

# The “Official Organ”

The Official Newsletter of the Johnston Amateur Radio Society, Inc.  
November 2014 Edition



## **JARS Meeting this Thursday:**

Our monthly JARS meeting is Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at our usual location, the Panther Branch Community Building. This is located on Highway ten – ten, just off of NC 50 south of Garner. Talk-in will be available on the *mighty 27*, should anybody need it. Our very own “*Chef Boy-R-Tommy*” will be cooking once again for us this month. Dinner will consist of his world famous spaghetti and fixin’s. Be sure to let Tommy know how many you are bringing so that everybody gets something to eat. Let him know at: [n4cbi@yahoo.com](mailto:n4cbi@yahoo.com).

## **In this month’s Organ:**

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## **JARSFest-Is it time again?:**

The countdown is on and JARSFest 2014 is less than 24 hours away. If all the people and vendors that wanted tables show up, this will be one of our biggest JARSFests ever. However, it requires the help of ALL JARS members. Remember, it is only one day out of 365 and it is our only fundraising event.

## **Secretary Report:**

Lowell Sayles, K4EUP was our fill in secretary for this October meeting.

Pot Luck Dinner – 6:00 PM

Meeting called to order at 7:07 by Mike Callam, KD4UJC.

Club members introduced ourselves to the guest speaker, Karl Bowman W4CHX, NC Section Manager for ARRL. Karl did an excellent presentation on ARRL and North Carolina activities.

Karl Bowman gave an excellent overview of what ARRL and what the NC Section is involved in to raise awareness of our hobby. There are many legal issues from Federal legislation to local jurisdiction actions that keep them busy? The NC Section is here to serve the needs of amateur radio operators in NC.

JARS Business:

Doug, KS4TI, in his “Preppers Net” had a discussion on the advantages of Zanfel, a topical cream for the reduction of poison ivy and poison sumac exposure. Zanfel Laboratories was so impressed they sent him a box of samples for distribution, which Doug shared with everybody at the meeting.

Mike, KD4UJC, announced that the ARES monthly training net is held the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM on the Carolina 440 UHF Linked Repeater System. All are invited to participate.

Mike, while he held the floor, announced that he had arranged with The Trophy Case in Dunn to make JARSFest Staff Tee-shirts for \$17.00. See Mike to order one.

Mike also had tickets for JARSFest for \$6.00.

BJ, NC4BJ, announced that the Local Interference Committee needs the help of dedicated amateurs. If interested, please contact BJ.

Glenn Wright, N1GAW, applied for membership into JARS. Welcome Glenn.

Lowell, K4EUP, gave his report on his two months of ‘LOM’. What an honor to have such a prestigious award. (????)

Although he knew Renee Nichols, KK4QQM, was working long hours and worked as our secretary for 2014, she needs something to remember her first year as JARS member. Elected to membership and voted as secretary all in one meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Lowell Sayles, K4EUP acting secretary.



### **Ham of the Year Nomination:**

Every year at our November meeting, we nominate our Ham of the Year for the following year. The members of JARS nominate this person. It is

someone that has contributed the most to JARS and/or amateur radio over the past year. With the exception of the current Ham of the Year, Doug, KS4TI, and the most previous Ham of the Year, Billy, WB4EBG, all JARS members are eligible. The nominations are written on a piece of paper and handed to the current Ham of the Year and he makes the presentation to the new Ham of the Year at our December meeting.



#### **NC Section News:**

Greetings to all Hams across North Carolina from Karl W4CHX, your ARRL NC Section Manager!

HR 4969 AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT OF 2014 AND THE ARRL GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN – As we enter late-Fall 2014, the grassroots campaign in support of HR 4969 Amateur Radio Parity Act continues. As a reminder, there are 2 parts to the grassroots campaign: letter-writing by individual ARRL members; and, small group meetings with Members of Congress or their staff, at or through their district offices. The goal of the grassroots campaign is to gain co-sponsors for the Bill. There are now forty-seven (47) co-sponsors for HR 4969,

including 2 Representatives from North Carolina: Mike McIntyre (D-NC-7); and, Walter B. Jones, Jr. (R-NC-3). Please see <http://www.arrl.org/news/list-of-amateur-radio-parity-act-of-2014-co-sponsors-swells-before-congressional-recess> for more information and additional comments from ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN on HR 4969 and the grassroots campaign. Important information regarding the HR 4969 grassroots campaign can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/hr-4969> Please monitor the news section of the ARRL website for updates. Thanks for all that you are doing for the HR 4969 grassroots campaign!

