

ACARC

Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club

October 2015
Newsletter



ACARC

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Newsletter

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**Azalea Coast
Amateur Radio Club**

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Rain, Rain Go Away

Extremely wet weather has visited southeastern North Carolina with a vengeance the first weekend in October. Although Hurricane Joaquin spared the U.S. mainland with a direct hit, the rain clouds coming up from the south did not.

Once dry weather reappears it would be a great time to check your outside connections and boxes for water intrusion or damage. Dry out any wet connections, replace items if needed and generally check your outside gear in preparation for the upcoming winter season. Put it on your to-do list!



Upcoming Important Events

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Oct 10th | VE Test Session
10:00AM CFCC
North Campus |
| Oct 17th | Beach2Battleship
Triathlon |
| Oct 20th | ACARC Monthly
Meeting 7:00PM
CFCC North Campus |
| Nov 17th | ACARC Monthly
Meeting 7:00PM
CFCC North Campus |

In Our Thoughts...

Bill (N2WG) & Karen (WA4CR) – grandson Tavish is recuperating at Children’s Hospital in Chapel Hill.

Birthdays

October 25th Jeff (W4BIX)

Health and Wellness

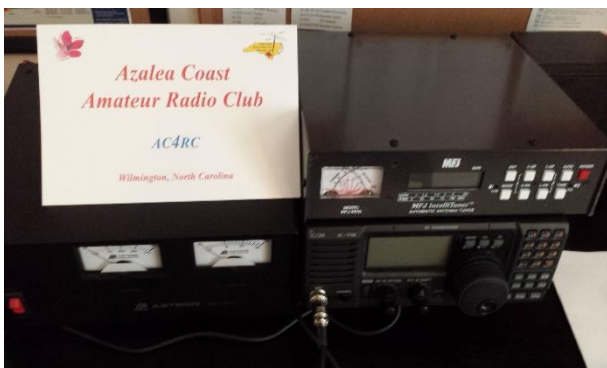
By George Morse KM4DSI

Hello Fellow Hams,

I hope that you and your families are all healthy and enjoying each day. (N2WG) Bill and (WA4CR) Karen Wetherill’s grandson Tavish had a medical challenge and is recuperating very well presently at Children’s Hospital in Chapel Hill. I sent him a Get Well card from the Club.

I have only received six birthday dates, since the September Newsletter. None of those were for October, 2015. Please send me an email with just the month and day of your birthday, so that I can mail you an Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club Card that you can display in your Ham Shack. Your birthday will also appear in a new section in the Newsletter of your Birth Month. Note: I’m still accepting Birthdays for September.

Here’s what the card will look like in your shack



An informative article that may interest you:

The Birthday Song's Origins

Two sisters, who were born in 1868 and later became educators, wrote the music and lyrics together. The Hill sisters first wrote a song for the classroom entitled "Good Morning to All", which was published in their songbook in 1893 called "Song Stories for the Kindergarten". It gradually changed to "Good Morning to You" and then from there became "Happy Birthday to You" and was copyrighted in 1935 by yet another Hill sister. And, that's the story of the song. Why we sing it and love it is another story.

73

George

morsegm@gmail.com

REVIEW: RadioShack Outdoor Scanner – Ham Discone Antenna 25-1,300 MHZ

By Harvey Hutchison (NK0S)

I recently decided that I did not need the three stacked rotatable 2 M, 1.25M & 70CM quad antennas that were mounted in my attic. I also need a small rotor for another antenna project so I begin to do some web crawling looking a multiband VHF/UHF antennas.

The one that drew my interest was the 25 – 1,300 MHZ Discone Antenna offered by RadioShack (Yep, they still have some amateur related things!). The antenna receives VHF & UHF frequencies between 25 and 1300 MHz, and transmits effectively at 50, 144, 220, 440, 900 and 1296 MHz with a maximum power of 200 watts. RadioShack also claims in their manual that it demonstrates a SWR of 1.5:1 or better over the receiving and transmitting spectrum. Measuring the available height in my attic I determined the 44 inch high antenna would fit in the space previously occupied by the rotatable array and I could use the existing 1.5” mast mount.

The main components of the antenna are the Apex/Coil assembly to which the eight (08) Disk Element Rods, the eight (08) Cone Assembly Rods, and the Whip Assemble mount. Using a screwdriver and a wrench for tightening the 8-32 nuts (one each for the sixteen rods) plus the supplied Allen Wrench the antenna was quickly assembled and mounted in the attic.

