

The "Official Organ"

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

March 2019 edition

JARS Meeting this Thursday:

Our monthly JARS meeting is this Thursday, March 21st. The meeting will be held at Grandsons Buffet, located at [1273 N Brightleaf Blvd, Smithfield, NC 27577](#). We gather around 630 pm to eat, and the meeting will start around 7pm.

In this month's Official Organ:

Presidents report

Vice Presidents Report

Secretary Report

Life on the Farm

Ham Humor

ARRL News

Johnston County ARRL VE Team.

Presidents Report: On March 2nd we had a JARSComm workday. We installed most of the amateur radios in the back of the vehicle and even got one installed in the cab. We still have more work to do before it is a fully functional communications vehicle. We have some public safety radios that need to be installed and the TV in the back needs to be wired to finish the installation. Also, I will be scheduling a cleanup

day before RARSFest next month. After all, if we are going to make our presence known, we want to present a clean vehicle.

I was not able to make it to the February meeting as I had recently had surgery. I want to thank the club for the card. Also, the meeting was recorded on a cell phone so I could see the meeting even though I could not be there. That got me to thinking, and no I did not get hurt taking on such a major task, I bought a 1080p HD video camera and will start recording our meetings and presentations and will start a youtube channel for "Johnston Amateur Radio Society. I was going to just make it JARS, but Youtube is already inundated with jars channels.

Vice President's Report:

**From your Vice-President: Scott Wilkinson
KJ4TUC**

Our next regular club meeting will be Thursday, March 21, at 6:30 PM, at Grandsons Buffet, 1273 (North) Brightleaf Blvd., Smithfield NC 27577, directly in front of Wal-Mart.

Educational Program: Are you interested in the weather? Do you participate in Skywarn? Do you know the signs and symbols on the weather map or understand what you are really seeing on the weather radar? Your questions will soon be answered.

I am pleased to announce that our guest speaker at our March 21 meeting will be **Mr. Bill Reh, Meteorologist** from **WNCN-TV-17(CBS)**. Mr. Reh has been forecasting the weather for central North Carolina for over 36

years, and is currently the senior Meteorologist of all the three local TV stations. He has been recognized numerous times for his excellence in broadcasting and forecasting the weather. This program is NOT Skywarn but will give us a basic understanding of the weather and preparation needed to take the Skywarn Spotter Training class. This is most relevant to our responsibilities as Ham Radio operators for emergency preparedness and reporting severe weather events to SKYWARN.

Additional Information: There will be a National Weather Service, Basic SKYWARN Spotter Training class with Virginia Enzor (NC4VA), Emergency Coordinator for Central Carolina SKYWARN, at RARS-Fest on Saturday, April 20 at 1:30 PM in Room #1 of the Jim Graham Building at the NC State Fairgrounds during the RARS Ham Fest.

Upcoming area Ham Fest:

Raleigh RARS Ham Fest
NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC
Saturday, April 20, 2019
www.rarsfest.org
JARSCOMM will be on display at RARSFEST.

JARS Picnic: Will be **Saturday, May 11**, at 12:00 PM, at White Deer Park in Garner. We have plenty of hot dogs and hamburgers left over from JarsFest so all we will need is all the other good stuff to go with it. This is a family event (kids welcome), so bring some games for the kids and the musicians can bring their musical instruments for entertainment. If JARSCOMM is there we can play radio. This should be a lot of fun.

Summer Field Day: Summer Field Day will be the fourth weekend in June. (June 22-23).

JARS Logo Shirts: (T-Shirts and Golf Shirts)

If anyone still wants to order a shirt, contact Paulette Disbrow KM4RMW, or come to the next club meeting. These are really nice shirts. It will identify you as a JARS member. Nice to wear at any Ham Radio event, if deployed on

JARSCOMM, JarsFest, or anytime you are representing the JARS Club.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from JARS Meeting Feb. 21, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 7pm by Vice President, Scott Wilkinson-KJ4TUC in President, Mike Callam-KD4MC's absence.