ARISS: APPLY NOW FOR SPACE STATION HAM RADIO CONTACT OPPORTUNITIES – The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program has announced that the application window is open for proposals from formal and informal educational institutions and organizations to host an Amateur Radio contact with an ISS crew member. The deadline for proposals is December 15<sup>th</sup>. Educational entities may apply individually or in concert with other institutions or organizations. ARISS anticipates that ham radio contacts with the space station will take place between May 1 and December 31, 2015. The ARRL website has more information about the ARISS program, including details on expectations, audience, proposal guidelines and application form, and the dates and times of informational sessions. ARISS is a cooperative

educational initiative of the ARRL and AMSAT, in partnership with NASA and other international space agencies. For further information and related links, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/educational-entities-apply-now-for-space-station-ham-radio-contact-opportunities>

**PROMOTING REPEATERS THAT AIR THE ARRL AUDIO NEWS** – An email communication was forwarded from ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X indicating that he would like to start promoting repeaters that air the ARRL Audio News. If you or your club would like to have your repeater added to the list of ARRL Audio News repeaters, see [www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news) for further information. Thanks to Steve Ewald, WV1X, ARRL Field Organization Team Supervisor for providing this information!

**NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR ARRL INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD** – The nomination period is open for the ARRL International Humanitarian Award for 2014. For further information on this award, see <http://www.arrl.org/international-humanitarian-award> For information on all ARRL awards, see <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-award-nominations> Please consider nominating a deserving candidate for an ARRL award. Thanks!

**TWO NEW ARRL-AFFILIATED CLUBS IN NORTH CAROLINA SECTION** – Congratulations to the newest ARRL-affiliated clubs in the North Carolina Section! The Carolina Amateur Radio

Club has 27 members, it is based in Lincolnton, and is our first ARRL-affiliated club in Lincoln County. The Carolina ARC meets most Thursday nights at 6:00 PM. More information can be found at [www.carcnc.net](http://www.carcnc.net) The Hampstead Hams – NC4PC has 18 members and it meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 8:00 AM at the Hampstead Public Library. For more information, see <http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/hampstead-hams> Thanks to Tim Slay, N4IB, Affiliated Club Coordinator and Assistant Section Manager, for providing this report!

**NAVASSA ISLAND (KP1) DXPEDITION APPROVED FOR JANUARY, 2015** – The KP1-5 Project has been notified by the US Fish and Wildlife Service that their proposal to activate Navassa Island (KP1) has been approved for January, 2015. This is great news for DXers worldwide since Navassa Island is very high on the priority list of “most wanted” DX entities. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/kp1-5-project-gets-permission-to-activate-navassa-island-kp1-in-january-2015> and <http://navassadx.com/>

**W1AW CENTENNIAL QSO PARTY** – The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ARRL is still being celebrated! The W1AW Centennial QSO Party is still “on the air” and consists of two main activities: 1) portable operation of W1AW in each state and most territories; and, 2) The Centennial Points Challenge which is the accumulation of points from qualifying contacts made throughout 2014. For further information on the

W1AW Centennial QSO Party,  
see <http://www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party>

W1AW/4 in North Carolina  
(September 17-24) – The  
W1AW/portable operations returned  
to North Carolina on September  
17<sup>th</sup> at 0000 UTC (September 16<sup>th</sup>,  
Tuesday, 8:00 PM EST). Team leader  
Nate Moreschi, N4YDU of Youngsville  
and 36 operators from NC were on the  
air until September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2359 UTC  
(7:59 PM EST). Here is the report  
from Nate N4YDU on their  
operations:

“..... (The) official QSO count was  
36,635. We operated on all HF bands  
as well as 6M and 2M using SSB, CW,  
RTTY, PSK and JT65. We also ended  
up with 138 total countries for the  
week. The big modes were SSB with  
17K QSOs, CW with 14,700 and a little  
more than 4K for RTTY. We also  
logged more than 2,200 JA QSOs. We  
often had to work split to control the  
pile-ups. The NC operators did a  
fantastic job of managing the intense  
pile-ups and helping people who had  
specific requests for a band or  
mode. It really was a great event and  
produced some very exciting  
moments for all. It was an honor to  
celebrate the ARRL Centennial and we  
are all thankful for the  
opportunity. The League has done a  
fantastic job with this event – too bad  
we have to wait another 100  
years! 73, Nate/N4YDU”