Using a triplexer I am feeding the antenna with a 2M/440 radio and a separate 220 radio. SWR on all three bands is below 2:1 across the three bands. Using just 5 W I can easily bring up the ACARC 2M Repeater as well as the local 220 & 440 repeaters.

Conclusion: The antenna is well designed and with the supplied stainless steel hardware and rods would work well if mounted outside and exposed to the local weather conditions. SWR appears curves are good on 2M, 220 and 440 MHz. I have not checked the SWR for 6M because I use another antenna for that band. If you are looking for a multiband VHF/UHF antenna for local use I recommend this antenna.

Be On The Lookout For...

A suite of very small component analyzers, including a semiconductor analyzer, LCR meter, capacitor ESR meter and a Zener Diode tester can be found at "Peak Electronic Design" (www.peakelec.co.uk) and are available from several U.S. distributors, including Quicksilver Radio (also Ebay). (NOTE: According to my good friend Dino, KLOS, they work very well.)

PCB holders you can get one for your workbench from several eBay sellers:

www.ebay.com/itm/like/231661365938?ul_noapp=true&chn=ps&lpid=82

- or do a general internet search for "Aven 17010" (Home Depot actually sells these PCB holders online as well!)

Hutch (NKOS)

DIFFERENT KIND OF CONTEST

Listen up: The European Space Agency needs your ears and they'll make it worth your while. The ESA is inviting hams to listen for the AAUSAT-5 CubeSat that was built by Danish students at the University of Aalborg. The International Space Station is expected to release the CubeSat sometime during the week of Oct. 5. The CubeSat has been poised for its launch since it was sent up to the space station on Aug. 19. Once it's deployed, it will begin its transmissions, and the race is on for hams to record them and send them on.

The first ham to record the CubeSat's signal and send it, via email, to the ESA's Education Office can count on receiving a prize. They include a poster of the AAUSAT-5 with the team members' signatures; a scale 1:1 3-D printed model of the satellite and what the ESA Education Office is describing as a "goodie bag." The satellite will transmit on 437.425 MHz using CW and GMSK. There will be a 30 WPM beacon every 3 minutes and a 9600 bps GMSK every 30 seconds.

The ESA will receive entries at cubesats@esa.int.

DX Items

Be listening for Andrey, RK7A, who will be active from Morocco beginning Oct. 20 through the 27th, operating as CN2BGB. He will be on single sideband between 160 meters and 10 meters. Send QSL cards via UA6GG.

PY70FEB will operate in Brazil throughout October with a twofold purpose: celebrating 70 years since the end of World War II, and in tribute to the Brazilian Expeditionary Force in Italy. Modes will be CW, digital and single side band. Please send direct QSLs to PS7AB with \$2, or by bureau, eQSL and Logbook of the World.

There are also a couple of good DX opportunities during the upcoming the CQ WorldWide DX Contest on single sideband on Oct. 24 and 25:

9K, KUWAIT

The callsign 9K2HN will be active in Kuwait during the contest, with a number of operators working the bands. You can send QSL cards via 9K2HN, by the Bureau, direct or Logbook of the World.

C3, ANDORRA

During that same contest, listen for the members of the "Andorran Amateur Radio Union (URA)," who will be active once again as C37NL. They are working as a Multi-Multi entry. QSLs can be sent via C37URA or by the Bureau.

VP8SGI/VP8STI News from Paul N6PSE

The South Sandwich Islands are a cold and inhospitable place. At 59 degrees south, Southern Thule Island is one of the most remote places on Earth.

Southern Thule is closer to the polar circle and the South Pole than either Bouvet Island or Heard Island. To get there, we will voyage the Drake Passage and brave strong winds and high seas. Our sole focus is to get you in our logs.

The Intrepid DX Group is pleased to announce that all of our plans are moving forward very well. We are pleased to report that all of our gear has arrived in Tauranga, New Zealand. It has been fumigated and is now being stored before it is loaded onto the RV Braveheart for her long voyage to meet the team in the Falkland Islands.

At this time, we wish to inform the Global DX Community of our intended QRV dates from each island. We will depart Stanley, the Falkland Islands on January 9th, 2016. Approximately five days later, we will arrive in King Edward Point, South Georgia where we will meet with the Government of South Sandwich and South Georgia and undergo a safety and biodiversity briefing. We will then voyage three more days south to Southern Thule Island in the South Sandwich chain of Islands.

