

# MARS NEWS

*The Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society™*



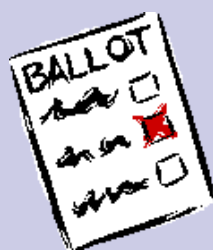
## Mars Rovings



The Amateur Radio Parity Act is coming along nicely, with a compromise version passing the House of Representatives last month. Now it is in the Senate. Please take a moment to let your Senator know your support for this bill. More information on this, including the full text of the bill, can be found at:

<http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-parity-act>

I encourage you to click on the "[click here](#)" link at this website to easily send your support to your Senator via the RallyCongress website.



MARS officer elections are coming up in November, and members of your Board have begun contacting eligible members and asking them if they would like to run. The term of officers is one year, so one could run for

President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

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There are also two Director positions open, which run for two years. Please consider serving your club in one of these capacities and let Andy Hawkins K4GKK or a Board member know of your intention to run.

### RENEW MEMBERSHIP

We will also start our membership drive in November. Membership renewals for 2017 will be available to be sent via mail or the Web. Payments will be accepted in cash, check or PayPal. Watch your [members@w4bfb.org](mailto:members@w4bfb.org) email for more information.

This month's meeting will feature a program on "MARS History and Traditions."

We will blow the dust off of some old pictures and articles, and have discussion and stories by some of our "old timers." If any of you have something you would like to share, be it some old pictures of W4BFB activities, stories of old events, equipment we used to use, origins of our call signs, traditions we either did or



Eric Webner, K4FAN, MARS President

continue to do or anything else, please let the Board know. This will be another great program with your involvement.

We have had numerous offerings from members, as well as many other sources, of things to raffle at our club meetings. I continue to be "blown away" by the generosity

of our members, and THANK YOU to all who have donated. The raffles help make the meetings fun and add a little to our treasury. We will have an HT or two at the October 25 meeting. If you have something usable you would like to donate, let me know.



The MARS New Year Party will be Saturday, January 7, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Giles Church. Mark your calendars, and more information will be coming.

— Eric Webner K4FAN, MARS President

## MARS in Motion

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

In case you were unaware, Amazon has a charity program called AmazonSmile (<http://smile.amazon.com/>) which donates a percentage of your purchases to a non-profit. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same prices, selection and shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support - including **Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society**. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

With the holidays quickly approaching, and since so many of us do our shopping online, it only makes sense that you take this opportunity to give a little back to a non-profit of your choice without having to do much extra work at all!



There are also several browser extensions, including one for Chrome (<http://goo.gl/fNhfdK>) and Firefox (<http://goo.gl/VLSKvO>), which will always redirect Amazon links to AmazonSmile links so you do not need to remember to visit that URL every time. \*\*Note: Use these at your own discretion. I can't be responsible for any negative effects which come out of various extensions which you load into your browser.\*\*

You can visit <https://goo.gl/h742GE> for the full AmazonSmile program details!

— Charles Comerford KK4HOK



### Come Visit!

Come to our club meetings which are held on **the last Tuesday of each month**, from **7:00pm-9:00pm**. We meet in the Fellowship Hall of the St. Giles Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 2027 Emerywood Drive, Charlotte, NC.

Come visit! Everyone is welcome! Come see what our club and ham radio are all about. For more information, visit: [www.w4bfb.org](http://www.w4bfb.org).



# 2016 MARS Director Candidates

*In alphabetical order*

## **Andrew Beary WA3DQS**

I was first licensed in the late 1960s as WN3DQS, and have had the WA3DQS call sign since 1971.

I'm a Life Member of ARRL, and first joined MARS in 1988, after moving to Charlotte area. I upgraded to Extra Class in 2013. I have had several long spells with no ham activity, but got active again in 2008 after moving to my present Charlotte QTH, which has several 100 foot tall oak trees. I finally had a chance to get some wire antennas up in the air where they can do some good. My primary ham interests are DX chasing, Field Day, Hamfest, and home-brewing my antennas.

## **Charles Comerford KK4HOK**

Hey, W4BFB! The name here is Charles KK4HOK, and I was first licensed around March of 2012, and am currently still a Technician operator, but obtaining my General will happen eventually. (There's just so much to do as a technician!)

However, 2012 was not the first time I was introduced into ham radio. It stems back many years on my travels to becoming an Eagle Scout that I was introduced to amateur radio, and the journey never stopped.

Throughout the past few years, I've been very active with W4BFB -- this includes taking part in many public service events, and sometimes even being Net Control at these events. I have prior experience being the Net Control Operator of the Thursday Night Metrolina 2 Meter Emergency Net. I have taken lead on the work on the club's websites including [w4bfb.org](http://w4bfb.org), [charlottehamfest.org](http://charlottehamfest.org), and [mecklenburgares.org](http://mecklenburgares.org).

If you have attended, you've probably seen me at Field Day helping set up, operate, or even take down the equipment. This year we made great strides at getting the word out to the public, and I think everyone at Field Day had a great time!

I've also been active over the past few years with the Hamfest Committee in bringing things into modern times. I've set up and gathered many followers on both the Hamfest and the Club's Facebook pages, along with a Twitter feed for the Hamfest. We finally had a "club booth" set up this year where we were able to promote not only that the club exists, but also the events we've taken part in throughout the year. We have plans to improve upon this for 2017.

Throughout the past two terms on the Board, some great progress has been made to bring things "up-to-date," but there's still much more to do. When it comes to repeaters, I'd like to continue the work to get live streams and archiving of our two main repeaters on the internet and accessible for listening around the world. We've run into some internet access issues in the club room, but once this is corrected, we'll be set. One of the easiest ways to promote amateur radio is making sure people are able to hear what we do.