There were 37 operators of W1AW/4,  
including James Atkins W4UX, Karen

Wetherill WA4CR, Robert Cole N4KQ,  
Dan Atchison N3ND, Robert Barts  
N4GU, Ken Boyd K4DXA, Cameron  
Conover III AJ4TW, Lou Dietrich  
N2TU, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club  
W4NC, Bill Garwood N4GBK, David  
Hockaday WB4IUY, Javier Henderson  
K4JH, Howard C. Hoyt WA4PSC,  
Howard N. (“Howie”) Hoyt N4AF,  
Robert Katz K4OV, Brian Kuebert  
N4UEZ, Edward Kuebert K5EK, Tony  
Lewis KG4TAH, Tucker McGuire  
KK4UNZ, Nyles McKeithan KS4S, Irv  
McWherter K3IRV, Laurie Meier  
N1YXU, Bruce Meier N1LN, Carl  
Moreschi N4PY, Nate Moreschi  
N4YDU, Christopher Price WW4CP,  
Jack Ritter W0UCE, Will Roberts  
AA4NC, Eric Sossoman K4CEB, Wayne  
Starnes Jr KU4V, Marc Sullivan  
W4MPS, Michael Thurman KB7NLA,  
Charlie Vaughan K4UWH, Cliff  
Wagoner W3ZL, Richard Weinbaum  
KK4RR, and Dick Williams  
W3OA. Thanks to all operators for  
everything they did to make the  
W1AW/4 operations successful; and,  
thanks to Nate Moreschi, N4YDU for  
providing this report!

MEDIA HITS AND REPORTS – The  
following media hits and reports are  
included in this month’s newsletter:  
George Huffman, KD4MXA of  
Salisbury appeared on Ham Nation,  
Episode 167,  
see <http://twit.tv/show/ham-nation/167> Thanks to Ralph Brown,  
WB4AQK for providing this  
information!

Janice Hopkins, KJ4JPE, Public  
Information Officer, provided the  
following report: “To all, Sunday Oct.  
12th will go down in history! The

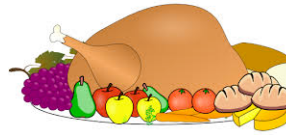


Maysville Hamfest had its first VE session run by the Onslow Amateur Radio Club's VE crew headed by David Wager, W4JKU and OARC President Dobie Hoffman, KK4MGK. OARC and Maysville Hamfest graduated its youngest Ham – Joshua Bean who just turned 11 years old. We are all proud of Joshua as is his Father, Loy Bean, KN4SA. Also upgraded to General was Tom Skirving, KK4SUD, who was very happy also!" Thanks to Janice Hopkins, KJ4JPE, Public Information Officer, for providing this report! And, congratulations to Joshua Bean, KM4FEA and Tom Skirving, KK4SUD! By the way, check out Joshua's entry at QRZ.COM, see <http://www.qrz.com/db/KM4FEA>

Michael Callam, KD4UJC was interviewed on WARZ TV 34 about amateur radio and JARSFEST, see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZ5fLGIMSPM>. Thanks to Michael Callam, KD4UJC for providing this information!

I look forward to seeing everyone at JARSFEST 2014 in Benson on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

In closing, 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. Thanks for everything you are doing for amateur radio and public service! Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season! 73, Karl Bowman, W4CHX, ARRL North Carolina Section Manager, (919) 669-6068 (cell)



### **ARRL News:**

#### **"Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014" Attracts More than a Dozen New Co-Sponsors**

The list of co-sponsors for the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014, [H.R. 4969](#), has grown to 63. Sixteen new co-sponsors signed aboard as the 113th Congress re-convened for its final session before adjournment. ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, is urging ARRL members to keep in contact with their Congressional representatives and to encourage them to become co-sponsors to the bill.

"We are excited about the addition of 16 new co-sponsors when Congress reconvened after the November mid-term elections," Henderson said. "Each new co-sponsor brings us one step closer to achieving our goal of getting HR 4969 enacted. We have a long way to go - but we are definitely moving in the right direction."

A few more co-sponsors may still be in the wings. The current tally represents a considerable expansion of support from the number of US Representatives who had signed aboard as Congress adjourned prior to the mid-term elections. All 16 of the latest co-sponsors were re-elected on November 4.

H.R. 4969, which was introduced in the US House of Representatives with

bipartisan support in late June, would call on the FCC to apply the "reasonable accommodation" three-part test of the [PRB-1](#) federal pre-emption policy to private land-use restrictions regarding antennas. The limited PRB-1 pre-emption currently applies only to state and municipal land-use ordinances. The FCC has indicated its reluctance to provide the same legal protections from private land-use agreements -- often called covenants, conditions, and restrictions or CC&Rs -- without direction from Congress.

The League has opened a [HR.4969 page](#). HR.4969 has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), chairs that panel's Communications and Technology Subcommittee, which will consider the measure.

