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# ◀ MARS NEWS ▶

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Volume 53, Issue 04

Mecklenburg Amateur

Radio Society, Inc

April 2002

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## APRIL MEETING

The presentation for the April meeting will be on DX Operating Tips and Techniques. One of the presenters will be Roger Burt, N4ZC. There will be time allotted after the main presentation for a club member QSL Show-N-Tell. Members are encouraged to bring along those favorite QSL cards that he/she is particularly fond of. Bring as many as you like and stick around to rag chew about your collection. Any and all QSLs are welcome, but the rarer and stranger, the better. We understand some members have received QSLs from the ISS, so remember to bring those, too!

## FROM THE EDITOR:

The fourth weekend of June, we have two events that we are going to need volunteers for. It is Field Day Weekend and we certainly need lots of folks to support this annual event. Daryl Sampson is our chairperson and I am sure he will be asking for lots of help.



The Multiple Sclerosis Society is also having their MS Challenge that weekend on Friday and Saturday. This is event was held for the first time last year and is a two and one half day walk. So for those of you who are not interested in working Field day but are willing to volunteer your time, we can use the support for this MS event. We worked it last year and it went very well. However, I am sure there will be more participants this year and we will need additional hams to support this event. If you are interested, please contact Shawn or Jeff and let them know.

## From the President:

### THE PREZ SEZ--

Plans are underway to re-do and up-grade the club room station antennas. John, WB2NHQ, is spear heading this effort. The system is in pretty bad shape. Guy wires need replacing, tower needs painting, the co-ax is weather beaten, etc, etc. All this is going to be done plus a new beam will be installed. If and when John asks for help, give him a hand, if you can.

Rember Field Day on June 22 & 23. Daryl, W4OH is heading this up. He needs lots of Ops & loggers. It will be a good chance to learn about hf opperation. It will also be a chance to meet some CQ club members as the plans are to make it a joint operation.

CLUB MEETING is Tuesday, April 30th. See you then!

Wilton WB4PCS

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## MINUTES OF MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS March 12, 2002

Present: Wilton McAllister, WB4PCS, President; Vice President Vincent Mates, KF4LVC; Dave Stewart, AF4ZK, Secretary; John White, WB2NHQ, Treasurer; Board Members: Jeff Blythe, KA4WYC; Sherry Conrad Frye, KE4LZE; Rick Hampton, WD8KEL; Mac McCray, K4PDY; Visitor; Kara Hampton, KG4GVS, Club Youth Representative.

Wilton McAllister called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Reports from the officers:

President Wilton McAllister said that although all the returns are not yet in, the hamfest appears to have been quite successful.

Vice President Vince Mates reports that the March meeting will feature a presentation on MARS (Military Amateur Radio Service)

Secretary Dave Stewart reported that membership stands at 164 with two new applications received at the hamfest.

Treasurer John White said that he had acquired material at the hamfest for refurbishing the antenna systems at the Red Cross building. More material is still needed. A work party will be organized later to install this material.

Kara Hampton described a project she is working on to introduce Girl Scouts to amateur radio. She requested a small amount of funding for minor project costs. Her request was granted from discretionary funds.

Wilton McAllister informed the board of a request by John Parker of Brevard, NC to approve his request for a repeater on 145.23 MHz although such a repeater would probably interfere with our repeater on that frequency. The board voted to turn down his request. Wilton also moved that the time for board meetings be moved to 7:15 PM. This motion was approved by the board.

Rick Hampton will look into getting ham classes going again. Candidate location is Salvation Army HQ on Archdale Road through the courtesy of the Charlotte Amateur Radio Club.

Jeff Blythe suggested making some firm plans for the picnic. Jeff will work on a location and a solid date.

John White proposed Field Day be held at the Mint Hill site again this year. The board approved this idea.

Sherry Conrad Frye suggested contacting new members and recent drop-outs to stimulate interest in the club's activities. Dave Stewart pointed out the difficulties of getting any kind of special information out of the MS Access data base. Several suggestions were offered to move the club's records to a simpler data base. No specific action was moved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

David Stewart, AF4ZK

## MINUTES OF MEETING MARCH 26, 2002

President Wilton McAllister, WB4PCS called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

President McAllister conducted the voting of new members into the club. The new members were voted in unanimously as follows:

Paula Johnson	KG4JVE
Darel Terrence	KG4JQK

The meeting was turned over to Tim Slay, N4IB, to conduct a raffle for those members who worked the hamfest. The prizes were three Garmin GPS Etrex Personal Navigators. Winners were:

Gary Fitzner	KY4D
Steve McCabe	KE4IYH
Paul Collom	N4YYN

Shawn Goodin, K4RSG discussed upcoming public service events and solicited participation by club members. The MS walk comes up Saturday, April 20 in Freedom Park and the Senior Games comes up either Apr 27 or May 4. Contact Shawn for the latest information.

