

The Official Organ

The Official Newsletter of the Johnston Amateur Radio Society

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JARS Meeting this Thursday

Our monthly JARS meeting is this Thursday April 19th at the Panther Branch Community Building located on State Road Ten - Ten just off of NC 50 outside of Garner. Dinner will consist of some of "Chef Boy-R-Tommy's" famous grilled chicken. Rumor has it that KFC has been after Tommy for 20 years for his secret recipe. Be sure to let Tommy know how many people you are bringing so he can make sure everybody gets the bird. Tommy's e-mail is n4cbi@yahoo.com. Remember the cost of the meal is \$7.00. Please try to bring exact change.

JARS Blue Light Special

This month we will have a guest speaker at our meeting. It is the High Sheriff of Johnston County, Sheriff Steve Bizzel. This is the first time that the Johnston County Sheriff has ever been invited to speak at a JARS meeting. With all that has been going on in the county, I am sure that he will have a lot of information to share with us, so make sure to attend and let your fellow hams know too.

Changes are coming!

After many attempts to solicit articles and so forth for the JARS Official Organ, I am changing a few things around, adding some very important columns and changing the appearance a little. This is all intended to make our newsletter more enjoyable and informative. We will still have our usual articles and reports though.

In this month's Organ:
Our Usual Reports,
The North Carolina Section
News
ARRL Newsletter
Upcoming HAMFests

LOM Report

I never in the whole wide world would have expected as much lid activity as I have seen so far. Tom, KK4BVU, Woody, KJ4ZKG, and Howard, KU4ZH are on my extensive list, plus several others. One who will not be on my list is Stephen, KI4VBA. He does not need to have it again, already has had it nine times. Some of the prospects are: Julie, Peggy, Mike (KD4UJC), Chuck, N8CJB Doug, K1DUG. I can list lots more, but that's all for now. Fellows and girls. Please no heart palpitations.

Jack, WA2YBM/LOM

North Carolina Section News

IMPORTANT NOTE: As we go to press with this edition of the monthly section newsletter, the FCC is about to announce its plans for collecting data as part of the "Study on Emergency Communications by Amateur Radio and Impediments to Amateur Radio Communications" which was enacted February 22nd. This study is expected to have a 45 day window beginning in April during which Hams can provide examples of antenna restriction language in neighborhoods governed by CC&Rs,

“Covenants, Codes and Restrictions”. In addition, the study will want accounts of Hams whose requests to install antennas were denied because of CC&Rs. The study does not cover areas under the jurisdiction of only municipal ordinances – just neighborhoods with CC&Rs embedded in their deeds or through contracts with their homeowners associations. The final study report will be turned over to the Congress in August. One possible outcome might be a recommendation for a federal exemption for antenna relief which could override CC&Rs. Please see the “QUA” column at the bottom of this newsletter for commentary, and be on the lookout for instructions on how to submit information and data when announced.

TWO DESERVING HAMS FOR THE ORDER OF LONG LEAF PINE – Governor Beverly Perdue has bestowed the Order of The Long Leaf Pine Award to Greensboro’s Weldon Fields, W4AJT, and Bill Finch, W4EHF, of Greenville. The award is among the most prestigious in North Carolina, and is akin to the title of Colonel in Kentucky and the Order of the Palmetto in South Carolina. Weldon and Bill now share the award with past recipients like UNC President Bill Friday, CBS journalist Charles Kuralt, preacher Billy Graham and NBA and UNC basketball star Michael Jordan. Both Bill and Weldon were founders of the Tar Heel Emergency Net (THEN) in 1947 and remain active in emergency communications and traffic. 98 year old Weldon has been licensed since 1930, and 100 year

old Bill since 1935. They will receive their awards at the ARRL Forum at RARSfest on April 7th.