### International Space Station Briefly "Ham-less" After Crew Members Return to Earth

The only two radio amateurs on the International Space Station (ISS) were among three crew members who returned to Earth on November 10, and another ham-astronaut won't arrive on board the ISS until later this month. An exciting 2015 appears to be in store.

NASA Flight Engineer Reid Wiseman, KF5LKT, and European Space Agency Astronaut Alexander Gerst, KF5ONO, joined Expedition 41 Commander and Russian Cosmonaut Max Suraev on the flight home this week. Traveling in a *Soyuz* space capsule, the trio touched down safely in Kazakhstan after some 6 months on the station. Wiseman and

Gerst were active on Amateur Radio during their time in orbit, handling questions from curious Earthlings during Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)) educational contacts and, in Wiseman's case, his first ARRL Field Day in June -- an activity he [discussed](#) in a recent #askAstro YouTube post.

This was the first mission for both Wiseman and Gerst. While in space, the pair carried out a spacewalk to relocate a failed pump module and configure the station for upcoming additions. Wiseman completed a second spacewalk with fellow NASA astronaut Barry Wilmore, now the ISS Expedition 42 Commander.

According to ARISS, there will be no US Operational Segment hams on the ISS until December 7, and the ARISS Russian team will conduct any school contacts in the interim. European Space Agency astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti, IZ0UDF, heads to the ISS on November 23. She will be the sole radio amateur on orbit until next March. That's when Cosmonauts Gennady Padalka, RN3DT, and Mikhail Kornienko, RN3BF -- both space veterans -- will arrive. A key research focus during Expedition 41 was human health management for long-duration space travel, as NASA and Roscosmos prepare for Kornienko and NASA Astronaut Scott Kelly to remain aboard the ISS for 1 year.

Several call signs are available for use on the ISS. NASA astronauts use NA1SS, while Russian cosmonauts operate under RS0ISS. Other call signs include DP0ISS, OR4ISS, and IROISS,

available for use by European Space Agency astronauts. UK telecoms regulator Ofcom recently issued the call sign GB1SS for assignment to UK space travelers while aboard the ISS.

NASA Astronaut Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS, and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Astronaut Kimiya Yui, KG5BPH, will head to the ISS next May. Astronauts Tim Kopra, KE5UDN, and Tim Peake, KG5BVI, will be part of a crew increment heading into space a year from now. Peake, who is from the UK, may use the GB1SS call sign.

British pop singer [Sarah Brightman](#) is currently scheduled to travel to the ISS in October 2015 for a 10-day visit as a fare-paying "spaceflight participant." Her website has adopted an otherworldly theme. While it is not known if she will participate in any Amateur Radio contacts during her short ISS stay, she apparently would be eligible to do so using GB1SS.

ARISS has [announced](#) that the deadline is December 15 for schools and educational institutions and organizations -- formal and informal -- to submit [proposals](#) to host an Amateur Radio contact with an ISS crew member. ARISS is especially interested in arranging contact events that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the radio contact into a well-developed educational plan. ARISS anticipates that the ham radio contacts between students and the space station will take place between May 1 and December 31, 2015. The ARRL website has [more information](#). [Contact](#) ARISS with any questions or for additional information.

NASA has posted [more information](#) on the International Space Station and its crews.

### [California Scientist-Ham On the Air from Antarctica's McMurdo Station, Ross Ice Shelf](#)

Ham radio is not the primary reason that Ron Flick, K6REF, is in Antarctica, but it's proving to be an enjoyable diversion to his scientific activities at McMurdo Station and the Ross Ice Shelf. He's put a few hundred contacts in the log since arriving late last month from California. Flick, an oceanographer with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways, and colleagues are conducting [ice vibration studies](#) on the Ross Ice Shelf, sponsored by Scripps Institution of Oceanography. McMurdo is home to KC4USV, but Flick's initial experience at the station -- once he was able to locate the key to unlock the door -- was less than optimal.

The view is spectacular!" he enthused. "After I plugged the radio into power and the Yagi, I was able to hear a few stations on the lower end of 20, but was not able to contact anyone. The Yagi is fixed in an east-west orientation."

Flick subsequently learned that the Antarctic winds had shifted the Yagi's orientation. He'd been using 14.243 MHz -- the "usual" KC4USV frequency -- and 14.290 MHz, which he called "my personal favorite." He was also using 21.260 MHz, generally getting on the air around 2200 UTC for a few hours, depending upon his work schedule.



According to the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Amateur Radio operations are part of the outreach and education efforts of the "Dynamic Response of the Ross Ice Shelf to Wave-Induced Vibrations" expedition.