We expect to arrive at South Sandwich on January 17th however, that is dependent on the weather and sea conditions. Our ship Captain tells us that it is common to encounter rough seas on the way to

South Sandwich and that rough seas and bad weather can prevent our landing by several days. We plan to be on South Sandwich for ten days operating as VP8STI. We will then break down our camp and voyage three days back to Husvik Bay, South Georgia where we expect to land and set up operations on or about February 1st. We will operate from South Georgia Island as VP8SGI.

Our main priority is to make a great impact to the need for South Sandwich contacts and we will sacrifice our time at South Georgia to ensure that we make that impact from South Sandwich.

We expect to return to Stanley, the Falkland Islands on February 14th. We will be QRV from Stanley as VP8IDX until our flights home on February 20th.

When our voyage starts, you can see our location in real time on a map on our website. You will know when we are about to land or are departing one island for the other. We will be in daily satellite communications with our Pilots, and support team. You can get a feel for propagation as we will be QRV as VP8IDX/MM on the way to and from the islands.

Change of Date Rock Hill, SC Hamfest

Because of the approach of Hurricane Joaquin, the York County Amateur Radio Society has moved the Rock Hill Hamfest from this Saturday (Oct 3rd) to Saturday 17 October 2015. The venue, time and vendors remain the same, only the date changes.



Swap Meet

Contact Linwood (NT4F) at NT4F@arrl.net or call him at 910-512-6351 for the following items:

Ameritron: AL-811A (not H) 600 Watt, 160 to 15 meters linear amplifier. (10/12 meter mod, cut the green wire not done yet). New \$849, sale \$475 pick-up only in Wilmington.

Ameritron: ARB-704 transceiver to amplifier keying interface, new \$59.95 sale \$45

Ameritron ARB-704 Amplifier Keying Interface Cable (PNP-8DT) for Ten Tec Eagle, new \$17.95, sale \$12.50

Solarcon A99, 10/11 meter vertical, looks good \$65 OBO

DX Engineering DXEFCC-050-05-A Feed line Choke SO-239 both ends New \$129 sale price \$75

Kenwood TS-430s with FM board, AM filter, 400 hz. CW filter microphone and power cord. Works good \$375

AEA Isopole 144, two meter base antenna MFJ-107B 24/12 hour single LCD clock \$5 Free to good home every issue of QST since January 1976 Almost 40 years worth (pickup only)

Two Hallicrafters HT-37 80 thru 10 SSB/CW HF transmitters (Restorable) Very heavy, pick-up only. Make an offer.

Hammerlund HQ-170A ham band only receiver with S-200 speaker (works), could use some TLC \$100 OBO

Alinco DR-110/112 two meter radio. Tech special. Radio receives and transmits but no receive audio. \$20 OBO

ARRL NC Section Manager News

Greetings from Karl W4CHX, your ARRL NC Section Manager!

HR 1301 AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT OF 2015 (UPDATE) – As of September 28th, HR 1301 has 99 co-sponsors, including 4 Representatives from North Carolina: David Price (D-NC-4); Walter Jones, Jr (R-NC-3); Patrick McHenry (R-NC-10); and, David Rouzer (R-NC-7).

S 1685 AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT OF 2015 (UPDATE) – In June, it was announced that S 1685 Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 had been introduced in the US Senate. The wording in S 1685 and HR 1301 are identical. Senator Roger F. Wicker (R-MS) introduced S 1685 into the US Senate. As of September 28th, there is only 1 co-sponsor, Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), who is the original co-sponsor of the Bill. For comments by Senator Wicker on the benefits of S 1685, see

<http://www.arrl.org/news/senate-sponsor-of-amateur-radio-parity-act-of-2015-said-bill-promotes-regulatory-transparency-equali>

AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT OF 2015 PAGE ON ARRL WEBSITE (REMINDER) – A combined web page has been setup by the ARRL to accommodate activities related to HR 1301 and S 1685, and to provide a central location for information on these identical Bills. ARRL members are urged to contact their Members of Congress in the House of Representatives and the Senate and ask them to sign on to the Bills as a co-sponsor. For further information, see

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-website-has-new-amateur-radio-parity-act-of-2015-page> and <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-parity-act>

