

MARS NEWS

The Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society™



Prez Sez — A Letter from the President

Hi, Everyone,

We are back, and raring to go! I would first like to give a great big *Thank You!* to Stefanie Comerford, KK4LZR for all the hard work she has done in putting together a very professional newsletter for the benefit of all the members of MARS. She spent many hours trying to squeeze newsletter



articles from me and various other members, and proved to be very successful at this task. Due to other activities she has had to give up the editorship

of the newsletter and we have been looking for a new editor. Susan Nosko, N4PSN has kindly stepped up to the plate and has volunteered to become editor of the club newsletter. Susan has prior experience with the vagaries of newsletter editing, as she is currently the editor for the Charlotte Rifle & Pistol Club. Susan and her husband Steve Nosko, W4SJM

are fairly new members to the club.

Please help Susan out by providing articles, snippets of information, general and specific items that you may think would be of interest to the rest of the club.

To catch up a little, we had a good field day operation on the last weekend of June and set up as a 2A station in downtown Matthews. This was an interesting site, with plenty of challenges to overcome, but we came through OK with a lot of help from many club members. The only disappointing aspect was the lack of public traffic, coming by to see what we were up to. The score was probably a little higher than last year's effort and the logs have been submitted to the ARRL for verification and publication.

Public Service has been very light this summer, with just the CCTTA (Carolina Cycling Time Trials Association) being our only summer event so far this year. It's been held at the Charlotte Motor Speedway once a month until September. Mary Hunt, N4MH keeps on top of the public service we participate



Andy Hawkins, K4GKK President

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in and she will be asking for volunteers for a couple of bike rides to help out with coming up in October, but more on that later.

Another project we have been working on is the revamp of the MARS Clubroom at the Red Cross. John White, WB2NHQ and Jon Green, KK4ZIZ have been busy tidying up the operating position and have installed the newly purchased Ten-Tec OMNI VII HF Transceiver. We are also planning on replacing the coax run from the clubroom to the roof, to this end we have just had a work party out at the Red Cross to determine what we require to accomplish this task. We have made a list of all the items we need to purchase and hope to do some shopping at the upcoming Shelby Hamfest on Labor Day weekend.



I have had some inquiries about bringing surplus equipment to the club meetings for a donation to the club coffers, I am all for recycling one person's stuff to be another person's treasure, we can either raffle the item off or bid on it at the end of the meeting. If, however the item is not raffled off or bid upon, the item returns home with whoever brought it.



Hamfest-wise, we have had a couple of great meetings and are moving forward for next year's big event. Our next meeting will be in September at the Red Cross (to be announced). We would like many to attend! Looking forward to your ideas and suggestions for another successful Hamfest.

We are always looking for ways to keep the club vibrant! Don't be shy if you have any ideas relating to the vast amateur radio spectrum. We board members are always open and interested.



Very best 73 to you all.

Andy Hawkins, K4GKK

President, Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society



W4BFB Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society (MARS) Club Meetings

Our club meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month, 7:30-9:30pm, in the Fellowship Hall of St. Giles Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 2027 Emerywood Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210. Visit us at www.w4bfb.org.



Everyone is welcome! (Even if you don't have your license.) We love meeting new people, so come visit and see what our club and ham radio is all about.



Upcoming Events

Check our calendar for current events: <http://w4bfb.org/calendar>



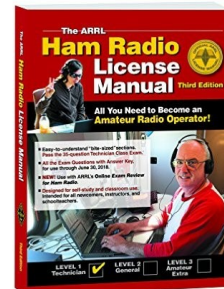
W4BFB Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society Technician License Class

Saturday, August 29, 2015 (9am – 5pm)
American Red Cross Regional HQ (2425 Park Road, Classroom G, Charlotte, NC)
Cost: \$10

This 7 hour boot camp will provide an introduction to the material needed to pass the entry level Amateur Radio license exam. Topics include electronics fundamentals, rules and regulations, radio propagation, radio safety and basic operating techniques. Hands-on activities will include a chance to get "on the air" at the W4BFB club station. Handouts and lunch provided.

After some additional independent study, participants should be ready for licensing exams given at the Shelby Hamfest on September 5 or in Charlotte on September 19.

For more info and to register, contact Tim Slay, N4IB at n4ib@arrrl.org.



