

The Official Organ

The Official Newsletter of the Johnston Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
February 2015 edition

World Renowned JARS
Auction This Thursday,
February 19th at the
Panther Branch
Community Building.

The Annual JARS Auction is to be held this coming Thursday, February 19th at the Panther Branch Community Building located on Highway Ten – Ten just about 100 yards off of NC 50 south of Garner. Our illustrious leader, Mike, will be picking up pizzas for dinner. The cost of dinner is \$6 per person. Please bring exact change or face the wrath of Dianne (KE4VNX).

As usual, the JARS Auction is an informal, fun filled event and will use the same rules that we have always had, and sometimes, have even been known to follow:

1- Ham, computer and electronic related goods only. Scanners are OK. Absolutely no carburetors, tires, washing machines, knives, guns, explosives or weapons are permitted.

Also, just because your 1950 lawn mower has a ham radio on it, that does not make it a mobile radio with a power supply.

. 2- No cleaning out the corner dumpster in search of something to bring in to the auction. If it would not sell on eBay, don't bring it here!

. 3- If you have many small items such as a box of small parts, you must put them up for auction as a single item. The time limitations dictate that we must keep the junk moving to give everyone a chance to sell off his or her stuff.

. 4- Caveat Emptor! It's your decision to bid and your money to spend or squander. If you bid on NC4BJ's "quality" two meter 142 GTL and end up with it, you gotta live with it! Don't come bellyaching to the JARS over your disappointment when you sound like BJ.

. 5- Remember that you may end up having to listen to any junk that you sell. If it sounds like crap, make sure the auctioneer knows that it is not to be bid upon by any JARS members or anyone that is likely to use it on two seven. If you are desperate

and don't really care who gets it, please remove the Two Seven from the memory otherwise disable that frequency to ensure that it will never be heard on Two Seven again!

. 6- No tipping the auctioneer or his assistants to get preferential handling of your stuff.

. 7- When the auction is over, do not abandon the junk you can't get rid of like you would an old car left beside the side of the road. See rule number 2.

. 8- We have been accused of in many times in the past and therefore, we can make up other rules as we go.

The club will not take a cut of the sale price. Whatever the winning bid is, that is what you will receive.

These are the rules that we have used in the past, and will continue to use this time too.

In this edition of the "*Official Organ*"

Technician Class
North Carolina Section News
ARRL News
Johnston County ARES
Upcoming Hamfests
Ham Humor
And anything else that is newsworthy.

Technician Class:

Johnston County ARES will be sponsoring a technician class to be held at the Four Oaks Chamber of Commerce, located at 206 North Main Street in Four Oaks, NC 27524. The class is designed to run from Saturday March 7th through Saturday, April 4th. Class will be from 8 am until 1230 pm. You will need the Ham Radio License Manual, 3rd edition. This is available from the ARRL or Amazon.com. Anyone interested in taking the class, contact Michael Callam, KD4MC at (919)934-9623 or by email at mcallam@centurylink.net.

North Carolina Section News:

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

ARRL Roanoke Division Director Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, Retires – It was announced on January

21st, that ARRL Roanoke Division Director Dennis Bodson, W4PWF of Arlington, VA has retired and Roanoke Division Vice Director Dr. Jim Boehner, N2ZZ of Aiken, SC has succeeded him. ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN appointed former NC Section Manager Bill Morine, N2COP of Wilmington to fill the remainder of Dr. Boehner's term as Roanoke Division Vice Director, effective immediately. In addition, the ARRL Board elected Dennis Bodson, W4PWF as an Honorary Vice President. For further information, please see <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-roanoke-division-director-dennis-bodson-w4pwf-retires>

Thank you, Dennis W4PWF, for all that you have done for the ARRL Roanoke Division during your long and distinguished amateur radio career; and, congratulations to Dr. Jim N2ZZ and Bill N2COP on your new positions!