OPPONENTS' REPRESENTATIONS OF PARITY ACT'S PURPOSE "JUST NOT TRUE," ARRL PRESIDENT SAYS – ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, has taken strong exception to certain claims being made by community association organizations about HR 1301 and S 1685 Amateur Radio Parity Acts of 2015. In an interview with Ham Radio Now

host Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, during the ARRL Roanoke Division Convention in Shelby (9/5-6), President Craigie stressed that passage of the legislation is critical to ensuring the future of Amateur Radio. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/opponents-representations-of-parity-act-s-purpose-just-not-true-arrl-president-says> and http://arvideonews.com/hrn/HRN_Episode_0217.html

JAMBOREE ON THE AIR 2015 STATION REGISTRATION IS OPEN – Worldwide station registration is open for the 2015 Boy Scouts Jamboree On The Air / Jamboree On The Internet (JOTA/JOTI), which will take place over the weekend of October 16-18, 2015. JOTA is focused on encouraging Scout-to-Scout contacts across borders, and it is the largest Scouting event in the world. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/jamboree-on-the-air-2015-station-registration-is-open>

If you, or your club, are planning on participating in JOTA, please send information on your plans so that it can be included in an email communication to the NC Section, which will be distributed on or about October 14th. Thanks!

ARISS PROPOSAL WINDOW OPEN SEPTEMBER 1 – NOVEMBER 1, 2015 – The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program is accepting proposals until November 1, 2015 from US schools and educational organizations wanting to host an amateur radio contact with an International Space Station crew member during the period July – December 2016. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-on-the-international-space-station>

NAVY – MARINE CORPS MARS CEASES OPERATION AT 302359Z SEP 2015 – After more than 52 years, the Navy – Marine Corps MARS will cease operations at 2359Z on September 30, 2015. According to its Communications Instructions NTP (8) D, “the Navy – Marine Corps Military Auxiliary Radio System (NAVMARCORMARS) is a program conducted

by the Department of the Navy in which licensed US amateur radio stations and operators voluntarily participate and contribute to the mission of providing auxiliary communications on a local, national, or international basis as an adjunct to normal naval communications” (from <http://www.navymars.org/ntp8/CHAP01.pdf>, accessed on September 28, 2015). As reported earlier this year, the US Department of Defense decided to phase out the NAVMARCORMARS program and move its operational mission to other MARS service branches by the end of September. In addition to its Navy mission, NAVMARCORMARS provides support to the US Coast Guard, FEMA, the Department of Homeland Security, and local emergency management agencies (from <http://www.arrl.org/news/us-navy-marine-corps-mars-program-to-end>, accessed on September 28, 2015). For further information on the Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS), see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_Auxiliary_Radio_System (copy and paste this link into your web browser, if needed). On behalf of all Hams, I would like to thank NAVMARCORMARS, particularly those members in the State of NC, for their dedicated service to our Country; to the Navy and Marine Corps and their personnel and families; and, to their communities. And, best wishes are extended to all NAVMARCORMARS members as they pursue their future endeavors! Finally, thanks to Frank Pleshe, N3FRP / NNN0LBJ NC / NNN0GBL NC – State MARS Director, for his assistance with this article!

TX3X CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS DXPEDITION (10/1-12) – On September 28th, members of the TX3X Chesterfield Islands DXpedition left Noumea, New Caledonia on the sailing expedition vessel, Evohe, bound for the Chesterfield Islands. Following arrival and setup, the team expects to begin operations on October 2nd and continue until October 12th. One of the goals of the TX3X DXpedition is to offer an ATNO (“all time new one”) to as many Hams as possible. For further information, see <http://www.tx3x.com/>

WESTERN BRANCH ARES-AUXCOMM FALL MEETING (10/31) – Coming soon! On Saturday, October 31st, from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM, the NC Western Branch ARES-AUXCOMM Fall Meeting will be held at the WPCC Foothills Higher Education Center, 2128 S Sterling St, Morganton, NC 28655. For further information, see <http://www.qsl.net/kd4ozi/DEC/DECWB.htm>

Thanks to Paul Robinette, KD4OZI, Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator (Western Branch), for providing this information!

BARNES AND NOBLE MINI MAKER FAIRES (11/6-8) – Barnes and Noble Booksellers Inc has announced that it will be holding Mini Maker Faires at all of its retail locations during the weekend of November 6-8, 2015. This is a great opportunity for all Hams – clubs and individuals – to meet with attendees and introduce them to amateur radio. For further information, see

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/blog/announcing-the-barnes-noble-mini-maker-faire-november-6-8-2015/> Thanks to Allen Pitts, W1AGP, ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager; and Bill Morine, N2COP, Roanoke Division Vice Director, for providing this information!

