Spotters Class. Jeff Orrock will be here. Expect visitors. Will try to keep club business to a minimum.

Jamboree on the Air will be 17 and 18 October. This will be the subject of the September and maybe October meetings. We have been asked to have a demo HF station and teach a Radio Merit Badge class. I have the class materials as a PDF file. If anyone wants a copy please contact me. I do not know if Citizenship of the World is being taught. I should know soon.

I have contacted the Raleigh ARES group and the Wilson club. I'm having problems trying to get up with RMARS. If you have current contact data for them please let me know.

I have the kits for the Electronic Merit Badge. I will have them during the meeting. We will put these together after we get all JOTA stuff handled. The Electronic Merit Badge will be taught during the Scouts January multi-unit camp out.

Lastly. Seems like the club has a bunch of e-QSL's. I'll look into them and report next month.

See 'ya at the meeting.

Upcoming Hamfests

August 1 – Vinton, VA

August 8 – Fayetteville, NC

September 5 - 6 – Shelby Hamfest

September 12 - 13 – Virginia Beach, VA

Contests

Aug. 1 - 3

TARA Grid Dip Contest

Lighthouse-Lightship Week

10-10 Summer Phone QSO Party

European HF Championship

ARRL UHF Contest

North American QSO Party

South Africa HF DX Contest – SSB

Aug. 8 - 9

Worked All Europe – CW

Maryland-DC QSO Party

Aug. 15 - 17

ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest

SARTG WW RTTY Contest

Russian District Award Contest

Keymen's Club of Japan Contest – CW

Silent Key Memorial Sprint – CW

North American QSO Party

New Jersey QSO Party

Aug. 22 - 23

Hawaii QSO Party

Ohio QSO Party

Aug. 29 - 30

ALARA Contest

YO DX Contest

SCC RTTY Championship

South Africa HF DX Contest – CW

2009 Club Dues/ARRL Dues

It is the end of the year and Fred is now accepting 2009 dues payments. 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 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.

DX Info

{TNX to various ARRL email newsletters and ARNL}

TAJIKISTAN, EY. Rahim, EY7AD has been QRV on 20 meters SSB around 0130z. QSL to home call.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Tovia, T32TV has been QRV from Christmas Island, IOTA OC-024, using SSB on 20 meters around 0600z. QSL via operator's instructions.

CHAGOS ISLAND, VQ9. Larry, VQ9LA has been QRV on 20 meters around 0240z. QSL to home call.

TIMOR-LESTE, 4W. Chris, 4W6FR, is QRV as time permits. Look for him on 20 and 17 meters using PSK. Most of his activity takes place between 0900 and 1300z. QSL via VK4FW, direct or the OQRS at //www.odxg.org

SOUTH KOREA, HL. Jerry, N4EO, will be QRV as HL9EO from Yongsan Barracks through mid-September as his work duties permit. Look for him on 20 meters and higher with a concentration on CW and PSK. QSL direct to N4EO.

CROATIA, 9A. Zik, VE3ZIK (DO7ZZ), will be active as 9A/VE3ZIK from Bilice between July 2 and August 3. Activity will be on the HF bands using

CW, SSB and digital modes. He will also participate in the RSGB IOTA Contest from IOTA group EU-170. QSL via DO7ZZ, direct or bureau.

ARUBA, P4. Operators Bob, W3BTX (P49T) and Roy, W3TEF (P4/W3TEF) will activate P41USA over the anniversary date of the attacks on the USA on September 11, 2001. Look for activity on all bands between September 8 and 17, including the September VHF Contest. QSL via W3TEF.

THAILAND, HS. Don, HS0ZEE has been active on 20 meters CW daily around 1400z. QSL to home call.

DENMARK, OZ. Harry, PA1H and Nico, PA8PA will be QRV as OZ/home call from Lango Island, IOTA EU-172, from July 25 to August 1. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters, and possibly the VHF bands, using SSB and digital modes. This includes an entry in the upcoming IOTA contest. QSL to home calls.

ANDORRA, C3. Vini, IK2CIO, will be active as C31/IK2CIO between August 6 and 12. Activity will be holiday style on 160 through 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to IK2CIO, via the Bureau or direct.

BELIZE, V3. Per, LA5OPA, will be QRV as V31NP from Ambergris Cay (NA-073) between July 26 and August 12. He will work in SSB and PSK31 mostly on 20 meters. QSL via bureau or direct to LA5OPA.

GREENLAND, OX. Bo, OZ1PIF, is operating OX3LX until August 1. He is QRV on six meters from grid square GP60. QSL via OZ1PIF.