Opening prayer was led by Vann Lee-KM4TC
Introductions were made.

Minutes the January meeting and board meeting were in the newsletter.

Old Business:

Last month Scott Wilkinson-KJ4TUV made a motion to continue holding our at Grandsons until the end of the current officer's term in September, at which time the new officers may decide to change the meeting location. This was seconded and approved.

Last month, Ryan Leathers-N4RL presented some proposed changes to the constitution and bylaws. This was seconded and approved. New constitution and bylaws will be published in the near future.

Treasurer Report:

Paul Dunn-KD4BJD, reported that we have \$17,225.00 in the bank.

Repeater Report:

Vann Lee-KM4TC reported that there have been no changes since last month. They are still trying to get the repeater owners (Auburn Repeater Corporation) together to have a meeting.

Membership Report: Dianne Yound-KE4VNX

presented one application for acceptance. Robert Keen-KM4JLA applied for family membership. His application was accepted and he was voted in as anew member.

Dianne also received a thank you card from Johnston County Animal Protection for the donation that JARS made in memory of Page Partin-KM4GDR.

Net Report: Stephen Fowler-KJ4QNW reported that all nets were being called.

Saturday, March 2nd has been designated as the day that we will meet at Mule City Feed in Benson at 9am to install radios and connectors on JARSComm. In the event of rain, Saturday, March 16th has been designated as the make up day.

RARSFest is Saturday April 20th at the state fairgrounds. JARSComm will be there, same as last year.

Presidential Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, May 11th at the Sweetgum Pavilion at White Deer Park in Garner. We have the pavilion from noon until 5pm. We will be cooking the hamburgers and hotdogs left over from JARSFest.

Field Day is June 23rd & 24th.

Velda reported that Mike-KD4MC is recovering from his recent stomach surgery and is doing as the doctors have said.

Adrian Peele-AJ4NX reported that Steve Mowels-KA0GMY is recovering from recent heart surgery.

Scott Wilkinson-KJ4TUC reported that he has recently been diagnosed with a heart condition and may have to have a procedure to correct that.

Johnston County ARRL VE Team will be hosting a test session on Monday, February, 25th at 7pm at the American Red Cross in Smithfield located at 805-A S. 3rd St.

Mark Gibson-N4MQU reported that the Five County VE Team is doing well.

LOM Report:

Stephen Fowler_KJ4QNW, presented the LOM to Dianne Young-KE4VNX.

The program was presented by Greg Houser-W3FIE from NCEM.

Respectfully submitted by Velda Callam_K4VJC,
Secretary

March 2019 JARS Board Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by President Mike Callam, KD4MC
President Report- Mike is back among the living.

We had a JARSComm work day on March 2nd. Most of the amateur radios were installed. We still have to install the public safety radios. A date will be set up for that on the very near future.

Mike has bought a digital video camera to record the meetings and presentations to be put on Youtube.

Vice President's Report: Scott asked has everybody has a copy of the new constitution and bylaws.

We need to have a weekend clean up on JARSCom before RARSFest.

Field Day will not be held at our past location due to health issues of Big Billy, WB4EBG. We need to find another location. It was suggested that we have Field Day at a park. The downside to that is that we will have to break everything down on Saturday and the set it back up on Sunday morning as most public parks will not allow us to stay overnight.

Membership: Dianne said that at this time she had no applications for membership.

Dianne suggested that we make BJ, NC4BJ an honorary life member. It was approved at the meeting to be brought up at our regular meeting.

Secretary Report: All our reports are being published in the newsletter.

Net Whip Report: All nets are being covered at this time. However, he could use some substitute net control operators.

Mike, KD4MC and Stephen, KJ4QNW are going to look into getting magnetic signs with the JARS logo to put on our vehicles when we are deployed with JARSComm.