I am also about to begin updating our website. The Hamfest page was the first step of moving to a new platform, ARES is next on the list, and then the club's site. Hopefully, we will have more assistance from members in the club to ensure our site is always being updated and keeping our visitors coming back month after month. When it comes to public service, I want the community to know what we have done as a club, and how we've given back.

I am looking forward to seeing what the club has in store for Mecklenburg County for the next few years, and hope to be one of the people who can help get them there!

## **Steve Nosko W4SJM**

My name is Steve Nosko W4SJM and I'm running for a Board Director position.

I have a lot of executive experience:

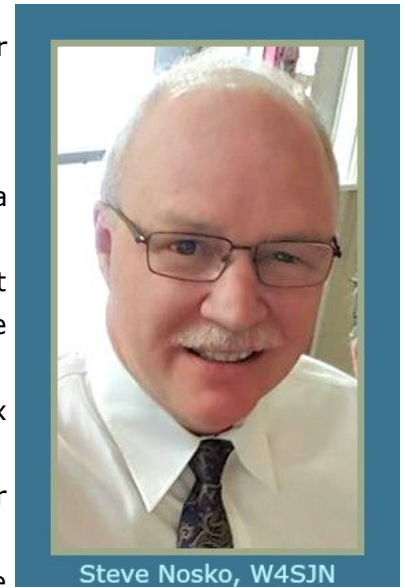
I've been in IT since 1989 -- that's twenty-six years; ten years as a manager.

I have been a member of the County Executive Committee, District Executive Committee and State Executive Committee for a state political party.

I was a delegate for the County, District and State Conventions for six years.

For thirteen years, I volunteered as a Boy Scout leader, serving four years as the Troop Committee Chairman.

I am an NRA Certified Pistol Instructor. For the past few years, I've volunteered as a firearms instructor for both the Charlotte Rifle & Pistol Club and the general public.



My amateur radio experience:

I received my Technician class and General class licenses in March of 2015 and received my Extra in May of 2015.

I'm a Volunteer Examiner for WCARS.

I enjoy checking in on the Metrolina Emergency Net and like participating in HF contesting.

I'm a member of the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society (W4BFB) and Charlotte Amateur Radio Club (W4CQ).

I regularly attend the MARS board meetings as a visitor.

I am a volunteer for Mecklenburg County ARES.

I ask for your vote.

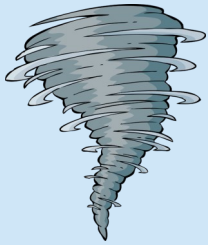
Thank you,

Steve Nosko W4SJM





# Public Service Events!



Our year is winding down for public service events. The MS Bike Tour scheduled for October 8-9 was cancelled due to Hurricane Matthew. The event will not be rescheduled. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help with that event.



We have one more event for the year on October 22. We'll be supporting the Cystic Fibrosis Ride. This event takes place locally in the Waxhaw area. Tim Slay N4IB is coordinating this event. If you'd like to support the event, send Tim an email at [N4IB@arrl.net](mailto:N4IB@arrl.net). I understand from Tim that we have all rest stop positions filled, but

could probably use a couple more SAG vehicles.

We are already putting events for 2017 on the calendar:

The MS Challenge will take place on **March 3-5, 2017**, in Savannah, Georgia and we will be staying at Tybee Island.



The MS Charlotte Walk will be held on **April 29, 2017**. It starts and ends at Symphony Park.

The monthly CCTTA Events at Charlotte Motor Speedway will start in April 2017. As soon as we have the schedule, we will publish it.



As other organizations let us know about their events. I will add them to the calendar.

— Mary Hunt N4MH, Chairperson



Ladies and Gentlemen — We will have an HT or two at the October 25 meeting to raffle off!

Do you have anything you'd like to donate as a meeting raffle prize? If so, please let our President or any board member know.

**W4BFB WILL MATCH DONATIONS** for the ham club which has formed at Garinger High School. Please contact Marshall Lail KK4OHF at [KK4OHF@gmail.com](mailto:KK4OHF@gmail.com) if you'd like to make a donation or would like more information.



# Upcoming Events!



## The GeekFest 2016

For several years now, the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society has had a live on-the-air ham radio demonstration at The GeekFest. GeekFest is a one-day exposition of many examples of applied technology, gathered at the Matthews CPCC Levine Campus. This year it will take place on **Thursday, November 10, 2016, from 9:00am – 4:00pm.**

We plan both HF and VHF GoBoxes, a G5RV, and an Extended Double Zepp, hung from the roof top where visitors can see the simple antennas we use instead of the internet. ARES and the portability of our equipment are also an important aspect of our presentation. The people we meet include CPCC students, faculty, technology

exhibitors, and homeschool students with their parents. Because it's a GeekFest, we focus more on PSK-31, packet, and APRS, but still include some phone and maybe some CW to attract passers-by. One full time job is interpreting to visitors what they are seeing, by explaining the "how" and "why."

Our "high-tech" antenna installation is planned the Wednesday before GeekFest after lunch, and station set-up will be rolled in Thursday morning. **We need at least a couple people on Wednesday to hang antennas, and at least four or five people all day Thursday.** Once you do it, you'll probably want to come back next year. Come see us!

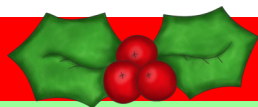
For more of a scoop, visit [www.thegeekfest.com](http://www.thegeekfest.com). You can also contact me at [wb2nhq@arrl.net](mailto:wb2nhq@arrl.net).

— John White WB2NHQ

## State QSO Parties

Kentucky	11/12/2016	11/13/2016	<a href="#">Western KY DX Association</a>
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— Steve Nosko W4SJJ



## 88th Annual Concord Christmas Parade!

**Saturday, November 19, 2016**

**Volunteer!**

The 88th Annual Concord Christmas Parade is only 29 days away! We will meet at 12:30pm for a quick meeting and then you're off to your assigned positions. The parade starts at 2:30 pm.

