

# MARS NEWS

*The Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society™*



## Mars Rovings



**Field Day** is almost upon us! Come on out and enjoy the fun! It takes place the weekend of June 25-26, and will be held at the Wilgrove-Mint Hill Park (7750 Jim Harper Lane, Mint Hill, NC). Setup will begin at 8:00am on Saturday. Sign up for setup, tear down, and operating time here: [https://w4bfb.org/fd\\_ops2016](https://w4bfb.org/fd_ops2016).

Our annual picnic will start at noon (before Field Day operation starts at 2:00pm.) The club will provide meat and drinks, and everyone brings a dish to share (side dish, salad or dessert). Remember your favorite camp chair! Please sign up for the picnic at [https://w4bfb.org/fd\\_picnic2016](https://w4bfb.org/fd_picnic2016) so we know how many to expect. Send any questions or



ideas (i.e. dietary concerns for the picnic) to [board@w4bfb.org](mailto:board@w4bfb.org).

We look forward to seeing you there!

We'll enter Field Day as a 3A (3 transmitters, emergency power). We'll have the GOTA (Get On The Air) station, a VHF station and a

satellite station. If you saw Charles Comerford's KK4HOK excellent presentation at our last club meeting, you know that we're making a big push to earn all of the bonus points available. Come help us earn some!

### Hamfest

Since work for the 2017 Charlotte Hamfest will start in July, we're looking for a well-organized person to co-chair the Hamfest Committee with Gary Chernega KN1GMC. It is not difficult, as there is a well-established outline and a highly-experienced Committee that knows what they are doing — and includes past committee chairs who will help guide you along the way. If you would like more information or are interested in taking on this position, please contact the Hamfest Committee at [hamfest2016@w4bfb.org](mailto:hamfest2016@w4bfb.org) or the MARS Board at [board@w4bfb.org](mailto:board@w4bfb.org).

Last month we sadly announced the passing of Elena Scott KS4OX. Since then, we have lost two other



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Eric Webner, K4FAN, MARS President

members of our W4BFB family: Bob Southworth KI4YV, who was very active in MARS over the years, having helped to put the original 146.94 repeater on the air and also participated in NC4DP, the amateur station at Discovery Place. We also lost Dede Fryer, wife of long-time member George Fryer

KI4KK, who often helped with rest stops during public service events. During our club meeting, we had a moment of silence for all three, as we remembered their service to others and the ways in

which they supported the local amateur community. Please remember their loved ones left behind.

73, Eric Webner K4FAN, President, Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

# MARS in Motion

WELCOME  
**NEW MEMBERS**

Brian Timms KW4BET

Holt Foushee KW4TQ



**FD16**  
HAM RADIO OPERATOR  
ON THE AIR

**W4BFB FIELD DAY**  
**#ARRLFD**

JUNE 25 - 26, 2016  
PARK ON WILGROVE, 7750 JIM HARPER LN, MINT HILL, NC  
[HTTP://W4BFB.ORG](http://w4bfb.org)



**WE'VE MOVED  
OUR MEETING TIME**

**Time Change**

Last Tuesday  
of the Month  
**7:00 PM**

2027 Emerywood Ave  
Charlotte, NC 28210

## Our MARS Meetings



**You are invited** to attend our club meetings which are held on **the last Tuesday of each month, from 7:00pm-9:00pm.** We meet in the Fellowship Hall of the St. Giles Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 2027 Emerywood Drive, Charlotte, NC.

Come visit! Everyone is welcome! Come see what our club and ham radio are all about. For more information, visit: [www.w4bfb.org](http://www.w4bfb.org).



## Thoughts & Prayers

Please remember the families who recently lost loved ones in our club, and also those who lost loved ones in the Orlando shooting. Keep our serviceman in your prayers, too



## Silent Key



### Robert Southworth KI4YV

We bring sad news of the passing of Robert (Bob) Southworth KI4YV, a lifetime member of the MARS Club. Ninety-three years young, he had not been able to attend any club meetings for the last several years. Many of the new club members probably did not know Bob, but he was a great club member and was active as long as his health permitted.



He was very instrumental in working with Discovery Place, assisting with setting up the ham radio station in 1991. As station manager, he was very involved until the station was taken out in 2009.

Bob also volunteered for public service events. He worked the MS Breakaway to the Beach for many years and was our "sweep" vehicle. We always knew where the last cyclist was on the route because Bob did such a good job of keeping net control up-to-date. For many years, his wife also accompanied him on these events. — Mary Hunt N4MH

**Elena Maya-Scott KS4OX** became a silent key on May 9, 2016. Elena was a member of MARS for many years and lived with multiple sclerosis for thirty-five years. She rode her bicycle in the MS Bike Tours for many years, and when she could no longer ride, she got her ham radio license in the early 90's and supported the events as a SAG vehicle.