FAROE ISLANDS. OY. Thomas, OY/OZ1AA, is now QRV from the OY6FRA club station in the capital, Torshavn. He is on HF and 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via OZ1ACB, Allis Andersen, Kagsaavej 34, DK-2730 Herlev, Denmark.

MOROCCO, CN. CN10FT is QRV until August 20 commemorating the 10th year of the reign of the King of Morocco, Mohamed VI. Operators are CN8ZG, CN8CMZ, CN8KD, CN8NK and CN8SG. QSL via EA7FTR.

GHANA, 9G. Operators Alfeo, I1HJT, Silvano, I2YSB, Carlo, IK1AOD, Vinicio, IK2CIO, Angelo, IK2CKR, Marcello, IK2DIA, Stefano, IK2HKT, and Donato, IZ2CHO will be active between November 13 and 27. Their activity will also include an IOTA trip to Abokwa Island (AF-084). They will use two different call signs for their activities. Operations on the mainland will use the call sign 9G5TT, while operations on AF-084 will use 9G5XX. Activity will be on 80 through 10 meters, using all modes. QSL via I2YSB, direct only.

F6ICX, will be active as 5R8IC from Saint Marie Island between November 17th and December 15th. His operation will be on 80-10 meters. QSL via his home callsign.

EA5RM, is expected to be working in Bolivia during the month of August. He says that he expects to be on the air during his spare time as CP1XRM. QSL as directed on the air.

M0TDG and G3ZAY will be active portable FP from Miquelon from September 24th to the 27th. Their activity will be on the low bands using CW and SSB. QSL via their home callsigns.

A group of international operators will be operating from Lesotho starting July 29th and continuing through August 13th. Activity will be on all bands with some emphasis on 160 and 80 meters with two stations on most of the time using CW and SSB. There is the possibility of a 3rd station for PSK and RTTY. Calls to listen out for include 7P8AO, 7P8YI, 7P8MM and several others. QSL as directed on the air.

DJ7RJ, has received the callsign TO7RJ to be used from Mayotte September 22nd and October 21st. He will then use his call portable FH from October 23rd until he leaves the island on October 25th. Listen out for him on 160 through 10 meters and possibly 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via his Callbook address.

DL7JAN and DL2IX will be active portable CT8 from Faial Island in the Azores from August 21st to the 31st. Their operation will be on 80 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via their home call, either via the bureau or direct.

F2JD will be in the Philippines for the next five months and hopes to get his DU1G0SHN license extended. He plans to activate some I-O-T-A locations during his stay. QSL direct or via the REF Bureau to F6AJA.

T32TV is a new operator on the air from Kiritimati. He has been heard on 20 meter SSB after 06:00 UTC. Please be patient with him so as he is not only new to ham radio but news to pile-ups as well. QSL as directed on the air.

3B8FQ has received approval and will activate St. Brandon Island as 3B7FQ in August. He will be departing Mauritius on August 10th, and returning from St. Brandon on August 30th. Operation will be CW and SSB on 40 through 10 meters. QSL 3B7FQ and via K5XK per the information found on QRZ.com. And you might want to go out of your way to work him. 3B8FQ believes this may be the last trip to St. Brandon for the next five years.

VE3ZIK will once again be active portable as 9A from Bilice, Croatia through August 3rd. Listen for

him on the HF bands using CW, SSB and some digital modes. QSL via DO7ZZ, direct or by the bureau. Logs will be uploaded to eQSL and Logbook to the World.

MM0DFV has started out on a 7000km mobile journey from Scotland through France, Belgium, Germany, Poland, Belarus, Russian, Kazakhstan and back. He has his HF gear with him and operating as he goes. His main mode of operation will be PSK and he plans to have different QSL cards for each new stop. The trip should last until August 10th. QSL as directed by MM0DFV.

NC Section News

JUNE EARTHQUAKE DRILL A BIG SUCCESS

An NC Emergency Management graded NCEM/FEMA exercise was held on June 23 and 24. The exercise assumed all landline and cellular telephone systems were interrupted and communications between involved EOC's and Red Cross offices occurred via Amateur Radio. By all accounts, the exercise was a great success and state and local emergency management agencies were impressed with our capability. More than 80 stations checked-in to the Tarheel Emergency Net during the exercise and both simplex and repeater-based VHF was used between counties participating in the drill. Army MARS Winlink stations provided HF-based email between the Buncombe County EOC, Western Branch EOC in Conover and the State EOC in Raleigh. When emergency management's own email system experienced some very real technical difficulties, MARS Winlink was ready as a backup. Congratulations and thanks to everyone who participated in this drill!

