



APRIL 2016

N4LNR

News & Views



Serving Amateur Radio
In Caldwell County

P. O. Box 3276

Lenoir, NC 28645

Next LARC Meeting

Thursday, April 14

7:00 PM

Gamewell Fire Dept.
2806 Morganton Blvd SW,
Lenoir

LARC Weekly Net

Friday, 9:00 PM

146.625 Minus 94.8

Alt 147.330

Caldwell ARES Net

Sunday, 9:00 PM

147.330 Plus 141.3

DMR UHF Digital Net

Tuesday 8:00 PM

Lenoir Local DMR

Next WPARC Meeting

Monday, April 11 7:00 PM

Foothills Community Wkshp

10 Falls Ave

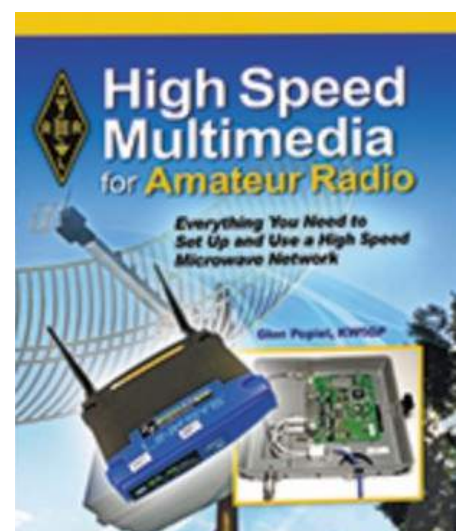
Granite Falls

Mobile Broadband Communications at LARC April Meeting

Bob Rodgers KC4TVO will discuss the Auxiliary Broadband Communications System (ABCS) being installed in Mitchell County. Using long-range wireless equipment, this wireless digital system will allow data communications throughout the County regardless of infrastructure status. Ultimate plans are to expand the system to adjacent counties.

A brief business meeting will follow, including planning for upcoming events – Rotary Cycle to Serve, Fire & Life Safety Festival, equipping the communications trailer, and the Catawba Valley Hamfest.

Bring a friend!



President's Comments: Fellowship of Friends



Yesterday, we had a workday on our communication trailer to help try and finish the few remaining things that still need to be done before we fill it with equipment. I worked for several hours with Tom KA4HKK and Dick K0CAT enjoying spending time with fellow hams that have a wealth of information for me to learn.

I began to think back to how I got started in the hobby. I began my journey with ham radio several years ago after a friend convinced me to study for the test and pass. I have enjoyed the things I have learned along the way. Being able to communicate with radio operators around the world with just a radio antenna, and power source is something that sparks

a childlike joy. I would have never guessed that I would be able to talk to people across the world from my house in NC.

One of the first things that I did after getting my ticket was to join the Lenoir Amateur Radio Club. I listened intently at the first meeting I attended and found out that the Club was having a workday that weekend to work on a trailer they planned to make into a communication trailer. I was a little nervous as I pulled into the drive and walked into the building where they were working. I still did not know many people in the Club yet and this was the first time I had seen anyone outside of a meeting.

The next few hours went by quickly as we worked together towards the goal of painting the ceiling. Over the next 6 or 8 months, we planned various workdays to work on different parts of the trailer. I learned many construction skills from the leaders of our crew and enjoyed hearing them tell stories about their experiences in the world.

If you have been to any of our recent meetings you might know that we have almost finished the trailer. We have a few small things to do and then we will be ready for equipment. It was awesome watching the project go from bare walls to what it is today. The entire time I was working, I thought the benefit was that we were completing the trailer. What I found out was that the real benefit was the fellowship with other Hams.

I have had the pleasure to get to know many of our fellow Club members through my few years with the Club and what I have found is that they are some of the nicest people you will meet anywhere. They are willing to sacrifice their free time to help with projects the Club has, and also events that we do for the community. Many have helped give presentations at Club meetings and others have helped coordinate our activities or call the various Nets we participate in. Without the hard work of the fellow Hams that I have come to know, we would not have been able to accomplish all of the things that we set out to complete.

This type of commitment does not stop with our Club here in Lenoir. I have had this exact same experience with many of the people I have come in contact with in our neighboring clubs. For those of you that have not been involved with a club or similar group of Hams, I challenge you to go find a group that meets close to you and become involved. Not only will you get the satisfaction of helping the community and learn more about an awesome hobby, but also you will build relationships with some of the finest people on the earth and you will enjoy camaraderie between those with similar interests. In my experience as a ham, these relationships have been some of the most rewarding part of being a ham.

Tanner KK4SZI

Thirty Years Ago: April 1986...

The April 1986 newsletter sported a new masthead proclaiming the newly formed “Lenoir Amateur Radio Club” voted on at the last meeting. The Newsletter became the “official” club bulletin and will be sent to all club members as a part of the benefits of belonging to the Club.

The Club elected its first officers: Jim Rogers President, Duane Ayers, Vice President, and Susan N4OJN Secretary-Treasurer. Member dues were set as single membership fee \$10, and a family \$15. Only members would receive the newsletter, except some complimentary copies would be sent to neighboring clubs. Those joining the Club in the first 2-3 months will be designated “charter” members, hopefully with special benefits to come as the years roll by.

