



The Amplifier

Tar River Amateur Radio Club

September 2006

President	Robin Keller, WA4WPD	252-459-9345
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WEB SITE: www.tarriverarc.org

Next Meeting September 11

The September meeting of the Tar River Amateur Radio Club will be held Monday, September 11, 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 September program will be JOTA planning.

2006 VE Exam Schedule

Bill, N2BT

The Tar River Amateur Radio Club, Rocky Mount, NC, will hold ARRL/VEC Amateur Radio Exams in 2006 as follows:

October 7

December 2

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

Hi all. It's September. One more month then JOTA.

Remember the Labor day holiday. This means that the meeting will be on the SECOND Monday. So the meeting will be on the 11th, not the 4th. This meeting will be all about JOTA.

Speaking of JOTA. We've been busy arranging repeaters (Official permission) and operators. We still need some. I've attached the Radio Course and the answer sheet to this message. Maybe Les will include in the news letter. (Hint... hint). {*Done, W4FRA*}

I'm still waiting on a good count. We should have one by the September meeting.

We will cover the Radio Merit Badge course in the meeting.

The MS-150 is September 9 and 10. It's in New Bern again this year. If you are interested contact Bruce Arnold N8UTY at <mailto:brucen8uty@gmail.com>. This is really a fun event to help out with. I've help the last several years on my motorcycle. Unfortunately it looks like I can't help them this year. I encourage any one you wants to help to contact Bruce.

See ya at the meeting.

Vice President's Ker-Chunk

Marty, W4MY

Here's something I've noticed and wonder if anyone else has noticed it. As I listen to the 2M nets around here (ARES, Traffic, SKYWARN, etc.) I hear a lot of new call signs, KI4XYZ, KI4ABC, KI4ETC. This is good. A year ago, I remember hearing a lot of "new" calls, i.e., KF4HHN, KF4BAD, etc. Years ago, I recall hearing new calls, KE4LOT, KD4ZZA, etc. And these fine folks were running things, not just checking in. Now to my point, or rather to my question. Where were all the KE's and KD's when I was hearing the new "KF's"? Where have the KF's gone who were running things last year as I hear all new KI call signs? And.... Where are the "old timers"? Conversely, I hear all old established call signs on 3923. Now as soon as I make a broad generalization, someone will cite an exception. Exceptions noted. I am talking about a trend I'm seeing and can't explain it. Why have we voluntarily separated into groups? Have the former KF's got new vanity calls and upgraded and moved to 3923? Is there friction between the groups?

Is it a code/no-code issue as the disgruntled have retired (3923) where the no-coders can't go? (yet) Wondering minds might want to know.

Don't forget about JOTA. Adam will be at the September 11 meeting to give an update and a good turnout would show support with our feet! See you at the next meeting.

Listen twice, transmit once! 73 Marty / W4MY

Upcoming Hamfests

September 2-3 – Shelby, NC
September 16-17 – Virginia Beach, VA
October 8 – Maysville, NC
October 14 – Winston-Salem, NC
November 11 – Myrtle Beach, SC
November 19 – JARSFEST, Benson, NC

Contests

VHF Fall Sprints:

Sep. 18 – 144 Mhz
Sep. 26 – 222 MHz
Oct. 4 – 432 MHz
Oct. 14 – Microwave (902 MHz and up)
Oct. 21 – 50 MHz

Sep. 2 - 3

All Asian DX Contest - Phone
IARU Region 1 Field Day
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest
MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint
Russian RTTY WW Contest

Sep. 9 - 11

North American Sprint - CW
YLRL Howdy Days
WAE DX Contest
ARRL September VHF QSO Party
SOC Marathon Sprint - CW
Tennessee QSO Party
G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest - CW

Sep. 16 - 17

ARRL 10 Ghz and Up Contest
ARRL EME Contest - 2304 MHz and up
North American Sprint - SSB
Scandinavian Activity Contest - CW
Washington State Salmon Run
South Carolina QSO Party
QCWA Fall QSO Party
QRP A field
Get Your Feet Wet Weekend - CW

Sep. 23 - 25

CQ Worldwide RTTY DX Contest
Scandinavian Activity Contest - SSB
Texas QSO Party
Classic Exchange - SSB

Sep. 30 - Oct. 1

Arkansas QSO Party

TOEC WW Grid Contest - CW
Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint - CW/PSK31

FEMA Courses

Completion of certain FEMA National Incident Management System (NIMS) courses is required by the Department of Homeland Security. All ARES/RACES volunteers must complete this training no later than October 1, 2006.

