

The “Official Organ”

The official newsletter of the Johnston Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

January 2020 edition.

JARS Meeting this Thursday.

Our regular monthly meeting is this Thursday, January 16th at Grandson’s Buffet in Smithfield in front of Wal Mart.

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NO LOM REPORT!

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From our President:

Our next regular club meeting will be:

Thursday, January 16, 6:30 pm

Grandsons Buffet

1273 (North) Brightleaf Blvd.

Smithfield NC 27577

Directly in front of Wal-Mart

We usually gather between 6:00-6:30 pm for dinner and social fellowship and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Be sure to tell the cashier you are with the JARS Club. Our waitress will take good care of us so remember to take care of her by leaving tip on the table.

Visitors with an interest in Ham Radio are always welcome.

President’s Message:

From President Scott Wilkinson KJ4TUC

OBITUARY:

Walter Michael Wenzel KA2RGI, left this world, crossed over and went to that place not build with hands, on December 24, 2019. He is survived by his wife: Carol Jean Steinbrecher Wenzel, and four children: Michael Walter Wenzel, Candice Ann Wenzel, David John Wenzel, and Bethany Therese Wenzel.

Walter was the son of John and Edna Wenzel of Manhattan, New York. He lived most of his life in West Babylon, New York where he met his wife Carol at work and they were married in 1980. He enjoyed a career in the Information Technology field and owned a computer service and maintenance company and also owned a local Amateur Radio store in Long Island, New

York. He had been involved in Amateur/Ham Radio since High School.

Walter, Carol, and Candice moved to Johnston County, North Carolina in 2018 and in 2019 Walter and Carol joined the Johnston Amateur Radio Society. They were present at all JARS meetings and events and became 100% involved in all activities of the JARS Organization. Walter was one of the graduates of the JARS-CERT training class and was anxious to help our community with emergency needs. Walter also enjoyed teaching others about Ham Radio.

Within just the past couple of years Walter developed several health issues but that didn't slow him down. He remained active as long as he could and always maintained a positive attitude. All of Walter's health issues are healed now and he is walking again. His family and all his friends will miss him for now but look forward to one day seeing each other again. Until we meet again Walter..." Thanks for the Memories."

SICK AND DISTRESSED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Carol Wenzel KA2VYH and the Wenzel Family

Lowell Sayles K4EUP and Barb

"BJ" NC4BJ

Howard Harris KU4ZH

Steve Mowels KA0GMY

Congratulations to Mike Callam KD4MC who is the 2019 Ham of the Year.

Mike has been a member of this club for over 25 years. If it were not for his hard work and dedication, our club would not be as successful as it is today.

Thank you Mike for a Job Well Done.



Winter Field Day: Saturday January 25.

Once again **Ryan Avery NC4RA** will be hosting Winter Field Day at his farm near Angier NC. All Hams from the area are invited. Local Hams are invited to set up their radio stations and attempt to make long distance contacts. (Same rules apply as Summer Field Day like no commercial power). This is good practice for a winter season emergency. Those in attendance are asked to contribute to a pot luck dinner that will be enjoyed by all. Anyone that can sing and play musical instruments are also welcome as this is a fun family event. Let Ryan know a few days before if you plan on trailer camping overnight. For more information and directions to the Avery farm, contact: Ryan Avery NC4RA. rwavery@charter.net

Note From Ryan:

Winter Field Day 2020
Saturday January 25
NC4RA QTH Angier, NC

Due to my work schedule, this year's WFD will be a potluck. Doug KS4TI and Alex KC4PHJ have

graciously volunteered to oversee things on Saturday.

If you are planning to setup a station Saturday, shoot me a note (rwavery@charter.net) and I'll make a list.

If you are just planning to come hang out, I'll have some food tables, plates/cups, ice and a grill setup. Please bring an item to share and we'll plan on eating around 4pm.

73

Ryan NC4RA

Upcoming Ham Fest:

Saturday, February 1, 2020

Frost Fest, in Richmond VA

www.frostfest.com

C. E. R. T. (Community Emergency Response Team)

Basic Training Class: For any JARS member that is interested in joining the JARS-CERT Team. Contact Mike Callam – JARS CERT Coordinator.

April [17, 18, 19, 2020](#) at Apex Fire Station 3

May 15, [16, 17, 2020](#) at Fayetteville Fire Station 12

January 16

Guest Speaker/Program: JoCo EMS

January 25

Winter Field Day

Ryan Avery's farm near Angier January 25

February 20

Final proposal and Motion from Bylaws committee due.