Starting this week, Flick will be on the air as time and conditions permit as KC4/K6REF from Yesterday Camp near the International Date Line on the Ross Ice Shelf, running 100 W to dipole antennas. He hopes to be active for a few hours during the Antarctic afternoon and evening, starting at about 0300 UTC. He will be in the field until December 5.

### AMSAT Celebrates 40 Years in Space for AO-7

Saturday, November 15, will mark 40 years since the AMSAT-OSCAR 7 ([AO-7](#)) ham radio satellite went into space from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Special Event W70 will be on the air November 15-24 to commemorate the launch of AO-7, the oldest working Amateur Radio satellite. Satellite aficionado Patrick Stoddard, WD9EWK/VA7EWK, who secured W70 for the occasion, plans to work satellite passes during the special event from Arizona, including AO-7 passes. He also hopes to recruit other operators to participate in the celebration from other locations and on other bands, including HF.

AO-7 was the second so-called "Phase 2" Amateur Radio satellite that AMSAT-NA constructed and launched into low-Earth orbit. It remained in operation until a short circuit occurred in a battery in 1981. More than 20 years later, however, AO-7

unexpectedly returned to life, its 2 meter beacon showing up on 145.9775 MHz. AMSAT describes the Mode A/B bird as "semi-operational" and dependent upon its solar panels for a reliable power source; AO-7 works only as long as its solar panels are illuminated by sunlight. Satellite experts speculate that AO-7's resurrection occurred when the short circuit in the battery opened, allowing the solar cells to power the spacecraft. When the satellite goes into eclipse, it powers down. Since the satellite returned to the outerworld of the living, terrestrial users have enjoyed numerous contacts via AO-7.

According to its [operating plan](#), AO-7 switches to Mode B (70 centimeters up/2 meters down) at 0000 UTC. AO-7 has beacons on 29.502 MHz (used in conjunction with Mode A) and, nominally, on 145.972 MHz (used in conjunction with Mode B and Mode C - low power Mode B). The 435.100 MHz beacon has an intermittent problem, switching between 400 mW and 10 mW.

Stoddard said he would publish a schedule through a link on his WD9EWK [QRZ.com](#) entry. [Contact](#) Stoddard for more information.

AMSAT has [posted](#) a series of photos documenting the early OSCAR years, including AO-7. Read [more](#). -- *Thanks to AMSAT-NA, AMSAT News Service*





### **Johnston County A.R.E.S.**

Amateur Radio Emergency Service or ARES, provides emergency communications during disasters or other crises.

The Johnston County chapter provides services to Johnston County.

Johnston County ARES is comprised of FCC licensed amateurs from Johnston and surrounding counties.

Any FCC licensed amateur possessing a technician license or higher may apply for membership.

Johnston County ARES holds meetings the second Monday of each month at 7 PM at the American Red Cross office

located at 805-A South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Smithfield.

We also hold a monthly training net that is open to any licensed amateur, regardless of whether you are an ARES member or not. These nets are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 PM on 444.875+ pl 100.0.

If you would like more information on Johnston County ARES, feel free to contact Michael Callam, ARES-EC at:

[KD4UJC@centurylink.net](mailto:KD4UJC@centurylink.net) or you can call (919)934-9623, or you can visit our website:

<http://www.johnstoncountyares.com/>

### **Upcoming Hamfests:**

November 16: JARSFEST 2014, Johnston Amateur Radio Society, Benson, NC, see <http://jars.net>

April 4, 2015: 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual RARSfest/North Carolina State Convention, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Raleigh, NC,

see <http://www.rars.org/rarsfest>

September 5, 2015: 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Shelby Hamfest/Roanoke Division Convention, Shelby Amateur Radio Club, see <http://shelbyhamfest.org> It

is not too early to apply for ARRL-affiliation of your club's 2015 hamfest! For more information, see <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events>.

### **Request From 2015 VP:**

At this time, we would like to solicit suggestion from JARS members for programs for 2015. If you have any ideas or suggestions you can let Aaron Thomas, KK4KFG, know at:

[at@pirate96.com](mailto:at@pirate96.com) or you can let Mike Callam, KD4UJC know at:

[jarsmember@centurylink.net](mailto:jarsmember@centurylink.net).



## JARS Officers 2014

Pres. Robbie KD4WIY  
VP Billy KJ4ZKG  
Treas. Paul KD4BJD  
Secretary: Vacant

Membership Mike KD4UJC  
Net Whip Van KM4TC

Editor Mike KD4UJC  
Ham of the Year- Doug KS4TI

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That does it for another edition of the “*Official Organ*”. If anybody is ambitious enough to be at JARSFest at 2:30 AM, we can put you to work. For those not so ambitious, we **will** see you later on Sunday.

73 de KD4UJC