Those of you who worked those public service events will remember her cheerful voice on the radio, as well as her "cute" remarks. Elena could be seen going up and down the route during the bike tours in her SAGWAG with her service dog Benny. Unfortunately, during the MS Challenge Walk in February, Benny passed.

Elena was a real asset to the public service team. She maintained the [ridemaps.com](http://ridemaps.com) website, where she listed all of the public service events. The website also provided a place where ham radio volunteers could sign up to work an event, and also find event route maps. I worked very closely with Elena for many years by providing her with information for the website.

She was married to George Lewis Scott for thirty-four years until his death in 2009. Elena is

survived by her brother, Victor. From his Facebook posting, Victor said, "She was indeed a strong-willed woman who persevered and lived life to the fullest in defiance of the debilitating effects of her 35-year battle with multiple sclerosis. Despite the fact that it is suspected of ending her life, she nonetheless defeated it. Those of you who knew her well know that she had an, how shall I say, aversion to formal affairs. I am quite certain that the thought of a funeral on her behalf absolutely horrified her. Consequently, none is planned. Please do, however, celebrate her memory by experiencing the joy of this precious life every day."

Anyone wishing to make a memorial in Elena's name may do so — to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater Carolinas Chapter, 3101 Industrial Drive, Suite 210, Raleigh, NC, 27609.

Rest In peace, dear Elena. We will miss you.

— Mary Hunt N4MH



**DeDe Fryer** This morning I was notified by George Fryer KI4KK that his wife DeDe had passed away on Sunday morning [May 22, 2016]. I have no other information to pass along at this time but I know I can say for many of us how devastated we are to hear that news. — 73, Barry K6RM, BSARC Secretary



DeDe Fryer has been a rest stop worker on the MS Bike Tour with George in the past. George Fryer has been a member of MARS before moving to Oak Island and was the Secretary of the club while he was living in Charlotte. — Bill Turner W4WNT

## MARS April Work Party!



**I** managed to take a picture of two fine gentlemen (I believe it's Patrick Fink W4PFI and Andy Hawkins K4GKK) working on the 6 meter antenna today. Also included is an interesting picture of the main tower on the Red Cross building.

We had to move the 6 meter antenna to a different location and those two guys were unbolting the base. We successfully pulled two more coaxes and one CAT5 cable in an already crowded 2" conduit. Hats off to those who participated in the activity. I believe there were eleven or so people attending.

— Marshall Lail KK4OHF



What do the call signs NA1SS and OR4ISS have in common?

- They are aliases of the same operator
- They are from the same country
- Nothing
- They are located in the same place

Submitted by  
Steve Nosko W4SJN  
You'll find the ANSWER  
on the last page.

# Public Service Committee News

## PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS FOR 2016

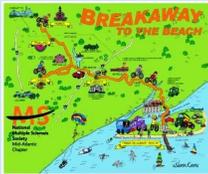
June gave our Public Service volunteers a break. We only supported one event in June — after our very busy spring.

**CCTA at the Charlotte Motor Speedway** — On June 6, we supported the monthly CCTA event at Charlotte Motor Speedway. Those working this event with me were: Paul Jones K4VCF, Auford Neal KB4UF, Dave Holbrook KC4SGT and Carol Spencer, Tom Hunt KA3VVJ, Matt Young KK4HNU, Aaron Tekulsky WA2RTV and Jerry Hodgson KE4PSA.



Mary Hunt, N4MH Chariman

We will again be the track marshals for this event that is held once a month on Wednesday nights from April through September. We just use handhelds for this event and a 440 simplex frequency. The upcoming dates are: **July 13, August 10 and September 14.**



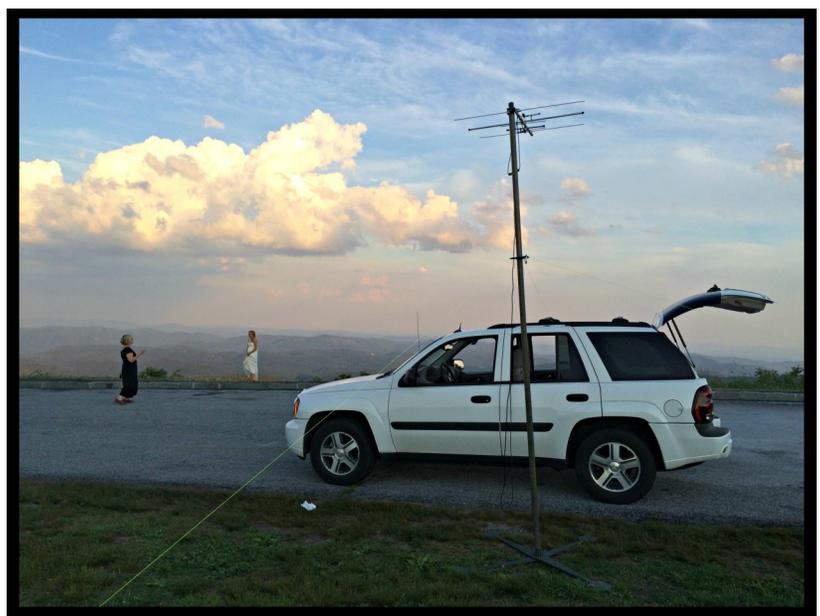
**MS Breakaway to the Beach – October 8-9, 2016** This two-day cycling event starts and ends (both days) in Sunset Beach. They have four routes, ranging from a 30-mile to a 100-mile route on both days.