DAVE ANDERSON, K4SV AND KENT HUFFORD, KQ4KK RECEIVE ROANOKE DIVISION ARRL SERVICE AWARD – Earlier this month, it was announced that the 2014 Roanoke Division ARRL Service Award winners (listed alphabetically) are David

W. Anderson, K4SV of Tryon; and, Kent V. Hufford, KQ4KK of Graniteville, SC. The Roanoke Division ARRL Service Award was instituted in 1968 by then Roanoke Division Director Vic Clark, W4KFC. Vic W4KFC intended the Award to be recognition for a long history of significant and consistent contributions to Amateur Radio. The amateur selected would have, over the years, dedicated much of his or her time to Amateur Radio and the ARRL. Nominations for the 2014 Award were solicited during fall, 2014. The selection committee is comprised of past Award recipients and administration of the Award is done by the Roanoke Division Director. Although the Award is generally given to only one recipient per year, it was decided to recognize two individuals with the 2014 Roanoke Division ARRL Service Award. The Award will be presented to the recipients at the Charlotte Hamfest / ARRL NC Section Convention on Saturday, March 14th during the ARRL forum. For further information, see <http://www.charlottehamfest.org/> Congratulations to Dave Anderson, K4SV and Kent Hufford, KQ4KK for winning the 2014 Roanoke Division ARRL

Service Award; and, thanks to Dr. Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, Roanoke Division Director, for providing this information!

**ARRL SOLICITING
NOMINATIONS FOR 6 AWARDS**
– The ARRL is soliciting nominations for 6 awards: the Hiram Percy Maxim Award, the key award honoring a young amateur radio operator (deadline, 3/31); the ARRL Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award (deadline, 3/15); the ARRL Microwave Development Award (deadline, 3/31); the ARRL Technical Service Award (deadline, 3/31); the ARRL Technical Innovation Award (deadline, 3/31); and, the Knight Distinguished Service Award (deadline, 4/30). For further information on these awards, including the nomination procedures, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-solicits-nominations-for-six-awards>

NORTH CAROLINA QSO PARTY (3/1) – The following report was received from Marty Young, W4MY, Chairman, regarding the upcoming North Carolina QSO Party:
“Here we go again! The members of the North Carolina QSO Party

(NCQP) Committee have been working hard to grow this event, and 2015 is shaping up to be the best ever. There are two things on my “bucket list” for the NCQP that I'd like to see in my lifetime. First, is to have someone sweep all 100 NC counties. That might be easy for the Rhode Island QSO Party, but that is pretty ambitious for North Carolina. Second, that we surpass 500 logs submitted after one single event. We've got a ways to go, but the vision is there! And one thing here: we don't want to diminish the quality of the NCQP experience for the sake of numbers. When a log is submitted, that's a reflection of your station and operating prowess. We look at the numbers of logs and counties worked in much the same way. It tells the Committee how well we are doing our job making the NCQP an event in which Hams want to participate. Our goal is to make the NCQP a premiere “on the air” event for all amateur radio operators – contesters and rag chewers alike. The Committee listens to your comments and “tweaks” the event so that everyone will want to participate and submit their log.

OK, on to the highlights and changes in 2015. The operating categories remain unchanged for this year. The new Mobile Lone Ranger category was a success last year giving some of the small rovers a chance to compete where they would otherwise be overshadowed by the more serious and dedicated driver teams. The Expedition (QRP) category has been a little anemic, so here's a plug for you QRPers to get out those Altoids® tin radios and show us what you can do!

The most frequently asked question I always get in the Fall leading up to the Committee meeting is what NC counties are slated for [BONUS](#) status. Since it was decided that Cherokee and Dare counties would not always be [BONUS](#) counties, this has caused a bit of buzz and anticipation. This year, the bonus counties will be Person and Surry counties. We needed to give the expeditioners (portable operators) an incentive to go to these very under represented (in terms of QSO's logged) counties. What is the draw for an expeditioner to go to a bonus county to operate? Well, handing out QSO's worth 50 points, in addition to the regular points

earned for a valid QSO, gives everyone big incentive to search and work you!


Speaking of [BONUS](#) points, we have added some new [BONUS](#) stations. NI4BK (USS North Carolina Museum Battleship) and W4DW (RARS Official Bonus Station) remain unchanged for 2015, earning a participant 50 extra points each to their score for working them. This year, Bill McDowell, K4CIA of Raleigh is participating in the NCQP as a bonus station. Bill was the winner of the first NCQP in 1970 and is still a top operator today. It's our honor to have him in this capacity for 2015. Also, the Committee is activating bonus station, NC4QP, which will be manned by the Committee members. We're going to pass that call around amongst ourselves (one at a time) to hand out bonus points on Phone, CW, and Digital. NC4QP will be located in different parts of the State, on different modes, at different times. So, including stations in the bonus counties, that is six opportunities for working a bonus station. As an added incentive, if you sweep the bonus and get all six, another 200 points is added on top of the 300 bonus station points. That's a possibility of 500 points! In

many cases, 1st and 2nd place between two top operators could come down to the bonus points!

