
MARS NEWS

Volume 54, Issue 09

Mecklenburg Amateur

Radio Society

September 2003



SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our program for the September meeting will be announced at the meeting. Jeff has a few irons in the fire and just waiting to get a commitment for the program.

REMINDER — IF you do not renew your dues this month and receive a copy of the newsletter via US Mail, it will no longer be mailed to you. So if you have not send in your dues for 2003-2004, don't delay send it in today or bring it to the club meeting. If you have any questions, contact Bill Turner, W4WNT. The dues renewal form is included in the newsletter again this month. This will be the last time the renewal form will be printed in the newsletter for this club year.

From the President:

First of all, a big “Thank you” to Steve Norman for his presentation on Emergency Preparedness at our August Club meeting. It’s good to know that our local government agencies also appreciate what Amateur Radio can do. We are still trying to arrange for the mobile command center and/or MEDIC vehicles for the October Club meeting. As of this writing, I do not know what the September topic is.

If you made it out to Shelby, I’m sure you’ll agree that it was HOT. The Club’s RV was out there, but due to electrical difficulties, we could not provide a “cool zone” until sometime late Saturday afternoon. On Sunday, the A/C ran continuously for those who needed to sit down and cool off. Of course, it wouldn’t be Shelby without rain, and we had quite a storm blow through around 2 PM Sunday afternoon as we were taking down the gear. Still, it was a very good hamfest, and the flea market area seemed to have a variety of goodies for sale.

Rock Hill Hamfest is coming up very soon, at a new location (York Tech). Support your local hamfest!

As you are reading this, the MS-150 is probably days away – it looks good so far but we need more help. We are especially light in **SAG vehicles**. If you can only work one day of the event, that’s fine. I would like for all event participants to download their maps from KS4OX’s web site at www.ridemaps.com. If you can’t print your own maps, let me know ASAP. Copying costs were very high last year, so I am trying to save our Club’s funds by only printing off the absolute minimum of maps needed. If you have not helped out before, it is a lot of fun, and we usually get together for dinner on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon.

The Crop Walk is not far away, and we will need some operators for that. If interested, please send me an email. Signup sheets will be available at the Club meeting.

Don’t forget about our membership drive contest for all Club members. The member recruiting the greatest number of new members (with a 5 member minimum) will receive dinner for two at a restaurant of their choice. The deadline for our contest is our November 2003 club meeting. You can recruit former members too as long as they have been out of the Club at least two years. In the event of a tie, the winner will be the member who finished first prior to the deadline (for example, if one members has recruited 7 new members by October 15th, and another member has 7 new members by October 1st, the latter member (October 1st) will be the winner.)

We need to hear from all of you. If you’d like to see us pursue new services, equipment, social events, activities, and meeting presentations, please let one of us know of your concerns and ideas. Electronic mail may be sent to the entire board by sending an email to board@w4bfb.org.

See you at our next Club meeting on September 30th.

73,
Shawn, K4RSG

W4BFB
Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

Membership Application

New Membership ____ Membership Renewal ____ Information Update ____

Individual (\$20.00 per year) ____ Student/Associate/Family/65+ (\$14.00 per year) ____

Name ____ Address: ____

City ____ State ____ Zip Code ____

Home Phone ____ Work Phone (optional) ____

Callsign ____ Class ____ Expiration ____

Occupation/Company (optional) ____

ARRL Member? ____ Yes ____ No Do you have a club room key? Number ____

Newsletter Delivery Choice: ____ U.S. Mail ____ Internet E-mail

Internet E-mail or Packet Radio Address: ____

Other Clubs: ARES: ____ W4CQ: ____ CDXA: ____ UCARS: ____ Other: ____

Membership in the Society is open to every person interested in Amateur Radio, whether he or she is a licensed Amateur or not. Each member is sent a monthly newsletter, and each licensed Amateur member may operate Club equipment following checkout.

The Club holds a regular meeting monthly (except December) on the last Tuesday at 7:30 P.M. We meet at East Baptist Church on Monroe Road in Charlotte.