We are working to take over the [www.ridemaps.com](http://www.ridemaps.com) website. As soon as that is done, we will post the information there for volunteering for the October bike ride.

## June VHF Contest

I wanted to share this photo from the June VHF contest. I didn't make a lot of contacts, but I ate well and had fun.....and that's what it's all about!

73,  
Lee Sossamon KK4GEV  
Emergency Coordinator  
Charlotte Regional Skywarn



## WANTED: Trailer Storage for MARS Trailers

The club has for many, many years enjoyed the convenience of having a place to store our trailers and equipment — out of the rain and weather, and, more importantly — prying eyes. This month we received news that the storage place we have been using is now no longer available to us. The house once owned by Mary and Clyde Weddle has been sold and the new owner has asked us to vacate the barn.



Temporarily, they will be stored at my house until a suitable location can be found.

We are looking for a location that is secure, but readily accessible in case of any major events we would support. Preferably, we would like to keep the trailers covered and out of the elements;

however, if a place is found without cover we may be able to put a carport structure over them.

The antenna trailer is 25' long from the tip of its tongue to the back door, with an additional 5' needed for the equipment we hang over the back. It is 7' wide. The operating trailer has a 12' length (tongue to back door), with a width of about 6'.

A few board members are looking at storage sites, and we're hoping you may have some other ideas or offers that can be considered. Please contact a member of the board ([board@w4bfb.org](mailto:board@w4bfb.org)) or me if you do.



Best 73 to you all,  
Andy Hawkins K4GKK

## Famous Hams ALF

ALF (Alien Life Form) is an orange-haired, pint-sized 299-year-old space alien with an aardvark-like nose and a propensity for mischief and comic sarcasm. Known on his home planet Melmac as Gordon Shumway, ALF crash-landed in the earthbound garage of the Tanner family. Persuading them not to turn him over to the authorities, ALF moves in with the family -- a decision the Tanners often have reason to regret, inasmuch as ALF has a bad habit of breaking things, poking his huge nose into other people's business, and doing his best to make a meal of the family's pet cat. Whenever snoopy neighbors or other visitors showed up, ALF was hidden in the kitchen, where he proceeded to eat everything in sight. As he attempted to repair his spaceship, ALF did his best to soak up earthling culture by watching network television. Debuting September 22, 1986, ALF proved to be one of NBC's most popular series, showing up as a "guest star" on such series as *The Hollywood Squares* and *The Tonight Show*. He was "played" by uncredited dwarf actor Michu Meszaros, who recently died at age 76. — Submitted by Steve Nosko W4SJN





## Happy Birthday, June Birthdays!

Ben Antanaitis WB2RHM  
Dave Bagwell KW4RY  
Scott Comerford KG4LWA  
Jack Cureton K4LRH  
Don Eaves, Jr. KJ4ATJ  
Ronald Ellis KI4YDQ  
Mary Hunt N4MH  
Kevin Keyes K4YYD

Diane Laval KF5JJW  
David Marcelli N4CQ  
Herman Moore KK4RZP  
Steve Nosko W4SJM  
Chuck Porter K4VZA  
Jeff Ray KM4FLV  
Max Treece WG4Z  
Raymond Weeks N4APR  
Keith Wentzel KD4ITI  
Kenneth Winston, Jr. WA4OBO



## Do you need a new or updated member badge?

Please see Patrick Fink W4PFI and he'll make one for you. Provide him with a headshot and your call sign, and he'll deliver it to you at a future club meeting. You can contact him at [w4pfi@arri.net](mailto:w4pfi@arri.net).

**The MARS News** is the official newsletter of the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society. It's published monthly and posted on the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society website (<http://w4bfb.org>).

As Editor of *The Mars News*, I welcome pictures (.jpeg), articles, and other member contributions. Please send your submission to [N4PSN@carolina.rr.com](mailto:N4PSN@carolina.rr.com). Also as Editor, I reserve the right to edit any and all pieces. **The submission deadline for each month's newsletter is the second Friday of that month.** Anything received later may be held for the next month's publication.