All radio amateurs operating under ARES/RACES in the NC Section are required to complete IS 100, IS 200, and IS 700.

Update: As of May 22, 2006, those amateur operators that may be deployed to EOC's, Command Posts, PSAP's or other points where interface with emergency management or government officials at any level is expected, are also required to complete IS 800.

Note that this is not a subject for negotiation, consideration, or commentary.

This training is mandatory.

The easiest way to complete these courses is to download the pdf files for the course material and for the exams, complete them off-line, then get back on-line to fill-in the exam answer sheet. It will take about 30 to 40 minutes to complete each course, not including the time to fill in the on-line answer sheet. The link to the course material is:

<http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/IS/crslst.asp>

Radio Merit Badge Course

The Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge Course materials can be found by clicking on the following links.

For the Instructor material:

www.qsl.net/trarc/Course_Master_Instructor_v03.pdf

and for the student material:

www.qsl.net/trarc/Course_Master_Student.pdf

NC Section News

FROM THE SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER -- Bob Lukaszewski, K4HA

Checking into our section nets and handling traffic is fun and helps prepare you for the next emergency. In addition to the many local VHF/UHF nets, there are seven HF nets to choose from and all welcome newcomers:

7:45am, 3.926MHz: Carolina Morning Net (SSB)

6:30pm, 3.923MHz: North Carolina Evening Net (SSB)

7:00pm, 3.573MHz: Carolinas Net - Early (CW -- 20-22wpm)

7:00pm, 3.908MHz: Coastal Carolina Net (SSB)

7:30pm, 3.923MHz: Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES Net -- SSB)

8:00pm, 3.695MHz: Carolinas Slow Net (CW, 8-10wpm)

10:00pm, 3.573MHz: Carolinas Net -- Late (CW, 15-18wpm)

With all those choices why not try at least one?

With little or no traffic handling experience you can still partake in the excitement and learn how to take and pass traffic from some of the best in the state. It is very worth while and easy to learn as well. There are no tests, just check in and listen, or just listen for a few nights and check in when you feel comfortable. I would also like to thank all the net regulars that are there every day and night passing traffic on one of the many state nets.

NEW HAM REPORTS

Did you know that around 30 new hams are licensed in North Carolina each month? The Section Manager's portion of the ARRL web site allows me to run reports to find these folks and you can use this information to contact them, invite them to a club meeting and make them feel welcome. I can run custom reports for you by area code too. The report can also provide listings of new upgrades, new ARRL members and lapsed ARRL members. Let me know what custom reports you need. I'll post a monthly North Carolina "New Hams" spreadsheet to www.ncarrl.org.

UPCOMING PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

September 9: Light the Night Walk, Raleigh. See www.hampublicservice.org.

September 9 & 10: Magical Mystery Bike Tour, New Bern Contact: kn4aq@arrl.net

September 9 & 10: Tour to Tanglewood, Greensboro to Tanglewood Contact: John Kippe -- fancie@alltel.net

September 14: Light the Night Walk, RTP: See www.hampublicservice.org.

September 16 & 17: Breakaway to the Beach, Rockingham to North Myrtle Beach Contact: Mary Hunt, N4MH -- n4mh@w4bfb.org

September 30: Diabetes Walk, RTP. See www.hampublicservice.org.

October 7 & 8: 2006 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test

October 21 & 22: Scouting Jamboree On-The-Air

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

Shelby Hamfest -- September 2-3, www.shelbyhamfest.com Don't miss the ARRL forum

Saturday at 10am and the Traffic (NTS) Lunch at 11:30am at Jackson's Cafeteria.

JULY TRAFFIC

W0UCE 621 (BPL), W4UEF 573 (BPL), W4EAT 475, K4IWW 204, KE4JHJ 79, W4DNA 76, W3HL 51, W4FAL 46, K4RLD 33, KE4AHC 32, W4NCD 31, W4TTO 28, KI4AHA 24, KG4YNM 21, K4OCU 14, W4EHF 9, W4IRE 5.

JULY PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL

W4TTO 198, W4DNA 180, K4IWW 150, K4RLD 148, W4FAL 130, W4EAT 130, W4NCD 126, W0UCE 120, KE4JHJ 110, KI4YV 90, KI4AHA 79.

ARRL North Carolina Section

Section Manager: Tim B. Slay, N4IB

n4ib@arrl.org

ARES News

2006 SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST: GAME ON FOR OCTOBER 7-8

The 2006 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test is scheduled for October 7-8. ECs are planning an event to include all radio amateurs, especially ARES, RACES and NTS members. Served agencies will also participate, of course. Whether you're a new licensee or a veteran, the SET is a good opportunity to learn or practice skills in traffic handling, net operation and emergency communications. The SET is a demonstration of Amateur Radio's capabilities and readiness.