March 19

Voting on amendments to Bylaws

April

RARSFEST (Raleigh) RARS Ham Fest April 11

Skywarn refresher April 16

May

JARS Family Picnic TBA

June

Summer Field Day TBA

July

Final reports due from all committees

August 20

Election of Officers for 2020-2021

Ham Radio Testing:

Do you know someone that wants to get their Ham Radio Technician License? How about upgrading to General or Extra? We are fortunate that within our JARS Organization to have representatives of two groups that administer VE Amateur Radio Testing. Contact Mike Callam KD4MC ([919\)628-9977](tel:9196289977) or Mark Gibson N4MQU ([919\)628-0096](tel:9196280096) for more information on locations and testing dates.

EMERGENCY PREPARTATION:

It's January. So far, we have had some mild warm weather; however, the cold of winter can still sneak up upon us. We can expect power outages and other events that will put many of us in an uncomfortable situation including dangerous driving conditions. Check your car's

tires and make sure your car is ready for the upcoming winter driving conditions. Always keep at least ½ tank of gas in your car. Check in and around your house for hazards and have tools and snow shovels ready. Go to the grocery store and get some extra toilet paper, paper towels, food, water, and other supplies. Now is the time to get prepared. Be sure to listen to the **PREP NET every Tuesday night at 9:pm** on the **147.27 repeater**, hosted by Doug Williams KS4TI. Doug is our resident expert on emergency preparation and the PREP NET is designed to give us tips on how to survive in all types of emergencies. They discuss everything from a short power outage all the way up to a major catastrophic event. So, if you have questions on what supplies you need to stock up on, use of generators, food preparation and storage without electricity, how to take cover during severe weather, personal protection/self-defense, and what to do when the lights go out, tune in on Tuesday nights.

Anyone need a Name/Callsign Badge?

The HamBadgers

Custom badges with JARS logo. Also available are call sign decals for your car window. Contact Richard Futrell N4AED.

http://hambadger.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=75_77

Magnetic car decals:

Magnetic car decals with the JARS logo will present a professional image at Ham Radio events or community events, and will identify your car as a JARS member on official business if assisting public safety or emergency management.

If you would like to place an order, contact Mike Callam KD4MC.

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

If anyone 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 JARSCOM, Jars Fest, working in the Emergency Operations Center alongside 911 dispatchers, or anytime you are representing the JARS Club. A uniformed appearance shows a high level of professionalism when in public view.

Secretary's Report:

There are no minutes from the December meeting as that was our JARS Christmas dinner.

Minutes from January 2020 JARS Board Meeting:

Meeting was called to order at 7pm by president Scott Wilkinson, KJ4TUC.

Topics for discussion:

Education program/guest speaker at this month's stated club meeting on January 16 will be from Johnston County EMS.

C.E.R.T. (CERT Captain/Coordinator Mike Callam)

Old Business: At our last regular meeting in November, Mike Callam made a motion concerning the club funding the purchase of equipment for the CERT team. It was felt that more investigation needed to be don't and this motion was tabled until January.

Mike withdrew his motion that the club fund the purchase of equipment for the CERT team.

New Business:

- (1) Progress of ordering equipment for CERT Members.

The equipment has been ordered and received and will be passed out at the regular meeting next week.

- (2) Future meeting and training dates: Training/Orientation of CERT members for use or JARSCOM and other emergency response,

There is a county training exercise coming up on January 22nd that we have been asked to participate in as patients. An email was forwarded to all CERT members to sign up to participate in. Orientation on JARSCOM will be held in the near future weather permitting.

- (3) Progress of developing written Policies and Procedures for JARS-CERT.

It is a work in progress and a draft will be sent out to all CERT members in the near future.

- (4) Procedure for accepting new members to JARS-CERT.

Any new members having just completed the CERT Basic Training course, will be accepted.

Any applicants transferring from local teams, the previous team will be contacted to find out why they left that team. Any applicants from out of the immediate area, will be accepted upon proof of completion of the CERT Basic Training course.

Basic Training Class: For any JARS members that is interested in joint the JARS-CERT Team, contact Mike Callam-JARS-CERT Coordinator.

CERT Basic training classes will be held: April 17, 18, & 20, 2020 at Apex Fire Station 3

Mau 15, 16, & 17 2020 at the Fayetteville Fire Station 12

Ham Radio Technician Class March or April

There has been interest among JARS members of trying to put together a Technician class for early spring. Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI had been organizing this, however, now due to Walter being a Silent Key, we have to put this on hold for a while. Our club was very fortunate to have Walter as a member. He was very knowledgeable of emergency communications and loved to teach others about Ham Radio. He will be missed.

We still have two groups within the JARS Organization that administer VE testing. Contact Mike Callam or Mark Gibson for more information and testing dates.

Repeater Report: They are currently working on replacing the commercial antennae on the WRAL tower. It is our hopes that while doing that, we can get them to do some work on the 147.270 and the 145.210. The 147.270 has antenna issues and that is one of the reasons that our footprint has been reduced. It is the hope to have both 147.270 and 145.210 in the same cabinet while also repair/replace the antenna and put a new repeater up at the same time.