Ryan, N4RL has purchased 150 fiberglass sections of masts to be sold at RARSFest. We need to find another location for the board meeting as we are not always able to get a private area at Golden Corral. Mike will check with the Grill on the Hill in Benson to find out

what night they have their live music, and we can meet there on another night.

Meeting was closed at 716pm

Members Present:

President-Mike, KD4MC

Vice President- Scott Wilkinson, KJ4TUC

Secretary- Velda Callam, K4VJC

Membership- Dianne Young, KE4VNX

Net Whip- Stephen Fowler, KJ4QNW

Parliamentarian- Ryan Leathers, N4RL

Member at Large- Stan Disbrow, WA2KQY

Bill Blomgren, KK4QDZ

Life on the Farm:

I had to miss the February JARS meeting as I just had surgery. I have no choice except to do as the doctor says on this one, because there is no physical therapy for me to push myself on at home. I am still on a mostly liquid diet until the end of April. Besides, Velda is making sure I do as I am supposed to. At least that is what she keeps telling me as she is standing there holding that Number 16 cast iron skillet.

Velda's sister got her another puppy. This one is a pocket pup. It is a Malti-Poo and it is not much bigger than a thought. She named him Fluff since he is as white as a ball of cotton.

Velda's uncle is being gradually forced into moving by his landlord. We have spent three days loading 80 years of stuff into her van and my truck, as he had all the stuff from her family stored on his property. I hope we have it all moved as it sure has taken a toll on my back.

That does it for this month's Life on the Farm. 73 from Mike-KD4MC, Velda-K4VJC, Remington-Hairy Hound, Tabitha-Krazy Kat, Midnight-Tom Kitty, Sandy-Dog and a half long and half a dog high, and the newest addition, Fluff-Little Furball.

Ham Radio Humor:



ARRL News:

FCC Invites Comments on ARRL Technician Enhancement Proposal

The FCC has invited public comments on ARRL's 2018 [Petition for Rule Making](#), now designated as RM-11828, which asks the FCC to expand HF privileges for Technician licensees to include limited phone privileges on 75, 40, and 15 meters, plus RTTY and digital mode privileges on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. Interested parties have 30 days to comment. The Technician enhancement proposals stemmed from the recommendations of the ARRL Board of Directors' Entry-Level License Committee, which explored various initiatives and gauged member opinions in 2016 and 2017.



"This action will enhance the available license operating privileges in what has become the

principal entry-level license class in the Amateur Service," ARRL said in its *Petition*. "It will attract more newcomers to Amateur Radio, it will result in increased retention of licensees who

hold Technician Class licenses, and it will provide an improved incentive for entry-level licensees to increase technical self-training and pursue higher license class achievement and development of communications skills."

Specifically, ARRL proposes to provide present and future Technician licensees:

- Phone privileges at 3.900 to 4.000 MHz, 7.225 to 7.300 MHz, and 21.350 to 21.450 MHz
- RTTY and digital privileges in current Technician allocations on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters.

Under the ARRL plan, the maximum HF power level for Technician operators would remain at 200 W PEP. ARRL's petition points to the need for compelling incentives not only to become a radio amateur in the first place, but then to upgrade and further develop skills.

ARRL stressed in its petition the urgency of making the license more attractive to newcomers, in part to improve upon science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education.

The ARRL Board's ad hoc Entry-Level License Committee, which recommended the proposals, received significant input from ARRL members via more than 8,000 survey responses.

Now numbering some 384,500 licensees, Technicians comprise more than half of the US Amateur Radio population. ARRL stressed in its petition the urgency of making the license more attractive to newcomers, in part to improve upon science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, "that inescapably accompanies a healthy, growing Amateur Radio Service."

ARRL said its proposal is critical to develop improved operating skills, increasing emergency

preparedness participation, improving technical self-training, and boosting overall growth in the Amateur Service, which has remained nearly inert at about 1% per year.