Let me see, what are some of the other things going on for 2015? Oh, the map is up now on the website to see which counties have ops who have announced their intentions to participate. We've got some new pictures of the Committee members on the general info page, be kind with your comments! We've also got some great statistics up on the web site under the RESULTS tab about the activity during the 2014 NCQP. Many have asked for this information, which could help in determining where to go to activate less-covered areas of the State.

So, at 1500 UTC (10:00 AM EST) on March 1, 2015 the North Carolina QSO Party will start. I hope everyone reading this is making plans to be on the air, and submit their log afterwards. Participating in the NCQP couldn't be any simpler. There are many ways to do it. If you are a seasoned contester, just go to the website, read the rules, and go. For those Hams that are not so

experienced, participating with your club station is a great place to learn about the NCQP and contesting. On March 1st, folks from all over the world will be looking for NC stations, why not get on the air and work 'em?" For more information on the North Carolina QSO Party, see <http://www.rars.org/ncqsoparty/> Thanks to Marty Young, W4MY, Chairman, North Carolina QSO Party for providing this information!

The following report was received from John Snellen, AI4RT, Public Service Director, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society: "Hello Everyone... I hope you had a great Holiday Season and are having a good start to 2015... we did, and now it's time to resume the 2015 version of the weekly Ham Public Service Net on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm on the Carolina 440 Link System. (CHECK  the HPSNC Yahoo group site for the various 440 frequencies... www.groups.yahoo.com/group/hpsnc) We will begin on Wed. Jan. 7th with some thoughts on "Planning and Operating Special Events Communications". Join us if you can. Cheers, John AI4RT" Thanks to John AI4RT for providing this information!

The following PRN System [UPDATE](#) was received from the Lenoir Amateur Radio Club. The report has been edited slightly: "High Country DMR Users: The digital repeater system [CONTINUES](#) to grow!!! Take a look at www.ncprn.net under the repeaters tab to see the latest coverage map and the coverage maps on new repeaters that are soon coming on line..... You may view the latest post at <http://n4lnr.org/fw-prn-system-updates/> " Thanks to the Lenoir Amateur Radio Club for providing this information!

SILENT KEYS – With deep regret, the passing of the following amateur radio operators is reported: Anthony Ray Curtis, K3RXK (SK) of Laurinburg; The Reverend Andrew J. Hill, WB4AMP (SK) of Deep Run; and, Charles Harwin Smith, KI4TGG (SK) of Wilmington. 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 –

March 14-15: Commemoration of the 234th Anniversary of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, 1300Z-1900Z, N4G, Greensboro, NC. Greensboro Amateur Radio Association. 21.324 14.324 7.234 3.900. QSL. N4G - GARA, PO Box 7054, Greensboro, NC 27417. Frequencies +/- QRM. Watch for spots on DXSUMMIT. www.n4g-gch.org
April 10-12: 68th Annual North Carolina Azalea Festival, 0000Z-2359Z, AC4RC, Wilmington, NC. Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club. 14.225 14.035 7.225 7.035. [CERTIFICATE](#) & QSL. Via LoTW or direct to ACARC, PO Box 4044, Wilmington, NC 28406. SASE required. Paper [CERTIFICATES](#) available for \$4 or in PDF format at no cost. For more information www.qrz.com/db/ac4rc or www.ac4rc.org 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!

ARRL News:

FCC Seeks Comment on Radar Sharing: Amateur Radio at 76-81 GHz

The FCC is seeking comment on issues involving expanded use of various radar applications in the 76-81 GHz band, which Amateur Radio shares with other services. The band 77.5-78 GHz is allocated to the Amateur and Amateur Satellite services on a primary basis, and to the Radio Astronomy and Space Research services on a secondary basis.

We undertake this proceeding to expand the available spectrum for radar operations in the 76-81 GHz band," the FCC said in a detailed *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Reconsideration Order* ([NPRM&RO](#)), released February 5 in ET Docket 15-26. The Commission said the proposals include allocation changes as well as provisions "to ensure that new and incumbent operations can share the available frequencies in the band."

The FCC *NPRM&RO* is in response to a *Petition for Rulemaking* (RM-11666) filed in 2012 by Robert Bosch LLC and to two petitions for

reconsideration of the Commission's 2012 *Report and Order* ([R&O](#)) addressing vehicular radar systems in the 76-77 GHz band. ET 15-26 incorporates earlier proceedings.