JARSCOM: JARSCOM has been brought up to date on the wiring. All the lights and accessories are working. There have been AC outlets installed at each work station. We still have to install two 220 MHz radios and the public safety radios, also a marine band radio will be installed due to the fact that one of the marine searches and rescue frequencies on the marine band is the same as used in the NIFOG list of frequencies. A work date will be scheduled when the weather becomes more stable. Also,

there will be a driver training and orientation once the weather becomes more stable/ AT that time, the use of vehicle forms, equipment lists and rules and regulations will be discussed.

Digital communications for JARSCOM (Mark Gibson)

As the chairman of this committee, I've been working on setting up a PC with various digital modes. The program that I have been using is WSTJ-X. The website is:

<https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/JiJT/wsjs.html>

Liaison to ARRL: (Mark Gibson):

The club information t-on the ARRL find a club feature is up to date. <http://www.arrl.org/find-a-club>

Paul Dunn presented an overview of JARESFest. Overall, we were down on ticket sales, tailgating spaces and kitchen sales. Paul and Mike have gotten together to discuss some of the ways to improve JARESFest 2020.

New Committees:

JARESFest 2020 (Mike Callam)

HARS Family picnic in May (Billy Newton)

JARS Summer field Day in June) Van Lee)

Additional Information: Winter Field Day will be January 25th at Ryan Avery's farm near Angier. More information will be in the newsletter.

Meeting was closed at 8pm by president Scott Wilkinson.

Submitted by Velda Callam, K4VJC, JARS Secretary

Life on the Farm. We survived Christmas here on the farm and the law did not even have to make an appearance. Last year, we got the brilliant to go out to eat our Christmas dinner. Boy was that a mistake. Everywhere we went had a wait time of anywhere from one hour on up to three. We finally ended up at the Waffle House. Definitely not what I would call a fine dining establishment. This year, we decided to do a community dinner, where we each fixed something and brought to the table. I slow cooked a spiral cut ham, Velda made deviled eggs and mashed potato salad. The middle sister was in charge of deserts and the youngest one made sweet potato casserole and a green bean casserole. At the end of the meal, it was decided that this was our new Christmas dinner tradition.

For our Christmas, I got Velda two pairs of earrings and a necklace that she can wear with either pair. She got me a Motorola XPR6550 VHF HT that is analog and DMR capable.

After Velda's fainting spell back in November, she had to wear a cardiac monitor for 30 days. We went back to the cardiologist for a follow up last week. He said that nothing showed up on the monitor and if she had any more episodes to give him a call and talk about an implantable monitor that she can wear for up to three years. We were both glad that nothing showed up on the monitor, but I am still keeping a close eye on her.

Velda's uncle, who has been living at the same place for over 25 years was told that he had to move out. He has over 80 years of stuff accumulated. We are in the process of getting all his stuff and him moved down here on the farm. He will be living with Velda's sister Jan. We have made several trips from Smithfield to our house and have several more to go. But we can finally see where we are making some progress.

That does it for this month's Life on the Farm.

That is, it from Life on the Farm. 73 de Mike(KD4MC) aka C3PO, Velda(K4VJC), Remington(Hairy Hound), Tabitha(Krazy Kat), Midnight(Tom Kitty and Fluff(Little Ball of Fur).

NO LOM REPORT!!!!

Our lowly lid of the month did not send a report. I don't know, but it sounds to me like he likes being the LOM.

Ham Radio Christmas:



Motorola XPR6550 VHF analog and DMR radio that Velda bought me for Christmas.

Ham Radio Humor:



Apparently People don't know
Ham Radio still exists.... -
Imgflip

Old Geezer's Net:

Every day, Monday through Saturday, there is an old geezers net on 145.210 held at 12 noon. The purpose of this net is for retirees, veterans, disabled people and old geezers to check in and tell how their day is going. Than and the fact that most of us are usually asleep when the regular evening net comes on.

VE Sessions:

The Johnston ARRL VE Teams holds a VE Session on the fourth Monday of each month at 7pm at the American Red Cross located at 805-a S. 3rd Street in Smithfield. Testing starts at 7pm. You will need \$15.00 and a valid photo ID. For more information, contact Mike Callam, KD4MC at either 919-628-9927 or mcallam@centurylink.net.

JARS Officers:

President- Scott Wilkinson, KJ4TUC

V.P.- Billy Newton, KJ4ZKG

Secretary- Velda Callam, K4VJC

Treasurer- Paul Dunn, KD4BJC

Membership- Dianne Young, KE4VNX

Net Whip- Stephen Fowler, KJ4QNW

Media/Newsletter/PIO- Mike Callam, KD4MC

Parliamentarian-Mark Gibson, N4MQU

Members at Large- Mike Callam, KD4MC & Bill Blomgren, KK4QDZ

Ham of the Year: Mike Callam KD4MC



That does it for another edition of the *Official Organ*" 73 de Mike Callam KD4MC