Amateur Radio Volunteers Activate Following California Flooding

Amateur Radio volunteers with the Sonoma County, California, Auxiliary Communications Service ([ACS](#)) rallied to assist the Sonoma County Fire and Emergency Services Department in February after heavy rain led to flooding in the region. San Francisco Section Manager Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, told ARRL that while no actual communication emergencies occurred during the weather event, Sonoma County ACS volunteers provided "needed eyes" and were available in case further assistance was needed. Sonoma County ACS Radio Officer Dan Ethen, WA6CRB, said heavy rainfall on fire-scarred areas resulted in flooding along the Russian River.

Ethen



reported, "On February 13 and 14, ACS volunteers staffed the Sonoma County Operational Area Emergency Operation Center. Mobile ACS Field Units were assigned to patrol the burn-scar areas that were a result of the Complex Fire Storm in October of 2017."

"All-Hazard Road Patrols observed and reported downed power lines and trees, mud[slides] and landslides impacting traffic flow, and debris

issues that posed problems with water drainage and road flooding," Ethen said.

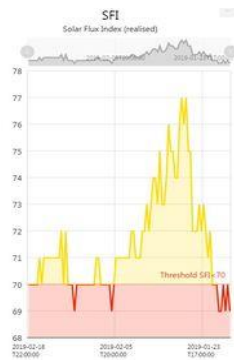
From February 26 - 28, ACS Volunteers staffed the Sonoma County Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Graton Fire Incident Command Post (ICP). They provided back-up communication capability between the EOC and ICP to support the evacuation of residents in the Russian River flood area.

ACS volunteers continued All-Hazard Road Patrols while operating on the county-wide 2-meter repeater system. "Mobile patrol units were also tracked on APRS and visible to the EOC radio operators to ensure safety and accurate location reporting of any observed hazards," Ethen said.

"ACS volunteers remain ready to serve their communities," Ethen said.

Build Your Own Space Weather Dashboard

NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center ([SWPC](#)) has started adding a variety of space



weather data in the open-standard JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) format, and the SWPC site provides a [root directory](#) for format data. Digital visualization library [amCharts](#) specializes in JavaScript charts and maps for dynamic data display.

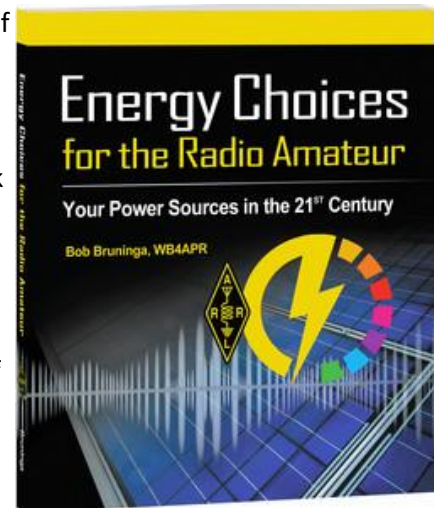
A free amCharts license is available in exchange for including a product mention. Jan van den Berg, PA2P, suggests combining NOAA's data with amCharts. Other providers of free charts include [Google Charts](#) and [Chart.js](#).

Van den Berg offers [more information and examples](#) on his website. [Contact](#) him for additional information.

New Book, *Energy Choices for the Radio Amateur*, Now Shipping

Revolutionary changes are taking place in the way we produce and consume power for our homes, transportation, and the technology that we use every day. A new book, [Energy Choices for the Radio Amateur](#) by Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, who developed the Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS), explores ongoing changes in

the world of power and energy and takes a careful look at the choices we can make; the pros and cons of utility versus home solar power, oil and gas heat versus an electric heat pump, and a gas car versus a hybrid or electric vehicle.