You are invited to join us for good food, fellowship,

and conversation before each club meeting at 5:30/6:00pm. We meet somewhere different every month, and the restaurants we choose are always easy to find. As an added bonus — when it's time to leave, some of the members there can lead us to our meeting location.

You can find the monthly restaurant gathering locations (and directions) here:

http://w4bfb.org/meeting_dinners.php

If you have any questions, please contact any board member. We hope to see you there!



Public Service Committee News

The first weekend in May was a busy time for our Public Service volunteers. We had two events the same weekend – one on Saturday and one on Sunday. Since the first of May we have supported three events. This was our last big public service events until October. We will continue to support the CCTTA events at Charlotte Motor Speedway each month.



May 2 -- The MS Charlotte Walk. We had over 600 walkers and the event went very well. We had a beautiful day for the event also. Thanks to the following volunteers who supported the event: Tom Hunt, KA3VVJ; Kevin Keyes, K4YYD; Mike Porter, KJ4WZI; Ron Ellis, KI4YDQ; Charles Comerford, KK4HOK and Otis Pruitt, KB4UFO.



Mary Hunt, N4MH Chariman



May 3 – American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure Cycling Event.

We had approximately 200 cyclists participating in this event that started in the Ballantyne area and went down to Waxhaw. We had four routes – 1 a 10, 25, 43 and 63 mile event. This required a lot of SAG support to cover all the different routes. We had great weather for this event and most of the riders must have been prepared for the route they did, as we did not have to do a lot of SAGGING. We had a great team of volunteers who came out and supported this event. Thanks to the following volunteers who supported this event:

SAG Vehicles: Dave Holbrook, KC4YPB and Carol Spencer; Tom Hunt, KA3VVJ and his assistant Ryan Hunt; JD Shelve, KK4ZAX; Jeff Viscount, KK4ONM; Tim Slay, N4IB and his assistant Sarah Slay; Andy Hawkins, K4GKK; and Jon Greene, KK4ZIZ.

Rest Stop Volunteers: Aron Tekulsky, WA2RTV; Charles Comerford, KK4HOK; Jay Johnson, N9KIY; David Simons, K4KWL; Jerry Malin, N2HV and Steven Burk, KI4FAQ. Steven also did some SAG support after his rest stop closed.

Rest Stop 5 on the event with Jerry Malin, Jeff Viscount, Andy Hawkins and Sarah Slay.

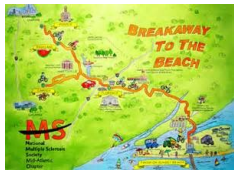


A Special Thank You to Dave Holbrook who set up the Base Station at the start/finish line for Net Control, which was done by Yours Truly.

Net Control at the Tour de Cure with Sarah and Tim Slay, Andy Hawkins, Dave Holbrook, Carol Spencer and Mary Hunt.



We have supported the CCTTA Events from May through August. We have one more event to support and that is on Wednesday, September 2, 2015. Thanks to all the hams who showed up to support all these events.

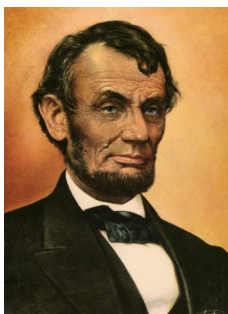


Our next large events are:

October 17-18 – MS Society Break Away to the Beach, Sunset Beach, NC - This is a two day event starting and ending each day from Sea Trails Plantation at Sunset Beach. On Saturday they go north to Lake Waccamaw and on Sunday they do a loop around the North Myrtle Beach area. We need rest stop operators and well as SAG Vehicles. Even if you can only work one day we will be glad to have your help. The route cue sheets and sign up are available out on Elena's web site – www.ridemaps.com.



October 24 – Cystic Fibrosis Cycling Event, Waxhaw, NC. If you are interested in supporting this event please contact Tim Slay (N4IB) as he is coordinating this event.



Whatever you are, be a good one.

— Abraham Lincoln

MARS in Motion

Upcoming VE Session!

The next VE Session for Ham Radio Licensing will be held at 9:00am, Saturday, September 19 at the St. Giles Church Gymnasium. For more information, look on the w4bfb.org website or contact Steven Burke at ki4faq@gmail.com.