Among many issues, the FCC seeks comment on the possibility of reallocating the Amateur Radio and Amateur Satellite services from 76-81 GHz, and it asks for suggestions on "alternative spectrum that we might make available in this general region."

Bosch's 2012 *Petition* sought to modify the FCC's Part 15 rules to expand the operation of unlicensed vehicular radar systems from 76-77 GHz to the 76-81 GHz band to develop short-range radar (SRR) applications. The Bosch petition received "general support from the automotive industry," the Commission said. In its petition, Bosch said that it anticipated no interference issues between Amateur Radio operations and vehicular radar operations at 77-81 GHz. "It notes that it is unconvinced after several meetings with the technical staff of ARRL that there is any 'significant incompatibility,'" the FCC *NPRM&RO* recounted, "and describes how amateur

operations in the band 'tend to be largely experimental, occurring in geographic areas such as mountaintops and other rural areas where motor vehicle operation is not typical.'"

The FCC noted, however, that it "has previously recognized evidence of potential interference conflicts" between Amateur Radio and vehicular radar systems in the 76-77 GHz band, and believes the potential for "similar compatibility issues" could exist above 77 GHz. More than 10 years ago the FCC suspended Amateur Radio and Amateur Satellite operation in the 76-77 GHz segment and recently extended the suspension.

"Our goal is to adopt rules that address amateur use, including Amateur Satellite use, within the 76-81 GHz band in a comprehensive and consistent manner," the FCC asserted.

The FCC said that to the extent commenters believe Amateur Radio can continue to use the 4 millimeter band, it seeks comments on "what additional rule modifications we would have to adopt to realize successful shared use of the entire band." One possibility the FCC raised was altering current

amateur power limits in that portion of the spectrum. The Commission said it also wants to "develop a record on the types of amateur use, and the extent of such use, that is currently undertaken" at 4 millimeters.

[ARRL Field Day 2015 Field Day Packet Now Online](#)

The complete 2015 [ARRL Field Day](#) packet is now online. There are no rule changes for 2015. Field Day 2015 takes place [June 27-28](#).

"Following a successful Centennial QSO Party with on-the-air activity at an all-time high, we are very excited for this year's event and hope that individuals and clubs will carry their enthusiasm over to Field Day," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Matt Wilhelm, W1MSW.

ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups, or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

Participants are encouraged to register their Field Day operations using the [FD Site Locator](#). Field Day gear will be

available by [March 1](#). If you have questions about Field Day, [e-mail](#) them, or call [860-594-0232](#).

ARRL International DX Contest 2015 CW Event is February 21-22

CW, DXing, and contesting come together and go global [February 21-22](#) for the 2015 [ARRL International DX CW contest](#).

This HF contest season has seen incredible high-band conditions and record entry numbers, and as it draws to a close, this is a terrific opportunity to get on the air and get in on the fun. It's the US and Canada working the world in this event.

If you have never operated in a CW contest, the event's short and simple exchange, combined with abundant stations on the air, makes it an ideal opportunity to try something new. Participating in the ARRL DX CW is a fantastic way to hone your CW operating skills and expand your knowledge of HF propagation. DX stations around the world will be looking to work US and Canadian stations, so don't miss this chance to put a "new one" in your log.

Think your station is too small to operate in one of the largest contests of the year? Think again. There are Low Power and QRP categories, and, if the improved solar conditions we saw at the end of 2014 continue, there will be plenty of stations for "Little Pistols" to work. Keep an eye on 10 meters, which can be a great place to find a quiet slice of spectrum to run on low power.

Stations in the US and Canada work only DX stations (Alaska and Hawaii are considered DX for this contest), while DX stations work only the US and Canada. The contest exchange is simple: US and Canadian stations send a signal report and their state or province, while DX stations send a signal report and their power output.

The contest gets under way at 0000 UTC on Saturday, February 21 (the evening of Friday, February 20, in US time zones) and continues through 2359 UTC on Sunday, [February 22, 2015](#).

[Complete rules and forms](#) are on the ARRL website. [E-mail](#) electronic logs (Cabrillo format). Mail paper logs to ARRL DX CW Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. *Logs must be received or postmarked no*

later than 2359 UTC on
Tuesday, [March 24, 2015](#).

Another Round of International Space Station SSTV Activity Set for Late February

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)) program has announced another round of Amateur Radio slow-scan television (SSTV) activity from the International Space Station will take place later this month. Transmissions will be from RS0ISS.