Thanks to photographers: Steve Nosko W4SJM, Marshall Lail KK4OHF, and Rodney Moore W2ROD. Thanks also to Diane Laval KF5JJW for offering her proofreading skills.

As the *MARS News* Editor, I am honored to serve the good people of the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society,

*P. Susan Nosko N4PSN*



## Shop Amazon.com? Support MARS when you do!

AmazonSmile offers the same great products, deals, and shopping experience as Amazon. The only difference is Amazon donates a portion of your purchase price to the charitable organization of your choice.

Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) log in using your email and password as if you were at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) from there select a charitable organization you would like to support. Select **Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society**. Shop! Amazon Smile will remember the charity you selected and will always donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to that charity.



## Upcoming Events

Also, check our calendar for more current events: <http://w4bfb.org/calendar>



Come join us the weekend of June 25-26 at the Wilgrove-Mint Hill Park ([7750 Jim Harper Lane](http://www.w4bfb.org), Mint Hill, NC). Setup will begin at 8:00am on Saturday, and our annual picnic will be at noon before operation starts at 2:00pm.

We provide the meat and drinks, and everybody brings a dish to share (side dish, salad or dessert), along with your favorite camp chair. Please sign up for the picnic at [https://w4bfb.org/fd\\_picnic2016](https://w4bfb.org/fd_picnic2016) so we know how many to expect. Sign up for setup, tear down, and operating time at [https://w4bfb.org/fd\\_ops2016](https://w4bfb.org/fd_ops2016). Send any questions or ideas (i.e. dietary concerns for the picnic) to [board@w4bfb.org](mailto:board@w4bfb.org). We look forward to seeing you there!



for good food and conversation before each club meeting — between 5:30pm-6:00pm. We meet somewhere different every month, and the restaurants we choose are always easy to find.



You can find our monthly restaurant gathering locations (and directions) [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact any board member.

We hope to see you there!

## ASK YOUR ELMER



They say one of the best ways to learn something is to ask questions and some of your best resources are right within our club. These club members are willing to share their knowledge with you to help you become a better, more informed ham. Please email them with any questions!

Antennae	Bob Ferdinand K9TMU, Bill Miller KT4YE, Mike Wentz KE4EHC
Digital Modes	Stan Bagwell AJ4ZL
D-STAR	Eric Webner K4FAN
ICOM Radios	
Kenwood Radios	Bob Ferdinand K9TMU, Bryan Ferdinand K4NET
Packet Radio	Bill Newsome AC4ZR, Seth O'Neal KF4LLF
Ten-Tec	George Hohas W4GEH
Yaesu Radios	Mitch Barbato KX4MB

### SB QST ARL ARLB001 ARLB001 W1AW 2016 Winter Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)  
1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 " (5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 " (6 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0000 " (7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 " (8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 " (9 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0245 " (9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 " (10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 " (11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

-----  
 CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975  
 21.0675 28.0675 147.555  
 DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025  
 21.095 28.095 147.555  
 VOICE: 1.855  
 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM  
 CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM  
 CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

— Eric Webner K4FAN



**All men make mistakes, but married  
men find out about them sooner.**  
— Red Skelton

# METROLINA 2-METER EMERGENCY NET™

## M2MEN Controllers

**Sunday:** Tim N41B  
**Monday:** Rodney W2ROD  
**Tuesday:** Stan AJ4ZL  
**Wednesday:** Dave KW4RY  
**Thursday:** Jon KK4ZIZ  
**Friday:** John WB2NHQ  
**Saturday:** Marshall KK4OHF

Join us for the  
Metrolina 2-meter  
Emergency Net™ every  
night at 9:00pm! The  
primary frequency is  
our 146.94 repeater  
and the alternate  
backups are our  
145.29 repeater or  
146.52 simplex.

## M2MEN Alternate Controllers

Brandon KM4FLU  
Mike KK4JFM  
Paul K4VCF  
Steven KI4FAQ

*If you are interested in becoming  
an alternate net controller, please  
contact our Net Manager (John  
White) at [wb2nhq@arrl.net](mailto:wb2nhq@arrl.net) or at  
[M2MENNetManager@W4BFB.org](mailto:M2MENNetManager@W4BFB.org).*

## JABBERNET

Join Bob K9TMU for some fun on the Jabbernet  
at 7:30pm every Tuesday night on 224.40, linked to  
the .94 repeater and EchoLink.