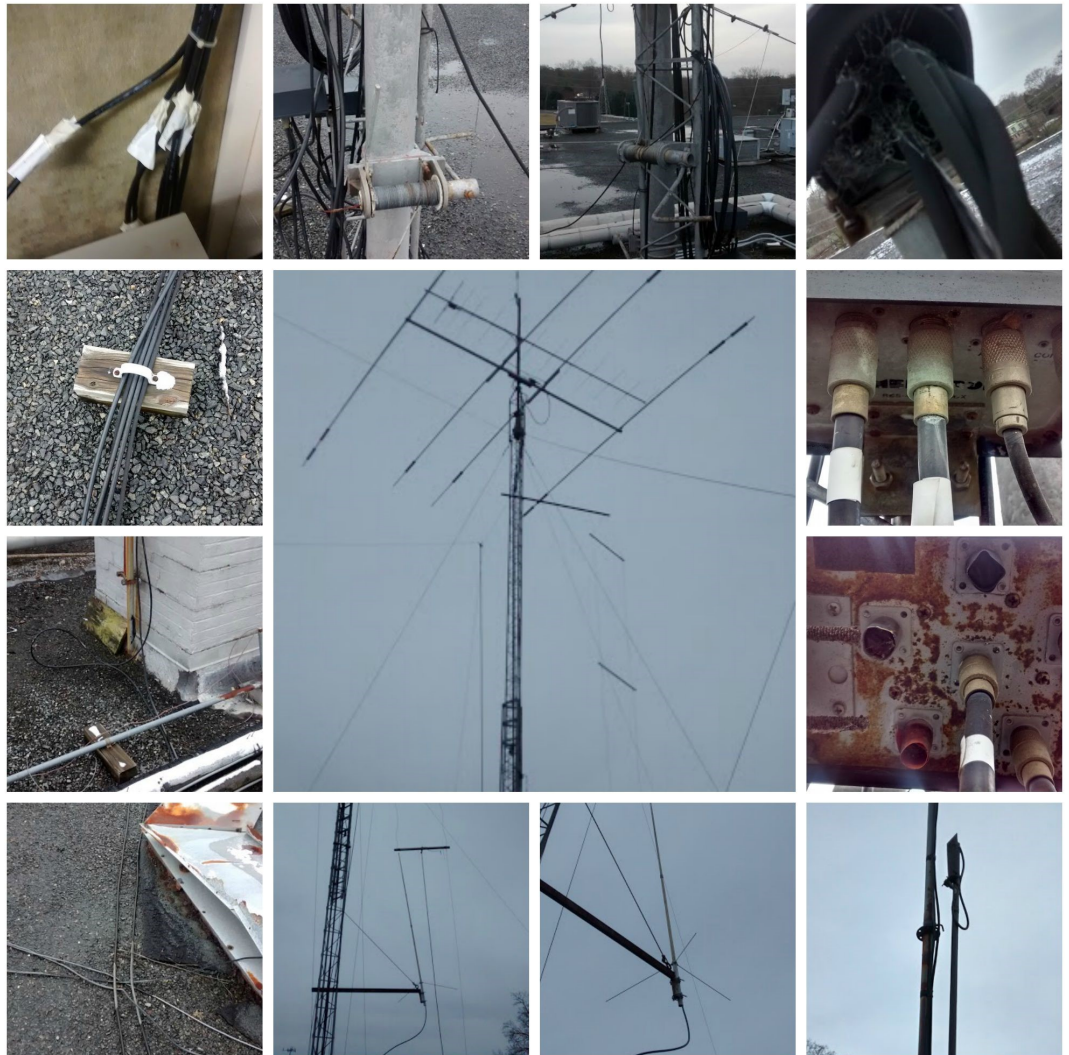
Club Room Antennae!

As many of you know, the clubroom has undergone many changes this year, from a cleanup of the room to updating of the equipment. I encourage everyone to get down to the clubroom and try their hand at the new Ten-Tec Omni VII. This past weekend, we moved outside the clubroom and out to our antenna "farm" on the roof of the Red Cross Building. The antennae consist of beams and dipoles, as well as vertical antennae to support both our clubroom HF/UHF/VHF station as well as our packet BBS (CLTBBS / W4BFB-9/CLTRC)).