CHAPEL HILL CELL PHONE BAN IGNORES AMATEUR RADIO – Many thanks to Hams in Chapel Hill for trying to work with Town of Chapel Hill officials in adding an exemption for Amateur Radio in the municipality’s new ordinance which bans cell phone, mobile electronics and civilian two-way communications use while vehicles are in motion inside town limits. The ordinance is the most sweeping in North Carolina, and was passed March 26th in a controversial 5-4 vote. The language in the new ordinance, which takes effect June 1st, prohibits use of any portable electronics and two-way communications, including Blue Tooth. Local Hams headed by Dan Eddleman, KR4UB, alerted Chapel Hill town officials about federal preemption for Amateur Radio and supplied sample Amateur Radio exemption language used in other municipal ordinances. Although one of the councilmen directed staff to include AR exclusion wording, the adopted version makes no specific reference to Amateur Radio, and whether Amateur Radio is excluded under a general provision in the ordinance is unclear. Should a citation be issued for Amateur Radio use under such an ordinance, such violations have usually been dismissed by courts. The response of Chapel Hill and Orange County Hams to this measure was exemplary, but underscores that NC Hams need to be vigilant in identifying and working with

municipalities in making sure Amateur Radio not be subjected to ordinances like this in the future.

FIELD DAY BEGINS NOW – Well, not exactly. We're still about three months away from the 79th annual Field Day, which this year will be June 23-24. Many of the clubs sponsoring the approximate 50 Field Day public locations across North Carolina have begun planning, but some leave out at this stage one key component of planning – publicity.

Sending out an announcement the week before Field Day is too late.

Many clubs want to publicize their Field Day activities but don't

know what to do. On Thursday, April 12th at 9 PM local time, ARRL will host a free webinar on how to design a Field Day PR campaign, including how to write a release and get it distributed to media in your area.

You don't have to be an ARRL PIO to join the webinar – it's open to anyone. Pre-register at:

<https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/278619454> Also, if you already know where you 2012 Field Day location is going to be, please make sure it's listed at:

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator> All the rules

and supplies for 2012 Field Day can be found at

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

MEDIA HITS – The Jacksonville Daily News profiled in its March 16th edition how Pamlico Amateur Radio Society (PARS) of Oriental helped the Lucky Charms Challenge Walk which raises money for the Wounded Warriors project. The Chatham County edition of the

Raleigh News & Observer covered the March 21st QSO between the International Space Station and Salem Elementary School in Apex. The kids spoke through the ARISS program (Amateur Radio on The International Space Station). High Point's WGHP-TV, Fox 8, reported March 8th that SKYWARN spotter classes are full in Reidsville and that Hams make up many weather spotters. Wilmington's WECT-TV covered the Azalea Coast's Amateur Radio Club's NC QSO Party activities aboard the Battleship North Carolina, including 40 meter CW using an original transmitter and receiver.

PUBLIC SERVICE – April 11, Charlotte Motor Speedway Cycling Time Trial, Lowe's Charlotte Motor Speedway, Concord. Details at: <http://www.ridemaps.com> ; April 21, MS Walk-A-Thon, Greenfield Lake, Wilmington. Details: http://walknct.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR?fr_id=18085&pg=entry and Registration for Ham volunteers at ke4bmy@hotmail.com

SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS – April 14, NC4AR, General Hardee's Retreat Civil War Reenactment, Trinity, NC. Details: <http://www.nc4ar.net>

LICENSING CLASSES - Apr. 14 & 28, Technician Class, Raleigh. More info: www.rars.org For a full list of ongoing and upcoming classes go to: <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-class> If you have a class coming up, please register at:

www.arrl.org/register-a-new-license-class

PASSING OF W4FAL – Every month we receive notice of Hams who have passed away, and each has a compelling story as to what led them to Amateur Radio and their achievements in our hobby. While all deserve to have their stories told, occasionally we have to remind folks about the legacy of a Ham who has left his mark on all of us. Frank Lynch, W4FAL, died suddenly this month. Frank had been a NTS traffic handler and the ARES District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) for Area 7. However, we'll best remember him as one of the tireless advocates fighting Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) which interfered with Amateur Radio, and his role as Frequency Coordinator for the Southeaster Repeater Association (SERA), permitting hundreds of repeaters on the air with minimal interference. Whenever any of us get on the air with relative ease in North Carolina, we have Frank Lynch to thank. Frank was 57 years old.

SILENT KEYS – We regret to report the passing of Frank Lynch, W4FAL, of Raleigh; Ernie Hufham, W4WH, of Clarkton; and John Prokop, N8MPX of Winterville.