Featuring full-color photos and illustrations, *Energy Choices for the Radio Amateur* details Bruninga's experiences with new energy sources. It is intended to help other radio amateurs and DIY hobbyists to prepare for the inevitable major energy decisions they will face -- choices that can contribute to a reduction in fossil-fuel use and save money in the long run. The concepts presented in this 320-page volume not only satisfy everyday power requirements, but also can help prepare for emergency and backup power at home and in the field. Bruninga's life-long interest in energy technology and Amateur Radio has led him to

embrace home solar, electric vehicles, heat pumps, and other advances that have greatly reduced his family's dependence on fossil fuels.

[Energy Choices for the Radio Amateur](#) is available from the [ARRL Store](#) or your [ARRL dealer](#). (ARRL Item no. 1038, ISBN: 978-1-62595-103-8, \$34.95 retail, special ARRL Member Price \$29.95). Call 860-594-0355 or, toll-free in the US, 888-277-5289. It will also be available as an ebook for the Amazon Kindle.

How to Clean Up after a Battery Leak

Many hams have had the unfortunate experience of old batteries leaking in a piece of gear or a flashlight, creating a mess. Business technology news site ZDNet recently [offered its procedure](#) for cleaning it up. The brief online presentation recommends taking some precautions about coming in contact with the white discharge -- specifically potassium hydroxide in the case of alkaline cells, a caustic



irritant. An old toothbrush or something similar can start the project, along with a small scraper, and cotton swabs dipped in water. Start by removing and properly disposing of the bad cells and then brushing out the worst of the material -- preferably outdoors or over a container to catch the remnants.

The article advises against using any sort of acid such as vinegar or lemon juice, lest it cause corrosion problems of its own. It suggests a fiberglass scratch brush for scrubbing the

battery compartment contacts clean, although other tools may work as well. Deoxit D5 or similar contact cleaner also comes in handy, with a tiny dab of dielectric grease or silicone paste as a finishing touch to inhibit future corrosion if a leak occurs. Other tips to head off problems down the road include using only name-brand batteries, avoiding mixing old and new batteries, removing batteries from devices not in use, avoiding exposing batteries to extreme heat or cold, and minding battery expiration dates.

ARRL Announces 2019 Teachers Institutes on Wireless Technology Sessions

As part of its educational outreach through the Education & Technology Program (ETP), ARRL will offer three sessions of the [Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology](#) in July. These week-long workshops will be held at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, and hosted by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association ([DARA](#)) in Dayton, Ohio. The Teachers Institute (TI) is an expenses-paid professional development seminar that provides teachers at all grade levels with tools and strategies to introduce wireless



technology elements into their classrooms, from basic electronics and robotics to space technology. The application deadline is May 1.

The Teachers Institute curriculum is designed for motivated teachers and other school staff who want to learn more about wireless

technology and take that knowledge back to their classrooms. The goal of the TI program is to equip educators with necessary fundamental knowledge and -- through hands-on learning -- generate the inspiration for teachers to continue exploring wireless technology, and adapt what they learn to their classroom curricula.

Basic (TI-1) and advanced (TI-2) classes are offered. Applicants to the advanced TI-2 workshop are required to have completed TI-1 and be licensed Amateur Radio operators. Interested educators can [apply](#) online. The \$100 enrollment fee is refunded for applicants who are not selected. Qualified applicants must be active teachers at an elementary, middle, or high school, or community college/university, or in a leadership/enrichment instruction role in an after-school program.

Summer 2019 Teachers Institute Schedule

Session	Location	Dates	Instructor
TI-2	Newington, Connecticut (ARRL)	July 8 - July 12	Matt Severin, N8MS
TI-1	Dayton, Ohio	July 15 - July 19	Larry Kendall, K6NDL
TI-1	Newington, Connecticut (ARRL)	July 22 - July 26	Tommy Gober, N5DUX

Topics covered in the TI-1 "Introduction to Wireless Technology" workshop include basic electronics, radio science, microcontroller programming, and basic robotics. In addition, TI-1 attendees will learn about Amateur Radio, take part in a hidden transmitter hunt, see

demonstrations of Amateur Radio satellite communication, and build and program simple robots.