A small crew of club members met on an early August morning to climb up to the top of the Red Cross building to inspect the current state of affairs. The good news is that all the antennae were intact, albeit one of the legs of the 80 meter dipole had been tied to a metal vent! After a quick fix to the dipole, we were off to measure the 25+ year old feed lines for replacement this fall, tracing them from a weatherhead on the roof all the way to the basement — luckily it appears to be a straight run and the cables were able to move within the long conduit, so hopefully replacement will go without a hitch.

In addition, the team decided on what other bits should be replaced, from rusting pieces of antenna masts to guy wires to control cables. A shopping list was created and the date of the Shelby Hamfest was noted. The next work day on the renovation project will be in the fall once we get our shopping list checked off and Mother Nature prevails with a pleasant fall day. Stay tuned for more details!

-Patrick, W4PFI, W4BFB Director



Photos: Courtesy of Jon, KK4ZIZ

ASK YOUR ELMER



They say one of the best ways to learn something is to ask questions and some of your best resources are right within our club. These club members are willing to share their knowledge with you to help you become a better, more informed ham. Please email them with any questions!

Antennae	Bob Ferdinand, K9TMU; Bill Miller, KT4YE; Mike Wentz, KE4EHC
Digital Modes	Stan Bagwell, AJ4ZL
D-STAR	Eric Webner, K4FAN
ICOM Radios	
Kenwood Radios	Bob Ferdinand, K9TMU; Bryan Ferdinand, K4NET
Packet Radio	Bill Newsome, AC4ZR; Seth O'Neal, KF4LLF
Ten-Tec	George Hohas, W4GEH
Yaesu Radios	Mitch Barbato, KX4MB

Thoughts & Prayers

Please pray that Paul's (K4VCF) daughter will soon be well.



A W4BFB Log Book

As the W4BFB Clubroom has undergone some changes from a new HF rig to a newer layout, we have incorporated a logbook for any operator. Operators will sign in and make comments of their operation of the clubroom. You'll note that there is a page for individuals and also for group operation (i.e., Winter Field, NC QSO Party, etc.).



With the individual sign-in sheet, please fill out the information at the top. At the bottom of the page, you'll write in the date you were there, when you started and finished operating, and then any

comments. You can place any comments (i.e., good contact on 20m, or good contact on SSB on 2m). If there are any issues, please place them in the comments section — this way the board can see there is an issue and address it.

You do not have to start a new sheet every time you come to operate. All you will have to do is go to the next line and place the date, start time, end time and any comments.

With the group operation sheet, at the top place the name of the event, at the bottom any operator who comes to work at the event can sign the sheet, this way there is a record of who worked the event.

Please understand that these log sheets will stay in the clubroom and assist the board in making sure all the equipment is working like it should.

You'll find excerpts of both sign-in sheets on the following page. — Jon, KK4ZIZ

**Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society
Amateur Radio Station Use Log**

Name of Event: _____

Date: _____

Rules of Operation:

1. The Amateur Radio Station is loaned to you for use under the call sign being used for the event.
2. You shall operate only those bands and frequencies allowed for the event.
4. You are wholly responsible for any and all infractions of the FCC Rules and Regulations governing the use and operation of this Amateur Radio Station.
5. Please record start and finish times for each operator and guest during the event.

Name/Callsign	Start Time	Finish Time	Comments
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society
Amateur Radio Station Use Log**

Name: _____ **Your call sign:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Telephone number: _____ **License Class Held:** _____

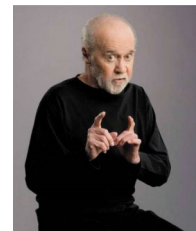
Rules of Operation:

1. The Amateur Radio Station is loaned to you for use under your own valid Operator and Station License issued to you by the Federal Communications Commission.
2. You shall operate the station under your own Station License call sign.
3. You shall operate only those bands and frequencies allowed by your own license.
4. You are wholly responsible for any and all infractions of the FCC Rules and Regulations governing the use and operation of this Amateur Radio Station.
5. Please record start and finish times for each session below
6. I fully understand and agree to the conditions under which I as a licensee can use this station as indicated by my signature.