Background is presented in the article, "2005 Simulated Emergency Test Results," July 2006, QST, pp. 97-99. Guidelines and specific SET reporting forms will be posted on the ARRL Web page at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/forms>. Although October 7-8 is the SET weekend, the exercise may be conducted any time between September 1 and November 30. Check with your local EC for the exact date in your area.

The ARRL is an affiliate of Citizen Corps, an initiative within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to enhance public awareness and safety. Your SET may involve the local representatives of Citizen Corps, its many affiliates, and the Citizen Emergency Response Team. For details on these programs, visit <http://www.citizencorps.gov> and <http://www.citizencorps.gov/programs/cert.shtm>

ARRL's longstanding relationships with several served agencies will be tested, including the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the National Weather Service, the National Communications System, the Association of Public Safety Officers - International as well as

Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams (REACT), and the Civil Air Patrol. Related MOUs may be found at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/mou/>.

-- Steve Ewald, WV1X, ARRL HQ

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort held each September to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. This year, ARRL is once again a coalition member. National Preparedness Month 2006 is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The agency will work with a wide variety of organizations, including local, state and federal government agencies and the private sector, to highlight the importance of family emergency preparedness and promote individual involvement through events and activities across the nation. More information is available at <http://www.ready.gov>.

The August issue of ARRL's "CONTACT!" features a wealth of information on September's National Preparedness Month and how to promote ARES in local media outlets. See <http://www.arrl.org/pio/contact/#current> and click on the August 2006 issue.

NEW EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BILL INCLUDES ROLE FOR HAMS

A bill to enhance emergency communication at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) includes Amateur Radio operators as part of an overall effort to provide interoperability among responders. The 21st Century Emergency Communications Act of 2006 (HR 5852), an

amendment to the Homeland Security Act of 2002, passed the US House and has gone to the Senate. Its sponsor, Rep David G. Reichert (R-WA) -- who chairs the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Science and Technology -- says his legislation is designed "to improve the ability of emergency responders to communicate with each other" -- interoperability.

His measure also would require the DHS to improve emergency communications. HR 5852 calls for Amateur Radio operators to be part of a "Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group" (RECC Working Group) that would be attached to each regional

Department of Homeland Security office. The RECC Working Groups would advise federal and state homeland security officials.

According to the bill, the RECC Working Groups would assess the survivability, sustainability, and interoperability of local emergency

communications systems to meet the goals of the National Emergency Communications Report. That report would recommend how the US could "accelerate the deployment of interoperable emergency communications nationwide." HR 5852 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. -- ARRL Letter

MARS TO SUPPORT US TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION IN EMERGENCIES

Amateur Radio operators who are members of the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) will provide back-up communication for the US Transportation Security Administration (TSA) under a formal agreement announced in July by Army MARS Chief Kathy Harrison, AAA9A. Protecting airports during the hurricane season will be the immediate focus, she said, adding that the new MARS-TSA collaboration "is likely to expand to other Department of Homeland Security (DHS) areas" in the future.

The MOU, which is already in place, calls for using MARS networks, personnel and equipment to maintain communication during the first 72 hours of incidents involving aircraft, mass transit and pipelines. Seventy-two hours is considered the maximum time needed for federal response organizations to deploy internal emergency communication systems. A particular MARS responsibility will be to provide communication interoperability with local, state and national networks. -- Bill Sexton, N1IN

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY NATIONAL CREDENTIALING INITIATIVE

DHS is reportedly bringing a wider range of first responders into "smart ID card" programs. This may involve private sector responders, ostensibly including radio amateurs. DHS is trying to categorize emergency responders, and then develop a national ID card system that can verify their categories and identities at incident scenes. This is being done at FEMA and its NIMS Integration Center. Part of the categorization efforts is expanding the definition of emergency responder to include private sector workers who can quickly restore power, communications, banking and other critical services. -- Ed Bruette, N7NVP, ARRL Western Washington Section Manager; Washington State RACES Officer (*From ARRL ARES E-Letter*)

2006 Club Dues/ARRL Dues

This is just a reminder to everyone that the 2006 TRARC dues are now past 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.

Weekly ARES Net

The Northern Coastal Plain ARES net, covering Nash, Edgecombe, Halifax, and Wilson counties, meets Tuesday nights at 8:30 p.m. on the 147.150 MHz repeater. Check into the net, participate in ARES training, and enjoy the informal rag-chew afterwards.

Net Control Stations for September:

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

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.