The TI-2 "Remote Sensing and Data Gathering" workshop will concentrate on analog-to-digital conversion and data sampling. Participants will receive telemetry from Amateur Radio satellites and apply it to math and science topics.

The grant to attend a TI covers transportation, hotel, and a modest per diem allowance to cover meals, instructional resources, and a resource library of relevant ARRL publications.

For more information, [contact](#) ARRL Lifelong Learning Manager Kris Bickell, K1BIC, at ARRL Headquarters.

Just Ahead in Radiosport

- March 16 -- AGCW VHF/UHF Contest (CW)
- March 16 -- Feld Hell Sprint
- March 16 -17 -- Louisiana QSO Party (CW, phone, digital)
- March 16 - 17 -- Virginia QSO Party (CW, phone, digital)
- March 16 - 17 -- Russian DX Contest (CW, phone)
- March 16 - 18 -- BARTG HF RTTY Contest
- March 17 -- UBA Spring Contest, SSB
- March 18 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest (CW)
- March 18 -- Bucharest Contest (CW, phone, digital)
- March 19 - 24 -- CLARA Chatter Party (CW, phone)

See the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more information. For in-depth reporting on Amateur Radio contesting, subscribe to [The ARRL Contest](#)

[Update](#) via your ARRL member profile email preferences.

Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, Appointed as New ARRL Radiosport and Field Services Manager

Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, has been appointed as ARRL Radiosport and Field Services Manager. Jahnke, who has served as ARRL Contest Branch Manager for the past 3 years, succeeds Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, who was recently promoted to Director of Operations at ARRL Headquarters.



"This new role now offers me the exciting opportunity not only to be on the front lines of our radiosport community, but our international/DX and domestic radiosport operating and

awards activities," Jahnke said. "Having worked closely with tens of thousands of our Volunteer Examiners in my prior Headquarters tour, I'm able to re-engage with many of them now in our Field Services program."

With respect to radiosport, Jahnke pointed out that contesting activity not only defends Amateur Radio allocations, but builds a pool of operators and expands their skills in providing communication in times of emergency or disaster. Jahnke said contesters, DXers, traffic handlers, and everyday users of the amateur bands know what to expect in terms of propagation at different times of day and year, and can apply that knowledge in establishing disaster communication.

As Radiosport and Field Services Manager, Jahnke will oversee the Radiosport and Field Services staff in managing awards, contests, and

Logbook of The World (LoTW), as well as issues involving the ARRL Field Organization on Section, club, and current volunteer monitoring and emergency services issues.

Before returning to ARRL Headquarters in 2016, Jahnke was in the private sector for about a decade. Jahnke first joined the ARRL Headquarters staff in 1985, starting as editor of the *ARRL Repeater Directory* and as a Membership Services Representative, handling matters related to FCC rules. For the next 3 years, he also assisted with ARRL Award processing (except DXCC) and later trained incoming Awards Managers.

In 1989, he became the manager of the ARRL Volunteer Examining (VEC) Program, a position he held for 16 years. Read [more](#).

Hamvention Announces 2019 Award Winners

The Hamvention® Awards committee has announced the recipients the four Hamvention 2019 awards -- Amateur of the Year, Club of the Year, Technical Achievement, and Special Achievement. Named Amateur of the Year was Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, who founded and spearheads Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation ([HamSCI](#)), which joins professional researchers and the Amateur Radio community for

mutual benefit. Frissell may best be known for his



Hamvention 2019 Amateur of the Year Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF.

involvement in the 2017 Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP) to study eclipse ionospheric effects.

The Nashua Area Radio Society (NARS) is Hamvention 2019's Club of the Year. The ARRL Special Service club in southern New Hampshire focuses on mentoring and youth outreach to bring newcomers into the hobby and help them to get on the air. The club offers Technician, General, and Amateur Extra licensing classes twice yearly and has helped more 210 individuals earn a license or to upgrade.