Thank you all again for your hard and diligent work on both parades last year. We heard only great things said about our participation and about our getting all our assigned tasks completed.

***Please let me know if you will be participating in this festive holiday event for the enjoyment of all ages—young and old.*** Send me your: Name, call sign, email address, any particular position you would like (I will try my best), and if someone else is coming to help you (call sign if they have one). I hope to hear from you very soon. If you know of another ham that would like to help, please include their information, also. My email address is [ghuff93150@aol.com](mailto:ghuff93150@aol.com).

73, Gregory Huffman W4GCH, Cabarrus County Amateur Radio Society



# VE Sessions!

**The Union County Amateur Radio Society (UCARS)** will conduct ham radio licensing exams on **Saturday, October 22, 2016**, at The American Red Cross Building at 608 East Franklin Street in Monroe, North Carolina.

Exams begin at 9:00am. For additional information, look under "VE Testing" on the NC4UC.org website or contact me at K8IP@arrl.net.

— David Keever K8IP



**The Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society (MARS)** will also conduct ham radio licensing exams on Saturday, December 3, 2016, at 9:00am, at the St. Giles Presbyterian Church gymnasium (2027 Emerywood Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina). Please contact me for more information at KI4FAQ@gmail.com. — Steven Burke KI4FAQ

## The Southeastern VHF Conference—Coming to Charlotte in 2017!

The Southeastern VHF Society's Conference (SVHFS) (<https://goo.gl/PO6u3F>) will be coming back to Charlotte for the fourth time on April 28-29, 2017. This will be the SVHFS's 20th anniversary conference.

MARS member and Conference Chairman Bill Fisher W4GRW has announced that the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Charlotte Airport (2600 Yorkmont Road, Charlotte, NC 28208) will again be the conference host.

Previous Charlotte conference speakers have included: Dr. Joe Taylor K1JT, Noble prize winner and WSJT author, outgoing ARRL President Kay Cragie N3KN, current ARRL President Rick Roderick K5UR — among others.

Stay tuned for upcoming announcements.



**Southeastern VHF Society**

<http://www.w4dex.com/gallery/SVHFS-2012-Conference-Charlotte-NC>

<http://www.w4dex.com/gallery/SVHFS-2009-Conference-Charlotte>

— Bill Fisher W4GRW

## Thoughts & Prayers

Please keep those who were hit by Hurricane Matthew in your thoughts and prayers.



# Calling All South Carolinians! —The Parity Act

South Carolinians, amateur radio needs your help. Please take a few minutes to read through this entire email, which will shape the future of ham radio.

The Amateur Radio Parity Act, HR1301 is now in the U.S. Senate for a vote, and that's why we need your help.

While ARRL members should have received an email asking for help, I am asking all clubs to reach out to Amateur Radio Operators (Non-ARRL or ARRL members) to click on a safe hyperlink and enter their zip code, which will automatically send letters to your state's two U.S. Senators asking for their vote for the Parity Act. If HR1301 passes the Senate, it will then go to the President for his signature and will become law.

Please help us in the effort. It takes only a few minutes. Please go to this linked website and follow the prompts: <https://arrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>

The staff and officials of the ARRL are permitted to only reach out to members; however, the use of this Rally Congress web link can be used by anyone who desires to support this legislation.

This is the first federal antenna relief measure in 31 years since the FCC issued the PRB-1 ruling. If it becomes law, the Amateur Radio Parity Act will permit licensed amateur radio operators to set up an effective outdoor antenna in neighborhoods and subdivisions with antenna restrictions. Trade industry data suggest that up to half of all hams live in home owner association (HOA) regulated housing. Furthermore, upwards of three out of four new housing units are covered by homeowner restrictions. Antenna restrictions have been an impediment to operation for many radio operators, so please take a few minutes now to generate letters to your U.S. Senators in support of HR1301.

Remember who will benefit from this legislation, in addition to those currently impacted:

- Older hams who downsize or relocate to smaller housing
- Operators who move into assisted living facilities
- Hams who move into HOA restricted neighborhoods to take care of an aging or disabled individual
- Working or military hams who are in short term housing
- Youth who get an interest in amateur radio and want to become licensed
- Emergency communicators who can provide vital neighborhood links with responders and government agencies

While you may not be currently impacted by antenna restrictions, hundreds of thousands of hams are. Unless they get a chance to get on the air, the number of licensed operators will diminish, and with that, the possible future of our hobby and public service. Every amateur radio operator needs to contact their U.S. Senators now (PLEASE!).

Thanks to the overwhelming number of amateur radio operators who contacted their U.S. House Representatives to help get HR1301 passed!

If you have questions about amateur radio club support, Special Service Clubs, Field Day or anything related to club activities or operation, please email me with your questions and I will get an answer and help from someone in the amateur radio community — if I cannot answer your question directly.

Let's contact friends through amateur radio and not a cellphone call.

Carl Bosard - AJ4AU  
SC ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator  
AJ4AU@ARRL.NET





## Happy Birthday to our October Birthdays!

Stephen Davis KJ4FEL  
 Merrilee Fellows WA1FHK  
 Randy Matthews KE4JXF  
 Jon Plyler AK4XO  
 Michael Porter KJ4WZJ  
 McFarland Wood W4PVT  
 John Yarbrough AE4PX



Isn't it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do  
 "practice"? — George Carlin



## Do you need a new or updated member badge?

Please see Patrick Fink 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@arri.net](mailto:w4pfi@arri.net).

**The MARS News** is the official newsletter of the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society. It's published monthly and posted on the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society website (<http://w4bfb.org>).