The images transmitted will reprise the first series commemorating Russian space history, previously sent last December and again earlier in late January and early February. Non-stop SSTV transmissions from RS0ISS will begin on [February 21](#) at 1000 UTC and end on [February 23](#) at 2130 UTC. The SSTV mode will be PD180, which can produce high-quality images with a frame scan of 187 seconds. Twelve different images depicting Soviet space pioneer Yuri Gagarin -- the first human to orbit Earth -- will be sent on 145.800 MHz, with a 3-minute off time between transmissions.

Received images may be uploaded to the [image gallery](#).

During the last round of SSTV transmissions from RS0ISS, a Polish radio enthusiast, 22-year-old Radoslaw Karwacki, used an RTL-SDR "dongle" to pick up the SSTV signals from the ISS. The tiny software-defined receiver, which plugs into a computer USB port and includes an antenna port, cost about \$15. He used a basic dipole and free software to receive and display the images. "I blindly tuned in on that frequency during ISS flyby and happened to receive the signal," he [told Daily Mail](#) Science and Technology reporter Jonathan O'Callaghan.

"This is an excellent example of how low cost systems can be employed by students to copy pictures directly from the ISS," said ARISS International President Frank Bauer, KA3HDO. "We are working on additional picture downlinks over the course of the year using images from our international team. Our next initiative is a series of pictures of 'spaceflight inventors,' including Tsiolkovsky, Goddard, Oberth, Von Braun, and others."

AMSAT-UK has posted a [report](#) on the last round of SSTV transmissions in late January and early February.

Denying Permission for FCC Station Inspection Nets Florida CBer a \$3000 Fine

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has imposed a reduced fine of \$3000 on a Florida, CB operator for failing to allow FCC agents inspect his station. The Commission issued Tommie Salter of Jacksonville a [Forfeiture on February 5](#). Last August the FCC had [proposed fining](#) Salter \$14,000 for denying agents from the FCC's Tampa Office permission to check out his station in the wake of renewed complaints of interference to a neighbor's "home electronic equipment." In [March 2014](#), agents monitored radio transmissions on 27.245 MHz and used radio direction-finding techniques to track the signal's source to Salter's residence. The FCC said it agreed to reduce the proposed forfeiture based on Salter's financial circumstances.

"Mr. Salter does not deny that he refused to allow the agents to inspect his CB station but alleges he could not stay for the inspection, because he had a doctor's appointment," the FCC *Forfeiture Order* said. The Enforcement Bureau said it was unable to substantiate Salter's appointment claim but said that

he could have asked to reschedule the inspection in such a situation. The Bureau concluded that it could "find no reason to reduce the forfeiture based on his alleged appointment."

The FCC said financial documents that Salter provided offered "sufficient basis" to reduce the forfeiture to \$3000. "We have previously rejected inability to pay claims in cases of repeated or otherwise egregious violations," the Commission added. "Therefore, future violations of this kind may result in significantly higher forfeitures that may not be reduced due to Mr. Salter's financial circumstances."

The FCC's *Forfeiture Policy Statement* and its rules set a base forfeiture amount of \$7000 for failure to permit inspection. Salter had previously received a *Notice of Violation* for refusing an inspection request in 2004, the *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL)* in the case noted, and he also had been fined for operating with a non-certificated transmitter during restricted hours the Commission had imposed following similar interference complaints.

RadioShack Enters Chapter 11 "Debtor-in-Possession" Bankruptcy

Electronics retailer [RadioShack](#), which once supplied Amateur Radio equipment and has continued to maintain an inventory of electronics components, has reached an asset purchase agreement with General Wireless Inc., an affiliate of RadioShack creditor Standard General, to acquire up to 2400 of RadioShack's more than 4000 company-owned stores.

Many, but not all, RadioShack stores will close, as the Fort Worth, Texas-based company attempts to restructure under Chapter 11 bankruptcy following 11 quarterly losses.

General Wireless has agreed in principle on terms with Sprint to establish a new dedicated mobility "store-within-a-store" retail presence in up to 1750 of the acquired stores. Stores that are closing are expected to sell remaining inventory.