FIELD DAY REPORT

Thanks to all of you for your Field Day hospitality! I visited 12 of the 52 sites in the NC section, driving 511 miles. Here are some random observations: The Rowan ARS had the local volunteer fire department on hand and several members are also hams. I was happy to meet the new Rowan County EC, Gary, K4GHL. The Tri County ARC in High Point was holding their first Field Day and setup at the High Point Red Cross office, with several new hams participating. I enjoyed visiting with Weldon, W4AJT who was operating from an air conditioned tent at the Greensboro ARC site. Weldon has been a ham since 1930!. The Alamance ARC had access to the county's fire training site. It helps when the county emergency manager is a ham and is participating in field day! The Orange County ARC and the Durham FM Association held a combined field day with some impressive

antennas and lots of good food. The CDXA group was operating from W4DXA's QTH and probably won their category. In Concord, the Cabarrus ARC used their club emergency trailer and also had access to a massive crank up tower owned by the county. The Union County club was setup in the beautiful town of Waxhaw and had a visit from a county commissioner. Charlotte's TV14 was on-hand during my visit to the Mecklenburg ARS site and the club got some great press coverage. The Charlotte ARC activated their first class club station at the Salvation Army office. But the most impressive venue was the Smith Chart ARS operation in Raleigh. Since their Field Day was combined with a State Highway Patrol drill, the Smith Chart group had access to the NCSHP tower trailers and command post vehicle. Wow!

WINLINK OPERATIONAL AT BRANCH EOC'S

Thanks to the leadership of Central Branch AEC Tom Brown, N4TAB, the state EOC and Eastern and Western branch offices are now equipped with HF Winlink. There is also a portable unit for the state's command trailer. This is the culmination of 7 years of work with state emergency management to secure funding, obtain the equipment and complete installations at all three locations. The Winlink system received its most visible test during the Western NC earthquake drill. While there is still some tweaking needed, the new equipment provides excellent backup email capability for the EOC's.

MEDIA HITS

Congratulations to all of you who helped out with Field Day publicity in the North Carolina section! As mentioned above, the Mecklenburg ARS site had a visit from Charlotte cable's TV14 news channel. The Shelby Club effort was covered in the Shelby Star. Two TV news stories were aired in Wilmington, one on ABC affiliate WWAY-TV and another on WECT. The Cape Fear ARS efforts were covered in "Ham Radio Operators Not Yielding to Future" on fayobserver.com and dailyadvance.com described the Albemarle ARS Field Day operation. The New Bern ARC got coverage in the New Bern Sun Journal. Blueridgenow.com included not only a great article on the Blue Ridge ARC field day, but they also posted some video. The Tar River club made it into RockyMountTelegram.com. Jacksonville's jdnews.com posted a notice about the Carteret County ARS Field Day. Greenville's WNCT covered the Brightleaf ARC Field Day and the Ashe County Field Day was described on mountaintimes.com.

NET MANAGER FOR CN STILL NEEDED!

We're in serious need of some help with both the early and late sessions of the Carolina's Net. Check-ins, liaison stations, and net control operators are needed, but our most acute need is for someone to serve as net manager. Don't let your CW speed be a barrier. Sending stations will always slow to whatever speed you can copy and I'll bet after a few weeks on the net your CW speed will increase considerably! The CN nets cover both North and South Carolina, so your friends from across the border are also needed. CN-Early meets on 3573 kHz at 7:00pm and CN-Late meets on the same frequency at 10:00pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 25: Western Carolina Hamfest, Waynesville

July 25 & 26: APRS Golden Packet Event, Western NC

August 8: Cape Fear Swapfest, Fayetteville

August 18: McGuire Nuclear Drill

Sept 5 & 6: Shelby Hamfest, Dallas

JUNE TRAFFIC

K4IWW 288, N3BW 191, KI4YV 169, W4DNA 116, KI4ZJI 71, W4TTO 67, NC4VA 57, W4FAL 44, KE4AHC 33, W3HL 33, K8SKX 21, WX4MMM 14.

JUNE PSHR

W4DNA 390, NC4VA 365, KI4ZJI 180, K4IWW 140, W4FAL 130, KI4YV 100, W4TTO 100,

JUNE ARES MEMBERS: 1,824, up 3 from last month.

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@arrl.net.

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

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, W1JFD@arrl.net

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

HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE - COMET TRIPLEXER CFX-324 600w, 1.3-150, 200-320, 300-500 MHz, NEW \$89.95 - \$50.00; CUSHCRAFT 148, 2 METER BEAM, \$50.00; KENWOOD PC-1A PHONE PATCH CONTROLLER - \$20.00. Call -- FRED WINNER - KE4LXW - 459-4332.