SOUTH SANDWICH/SOUTH GEORGIA DXPEDITION DATES ANNOUNCED – The Intrepid DX Group has announced its itinerary and operating schedule for the upcoming South Sandwich (VP8SGI) and South Georgia (VP8STI) DXpedition, which will occur in January, 2016. Both of these DX entities are on the ClubLog Most Wanted DXCC list; the South Sandwich Islands are #3 and South Georgia is #8. For further information, see

<http://www.arrl.org/news/south-sandwich-south-georgia-dxpedition-dates-announced>

Thanks to the Intrepid DX Group, and the ARRL website for providing this information!

CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION FORMS CAROLINA DX FOUNDATION – The Carolina DX Association (CDXA) has announced the formation of the Carolina DX Foundation as an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The purpose of the Foundation is to provide financial support to DXpeditions, specifically those conducting scientific research, exploration of HF propagation, and education of

the public. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/carolina-dx-association-forms-carolina-dx-foundation> and <http://www.cdxa.org/> Thanks to The Daily DX via Cliff Wagoner, W3ZL, Secretary-Treasurer, Carolina DX Association; and, the ARRL website for providing this information!

ARRL VEC REMINDS LICENSE APPLICANTS: THE FCC IS NOW PAPERLESS! – The ARRL VEC reminds amateur radio license applicants that the FCC no longer routinely prints or mails license documents. This was done to streamline procedures and save money. However, there are still ways that licensed Hams can obtain an official license document from the FCC. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-vec-reminds-license-applicants-the-fcc-is-now-paperless>

LICENSING CLASSES – Kinston (NC): Technician licensing class, October 1 to November 19, 2015, sponsored by Kinston Amateur Radio Society, contact Ron Knapp, W9EF by phone at (252) 559-2070 or by email at rknapp19@suddenlink.net for further information.

Raleigh (NC): Amateur Extra licensing class, October 3 to November 14, 2015, sponsored by Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, contact Murray Merner, K4MHM by phone at (919) 803-7973 or by email at k4mhm@arrl.net for further information.

Skyland (NC): General licensing class, November 9 to December 3, 2015, sponsored by The Road Show Amateur Radio Club, contact William Van Nuys, N4OOC by phone at (828) 243-0888 or by email at n4ooc@aol.com for further information.

To find upcoming classes, go to www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-class Please note that a licensing class sponsored by your club or organization will not be listed on the ARRL website unless you register your class. ARRL Registered Instructors may list upcoming classes on the ARRL website. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/License-instructor-registration> Also, please let me know if your club is sponsoring a licensing

class. Thanks!

MEDIA HITS AND REPORTS – The following media hits and reports are included in this month's newsletter: On veteran ham radio operator George Poteat, NCOG (video), see <http://www.shelbystar.com/videos/ID:4318506694001/Video:Veteran%20Ham%20Radio%20Operator>

On Edgar Cashwell, KA4GYX and his full life in Saxapahaw, see <http://www.thetimesnews.com/article/20150802/NEWS/150809908>

On Dr. Ernest E. Rossi, KY8U (SK), see <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/article30599130.html>

On Milton William Rice, Jr, KC4YOT (SK), see <http://www.gastongazette.com/article/20150828/NEWS/150828792>

On Dr. William Fred ("Mac") McClure, AD4GX (SK), see <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/article32857671.html>

On the Russian side of the International Space Station, including comments on amateur radio satellites, see <http://www.airspacemag.com/space/rare-look-russian-side-space-station-180956244/?no-ist>

On the Shelby Hamfest, see <http://www.shelbystar.com/article/20150906/NEWS/150909257/15689/LIFESTYLE>

On flea market photos from the Shelby Hamfest by Thomas Witherspoon, K4SWL, see <http://swling.com/blog/2015/09/a-photo-tour-of-the-2015-shelby-hamfest/>

Thanks to Thomas Witherspoon, K4SWL, for posting these photos on his website; and, to Ralph Wallio, W0RPK of Greenville, for providing this website link!