Signature: _____

Date	Start Time	Finish Time	Comments for Equipment Manager
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**Weather forecast for tonight: Dark. Continued dark overnight,
with widely scattered light by morning. — George Carlin**



Do you need a new or updated member badge?

Please see Patrick, W4PFI, and he'll make one for you. Provide him with a headshot and your call sign, and he'll deliver it to you at a future club meeting. You can contact him at w4pfi@arrl.net.



The MARS NEWS is published monthly and posted on the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society website (<http://w4bfb.org>) the week prior to our club meeting. If you have a picture or a story (in .doc format), please send it to me via N4PSN@carolina.rr.com. Once I receive your submission, I'll respond with an "I got it." If you didn't get it, I didn't either!

Please ensure all submissions are given to me by the second Sunday of each month.

As the MARS NEWS editor, I am honored to serve the good people of the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society,

P. Susan Nosko, N4PSN



Make a Wish Occasion
May all your dreams come true
Happy the gift of you
Bash Memories
yearly **Birthday!**
Anniversary of one's birth
Gather **IN HONOR OF YOU** Party
together
Your Special Day Spending time with family and friends

August Birthdays!

Earl Fortner, K4KAY

William Allen Heafner, K4WAH

David Keever, K8IP

Alfred Kokoszczyński, KC2GZI

Susan Moore, KK4OHT

Auford Neal, KU4PF

John White, WB2NHQ

Shop AmazonSmile and Support MARS! AmazonSmile offers the same great products, deals, and shopping experience as Amazon. The only difference is Amazon donates a portion of your purchase price to the charitable organization of your choice.

Step One: Go to smile.amazon.com log in using your email and password as if you were at amazon.com from there select a charitable organization you would like to support.

Step Two: Select **Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society**

Step Three: Shop, Amazon Smile will remember the charity you selected and will always donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to that charity.





METROLINA 2-METER EMERGENCY NET™

M2MEN CONTROLLERS

Sunday: Tim, N41B
Monday: Rodney, W2ROD
Tuesday: Stan, AJ4ZL
Wednesday: Dave, KJ4SJY
Thursday: Jon, KK4ZIZ
Friday: John, WB2NHQ
Saturday: Marshall, K4OHF

Join us for the
**Metrolina 2-meter
Emergency Net™ every
night at 9:00pm! The
primary frequency is
our 146.94 repeater
and the alternate
backups are our
145.29 repeater or
146.52 simplex.**

M2MEN ALTERNATE CONTROLLERS

Brandon, K4FLU
Jon, KK4ZIZ
Jose, KC9OZE
Marshall, KK4OHF
Mike, KK4JFM
Paul, K4VCF
Steven, KI4FAQ

**If you are interested in becoming an alternate net controller, please contact our Net Manager (John White) at wb2nhq@arri.net or at M2MENNet-Manager@W4BFB.org.*

OTHER LOCAL NETS

Sunday — Mecklenburg Simplex Net,
8:30pm (147.505)

Wednesday — Mecklenburg ARES Net,
7:30pm (146.94- PL 118.8)

Wednesday — Union County Skywarn
Net, 8:30pm (145.39- PL 94.8)

Thursday — UCARS 2m Net, 8:00pm
(145.390- PL 94.8) (444.425+ PL 94.8)

Saturday — Union County ARES Net,
8:00pm (145.39- PL 94.8)

Saturday — The Dixie Radio Pirates,
Weekly Net, 8:30pm (145.410- PL 136.5)



NIGHTLY

Piedmont Emergency Training Net, 8:00pm
(145.350- PL 131.8)

The Piedmont Spotter Group Net, 8:00pm
(145.230- PL 118.8)

Rock Hill Net, 8:30pm (147.030+ PL 88.5)



ECHOLINK & PACKET RADIO NODES

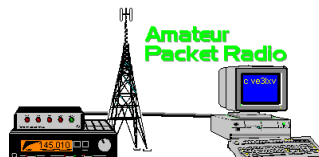
EchoLink is available for download on your computer through www.echolink.org, as well as for use on your smartphone (Android and Apple iPhone) through the App Store. To access our repeaters, connect to [K4NET-L](#) or node number [625440](#).