Daryl Sampson, W4OH addressed the club on several matters. The Catawba Nuclear drill was conducted successfully recently. Jim Payne III, N4JBP is the new manager of the Metrolina Emergency Net. Jim replaces Paul Collom, N4YYN who has served in this job for several years. Field Days date is June 22 & 23. Daryl proposes to have Field Days as a joint activity with the Charlotte Amateur Radio Club, W4CQ at the Mint Hill location used for last year's activity. The proposal was endorsed by the club.

Gary Howell, WB4BMJ, (MARS call, AAA4NC) gave the main presentation of the meeting on the subject of MARS (Military Amateur Radio Service) whereby licensed amateurs who are MARS members can communicate on military frequencies to provide message traffic between armed service personnel and their families.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

Dave Stewart, AF4ZK, Secretary

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Saturday, April 20, 2002** — MS Walk America

**Saturday, April 27, 2002** — Mecklenburg County Senior Games

**Tuesday, April 30, 2002** — Club Meeting East Baptist Church, Monroe Road

**Saturday, May 11, 2002** — VE Test Session, 9:00 a.m., East Baptist Church

**Tuesday, May 14, 2002** — Board Meeting, Red Cross Building, Park Road

**Saturday, June 8, 2002** — American Lung Association Triathlon—Latta Plantation Park

**Friday, June 21-Sunday, June 23, 2002** — MS Challenge Walk

**Saturday, June 22-Sunday, June 23, 2002** — Field Day

**Saturday, September 28-Sunday, September 29, 2002** — MS Break Away to the Beach

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### LICENSE RENEWAL INFORMATION

Within 90 days of expiration date, you can submit your renewal via the internet at:

**[www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls](http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls)** (first register in ULSA by following the “REGISTER, TIN/Call Sign” tab procedures, then choose the “FILE, ULS Filing” tab procedures.

Renew by Mail: Mail Form 605 to FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd., Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. The form has a main form plus Schedule D with two parts. Main form is all that is needed for renewals. Form 605 is available via the internet at: **[www.fcc.gov/formpage.html](http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html)**.

Any ARRL member can send Form 605 to ARRL for renewal which is a free ARRL Members only service.

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### About This Newsletter

MARS News is published monthly for the members of the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society. Permission is given to reprint any article, provided that credit is given to Mecklenburg ARS and the respective author. Subscription to the newsletter, via US Mail, is provided to club members. Complimentary copies are available to guests and prospective members.

The deadline for submitting material is the 10th of each month. Please submit newsletter material to: **Mary S. Hunt, N4MH, 16007 Wynfield Creek Parkway, Huntersville, NC 28078 948-6006 or office 892-3270, Fax Number 892-8326**

You may submit material via Electronic Mail to: [n4mh@w4bfb.org](mailto:n4mh@w4bfb.org) or on 3.5” diskette. The files should be in TEXT or WORD format.

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## Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

### Officers and Board of Directors:

**President**

Wilton McAllister, WB4PCS, Email Address: [wb4pcs@w4bfb.org](mailto:wb4pcs@w4bfb.org)

**Vice President**

Vince Mates, KF4LVC, Email Address: [kf4lvc@w4bfb.org](mailto:kf4lvc@w4bfb.org)

**Secretary**

Dave Stewart, AF4ZK, Email Address: [af4zk@att.net](mailto:af4zk@att.net)

**Treasurer**

John White, WB2NHQ Email Address: [wb2nhq@w4bfb.org](mailto:wb2nhq@w4bfb.org)

**Directors**

Jeff Blythe, KA4WYC, Bob Cole, KD4IIN ; Sherry Conrad Frye, KE4LZE; Rick Hampton, WD8KEL; Mac McCray, K4PDY;

**Meeting Place:**

East Baptist Church, 6850 Monroe Road (next to East Mecklenburg High School, near Conference Drive)

**Meeting Time:**

Last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M.

**Clubroom:**

Red Cross Building, 2425 Park Road, RM 023, Charlotte, NC Telephone 704-334-3900

**Club Repeaters:**

146.34/146.94 w/Autopatch. 144.69/145.29 w/Autopatch.

144.63/145.23, no Autopatch

449.60/444.60 w/Autopatch and P/T 100.0

Autopatches Access \*(don't unkey)+phone number. Disconnect #

222.80/224.40 w/Autopatch 145.01 Packet Digipeater, W4BFB-1

**METROLINA 2m EMERGENCY NET: 9:00 PM local time, daily on 146.34/146.94 featuring the ARRL Audio News feed on Sunday night. Alternate frequencies announced**

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### MARS News

Mary S. Hunt, N4MH, Editor

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Huntersville, NC 28078

See you at the next meeting —  
Tuesday, April 30, 2002