On the 2015 National Hollerin' Contest, see <http://clintonnc.com/news/3394/holler-of-a-good-time>

On the 2015 National Hollerin' Contest, see <http://clintonnc.com/features/community/3436/jackson-takes-home-hollerins-top-prize>

On the Voice of America shortwave transmission station in eastern NC, see <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/sep/19/rural-nc-tract-is-last-shortwave-site-for-us-broad/?page=all>

Thanks to Jack Cureton, K4LRH and Charles Comerford, KK4HOK of the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, for providing this media hit!

On Edward T. Brady, W4ETB, see http://www.fayobserver.com/news/local/cape-fear-profile-ed-brady-has-passion-for-law-and/article_62e29d4a-0ee8-53e4-9fc7-8d94a913511e.html

On the use of "textspeak" in the age of the telegraph, see <https://theconversation.com/lol-in-the-age-of-the-telegraph-42578> tnx es 73 w0rpk de w4chx

During followup communications with Ralph WORPK on the report above, this email was received: "..... I used the ARRL publication search facility to find an early CW abbreviation list that included HI (QST, June 1920, p44) and forwarded it to article author Lauren Collister [see article above]. I found a Morse Code abbreviation list for railroad telegraphy that included HI, but as an abbreviation for HIGH, see <http://www.morsetelegraphclub.org/library/files/html/dodge/dodge.htm#abbreviations>

The abbreviation HI may therefore have been invented by early Hams. TNX es 73 de Ralph WORPK." Thanks to Ralph Wallio, W0RPK of Greenville, for providing these interesting reports!

The following report was received from Dudley Hale, W4WNC: "Eleven Haywood County ARC members, plus 6 Hams from surrounding counties, took part in the 6th Annual Blue Ridge Breakaway bike ride organized by the Haywood County Chamber of Commerce. There were 4 routes: 105 miles, 75 miles, 40 miles, and 25 miles.

Philip Jenkins N4HF was Net Control and Cecil Yount KM4DOP was liaison between event organizers and Net Control using 70cm simplex. The organizers were monitoring the routes on a 55" TV, which showed them where motorcycle (SAGS) carrying APRS trackers were sweeping the routes. There were twelve Hams stationed at nine rest areas and intersections: Harold Lhoest W4HML; Adam Caudill WX4WNC; Bill Laney KF4GUW; Zach Thompson KM4BLG; Oliver Piercy KK4UZP; Michael Meeham N3TYA; David Bennett KK4HFR; Tony Knight KK4FFE; Steve Emery N4SET; John Eroh N4SME; Tony Jones KJ4CRO; and, Jim McCoy KS4DE. The MotoSAGS stopped at every rest stop to receive instructions from Ham Operators. Price Berryhill W4CPB rode his bicycle on the 25-mile route as a sweeper, and carried an HT and APRS tracker. He returned to Net Control to assist with the event. Paul Yeager W4SKI ensured all APRS trackers were properly installed and uninstalled on the motorcycles, and relieved Net Control when necessary. We used a 2m repeater with two backups and a 2m simplex frequency. We deployed 4 digipeaters, and 4 iGATE's to ensure full APRS coverage. When 60 riders on the Blue Ridge Parkway were drenched by a late afternoon rain storm and a temperature drop to 53 degrees, the emergency evacuation plan was activated. We had been monitoring the weather, had 5 Hams positioned along the Parkway, and were able to transport over 30 riders back to the finish line. The Amateur volunteers amassed 1,383 miles, 190 hours, and used \$25,430.00 worth of radio equipment in preparation and during the event." Thanks to all Hams providing communications support to this event; and, to Dudley Hale, W4WNC of Waynesville, for providing this report!

The following report was received from Vern Dyer, W5VM and Marv Hoffman, WA4NC: "Congratulations to these Hams who passed their tests at the [Watauga Amateur Radio Club] WARC VE Exam conducted in Boone on August 31st. Several of these folks also attended the WARC six-week long Technician Class. Joe Jackson KM4NCN, new General (passed both tests in one session); Donald Jamison KM4EAS, upgraded to General; and, new Technicians: JJ Jackson KM4NCL;

Daniel Clemmer KM4NCI, Patricia Glen KM4NCJ, Marvin Gragg KM4NCK, Jessica Horney KM4NCM, Michael Maguire KM4NCO, and William Bauldry KM4NCP. 73's, Vern Dyer W5VM
Congratulations to these new Hams; and, thanks to Vern Dyer, W5VM of Boone and Marv Hoffman, WA4NC, President, Watauga Amateur Radio Club, for providing this information!