PACKET RADIO

W4BFB & Local 1200 Baud Packet Radio Frequencies: 145.010 / 145.090 / 223.400 / 446.500

W4BFB-9 = Charlotte BBS / W4BFB-2 = World Wide Chatroom (All W4BFB packet nodes have links to all listed frequencies)

For more info: <http://www.w4bfb.org/packet.php>



AARL — North Carolina News

Posted August 5, 2015
ARRL NC Section Newsletter
July, 2015

S 1685 AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT OF 2015 (UPDATE) – Last month, it was announced that S 1685 Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 had been introduced in the US Senate. The wording in S 1685 and HR 1301 are identical. Senator Roger F. Wicker (R-MS) introduced S 1685 into the US Senate. As of August 3rd, there is only 1 co-sponsor, Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), who is the original co-sponsor of the Bill. For comments by Senator Wicker on the benefits of S 1685, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/senate-sponsor-of-amateur-radio-parity-act-of-2015-said-bill-promotes-regulatory-transparency-equali>

HR 1301 AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT OF 2015 (UPDATE) – As of August 3, HR 1301 has 94 co-sponsors, including 4 Representatives from North Carolina: David Price (D-NC-4); Walter Jones, Jr (R-NC-3); Patrick McHenry (R-NC-10); and, David Rouzer (R-NC-7).

AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT OF 2015 PAGE ON ARRL WEBSITE – Since there is Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 legislation in the US House of Representatives and the US Senate, the ARRL has setup a combined web page to accommodate activities related to HR 1301 and S 1685, and to provide a central location for information on these identical Bills. ARRL members are urged to contact their Members of Congress in the House of Representatives and the Senate and ask them to sign on to the Bills as a co-sponsor. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrrl-website-has-new-amateur-radio-parity-act-of-2015-page> and <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-parity-act>

COLORADO TO HOST US ARDF CHAMPIONSHIPS (8/27-30) – Registration is open for the 15th USA and 8th IARU Region 2 Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) championships, which will be held on August 27-30, in Elbert, CO. An optional ARDF "training camp" will take place on Monday through Wednesday, August 24-26, just before the Championships. Thanks to Joe Moell, K0OV, ARRL Amateur Radio Direction Finding Coordinator, for providing this information! For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/colorado-to-host-us-amateur-radio-direction-finding-championships-in-august>

FCC INVITES COMMENTS ON PROPOSED RULES FOR NEW LF AND MF AMATEUR ALLOCATIONS (8/31, 9/30) – The FCC is requesting comments on its recent proposals to authorize Amateur Radio operations on two new bands: 135.7 to 137.8 kHz (LF, 2200 meters); and, 472 to 479 kHz (MF, 630 meters). Amateur radio operations would be secondary on both bands. Please note that comments are due by August 31, 2015. Reply comments – in other words, comments on comments filed – are due by September 30, 2015. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-invites-comments-on-proposed-rules-for-new-lf-and-mf-amateur-allocations>

FCC ANNOUNCES ENFORCEMENT BUREAU FIELD OFFICE REORGANIZATION PLANS – Based on political pressure to retreat from the initial proposal to eliminate two-thirds of its Enforcement Bureau field offices, the FCC has announced its final plans for reorganization of its field resources. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-announces-enforcement-bureau-field-office-reorganization-plans>

ARRL COMPLAINS TO FCC ABOUT THE HOME DEPOT'S MARKETING OF RF LIGHTING DEVICES – The ARRL has filed a complaint with the FCC, alleging that The Home Depot has been marketing illegally certain RF-ballast lighting devices in violation of FCC rules. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrrl-complains-to-fcc-about-the-home-depot-s-marketing-of-rf-lighting-devices>

FCC PROPOSES FINING GEORGIA HAM \$1000 FOR FAILING TO IDENTIFY – The FCC has proposed fining a Georgia ham \$1000 for alleged failure to properly identify. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-proposes-fining-georgia-ham-1000-for-failing-to-identify>

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FCC SHOWS NO MERCY, SUSTAINS \$22,000 FINE FOR EGREGIOUS ON-AIR BEHAVIOR BY MICHIGAN LICENSEE – The FCC has imposed the full \$22,000 fine on a Michigan licensee, which had been proposed in 2014 for causing intentional interference with other Amateur Radio communications and for failing to identify. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-shows-no-mercy-sustains-22-000-fine-for-egregious-on-air-behavior-by-michigan-licensee>