QUA* - Hurry up and wait. Anyone who has served in the military knows that expression. It's apropos as we await the Public Notice (PN) from the FCC on the "Study on Emergency Communications by Amateur Radio and Impediments to Amateur Radio Communications", which was enacted as part of the Payroll Tax bill. The

FCC should release its PN in the next few days. Once released, the FCC is expected to announce a 45 day comment period during which two different types of responses can be submitted: 1) from emergency managers about their experiences with Amateur Radio, and 2) evidence of antenna restrictions in neighborhoods with covenants, codes and restrictions (CC&Rs) and experiences from Hams who have been restricted by homeowners associations in erecting antennas. We don't know at this time the formats for submitting documentation and information, but when we do, we expect the window to be both quick and short. We urge Hams to be on standby, and to alert emergency managers that we will need their assistance in remitting information for the study. The Amateur Radio community has been waiting almost 15 years for this opportunity, which could ultimately result in some form of federal antenna relief. When the starting bell rings, please be ready to respond. *QUA is a Net "Q" signal meaning "Do you have news for me?"

3 de Bill Morine, N2COP
ARRL North Carolina Section Manager

Secretary's Report

Dinner was lasagna and salad provided by Chef Tommy Rich (N4CBI). Good job chef! The meeting was called to order by Pres. Robbie Wheeler (KD4WIY) at 7:15 pm

New Business:

The topic of forming a Local Interference Committee and naming Robert 'BJ' Jenkins (NC4BJ) as chairman was discussed. We are looking for volunteer members to form the committee.

BJ (NC4BJ) gave a detailed account of how, with the diligence and skill of some of our fox hunting (or, should I say duck hunting) JARS members, they zeroed in on the 'Duck' who had been for months intentionally and illegally transmitting 'quacks' during the nets, local HAM events, and progressed to using profanity on the air. The quacker pushed his luck and his goose was cooked and served on a silver platter!

Special recognition was given to the following hams for their participation in the 'duck hunt':

Don Turlington NC4XX
Sam Cederas K4OC
Doug Eubanks K1DUG
Robert Jenkins NC4BJ
Howard Harris KU4ZH
Mike Callam KD4UJC
Doug Williams KS4TI
Danny Hampton K4ITL
Tom Kressley KK4BVU

Treasurers Report:

We have money

Memberships:

The following hams applied for and were granted full membership into the JARS family:

Stephen Boyette N4SMB (general class)
Chuck Beal N8CJB (general class) family membership
Benjamin Jones KJ4FYT (tech. class)

Welcome to our family

Net Whip Report:

Our check-in champ for the month was "The one and only" Jack Donnelly, WA2YBM
The total number of check-ins was unavailable for report

LID Presentation:

Dianne Young (KE4VNX), or Madame LID, Bestowed the Lid of the Month Award to Jack Donnelly, WA2YBM for calling her 'mean and stern', and that he had to 'watch her'. Since when is being stern a bad thing? This month's meeting is going to be ..very interesting. Hmmm...

50/50 drawing:

For the first time, Van Lee (KM4TC) won the drawing and took home \$27.50.

Side Note:

We took up a collection for Doug Eubanks (K1DUG) to help offset the cost of fuel for all the miles, *and miles and miles* he drove from Durham to Rocky Mount to help catch the 'Duck'. We appreciate all your efforts and support for the club Doug!

Chuck Beal (N8CJB) brought up the idea of giving ham tests under Laurel, which allows perspective hams to take their test for free. I don't know all the particulars about the organization, but Chuck seems very knowledgeable about the subject. Bring your thoughts, comments and questions to the next meeting.

Dinner for the April meeting will be Tommy's's famous, mouth watering BBQ chicken, so email him at n4cbi@yahoo.com

to put in your order as soon as you can. There won't be any leftovers I assure you. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm; the meeting will begin at 7:00pm ((4/19/12 if anyone forgot).

That's all I have for now. Hope to see everyone at the meeting.

Peggy Lee, KJ4OPH
JARS Secretary

Word of Warning!!!

I would like to send a word of warning! I purchased a supposedly new SWR & Power Meter at RARSFest. It was an opened box that was even missing a part. That should have been a **red flag** for me. Once I got it home, it did not work. I have contacted the seller more than once and my only option at this point is to spend additional money to send it to the distributor in Ca. To be my first large HAM fest, I have learned an expensive lesson.

Holly Trull KK4EUB.

HAMFests

HAMFESTS – April 20-21, Southeastern VHF Convention, Doubletree Inn Airport, 2600 Yorkmont Rd., Charlotte. Details: <http://www.svhfs.org/conference.html> ; April 21, Catawba Valley Hamfest, Burke County Fairgrounds, 145 Bost Rd., Morganton. Talk-In 147.15. Details at: <http://www.evhamfest.com>.