The following report was received from Janice Hopkins, KJ4JPE: "The Onslow Amateur Radio Club / Onslow Amateur Radio Emergency Service provided the communications between Race Officials and the racers to keep everyone safe during the Third Annual Jacksonville NC USO Boots on the Run. Emergency Coordinator Jeff Thigpen [WM4YD] lead his members in running a very successful operation. The race took place on September 12, 2015. The race was done to recognize military, fire, police, and medical personnel. The goal of the USO is to lift the spirits of America's troops and their families." Thanks to all members of the Onslow ARC and Onslow ARES for providing communications support to this event; and, to Janice Hopkins, KJ4JPE, an ARRL-trained Public Information Officer, for providing this report!

The following report on the 2015 NC Mountain State Fair was received from Phil Jenkins, N4HF: "Year THREE of N4F – NC Mountain State Fair – has been put to bed! Thanks to all who worked – and supported – N4F, the special event station of the 10-day NC Mountain State Fair, this year. The propagation gods were not smiling on us, especially the latter half of the week and the last weekend, but we still racked up approximately 1,000 QSOs via CW, SSB, PSK-31, 2m, and FM satellite. More important, though, was our exposure of ham radio to the general public. Quite a few visitors had always wanted to be Hams. There were an amazing number of visitors who had had a relative who used to be a Ham. The Road Show ARC has about 17 prospective students registered for an upcoming Technician class, and Blue Ridge ARC has 10 judging from the level of interest from the Fair visitors.

Extra special thanks go to Elecraft and Icom for

loaning us (respectively) a K3S/100 and a KX3 (with amplifier), and an IC7100 and an IC7600 for the Special Event Station and visitors' tent station. We'd like to really thank our newest supporters, Lenoir ARC and Mayland ARC. A club who REALLY came through for the Fair this year were the members of Blue Ridge ARC; kudos to them! We also had support from a few members of NCDXCC, Thermal Belt ARC, Haywood County ARC, and other individuals, even from Spartanburg, SC and Atlanta, GA. There also in spirit was Cleveland County ARS. While ole man Murphy was alive and well at the Fair (particularly in attempting to get video streaming over the internet), we still made contacts, we still learned a lot, and we still had fun! Now, get a little rest before the planning for NEXT year's Fair starts..... So start making YOUR plans to attend (and help our efforts) NOW!" Thanks to all the clubs, club members, and individual Hams for their hard work on N4F, the special event station at the 2015 NC Mountain State Fair; and, to Phil Jenkins, N4HF, an ARRL-trained Public Information Officer, for providing this report!

The following report was received from Janice Hopkins, KJ4JPE: "Pamlico Amateur Radio Society [of Oriental] NC recently donated a Technician Manual to each of the libraries in the area, Pamlico Public Library and Pamlico County Community College." Thanks to Pamlico Amateur Radio Society for making these donations; and, to Greg Wadsworth, KM4DZM of Aurora and Janice Hopkins, KJ4JPE, an ARRL-trained Public Information Officer, for providing this report!

NTS SECTION TRAFFIC REPORT FOR AUGUST 2015 – QNI (total check-ins): 1,762; Total messages passed: 466.

Station Activity Reports (SARs), total number: K4IWW 336, KC4PGN 125, AK4RJ 117, WB4ZIQ 104, W2EAG 92, W4DNA 68, W4TTO 62, KE4AHC 35, KW4EMG 34, KJ4JPE 21.

Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR), total number: KW4EMG 214, WB4ZIQ 160, W4DNA 150, K4IWW 130, KJ4JPE 126, W2EAG 110, KM4HXX 109, AK4RJ 100, W4TTO 100, KK4LGM 94. Thanks to all stations for participating in NC Section traffic activities; and, to Dave Roy, W4DNA, Section Traffic

Manager, for providing this information!

SILENT KEYS – With deep regret, the passing of the following amateur radio operators is reported: James Robert ("Jim") Harp, WD4CEY (SK) of Southern Pines; Dr. William Fred ("Mac") McClure, AD4GX (SK) of Raleigh; and, Percy Lee McIver, WB4TOK (SK) of Clayton. 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 –

October 3: Commemoration of The Battle of Kings Mountain, 1230Z-2030Z, NA4CC, Shelby, NC. Cleveland County Amateur Radio Service. 14.283. QSL. CCARS, PO Box 864, Shelby, NC 28151. For QSL card, please send your card with report and a stamped and addressed envelope.