## Other Local Nets

**Sunday** — Mecklenburg Simplex Net,  
8:30pm (147.505)

**Wednesday** — Mecklenburg ARES Net,  
7:30pm (146.94- PL 118.8)

**Wednesday** — Union County Skywarn  
Net, 8:30pm (145.39- PL 94.8)

**Thursday** — UCARS 2m Net, 8:00pm  
(145.390- PL 94.8) (444.425+ PL 94.8)

**Saturday** — Union County ARES Net,  
8:00pm (145.39- PL 94.8)

**Saturday** — The Dixie Radio Pirates,  
Weekly Net, 8:30pm (145.410- PL 136.5)



## Nightly

Piedmont Emergency Training Net, 8:00pm  
(145.350- PL 131.8)

The Piedmont Spotter Group Net, 8:00pm  
(145.230- PL 118.8)

Rock Hill Net, 8:30pm (147.030+ PL 88.5)

## EchoLink

EchoLink is available for download on your com-  
puter through [www.echolink.org](http://www.echolink.org), as  
well as for use on your smartphone  
(Android and Apple iPhone) through  
the App Store. To access our repeaters,  
connect to K4NET-L or node  
number 625440.



## Packet Radio

W4BFB & Local 1200 Baud Packet Radio Frequencies:  
145.010 / 145.090 / 223.400 /  
446.500

W4BFB-9 = Charlotte BBS /  
W4BFB-2 = World Wide Cha-  
troom (All W4BFB packet  
nodes have links to all listed frequencies)



For more info: [http://www.w4bf.org/  
packet.php](http://www.w4bf.org/packet.php)

# ARRL — North Carolina News Excerpts

May, 2016

**Greetings from Karl W4CHX, your ARRL NC Section Manager!**

## **ARRL REACHES AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS INSTITUTE ON PARITY ACT**

– After 2-1/2 months of intense negotiations, ARRL has reached an agreement with the Community Associations Institute (CAI) — the national association of homeowners associations — concerning amended language of the Amateur Radio Parity Act. This will allow H.R. 1301 to proceed to what is hoped will be passage of the bill in both houses of Congress this year. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-reaches-agreement-with-community-associations-institute-on-parity-act> (source: ARRL website)

## **HR 1301 AND S 1685 AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT OF 2015 (UPDATE)**

– The wording in S 1685 and HR 1301 are identical. As of June 6<sup>th</sup>, HR 1301 has 126 co-sponsors, including 5 Representatives from North Carolina: David Price (D-NC-4); Walter Jones, Jr (R-NC-3); Patrick McHenry (R-NC-10); David Rouzer (R-NC-7); and, Renee Elmers (R-NC-2). Source: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1301/cosponsors>, copy and paste this link into your web browser. As of April 25<sup>th</sup>, there are 1 sponsor and 3 co-sponsors for S 1685. Source: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1685/cosponsors>; copy and paste this link into your web browser. For further information on HR 1301 and S 1685 Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015, see <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-parity-act>. (source: ARRL website)

## **ARRL “STRONGLY SUPPORTS” PETITION TO DROP 15 dB RESTRICTION FOR AMATEUR AMPLIFIERS**

– In comments filed on May 26<sup>th</sup>, the ARRL said it “strongly supports” a petition to the FCC seeking to eliminate an Amateur Service rule, spelled out in §97.317(a)(2), that amateur amplifiers not be able to boost the RF input signal by more than 15 dB. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-strongly-supports-petition-to-drop-15-db-restriction-for-amateur-amplifiers> and <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-invites-comments-on-petition-to-eliminate-15-db-gain-limit-on-amateur-amplifiers> (source: ARRL website)

**SPRING 2016 ISSUE OF RADIO WAVES AVAILABLE** – The following information was received from Debra Johnson, K1DMJ: “Greetings! We’ve just published our Spring 2016 issue of Radio Waves. You’ll find this issue and past issues on our website at: [www.arrl.org/radio-waves](http://www.arrl.org/radio-waves). You can link to this issue directly at: [http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Radio%20Waves%20Newsletter/Spring\\_2016\\_Radio\\_%20Waves%20.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Radio%20Waves%20Newsletter/Spring_2016_Radio_%20Waves%20.pdf) ...” Radio Waves has news that can be used in license instruction and radio science education. Thanks to Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, ARRL Education Services Manager, for providing this information! (additional source: ARRL website)

## **SEEKING NET MANAGER AND NET CONTROL OPERATORS FOR THE TAR HEEL EMERGENCY NET**

– The Tar Heel Emergency Net (THEN) is looking for a Net Manager and more Net Control Stations. The THEN is the ARES HF net in the NC Section and it has been operating since 1947. The net meets nightly at 7:30 PM EST on 3.923 MHz. All individuals with ARES appointments – Assistant Emergency Coordinators, Emergency Coordinators, and District Emergency Coordinators – should consider participating as the Net Manager or as a Net Control Station for THEN. For further information, see <http://www.ncarrl.org/nets/THEN/index.html> or contact Karl W4CHX, ARRL NC Section Manager at w4chx at arrl dot com. Thanks! (source: NC ARRL website)