ARRL News

+ On the Air: 2012 Continues to Show Growth in Amateur Radio Licensing

Compared to the first quarter of 2011, the first quarter of 2012 shows a 30 percent increase in the number of new license applications.

The first quarter of 2012 (January-March) saw a high level of Amateur Radio license exam sessions, producing an elevated influx of applications for new licensees. According to ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, these numbers outpaced the 2011 first quarter results by 30 percent. This uptake does not only apply to new applications; there was a 6 percent increase in the number of upgrades, too. "Statistics over the last 13 years reveal that these are some of the highest numbers that we've seen since the early 1990s for the total number of US amateurs," Somma said. "Now there are more than 704,000 radio amateurs in the US."

+ On the Air: FCC Seeks Public Comments on Emergency Communications by Amateur Radio and Impediments to Amateur Radio Communications



In response to the Congressional directive to prepare a study to assess Amateur Radio's role in emergency and disaster communications and the impact of private land use regulations on the amateur community's ability to provide such communications, the FCC issued DA 12-523 soliciting comments from the public. The period for public comment runs until May 17, 2012.

As part of the study contained in Public Law No. 112-96, the Commission has opened a 45 day period for comments to be filed on the issue," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "Because of the short deadline for the study to be completed and presented to Congress -- before the end of August -- the ARRL and the amateur community must quickly mobilize their response."

On the Air: Amateurs Must Protect New Radars in 23 cm Band

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is deploying a new generation of Common Air Route Surveillance Radar (CARSR) that has some implications for the use of the 1240-1300 MHz (23 cm) band by amateurs. The Amateur Service allocation in this band is on a secondary basis, with aeronautical radio navigation and several other services primary in the United States Table of Frequency Allocations. The FCC rules require that amateur stations operating in the 23 cm band may not cause harmful interference to stations in the radio navigation-satellite service, the aeronautical radio navigation service, the Earth exploration-satellite service (active) or the space research service (active). One case of harmful interference in Southern California has been reported.

CARSRs are being installed in several dozen locations throughout the country and will use various frequencies in the 1240-1350 MHz range with an occupied bandwidth of about 3 MHz. In the vicinity of the radars, amateur operation may be precluded in a portion of the 23 cm band. The ARRL is in contact with FAA engineers. We anticipate that the constraints on amateur use of the band will be limited to those necessary to protect aviation safety, which of course cannot be compromised.

On the Air: ARRL Seeks Comments on Proposed 33 cm Band Plan

A few months ago, the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee asked the Amateur Radio community about current, planned and projected uses of the amateur bands between 902 MHz-3.5 GHz. The response was beyond our expectations, with hundreds of comments and suggestions received. After reading the feedback, the Committee began working on the band plans, and the draft plan for 33 cm (902-928 MHz) is now ready for review.

Mobiles & HAM Shacks

For quite some time I have been asking for you to send me pics of your ham shack or mobile installation. The way you have your equipment installed may be the answer another JARS member was looking for. Billy Massengill(WB4EBG) was kind enough to send pictures of his golfcart mobile installation:





Thanks Billy.

Roster Information

As membership chairperson, I have been asked to find out how our members feel about having their address(which can be found on QRZ)) and telephone number listed on the club roster. This would be used in case of emergencies, such as natural disasters, important club matters that can't wait until meeting or other events where we need to contact each other. Please think this over and send me your feedback at jarsmember@hughes.net or let me know at the meeting.

Mike Callam, KD4UJC
Membership Chair.

I realize that I have put a lot of information in this month's *Official Organ*. I feel it is information that is important to us as Amateur Radio Operators. The N.C. Section News and parts of the ARRL Newsletter are something that I plan to keep in the newsletter. Hopefully, you found it to be informative.

Mike Callam KD4UJC
Editor

JARS Officers 2012

Pres.	Robbie	KD4WIY
V.Pres.	Billy	KJ4ZKG
Secretary	Peggy	KJ4OPY
Treasurer	Paul	KD4BJD
Membership	Mike	KD4UJC
Net Whip	Van	KM4TC

Editor	Mike	KD4UJC
Ham of the Year	Tommy	N4CBI

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That's it for this edition. Hope to see y'all at the meeting.

73 de KD4UJC