ARRL FILES MORE “GROW LIGHT” BALLAST COMPLAINTS WITH FCC – The ARRL has filed three more complaints with the FCC urging investigation and initiation of proceedings to halt marketing and retail sale of certain RF lighting devices, i.e., “grow light” ballasts. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrrl-files-more-grow-light-ballast-complaints-with-fcc>

ARRL BOARD APPROVES DUES HIKE, HF BAND PLAN, AND 2016 NATIONAL PARKS CENTENNIAL EVENT – During its July meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors approved a \$10 increase in the League’s annual dues rate, effective January 1, 2016. In addition, the Board adopted amendments to the ARRL HF Band Plan; approved a National Parks On The Air (NPOTA) operating event in 2016; began the search for a successor to ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, who will retire next May; and, named several ARRL award recipients. For further information on these and other Board actions, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrrl-board-approves-dues-hike-hf-band-plan-2016-national-parks-centennial-event>

INTERNATIONAL DX ASSOCIATION ENCOURAGES HUMANITARIAN DIMENSION TO DXPEDITIONS – The International DX Association (INDEXA) has announced plans to make additional funding available to DXpeditions that carry out pre-approved plans to provide humanitarian aid and services benefiting the communities visited. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/international-dx-association-encourages-humanitarian-dimension-to-dxpeditons>

— Submitted by Paul, K4VCF



Moses as a kid

Board Meeting Minutes - July

Board Meeting Minutes **July 28, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 7:32pm.

Visitor(s): Diane - KF5JJW

New Member(s): Jerry – KE4PSA, Arthur – N4OCT

Gwyn Taylor, Event Director from Charlotte CF, talked about the upcoming CF Cycle for Life event on October 24, 2015, in Waxhaw. She spoke about cystic fibrosis and the way it affects those living with the diagnosis. The CF foundation works to support these people by providing services and support to them and their families. There will be two routes on the event: a 35-mile route and a 65-mile route. The event will start and end at the Museum of the Waxhaws. The route opens at 8:00am and the event starts at 9:00am. For more information or to sign up to volunteer, please speak with Tim Slay.

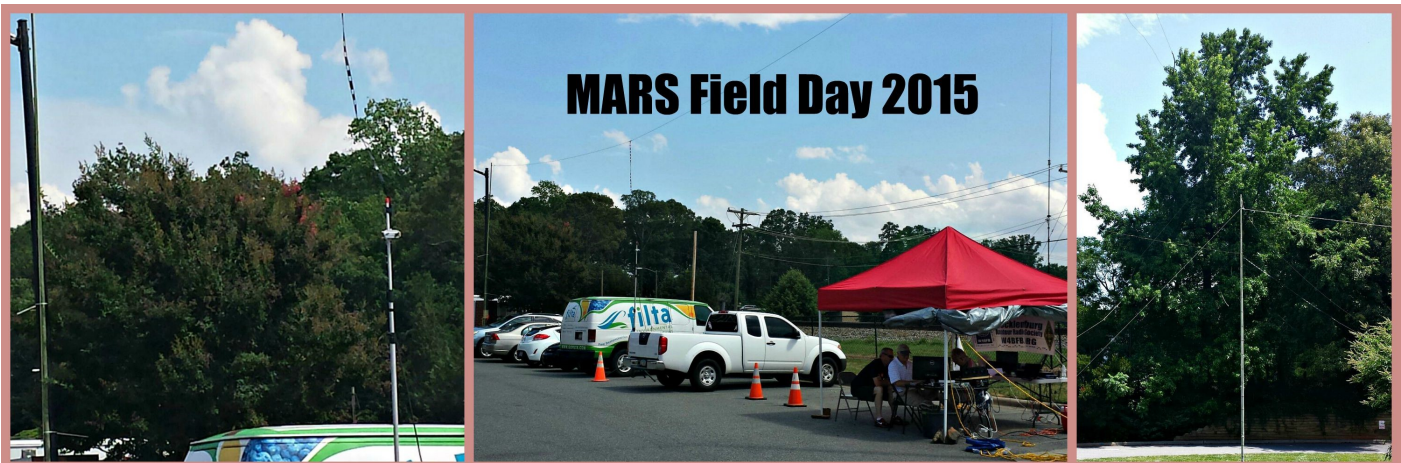
The next CCTTA event is on August 5. This is going to be the team event night. The last event will be September 2 and will not be held again until April 2016. The MS Bike Tour is on October 17 & 18 at Sunset Beach. Elena is working on getting this event on ridemaps.com, so you should be able to sign up within the next couple of days to volunteer. The MS Challenge Walk on Tybee Island will take place the last weekend of February 2016. You are now able to start signing up for this event on the MS website.