**ARRL NATIONAL PARKS ON THE AIR 2016** – For information on rules, answers to frequently asked questions, activator tips, NPOTA documents, answers to basic questions from NPS employees, the Leaderboard, list of NPOTA units, merchandise, NPOTA on social media, and latest news, see <http://www.arrl.org/NPOTA> (source: ARRL website)

**MEDIA HITS AND REPORTS** – The following media hits and reports are included in this month’s newsletter:

## More ARRL — North Carolina News

The following report was received from David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF: "The Future of Amateur Radio. It's not very often that new amateur radio operators are younger than one of those radios in your shack. But it does happen. And on Saturday, May 28, 2016, the W4VEC volunteer examiner team in High Point, NC was pleased to help 11-year old Melinda "Mindy" Riewe (now KM4UHV) of High Point, NC successfully pass the technician exam and obtain her license. Her dad, Chris Riewe, KM4RQM, is a recently licensed ham himself. Shortly after Chris was licensed, he and Mindy came out to operate during a recent special event station/NPOTA activation in our area, the N4G Guilford Courthouse National Military Park special event station (NPOTA MP04). While under supervision, Mindy made several contacts for the station, and became interested in ham radio. After weeks of studying, Mindy came to our May 28th testing session in High Point, NC and methodically completed her exam. While the VE team was grading it, she was understandably nervous. However, when we announced to the room that she had passed, not just the VE team but all of the other candidates broke into applause! Congratulations to Mindy, and all of the other recently licensed amateur operators, and be sure to say "hi" to them if you hear them on the air! David Macchiarolo AJ4TF, W4VEC Session Manager, High Point, NC." Congratulations to Mindy Riewe, KM4UHV, on receiving her Technician class license; thanks to the VE team; and, thanks to David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, for providing this information!

**SILENT KEYS** – With deep regret, the passing of the following amateur radio operators is reported: Gary T. Coffey, K4AVC (SK) of Morehead City; Kevin James Dunphy, W4KJD (SK) of Cary; and, Robert ("Bob") Vincent Southworth, KI4YV (SK) of Statesville. 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 –**

June 25-26: NPOTA/Field Day at Bear Den Family Campgrounds, Blue Ridge Parkway PK01 Mile Marker 324.8, 1800Z-2100Z, NC4MI, Spruce Pine, NC. NC4MI. 80-10 Meters. Certificate and QSL. Luther W. Lipfird Jr, 220 Blue Ridge Rd, Black Mountain, NC 28711. Event will be at the "Bear Den Family Campgrounds" on the Blue Ridge Parkway. A Special QSL card for the event. Your QSL to Add. in QRZ and SASE to NC4MI Please. A certificate will be available for guest who operates during Field Day. (NPOTA Code PK01). [nc4mi@charter.net](mailto:nc4mi@charter.net)

July 16: Candor NC Peach Festival, 1400Z-1800Z, NC4MC, Candor, NC. Montgomery Amateur Radio Society (MARS). 14.250 USB 14.030 CW 7.250 7.030. Certificate. Don Grady, KG4ZRH, 120 Woodline Dr, Troy, NC 27371. Annual Peach Festival and Parade.

July 16: Operation Red Sleigh, 1000Z-2010Z, K4NWJ, Asheboro, NC. Guilford ARES - AUXCOMM. 14.265 3.950 7.232. QSL. W4S/Operation Red Sleigh, 5186 Farlowe Davis Dr, Sophia, NC 27350. [www.operationredsleigh.com](http://www.operationredsleigh.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 –**

July 9: 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Firecracker Hamfest, Rowan Amateur Radio Society, Salisbury, NC, <http://www.rowanars.org/firecracker-hamfest>

July 16: Mid-Summer SWAPFEST, Cary Amateur Radio Club, Cary, NC, <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc>

July 30: WCARS Hamfest, Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Waynesville, NC, <http://wcars.org>

August 13: 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Cape Fear ARS Swapfest, Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society, Fayetteville, NC, <http://www.cfarsnc.org/>

September 2-4: 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Shelby Hamfest/ARRL NC State Convention, Shelby Amateur Radio Club, Shelby, NC, <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

# Still More ARRL — North Carolina News

April 17, 2017: 45<sup>th</sup> Annual RARSfest/ARRL Roanoke Division Convention, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Raleigh, NC, <http://www.rars.org/rarsfest/> It is not too early to apply for ARRL-affiliation of your club's 2016 hamfest! For more information, see <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events> (source: ARRL website)

The recent News item regarding the agreement between the ARRL and the Community Associations Institute on amended wording of HR 1301 Amateur Radio Parity Act is a significant (and favorable!) development. There are still more hurdles. The ARRL leadership will keep you informed of the progress of HR 1301 and S 1685 Amateur Radio Parity Act in Congress. Please note, if the Bills are voted upon, your assistance will be needed, specifically to contact your Member(s) of Congress and request their favorable vote on HR 1301 or S 1685 Amateur Radio Parity Act.