As Editor of *The Mars News*, I welcome pictures (.jpeg), articles, and other member contributions. Please send your submission to [N4PSN@carolina.rr.com](mailto:N4PSN@carolina.rr.com). Also as Editor, I reserve the right to edit any and all pieces. **The submission deadline for each month's newsletter is the second Friday of that month.** Anything received later may be held for the next month's publication.

Thanks to photographers: Steve Nosko W4SJN, Marshall Lail KK4OHF, and Rodney Moore W2ROD. Thanks also to Diane Laval KF5JJW for offering her proofreading skills.

As the *MARS News* Editor, I am honored to serve the good people of the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society,

*P. Susan Nosko N4PSN*



## 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 contact 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

### SB QST ARL ARLB001 ARLB001 W1AW 2016 Winter Operating Schedule

#### Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
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1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

#### Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)  
1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

#### Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 " (5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 " (6 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0000 " (7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 "	Wf	Tue, Thu
0100 " (8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 " (9 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0245 " (9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 " (10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 " (11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

#### Frequencies (MHz)

-----  
CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975  
21.0675 28.0675 147.555  
DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.  
14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 147.555  
VOICE: 1.855 .990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.39  
0 28.590 147.555

#### Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM  
CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM  
CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

— Eric Webner K4FAN



After about 20 years of marriage, I'm finally starting to scratch the surface of that one [what women want]. And I think the answer lies somewhere between conversation and chocolate. — Mel Gibson

## METROLINA 2-METER EMERGENCY NET™

### M2MEN Controllers

**Sunday:** Tim N41B  
**Monday:** Rodney W2ROD  
**Tuesday:** Stan AJ4ZL  
**Wednesday:** Marshall KK4OHF  
**Thursday:** Jon KK4ZIZ  
**Friday:** John WB2NHQ  
**Saturday:** Dave KW4RY

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 KM4FLU  
Merrilee WA1FHK  
Mike KK4JFM  
Paul K4VCF  
Rick KA4WXS  
Steven KI4FAQ

*If you are interested in becoming an alternate net controller, please contact our Net Manager (John White WB2NHQ) at [wb2nhq@arrl.net](mailto:wb2nhq@arrl.net) or at [M2MENNetManager@W4BFB.org](mailto:M2MENNetManager@W4BFB.org).*

## JABBERNET

Join Bob K9TMU for some fun on the Jabbernet at 7:30pm every Tuesday night on 224.40, linked to the 146.94 repeater and EchoLink.

### 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

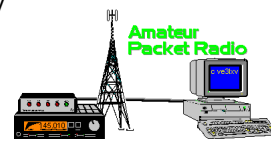
EchoLink is available for download on your computer through [www.echolink.org](http://www.echolink.org), as well as for use on your smartphone (Android and Apple iPhone) through the App Store. To access our repeaters, connect to K4NET-L or node number 625440.



### 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>

# ARRL — North Carolina News Excerpts

ARRL NC Section Newsletter

September, 2016

## **MOMENTUM BUILDING TO URGE SENATE PASSAGE OF THE AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT**

The response to ARRL's call to action urging the support of US Senators for the Amateur Radio Parity Act, H.R. 1301, has been gratifying — although the campaign continues. More than 50,000 e-mails have been sent to Capitol Hill via Rally Congress, and all 100 US Senate members have been contacted. The League continues to encourage members of the Amateur Radio community who have not yet done so to reach out to their two US Senators seeking their support. Just where things stand with respect to the bill's future in the US Senate is not yet entirely clear. "As of this moment, we have no date set for action by the Senate," said ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, who has been deeply involved in promoting passage of the legislation. "The Senate will adjourn the September work period soon and members will return home to campaign. If we do not achieve consideration before they go into hiatus, we will have to wait until they return after Election Day." For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/momentum-building-to-urge-senate-passage-of-the-amateur-radio-parity-act> (source: ARRL website)



Presently, the US Senate has recessed without acting upon the Amateur Radio Parity Act. But, that does not mean ARRL Members should take a break — your help is still needed! As of October 4<sup>th</sup>, more than 60,000 letters have been sent to Capitol Hill, including 997 letters from our Section that have been delivered to the offices of Senators Burr and Tillis. If you have not sent letters, please use the Rally Congress tool to contact your NC Senators — Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis — to request their support of HR 1301 Amateur Radio Parity Act by voting favorably for the Bill. Here is the website for the Rally Congress tool: <https://arrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act> (source: Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL Regulatory Information Manager)

**ARDF TEAM USA ENJOYS SUCCESS IN BULGARIA WITH SEVEN MEDALS** — Fifteen of the best on-foot hidden transmitter hunters in the US are back home after picking up seven medals in the 18th World Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Championships and World Cup events in Bulgaria, August 30 to September 9. Members of Team USA included Team USA Captain Ruth Bromer, WB4QZG and Joseph Huberman, K5JGH, both from Raleigh. Ruth WB4QZG won 2 individual bronze and 1 team bronze medals during the competition. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/ardf-team-usa-enjoys-success-in-bulgaria-with-seven-medals> (source: ARRL website)

**NORTH CAROLINA HAM WINS ROOKIE PLAQUE IN 2016 CQWW WPX SSB CONTEST** — The following information was received from Tom Lewis, N4TL: "... Tucker [McGuire] W4FS from Efland, NC won the Rookie Plaque in the 2016 CQWW WPX SSB contest. His picture is in this month's CQ magazine. Congratulations Tucker! ..." Thanks to Tom Lewis, N4TL, Vice President, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, for providing this information!