Discussions are under way with interested parties to sell all of the company's remaining assets. -- *RadioShack news release, media accounts*

"Gray Radio Gang" Reactivates Vintage Battleship *Iowa* HF Transmitter

It's a massive project on a number of levels, but the so-called "Gray Radio Gang" that's been working to restore some of the vintage US Navy radio gear on board

the [Battleship *Iowa*](#) (BB-61), docked in Los Angeles, recently fired up one of the vessel's transmitters for the first time in about 25 years. Restoration team member Jim Jerzycke, KQ6EA, recounted on his "Every Blade of Grass" [blog](#) how the group was finally able to get 950 W into a dummy antenna from one transmitter on 20 meters.

"We still have quite a way to go before we attempt to put one [transmitter] on the air, but the results were quite encouraging for at transmitter that was last powered up sometime in 1990," Jerzycke said in his blog. "BB-61 should be on the air later this year with a *big* voice!"

He told ARRL that, once transmitters are deemed operational, they probably would not be used very often on the ham bands. The *Iowa* already has a ham radio station, NI6BB, under the auspices of the Battleship *Iowa* Amateur Radio Association ([BIARA](#)), an ARRL-affiliated club. BIARA's president is Doug Dowds, W6HB. NI6BB has more modern gear but

makes use of the ship's own antennas.

The BIARA is active from the *Iowa* most Wednesdays and for many national holidays, such as Veterans Day, Pearl Harbor Day, and Memorial Day, and for operating events such as the Museum Ships Weekend and International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend. The station also has hosted Boy Scouts' Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) groups each fall. Jerzycke said the Gray Radio Gang is composed of about 10 individuals with experience on various types of US Navy radio gear dating from the 1950s to the 1980s, when most of them served in the Navy. "At 63 years old, I'm one of the 'youngsters' in that group," he added. The team has been trying to get the original receivers, transmitters, RTTY gear, and antennas working again, Jerzycke said. "We are very fortunate in having the guys from the aircraft carrier *Midway* in San Diego and the Battleship *New Jersey* in Camden, New Jersey, who have provided us with technical help, documents, and spare parts."

The AN/URT-23(C) transmitters, he joked, are "built like a battleship," with a pair of 4CX1500Bs in the final and

nominally capable of putting out a couple of kilowatts. He noted that once the Gray Radio Gang has confirmed the signal paths for the various shipboard transmitters and receivers, it will be able to put a transmitter/receiver pair in operation for certain special events. "At this time it's unlikely that we will use the original radio equipment for 'routine' Amateur Radio operations, as it's very manpower intensive, requiring at least six people to operate," Jerzycke explained.

"It's an honor and a privilege to be able to work on the *Iowa*, and I enjoy every minute of it!"

Free Android Propagation Tool Available: [WSPR World Watch](#) is a free Android app that plots real-time radio transmission paths on a world map and incorporates a background display of the gray line or terminator. It was developed by Derek Turner, G4SWY. Users may view paths of individual stations, and there is an aurora plot option and display of space weather indices. *WSPR* is designed for probing radio propagation paths using low-power, beacon-like transmissions. *WSPR* signals convey only a call sign, Maidenhead grid locator, and

power level. Receiving stations with Internet access automatically upload reception reports to a central database.

Johnston County ARES:



The Johnston County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, ARES, is looking for any licensed amateur radio operator that is interested in helping Johnston County Emergency Management by providing auxiliary communications in times of disaster. We are utilizing leading edge technology to communicate in Johnston County. You do not have to be a resident of Johnston County to join. Johnston County ARES meets on the second Monday of each month at 7pm at the American Red Cross located at 805-A South Third Street in Smithfield. We also hold a training net on the Carolina 440 UHF repeater system on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7pm. This net is open to all licensed amateur radio operators. More information on ARES can be found at <http://www.johnstoncountyares.com> or by calling Mike Callam, KD4MC at 919-934-9623.

Ham Humor:



Upcoming Hamfests:

March 13-14: Charlotte Hamfest/North Carolina Section Convention, Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, Concord, NC, see <http://www.charlottehamfest.org>

March 28: 25th Annual Down East Hamfest, Down East Hamfest Association Inc., Kinston, NC, email: bhighland@nc.rr.com

JARS Officers 2015

President	Mike	KD4MC
Vice. Pres.	Aaron	KK4KFG
Secretary	Billy	KJ4ZKG
Treasurer	Paul	KD4BJD
Membership	Dianne	KE4VNX
Net Whip	Stephen	KJ4QNW

Newsletter Mike KD4MC

Ham of the Year- Mike KD4MC

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**That does it for another
edition of the "Official Organ"**

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