Finally, I want to let everyone know that during ARRL Field Day 2016, I will be visiting club sites in central North Carolina. Please keep me informed of your club's plans for Field Day, specifically the street address for your club site and your setup, operating, and teardown schedule. I have already heard from some clubs and I am now thinking about my Field Day itinerary.

## MARS Club Officers for 2016



President	Eric Webner K4FAN
Vice President:	Mitch Barbato KX4MB
Secretary:	P. Susan Nosko N4PSN
Treasurer:	Tom Hunt KA3VVJ
Director (2016):	Charles Comerford KK4HOK
Director (2017):	Patrick Fink W4PFI
Director (2017):	Jon Greene KK4ZIZ
Director (2016):	Dave Holbrook KC4SGT
Director (2017):	Marshall Lail KK4OHF

## Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

Repeaters on \* 146.94-(118.8) \* 145.29-(118.8) \* 145.23-(118.8) \* 224.40- \* 444.60+(118.8)

Packet on \* 145.010 \* 145.090 \* 224.400 \* 446.500 \* All 1200 baud FM simplex

Metrolina 2m Emergency Net™: 9:00 PM Local Time on 146.94-(118.8)

Mecklenburg ARES Net: Wednesdays, 7:30 PM Local Time on 146.94-(118.8)



# Club Meeting Minutes



## **Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society**

Club Meeting Minutes  
St. Giles Evangelical Church  
Charlotte, North Carolina

**Date:** May 31, 2016

**Meeting called to order:** 7:00pm

**Welcome:** Club President Eric Webner K4FAN welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**General Comments:** Sadly, some beloved MARS club members recently passed: Elena Maya-Scott KS4OX, Bob Southworth KI4YV, and Dede Fryer, wife of George Fryer KI4KK. Mary Hunt N4MH gave a eulogy for both Bob and Elena. Bob and his wife were a big help with the MS Breakaway to the Beach rides throughout the year, mainly as a sweep vehicle. Bob was also instrumental in the now closed Discovery Place Radio exhibit. Elena was a longtime member who joined MARS after seeing our help on the MS rides. After being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis about thirty-five years ago, she became involved in all aspects of public service -- even setting up the website [www.RideMaps.com](http://www.RideMaps.com) to enlist volunteers for the upcoming public service events.

Raffle tickets are available for: Baofeng radios, a Bruegger's Bagels coupon, and a repeater directory.

**Visitors:** We had no visitors this evening.

**New members:** We voted in new members: Brian Timms KW4BET and Holt Foushee KW4TQ. Welcome to the club! (Please see Patrick Fink W4PFI for a MARS member badge.)

**New license or license upgrades:** There were none to report.

### **Announcements:**

1. Upcoming events: Field Day
2. Mary Hunt N4MH spoke about some public service events we participated in. On April 30, we supported two events on the same day: The MS Walk with Charles Comerford KK4HOK as net control and the Tour De Cure with Mary Hunt N4MH as net control.
3. The next CCTTA event at the Charlotte Motor Speedway will take place on June 8.
4. ARES/Skywarn events: Tony Lewis KE4VVF had no report for this evening.
5. Brandon Ray KM4FLU ran a special Memorial Day station at our clubroom, Jerry Hodgson KE4PSA ran a Rookie Roundup on 40m, Jon Greene KK4ZIZ has been instrumental in getting the clubroom set up and more user-friendly. George Hohas W4GEH has been busy training new and experienced hams on the use of the club's new Orion HF transceiver.

**Club business:**

At our next meeting, we will vote on the club budget for next year.

A Hamfest Co-chairman is required soon.

Our MARS clubroom is being used: Jerry Hodgson KE4PSA (Rookie Roundup), Brandon KM4FLU (NWS net)

**Social break:** Eric announced it's time to enjoy some cookies and drinks, buy some raffle tickets and introduce yourself to someone new.

**Program:**

1. Logbook of the World - Part 3
2. Field Day presentation (Charles Comerford KK4HOK, et. al.) -- Field Day 2016 will be held at the Wilgrove-Mint Hill Park (7750 Jim Harper Lane, Mint Hill, NC) Call: W4BFB 3A NC. Field Day set up will take place on Saturday morning at 8:30am. Operations will start at 2:00pm and run for 24 Hours. Our picnic will be at 12:00pm. All details are going to be published on the club website, including the logging software tutorial.