**AMATEUR RADIO — MILITARY INTEROPERABILITY EXERCISE SET FOR OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 1** — An Amateur Radio-military interoperability exercise will take place October 31 and November 1. The event will begin at 1200 UTC on October 31 and continue through 2359 UTC on November 1 on 60 meter channels 1-4 — 5.3305 MHz, 5.3465 MHz, 5.357 MHz, and 5.3715 MHz, respectively. During this exercise, military stations will attempt to make radio contact with stations in as many of the 3007 US counties as possible. Radio amateurs providing "county status" information will receive a US Department of Defense "interoperability QSL card." For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-military-interoperability-exercise-set-for-october-31-november-1> (source: ARRL website)

**REMINDER! APPLICATION WINDOW OPENS ON SEPTEMBER 1 FOR PROSPECTIVE ISS HAM RADIO CONTACT HOSTS (DEADLINE, 11/1)** — The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program is seeking proposals from schools and formal or informal educational institutions and organizations — individually or working in concert — to host Amateur Radio contacts next year with ISS crew members. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/application-window-opens-on-september-1-for-prospective-iss-ham-radio-contact-hosts> (source: ARRL website)

**REMINDER! NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR THE GEORGE HART DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD (DEADLINE, 11/1)** — The ARRL will accept nominations until November 1 for the George Hart Distinguished Service Award. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/nominations-open-for-the-george-hart-distinguished-service-award-3> (source: ARRL website)

**ARRL FOUNDATION INVITES SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2017-18 ACADEMIC YEAR (DEADLINE, 1/31/17)** — The ARRL Foundation will begin accepting scholarship applications on October 1<sup>st</sup> from eligible radio amateurs planning to



# More ARRL — North Carolina News

pursue post-secondary education during the 2017-18 academic year. Completed applications must be received by January 31, 2017. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-foundation-invites-scholarship-applications-for-2017-18-academic-year> (source: ARRL website)

**ARRL NATIONAL PARKS ON THE AIR 2016** – For information on rules, answers to frequently asked questions, activator tips and NPS documents, NPOTA documents, answers to basic questions from NPS employees, the Leaderboard, list of NPOTA units, merchandise, NPOTA on social media, and latest news, see <http://www.arrl.org/NPOTA> (source: ARRL website)

**MEDIA HITS AND REPORTS** – The following media hits and reports are included in this month's newsletter:

On The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society and Field Day, see <http://www.dailyadvance.com/News/2016/06/26/Local-club-holds-ham-radio-field-day.html> (source: Google search)

On Hatteras CERT activity following Tropical Storm Hermine, see <http://islandfreepress.org/2016Archives/09.05.2016-HatterasCERTMembersHardAtWorkAfterTheStorm.html> (source: Google search)

On National Preparedness Month and Stanly County ARES, see [http://www.thesnaponline.com/opinion/don-t-wait-make-your-emergency-plan-today/article\\_db0e6fb6-74fc-11e6-a0d1-df9b2d39bcd9.html](http://www.thesnaponline.com/opinion/don-t-wait-make-your-emergency-plan-today/article_db0e6fb6-74fc-11e6-a0d1-df9b2d39bcd9.html) Thanks to Dr. Keith Andrew, KK4LGM for writing this article and forwarding the hyperlink for inclusion in the Newsletter! (sources: Keith KK4LGM, ARRL website)

On Bike MS: Historic New Bern Ride 2016, see <http://www.wcti12.com/news/bike-ms-historic-new-bern-ride-expected-to-attract-thousands-over-the-weekend/75676721> (source: ARRL website)

On CW operation and amateur radio, see <http://www.wusa9.com/travel/open-road/morse-code-man/319351895> Thanks to Don Daso, K4ZA; and, Dr. Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, ARRL Roanoke Division Director, for providing this hyperlink!

The following report was received from Don Edwards, WS4NC: "Lewisville, NC Special Event Station. ... We had an opportunity at the Lewisville 25th Anniversary Special Event station this past weekend [8/13]. Rep Virginia Foxx dropped by and is shown [image not available] with 13-year-old Mason Matrazzo, KM4SII. Mason is one of our new and highly enthusiastic hams. Shown in the [image are] Harold, N4HER and Steve, WA3RTC. ... There were many HF contacts from the Lewisville Special Event station, N4C. QSLs are in process right now. Operation was primarily on 20 meter SSB, but there were a few 40-meter SSB contacts. We are blessed that a lot of new, enthusiastic hams, and most especially blessed that several youngsters like Mason recently got their licenses through FARC testing and training programs in the last several years. ... It is nice to see ham radio growing with such a young crowd and they get on the air a lot. ... Regards, Don WS4NC." Thanks to all Hams participating in the Lewisville NC Special Event Station; congratulations to all the new youth Hams; and, thanks to Don Edwards, WS4NC, Newsletter Editor, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, for providing this report!"

The following report (edited) was received from Janice Hopkins, KJ4JPE: "The 4th Annual Boots on the Run 5k which benefited the USO of NC Jacksonville Center took place on 9/10/2016 in Jacksonville NC. The Onslow Amateur Radio Club supplied the communications support for this event. Jeff Thigpen WM4YD was the net control for the event, which involved 10 members at checkpoints and 3 Rovers on bicycles. Also included 1 USO Shadow. Members were equipped with HT's, and 3 members also used DMR HT's. They used their Communications Vehicle located at the USO building for the Net Control station. [Photos sent with the email included] 1) OARC members; 2) Rovers 2a and 2b, Liz KC8CEE and Victoria KM4MKZ; 3) Rovers 2a and 2b, Liz KC8CEE and Victoria KM4MKZ before race outside of communications vehicle. ..." Thanks to the members of the Onslow Amateur Radio Club for their public service; and, to Janice Hopkins KJ4JPE, an ARRL-trained Public Information Officer for sending this report!