Any licensed Amateur 18-65 may become a FULL MEMBER by paying a fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) membership fee of the lesser of \$20.00, or \$2.00 per fill month remaining in the then current fiscal year. Any licensed Amateur OVER 65 may become a FULL MEMBER or any licensed Amateur UNDER 18 may become a STUDENT MEMBER by paying a fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) membership fee of the lesser of \$14.00 or \$1.50 per fill month remaining in the then current fiscal year.

Any unlicensed person may become an ASSOCIATE MEMBER by paying a fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) membership fee of the lesser of \$14.00 or \$1.50 per month remaining in the then current fiscal year.

Family members may join the club with the same fee as ASSOCIATE MEMBER.

With the submittal of this registration, and appropriate fees, I do hereby agree to abide by the By-Laws and Standing Rules of the Society as well as the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications.

Make checks payable to **Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, Inc.** and send to:

Bill Turner, W4WNT
 4000 Horseshoe Bend.
 Weddington, NC 28104

Date Entered: _____ Check Number: _____ Amount: _____

**Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society
Board Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2003**

Attendees: Shawn Goodin, K4RSG; Jeff Blythe, WA4WYC; John White, WB2NHQ; Paul Ponak, AD4IE; Irv Hoechner, KF4KFN; Bill Turner, W4WNT; Greg Onachillo, KG4IOE
Absent: Vince Mates, KF4LVC

The meeting was called to order at 7:26PM.

President's report (Shawn Goodin):

The domain name (w4bfb.org) was renewed for three years this month.

Vice President's Report (Jeff Blythe):

Still working on a program for September, several suggestions were offered by the board.

Secretary's Report (Bill Turner, temporary):

Thirteen renewals were received; e-mail addresses will be checked against the database this month. September is the last month for newsletter unless you have renewed your membership.

Treasurer's Report (John White):

The trailer licenses were renewed this month and the trailer liability insurance was paid.

Public Service (Shawn Goodin):

The MS-150 will be Sept. 20-21; we still need a couple hams for rest stops and can always use another SAG. Elena's website www.ridemaps.com has been updated. We have approval to use the 147.090 repeater (K4SHP). It has good coverage from Florence to the beach. All the repeater frequencies are on Elena's website. Please program all the frequencies in before the event; we never know when we might need to change repeaters.

The trailer went to Shelby with Jeff and Shawn. It served as a headquarters for W4BFB members at Shelby.

Tower Committee (Darryl Sampson):

The committee is developing requirements and searching for sources. Looks like a need for a 40-50 foot aluminum tower operating from a trailer is the current idea. This would work for emergencies and allow use at Field Day and other contest events.

Packet (Darryl Sampson):

Steve McCabe and Darryl are looking into a 145.05/446.500 packet node to be placed on Earl Fortner's tower in the near future.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52PM.

Submitted by Bill Turner, W4WNT (Temporary Secretary)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday-Sunday, September 20-21, 2003 — MS Break Away to the Beach

Tuesday, September 30, 2003 — Club Meeting, Monroe Road, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 14 , 2003 — Board Meeting, Red Cross Building, Park Road

Sunday, October 26, 2003 — 2:30 P.M. Crop Walk

Saturday, November 8, 2003 — — VE Test Session, 9:00 a.m., East Baptist Church

Saturday, December 6, 2003 — MARS Holiday Party

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 704-948-6006

You may submit material via Electronic Mail to: n4mh@w4bfb.org or on 3.5" diskette. The files should be in TEXT or WORD format.

Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Officers and Board of Directors:

President

Shawn Goodin, K4RSG, Email Address: k4rsg@w4bfb.org

Vice President

Jeff Blythe, KA4WYC, Email address: ka4wyc@w4bfb.org

Secretary

Vince Mates, KF4LVC, Email Address: kf4lvc@w4bfb.org

Treasurer

John White, WB2NHQ Email Address: wb2nhq@w4bfb.org

Directors

Sherry Conrad Frye, KE4LZE; Irvin Hoechner, KF4KFN, Greg Onachila, KG4IOE
Paul Ponak, AD4IE; Bill Turner, W4WNT

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**

MARS News

Mary S. Hunt, N4MH, Editor

16007 Wynfield Creek Pkwy

Huntersville, NC 28078

See you at the next meeting —
Tuesday, September 30, 2003