<http://ccarsnc.org/>

October 17: USCG Auxiliary 76th Anniversary, 1400Z-2200Z, K4C, Merritt, NC. Oriental, NC Auxiliary Flotilla 054-20-03. 7.270. QSL. Wayne G. Mulligan, 57 Mercer Dr, Merritt, NC 28556.

<http://orientalaux.com>

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!

UPCOMING HAMFESTS AND CONVENTIONS –

October 3: 62nd Annual Rock Hill (SC) Hamfest, York County Amateur Radio Society, Rock Hill, SC, see <http://www.rockhillhamfest.com> (Ed. Note – since moved to October 17th)

October 11: Maysville Hamfest, Maysville Hamfest Association, Maysville, NC, contact Byron Highland, K4BMH by phone at (252) 347-1498 or by email at bhighland at nc dot rr dot com for further information.

October 31: 19th Annual Grand Strand ARC
"Beachfest 2015", Grand Strand Amateur Radio
Club, Conway, SC, see <http://www.w4gs.org>

November 15: JARSfest 2015, Johnston Amateur
Radio Society, Benson, NC see
<http://www.jars.net> 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](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events)

QUA* – This was a very busy month for me! On
Labor Day weekend, I attended the Shelby Hamfest
(9/5-6). It was great to return to the Shelby
Hamfest – the weather was mild and we had many
visitors to the ARRL booth! I would like to thank
the Shelby Hamfest team for their assistance with
arrangements for the ARRL Booth and forum
presentations. Congratulations on a job well
done! The following weekend, I visited my son and
his family in Suffolk, VA, which included a short
visit to the Virginia Beach Hamfest (9/12). I regret
not being able to visit the N4F Special Event Station
at the 2015 NC Mountain State Fair due to other
travel commitments. Based on their report (see
above), they had a very successful event!

On Thursday, September 17th, I traveled to the
ARRL Headquarters in Newington, CT to attend the
Section Managers' Workshop, which was held from
Friday through Sunday (9/18-20). The Workshop
was very informative. I learned more about ARRL
programs and resources that could benefit
individual Hams, clubs, and their
communities. Topics discussed included: updates
on media and public relations; emergency
preparedness; education services; sales and
marketing, including ARRL publications; the ARRL
Lab; regulatory information; the Official Observer
program; ARRL-affiliated clubs and radiosport; and,
the ARRL Field Organization. Please contact me, if
you would like more information. On Saturday
afternoon, I was in the Hiram Percy Maxim
Memorial Station – W1AW and listening "over the
shoulder" of another Section Manager when he
made contact with the N4F Special Event
Station! Unfortunately, when my turn came to
operate W1AW, it was not possible to re-acquire
N4F on that frequency.

At the end of last week, I drove to Pigeon Forge, TN
to attend the W4DXCC DX and Contest Convention
2015. On Friday (9/25), the Ham Radio Bootcamp
was held. The presentations were focused on the
needs of new Hams, but there was plenty of
important information for more experienced
Hams. The presentation on QSLing was very
interesting. On Saturday (9/26), the presentation
topics included: working the bands from Europe;
contesting; contest automation; radio frequency
interference; and, recent DXpeditions, ie, VK9MT
Mellish Reef, VU4KV Andaman and Nicobar Islands,
and K1N Navassa Island. I want to congratulate the
organizers and presenters for their hard work,
which assured the success of the
Convention. Many Hams and clubs from NC,
eg, NC DX and Contesting Club and the Carolina DX
Association, contributed to the success of the
meeting, as well. Any Ham interested in DX and
contesting is encouraged to attend next year's
W4DXCC DX and Contesting Convention 2016.

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 or via cell phone. As always, thank
you for sending your emails, photos, and club
newsletters – they keep me informed about your
activities and programs! I look forward to seeing
you at an upcoming hamfest or club
meeting. Finally, thanks for everything you
are doing for amateur radio and your community!

73, Karl Bowman,
W4CHX, ARRL North Carolina Section Manager,
(919) 669-6068 (cell)

*QUA is an international Q signal (prosign)
meaning, "Have you news
of ____?" In the absence of a question mark,
QUA means, "I have
news of ____."

ARRL North Carolina Section
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