The following report was received from Dave Ritter, ND4MR: "The Foothills Amateur Radio Club rented a booth space for the Brushy Mountain Apple Festival held on October 1st. Typical attendance at this event, one of the largest in Wilkes County, is usually more than forty to fifty thousand, and with perfect weather for this year's event, attendance may well have been higher. Through the influence of one FARC member, who was also a member of the festival's sponsoring organization, the club's booth space was a "prime" spot – right across from the food court (whose delicious aromas wafting from the various food vendors posed a constant source of temptation throughout the day). Foothills club members had a demonstration station on the air from their booth and handed out more than 1100 colorful fliers about the wonders of ham radio. They also recruited a number of potential hams who will attend their upcoming Technician license class. Twenty-two hams from outside the area signed-in the club's guest registry." Thanks to all Hams participating in the Brushy Mountain Apple Festival; and, to Dave Ritter, ND4MR, Vice President, Foothills Amateur Radio Club, for providing this report!

**SILENT KEYS** – With deep regret, the passing of the following amateur radio operators is reported: Barry S. Bennett,



# Still More ARRL — North Carolina News

KJ4TGY (SK) of Archdale; Don Michael Cassidy, KG4IUC (SK) of Oak Island; Barry Richard Finley, AG4I (SK) of Lincolnton; and, John Shearer Irwin, N4YRB (SK) of Raleigh. Please note it is not possible to post information about an amateur radio operator that has become a Silent Key without confirmation via a copy of an obituary or death certificate.

## SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS –

November 5: Veteran Day Parade, 1330Z-2100Z, W4YMI, Newport, NC. Carteret County Amateur Radio Society. 14.750 14.650 14.450 14.250. Certificate. Carteret County Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 1302, Newport, NC 28570. <http://w4ymi.com/>

November 11: The following information (edited) was provided by Irv McWherter, K3IRV: “American Legion Legionnaires will honor their fellow veterans in a special on-the-air amateur radio tribute on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11, 2016. Members of The American Legion Amateur Radio Club (TALARC) will operate on the short wave bands starting at 9:00 AM through 4:30 PM EST (1400 - 2130Z), using the call sign K9TAL. Any ham radio operators who contact the station are eligible to receive an attractive full-color commemorative certificate. After working K9TAL, send a 9x12 inch self-addressed stamped envelope to The American Legion Amateur Radio Club, 700 N. Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.” Thanks for Irv McWherter, K3IRV, Public Information Coordinator, for providing this information!

Special Event Station listings in the NC Section newsletter are based on what appears on the ARRL website, see <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations> Please consider listing your Special Event Station at least 60 days before the event, see <http://www.arrl.org/special-events-application> Also, please let me know if your club is sponsoring a Special Event Station. Thanks! (sources: ARRL website, Irv McWherter, K3IRV)

## UPCOMING HAMFESTS AND CONVENTIONS –

November 20: JARSfest 2016, Johnston Amateur Radio Society, Benson, NC, <http://www.jars.net>

January 14, 2017: Winston-Salem FirstFest, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Winston-Salem, NC, [http://www.w4nc.com/ws\\_classic\\_hamfest\\_2016.htm](http://www.w4nc.com/ws_classic_hamfest_2016.htm)

March 10-11, 2017: Charlotte Hamfest, Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, Concord, NC, <https://charlottehamfest.org/>

April 15, 2017: Catawba Valley Hamfest, McDowell Amateur Radio Association, Morganton, NC, <http://cvhamfest.com>

April 15, 2017: 45<sup>th</sup> Annual RARSfest/ARRL Roanoke Division Convention, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Raleigh, NC, <http://www.rars.org/rarsfest/>

April 28-29, 2017: 2017 SVHFS Conference, Southeastern VHF Society, Charlotte, NC, <http://svhfs.org>

September 1-3, 2017: 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Shelby Hamfest/ARRL North Carolina State Convention, Shelby Amateur Radio Club, Shelby, NC, <http://www.shelbyhamfest.org>

It is not too early to apply for ARRL-affiliation of your club's 2017 hamfest! For more information, see <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events> (source: ARRL website)

**QUA\*** – As Hurricane Matthew approaches and you are making safety preparations for your family and property, please don't forget to consider the wellbeing of your pets and livestock.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or want to provide input on our Section. I can be reached via email at [w4chx@arrl.org](mailto:w4chx@arrl.org) or via cell phone. As always, thank you for sending your emails, photos, and club newsletters – they keep me informed about your activities and programs! I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming hamfest or club meeting. Thanks for everything you are doing for amateur radio and your community. 73, Karl Bowman, W4CHX, ARRL North Carolina Section Manager, (919) 669-6068 (cell)



## MARS Club Officers for 2016



President:	Eric Webner K4FAN
Vice President:	Mitch Barbato KX4MB
Secretary:	P. Susan Nosko N4PSN
Treasurer:	Tom Hunt KA3VVJ
Director (2016):	Charles Comerford KK4HOK
Director (2017):	Patrick Fink W4PFI
Director (2017):	Jon Greene KK4ZIZ
Director (2016):	Dave Holbrook KC4SGT
Director (2017):	Marshall Lail KK4OHF

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Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and log in using your email and password as if you were at [amazon.com](https://amazon.com). From there, select the charitable organization which you would like to support — **Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society!** Shop! Amazon Smile will remember the charity you selected and will always donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to that charity.



## 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)



# Club Meeting Minutes



## Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting  
St. Giles Evangelical Church  
Charlotte, North Carolina

**Date:** September 27, 2016

**Meeting called to order:** 7:03pm

**Welcome:** President Eric Webner K4FAN welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Visitors:** Eric welcomed two other Erics to our meeting -- Eric Spero WA1SXX and Eric Kenney KM4MJQ -- and Ambrose Berry W4GHV. We're so glad you visited!

**New members:** We had no new members for the month of September.

**New license or license upgrades:** Harold Howe K4WDN upgraded to his General license. Congratulations, Harold!

### Announcements:

Public service events (Mary Hunt N4MH) – CCTTAA gave us \$1000 for our Repeater fund.

Oct. 7-8, 2016 – Breakaway to the Beach. Mary is still looking for some volunteers.