There was a Hamfest meeting last night to discuss the 2016 Charlotte Hamfest. We are still looking for multiple people to help head up chairman and co-chairman positions. The board will be calling members to recruit volunteers.

On August 4, there will be an ARES training event. The net will begin around 8:45am and should last until 2pm. The three club repeaters will be linked together and available for check-ins.

Aron presented a PowerPoint on IRLP.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.



Photos: Courtesy of Matt, KK4HNU

Board Meeting Minutes - August

Board Meeting Minutes **August 4, 2015**

In attendance : John White
 Tom Hunt
 Andy Hawkins
 Eric Webner
 Paul Jones
 Mitch Barbato
 Patrick Fink
 Jon Greene
 Tony Lewis (ARES)

Meeting started : 7:02 PM @ 8/4/2015

Approval of the prior meeting minutes (Not approved as were not available)

Treasurer Report : (as a separate attachment) Paul made a motion to accept budget, and Mitch seconded. All approved, no opposed

Vice President's Report : August plan is to have Tony Stury NWS do a talk on Skywarn. October to present possible nominees for board/president (@Secretary -- Need to know who is eligible based on attendance to be nominated.) November to vote on board/president. Tom made a motion to accept the VP's report and Eric seconded. All approved.

Secretary Report (from email) : There are 124 regular members and 8 life members.

I still have not been able to get the newsletter template over to Susan. My computer has decided to die and I can't get it to turn on. When Charles gets home from his trip, I will have him look at it and see what we can come up with. I already informed Susan of this and she is waiting patiently. Eric to accept the secretary's report as emailed. Paul seconded, all approved.

Committee Reports =====

Public Service: CCTA next event August 5 and last one in Sept. MS and Cystic Fibrosis coming up later in the year.

Repeater Committee: Bryan (K4NET) delivered a repeater report via email to the board - July 26th. Lee, Chris, Greg, Bryan to be invited to next board meeting to discuss Lenoir repeater/PSG linking and criteria -- Mitch to coordinate.

Equipment Committee: 2 M/70 CM ICOM 910 All Mode back online in the clubroom. August 8th 8 AM -- Meet at Red Cross to measure cables for roof for clubroom upgrade.

Field Day -- Possible new location for next year.

Hamfest Committee -- Good Hamfest 2016 committee meeting last week, next one schedule for September. Still looking for Hamfest chairperson(s) for 2016.

ARES Drill - 40 Stations checked in. Good regional contact -- Lincoln EOC, Gaston EOC, Iredell EOC, Catawba EOCs and Gaston Evacuation Location contacted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Patrick, W4PFI

MARS Club Officers for 2015



President	Andy Hawkins, K4GKK
Vice President:	Mitch Barbato, KX4MB
Secretary:	Stefanie Comerford, KK4LZR
Treasurer:	Tom Hunt, KA3VVJ
Director (2016):	Charles Comerford, KK4HOK
Director (2015):	Patrick Fink, W4PFI
Director (2015):	Paul Jones, K4VCF
Director (2016):	Eric Webner, K4FAN
Director (2015):	John White, WB2NHQ
Newsletter Editor:	P. Susan Nosko, N4PSN



Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

Repeaters on * 146.94-(118.8) * 145.29-(118.8) * 145.23-(118.8) * 224.40- * 444.60+(118.8)

Packet on * 145.010 * 145.090 * 224.400 * 446.500 * All 1200 baud FM simplex

Metrolina 2m Emergency Net™: 9:00 PM Local Time on 146.94-(118.8)

Mecklenburg ARES Net: Wednesdays, 7:30 PM Local Time on 146.94-(118.8)



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BCH-220

"When everything else fails. amateur radio often times is our last line of defense...When you need amateur radio, you really need them."

The Hon. W. Craig Fugate
Administrator, US Department of Homeland Security, FEMA