Field Day is the place to learn! If you've never worked a Field Day, come on out! Need help with operating/logging? You are invited to come shadow others until you feel comfortable doing some thing yourself. Others will always be available to help. Field Day is all about learning. Come on out and enjoy the fun!

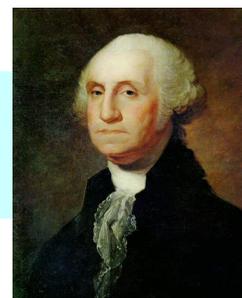
**Raffle winners:** Andy Hawkins K4GKK won the repeater Directory, Jerry Hodgson KE4PSA won the Boefang radio, Holt Foushee KW4TQ won the Bruegger's Bagels pack and (someone else) won a Bruegger's Bagels pack, too. Congratulations to all!

**Meeting was adjourned:** 8:50pm

Respectfully submitted by Andy Hawkins K4GKK



**Be courteous to all, but intimate with few, and let those few be well tried before you give them your confidence.  
— George Washington**



# Board Meeting Minutes



## **Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting** American Red Cross, 2425 Park Rd. Charlotte, NC

**Date:** June 7, 2016

**Call meeting to order:** President Eric Webner K4FAN, called meeting to order at 7:10pm.

**Present:** Eric R. Webner K4FAN, Mitch Barbato KX4MB, Tom Hunt KA3VVJ, Charles Comerford KK4HOK, Dave Holbrook KC4SGT, Marshall Lail KK4OHF, Patrick Fink W4PFI, Jon Greene KK4ZIZ

**Absent:** Susan Nosko N4PSN

**Visitor(s):** None attended this meeting.

**Welcome:** Eric welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Approval of minutes:** (See newsletter) Eric asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May Board Meeting. Jon made a motion to approve the minutes; Tom seconded it.

### *BOARD MEMBER REPORTS*

**Treasurer's Report** (Tom Hunt KA3VVJ): Eric asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Dave made a motion to approve the minutes; Marshall seconded it.

**Vice-President's Report** (Mitch Barbato KX4MB):

Upcoming programs:

June – Business Meeting (Tom)

Logbook of the World—Part 3 (Moving a certificate, importing final certificate, submit a log)

Field Day Review

Basic Grounding (Marshall)

July - Gwyn Taylor, CF Director

Mobile Shacks (Mitch)

August – HF Digital (Patrick)

**Secretary's Report** (Susan Nosko N4PSN):

133 members total, 4 Honorary Club Members and 9 paid Life Members

### *COMMITTEE REPORTS*

**Membership Committee** (Charles Comerford KK4HOK and Susan Nosko N4PSN): No report.

**Public Service Committee** (Mary Hunt N4MH): CCTTA will take place on June 8.

**Equipment & Clubroom Committee** (Jon Greene KK4ZIZ and John White WB2NHQ):

TenTec rig is working – RCA cables were disconnected for the keying loop

Slowly working on getting notes / directions put together for operating

Discone Antenna is mounted – Waiting for the new budget to complete streaming / APRS project

**Repeater Committee** (Jon Greene KK4ZIZ and Marshall Lail KK4OHF, liaison to Bryan Ferdinand K4NET): 145.23 site – Packet was down since Saturday. Repaired blown fuse on power supply. We will be getting some polyphasers for the equipment. Verified SWR was still acceptable. Updated time on the repeaters. 146.94 site – Possible fix is in the works for the pre-amp situation.

**Grants & Resources Committee:** No report.

**Hamfest Committee** (Gary Chernega KN1GMC): We're still looking for a co-chairman for the 2017 Charlotte Hamfest.

**Website** (Charles Comerford KK4HOK): The MailChimp mailing was a success for the Field Day announcement. Charles will continue to pursue this for future communications to the club, and for Hamfest as well.

**Volunteer Examiners Committee** (Steven Burke KI4FAQ): The next VE Test Session will be on August 20.

**Net Manager** (John White, WB2NHQ): No report.

## *OLD BUSINESS*

**Field Day Committee:** (The Board)

FD signups

Insurance certificate

Generator

Radios, radio sign outs

Antennae

Laptops and mesh network

Signs

Sign-in sheet with emergency contact info (Safety officer)

Bonus point assignments

**Budget:** (The Board) The Board discussed the budget items to present to the meeting. Mitch moved to accept, Marshall seconded.

## *NEW BUSINESS*

**Adjourn meeting.** Tom moved the meeting be adjourned. Patrick seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14pm.

Respectfully submitted by Charles Comerford KK4HOK

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON PAGE 4: They are located in the same place.  
NA1SS International Space Station Amateur Radio Club 1  
OR4ISS International Space Station (ISS), OR4ISS Low Earth Orbit