Piero Begali, I2RTF, is the 2019 recipient of Hamvention's Technical Achievement Award. Begali is best known for designing and producing high-quality precision Morse code straight keys and iambic paddles. He authored *History and Stories of Radio* in 2005. The book includes not only radio history descriptions of radio technology, but his personal experiences as well.

Chris Janssen, DL1MGB/KO2WW, is the winner of Hamvention's 2019 Special Achievement Award. Janssen served as president of World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) 2018, guiding more than 300 volunteers who put on

the successful competition in Germany. Read [more](#).



"Tyro" License Proposal Open for Comment

The same day that the FCC put ARRL's Technician Enhancement petition on public notice, it also invited comments on another [proposal](#), designated RM-11829, asking the FCC to create a "Tyro" license class that would require a minimal online examination and require mentoring by an Amateur Radio licensee of Technician class or higher. A "tyro" is a novice or a beginner. The petition was filed in August of 2017 by Gary A. Hampton, AD0WU, of Longmont, Colorado. Tyro licensees would earn operating privileges on 99 channels in a 70-centimeter "TyroSubBand." Applicants would have to be at least 11 years old. Hampton said in his petition that one goal would be "reliable, nationwide 70-centimeter interoperability" in the exclusive 430 - 440 MHz segment of the band.



license is exceptionally important to FEMA's CERT program," Hampton's petition asserts. "It allows ARES to solve CERT's communication problems. The TyroSubBand technical specifications easily double the capacity of typical 70-centimeter repeaters..."

Hampton maintained in his petition that Amateur Radio also "should be used to further scientific research that is published and quickly placed in the public domain."

Hampton expressed the belief that institution of the Tyro license would spawn growth within Amateur Radio, making entry into the hobby nearly as simple as obtaining a General Mobile Radio Service ([GMRS](#)) license.

The window for comments on the Tyro license petition is open for 30 days.

GQRP Club Founder the Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV, SK

The founder of the [GQRP Club](#) and Amateur Radio author the Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV, of Littleborough, England, died on March 11. He was 75. Dobbs was reported to have been in ill health for some time and had been living in a care facility, where his condition recently deteriorated.



Dobbs was the honorary secretary of the GQRP Club (G5LOW), which he founded in 1974 to cater to those interested in low-power Amateur Radio communication. He served as the editor for the club's quarterly, [SPRAT](#). Dobbs was the author of *QRP Basics*, *The International QRP Collection* (co-authored with Steve Telenius-Lowe, 9M6DXX), and *Making a Transistor Radio*.

Dobbs was a frequent [Hamvention](#)® attendee, and in 2015, he received the Hamvention "Technical Excellence Award." -- *Thanks to Lee Boulineau, KX4TT*

Johnston County ARRL VE Team:



The Johnston County ARRL VE Team will be hosting a test session on Monday, March 25th at the American Red Cross, located at 805-A S. 3rd St. in Smithfield. Testing starts at 7pm. Cost is \$15.00. You will need a valid photo ID, and a copy of your current license, if already licensed. For those testing for the first time, it is strongly suggested that you go to:

<https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/systems-utilities/universal-licensing-system> and register as a new user and obtain an FRN. More information may be obtained by contacting Michael Callam, KD4MC at mcallam@centurylink.net

HamShacks:

KD4MC Hamshack



KJ4QNW Hamshack.



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JARS Officers

President	Mike	KD4MC
Vice Pres	Scott	KJ4TUC
Secretary	Velda	K4VJC
Treasurer	Paul	KD4BJD
Membership	Dianne	KE4VNX
Net Whip	Stephen	KJ4QNW
Media/Organ	Mike	KD4MC
Parliamentarian	Ryan Leathers	N4RL
Members at Large:		
	Stan Disbrow	WA2KQY
	Doug Williams	KS4TI

Johnston Amateur Radio Society,
Inc.
P.O. Box 302

That does it for another edition of the *“Official Organ”*

I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting next week.

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