Oct 22, 2016 – Cystic Fibrosis Ride in Waxhaw. Contact Tim Slay at N4IB@arrl.net if you'd like to volunteer.

March 3-5, 2016 – MS Challenge Walk

Charles Comerford is working hard to get the ridemaps.com website up and running.

ARES/Skywarn events (Cliff Greene WB4NCQ) – Cliff is our new ARES Mecklenburg Emergency Coordinator. There will soon be four hands-on ARES events posted.

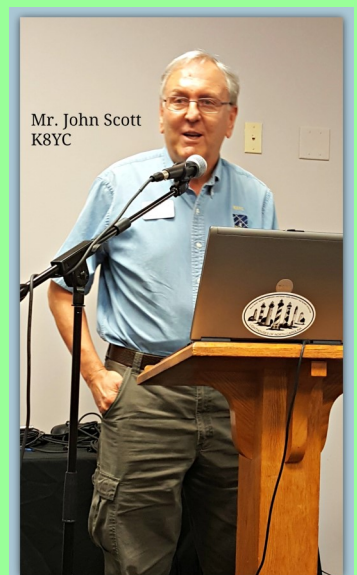
### Meeting Program:

**DXing Basics** – Presented by John Scott K8YC, Member CDXA (Carolina DX Association), Vice President INDEXA (International DX Association. INDEXA offers grants for DX expeditions.

1. DXing has been a part of amateur radio since the beginning. There was a list of FX entities published in 1937 in QST. The chase began. CQ WAZ began about the same time.

2. Why DX? The thrill of working the WORLD. A test of one's operating skill and one's equipment. You can use multiple modes and earn awards. It's FUN if approached with the right attitude. (Pile ups can be gruesome. You've got to keep your sense of humor! :-D)

3. Success factors in DXing (in order of importance): Operator skill in radio operation and knowledge of propagation, operator techniques in the pileups, antennas (Home brewing gives options and is satisfying, gain antennas preferred), a "good" radio (Some world renowned DXers were very successful using Kenwood TH-570s), logging programs for logging and online tools (They reduce the drudgery of record keeping and preparing award submissions), and gadgets (a linear amp).



4. Logging programs: QRZ.com, DXSUMMIT.FI (for world-wide "spotting of active DX), Telnet-ing to your preferred "cluster," Reverse Beacon Network, CW Skimmer
  5. Contesting! NG3K website is full of DX and contest activity.
  6. Listen, listen, and listen to understand what is going on. Always listen to confirm the call.
  7. Read a few helpful books: *The DXCC Companion*, *The Complete DXer*, *Tips to the Top from DX Pros*, *Up Two (Adventures of a DX Expeditioner)*.
  8. [Ham Cap](#) – A free download to help predict propagation.
  9. Remember to abide by the DX Code of Conduct.
  10. Ham radio is a hobby! Keep your humor and have fun! If you're not having fun, turn the dial.
- \* The CDXA meets at the Skyland Family Restaurant, 11:30am on Wednesdays.

**The Logbook of the World** program will conclude at our next meeting.

**Club business:** Eric announced we will have officer and director elections in November.

**Raffle winners:** Merrilee Fellows WA1FAK, Eric Webner K4FAN, Eric Spero WA1SXX (a visi-  
tor!), Steve Nosko W4SJN, and Matt Young KK4HNU who deferred his winnings to Eric.

**Meeting was adjourned:** 9:07pm

Respectfully submitted,  
P. Susan Nosko N4PSN, MARS Secretary

## Board Meeting Minutes



### **Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting Video-Conference**

Unified AV, 5100 Old Pineville Rd., Charlotte, NC

**Date:** October 4, 2016

**Call Meeting to Order:** President Eric Webner K4FAN, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm via video conferencing.

**Present:** Mitch Barbato KX4MB, Charles Comerford KK4HOK, Jon Greene KK4ZIZ, Dave Holbrook KC4SGT, Tom Hunt KA3VVJ, Marshall Lail KK4OHF, P. Susan Nosko N4PSN, Eric R. Webner K4FAN (via video)

**Absent:** Patrick Fink W4PFI

**Visitor(s):** Jack Cureton K4LRH, Cliff Greene WB4NCQ, Steve Nosko W4SJN, Seth O'Neal KF4LLF (via video), Aaron Tekulsky WA2RTV, Matt Young KK4HNU

**Welcome:** Eric welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Approval of minutes:** (See newsletter) Eric asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September Board Meeting. Susan made the motion; Marshall seconded it.

## BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

**Treasurer's Report** (Tom Hunt KA3VVJ): Charles asked that the \$42.00 in Office Expenditure be made an Internet Web expense.

Eric asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, as requested. Dave so moved and Charles seconded it.

**Vice-President's Report** (Mitch Barbato KX4MB):

October Meeting Program: Club History Meeting. Mitch will be out of town. Others will help with the program in his absence.

The Board discussed how to keep guest speakers within their time limits. If a future speaker appears as if his program won't end on time, we will take the meeting break as planned and use that time to discuss our time constraints with the speaker.

November Meeting Program: Club Election and Hands-on Radio Programming.

**Secretary's Report** (Susan Nosko N4PSN): **132 total members -- 120** regular members, **3** Honorary Members and **9** paid Life Members. She is following up with visitor emails.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Membership Committee** (Charles Comerford KK4HOK and Susan Nosko N4PSN): No report.

**Public Service Committee** (Mary Hunt N4MH): MS Breakaway to the Beach cancelled due to the weather. **Cystic Fibrosis Ride** (October 22, 2016) and **Geek Fest** (November 10, 2016).

**Equipment & Clubroom Committee** (Jon Greene KK4ZIZ and John White WB2NHQ): Our clubroom is using WiFi connections to keep packet and HRD computer online. We are waiting for the Red Cross to finalize internet access to the clubroom full time.

**Repeater Committee** (Marshall Lail KK4OHF and Jon Greene KK4ZIZ):

=====

REPEATER COMMITTEE MEETING (9/28/16)

Attendees: Jon Greene KK4ZIZ, Marshall Lail KK4OHF, and via email Bryan Ferdinand K4NET

### Agenda:

The unused UHF repeater antenna that W4BFB owned was donated to GCARS – for use with the 442.700 (+/100PL) repeater on Crowder's Mtn. They installed the antenna this past weekend as a tower crew was available at the last minute. This repeater is currently being used to hold GCARS nets on Monday/Wed/Fri due to weather related issues.

GCARS is donating \$600 to the repeater fund to help us fortify our own repeater budget.

### Status/Issues by site:

23 – Spencer Mtn.

Repeater link dropped on Wed. M2MEN (9:25p), No outage.

29/440 - Downtown

With weather starting to cool down, trip will be scheduled.

94 - Orr Rd

DB224 currently still being used for receive antenna, and will be used for transmit & receive at next trip

### Outages:

Echolink: none

Repeater issues

94 – Weather radio not connecting



23 - none

29 - none

### Open Discussion:

The 145.350 machine appears to have been taken off the air after the passing of Glenn this month. The future of this machine is unknown and traffic has increased on 145.230 as the rest of that crew is using it A LOT. Average 6-8 hrs. a day between normal traffic and nightly nets.

The 23 Spencer Mtn. time sync doing well

No change to the 94 Orr Rd site. The weather radio is not connecting and it is likely the next visit that will be one of the things looked at.

Everyone is welcome to use cross band repeat, however if using cross band repeat make sure using a frequency that is approved for simplex or control linking. Earlier this month we had a cross band link that was keying both a 440 repeater and .940 repeater and causing the repeaters to burp. The only way to stop this was for one of the transmitters to be turned off. Luckily this issue was cleared within 20 minutes.

=====

Seth stated we are experiencing online difficulties with packet transmissions, and are in a holding pattern until internet can be back up and running.

Dave asked if there was a way to get the 145.350 (private) repeater in Dallas working to take the load off our repeaters? One machine carrying the load of two repeaters may not be a good thing - especially considering the weather we have coming this weekend.

Seth suggested that perhaps we could reach out to Tucker Sizemore about possibly putting a repeater up at the 145.350 site.

Dave said he'd like to see something digital considered.

Matt asked if the repeater was permanently offline and would it be possible to actually acquire the repeater, tower, antennae, etc. "as is" versus putting a whole new system in place to replace it.

Seth offered to talk to Tucker.

**Website** (Charles Comerford KK4HOK): Charles is currently working on our HamFest website (maps, floor plans). Will next work on the ARES website. He will look into buying Elena's old website ridemaps.com domain name when it becomes available.

**Volunteer Examiners Committee** (Steven Burke KI4FAQ): No report.

**ARES Report** (Jon Greene KK4ZIZ for Cliff Greene WB4NCQ): Mecklenburg County ARES is willing to give training. As of right now, Mecklenburg ARES has not been activated due to Hurricane Matthew. A few individuals (including Jon) have volunteered to run the weekly ARES nets. Training info has been updated on ARES website.

**Net Manager** (John White WB2NHQ):

=====

M2MEN Report for September 2016

Net Sessions 30

Total Station checkins 842

Total Formal Net Time minutes 714

Total Net Time minutes 1310

Total Formal Traffic 12

Note: For monthly participation hours - I used to use Total Formal Time minutes / 60. But many stations don't stay on frequency even until end of Formal session.

That time is approximately offset by the fewer who do stay through the Informal part. I think To-

ny used to use 60% of the Total Net Time / 60.(about the same result, but it's still an estimate).  
Thru the month I keep a spread sheet with the daily numbers.

SIGNATURE: 73, WB2NHQ

POSITION: M2MEN Mgr.

=====

### *OLD BUSINESS*

#### 1. Nominations for Club Officers and Directors

Andy Hawkins K4GKK has agreed to be Nominations Chair.

Positions: President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary and two Directors (Dave Holbrook and Charles Comerford) Susan will make a list of eligible members to run (with phone numbers) and post it on Google Drive. Those who have agreed to continue serving and those who have offered to run: Eric, Mitch and Charles agreed to continue serving in their respective roles.

Charles commented that we need to add VE Sessions to the activity list – along with any other MARS-related activities.

2. We received a request for only one signature being required for checks issued from the Hamfest checking account; Mary Hunt N4MH is the Hamfest Treasurer. Mitch made a motion that we should approve a single signature for the HamFest account. Tom seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

### *NEW BUSINESS*

1. Planning for New Year's Party – It will take place on Saturday, January 7, 2017, at 6:00pm at St. Giles Presbyterian Church. Tom and Mary will make arrangements for catering. Club members will bring desserts.

Charles suggested awarding certificates for member participation and to have them signed by Karl Bowman (for higher level recognition).

Jon Greene KK4ZIZ will choose the 2016 Ham of the Year.

#### 2. Raffle prizes for Club Meetings.

Susan will make a "Raffle" section in the newsletter so people will know what's going to be raffled, and members can be asked if they have anything they'd like to offer for our meeting raffle. Members can also be asked if anyone wants to make a final donation before the end of the year?

Charles suggested a HamFest ticket exchange with other hamfests in the area to promote each other's hamfests.

3. Membership renewals: There was discussion about what membership charges should be if someone wants to join early. Tom will announce at the October club meeting that it's time for membership renewals.

4. How long do we want to keep Garinger High School donations open? We'll put something in the newsletter about end-of-year donations.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

Tom moved the meeting be adjourned. Dave seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Susan Nosko N4PSN, MARS Secretary