The next few months will be spent on developing bylaws, club policies, repeater, etc., and all votes by members will be majority rules. The initial group beginning for work on the formation of the club was about 17-20 persons.

And, a carload of these new members were off to the Charlotte Hamfest, where they dropped “five big ones” on a bunch of ham goodies--James N4NIN picked up a new 70 watt Kenwood 2-meter mobile! Upon arriving home from the Hamfest, Susan N4OJN found her brand spanking new Novice license waiting for her.



Pictured: James N4NIN, Ruby wife of Jim Rogers the first Club president, Susan N4OHN

The first Club president spoke those notable words to be repeated by every president that followed: “We can’t run a club by ourselves, please let any or all of the officers know your interests, desires, gripes, etc.” And, as meeting planning began, ideas were sought for interesting programs on timely subjects such as RTTY, Amtor, PACKET, computers and other forms of “exotic” communications.

Need to renew your LARC membership?

Send a new member application (download from website) and dues to the Club address or see Ro K4HRM. Dues are prorated after July 1.

Hibriten Hill Run ~ April 9, 2016

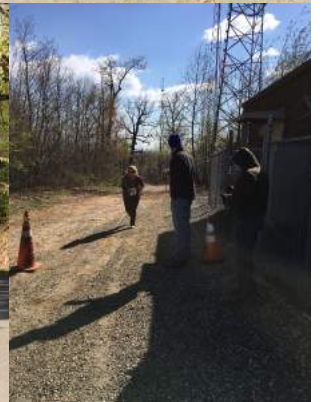


The temperature was still below freezing and the winds were gusting 22-27 mph when the first runners headed up the mountain at 9:01 am in the annual Hibriten Hill Run on Saturday, April 9. But hardy hams, Josh N4JED and Tom KA4HKK were at Net Control, Dick K0CAT at the Entrance, Irv W4IWK at Aid One halfway up, and Tanner KK4SZI at the top.

Forty runners participated with Numbers 97 and 92 crossing the finish line at the top at 9:28 am and Number 97 crossing the finish line at the bottom at 9:49 am. One runner commented that he had difficulty keeping his sunglasses on due to the high wind. Tom had 2 friends running, both named Todd, who finished 8th and 9th.

The hams used Lenoir Local DMR (digital voice) for the entire event and all reports were that this mode worked flawlessly. Net Control closed down at 11:00 am.

But clearing the mountain did not go as planned when the alarm on Irv's vehicle decided to go off, making a lot of racket and immobilizing his engine. With a little help from Josh and Tanner he was towed off the mountain and, after replacing a remote battery, made it home. Note to Irv: Check remote battery more frequently than every 10 years.



Western Piedmont Amateur Radio Club meets at Foothills Community Workshop (10 Falls Ave, Bldg 10B, Suite 1, Granite Falls) on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 PM. VE exams are available at FCW on the 2nd Monday of each month at the WPARC meeting.

Margaret Holly Bevan N3MB celebrated her 100th birthday this past week. She is an active ham, hosting a ham radio network every weekday morning at 6 am. Read her interesting story at <http://qrznow.com/n3mb-ham-radio-enthusiast-holly-bevan-celebrates-100th-birthday/>
YOU GO, GIRL!

Charlotte Hamfest

Dick K0CAT and Ro K4HRM ventured to the Charlotte Hamfest on March 12. The entire event was inside so very comfortable to browse the vendor booths and flea market. A little disappointed that no radio manufacturers had displays but seeing a few familiar faces – Warren WU3Y, Danny KE4APP and Marv WA4NC – loading up on ham goodies made the day. Ro really wanted a hands-on with the new ICOM 7300 and Dick wanted to look a parts for his new tower acquired from Vern W5VM.



Interesting article on modern maker movement bringing back ham radio, see <http://qrznow.com/why-modern-makers-are-bringing-back-ham-radio>

Trailer Work Continues!



With the coming of warmer days, the trailer crew got back to work finishing the few outstanding items on the Communications Trailer. Tanner KK4SZI, Tom KA4HKK and Dick K0CAT installed PowerPole connectors for the DC power supply at each station, and worked on station grounding and coax attachment.

Plan to come out and help complete this project on the next workday!



March Meeting Notes...

Attendees: Tanner KK4SZI, Josh N4JDE, Tom KA4HKK, Ro K4HRM, Robert KM4UAC, James N4NIN, Susan N4OJN, Scott KC4SWL, Phil KG4BCC, Phillip N4HF, Dick K0CAT, Mark K9FWA, Irv W4IWK. Guests: Bernard Russo HH2B, Danny Horney KE4APP, Derek Eggers W4DCE, and Marv Hoffman WA4NC

Membership: Dick Blumenstein K0CAT approved.

Program: Phil KG4BCC talked about the future of APRS and how it is used in community events.

Trailer/Equipment Committee: James N4NIN distributed a list of proposed equipment for the communications and antenna trailers. Attendees were asked to review and comment. Trailer workday set for March 22.

Insurance: Tanner KK4SZI reported that coverage had been purchased.

Trailer Storage: Report pended next meeting.

Public Service Events: Volunteers will be needed to work the following events: Hibriten Hill Run – April 9; Catawba Hamfest – April 16; Rotary Cycle to Serve – May 7; Fire and Life Safety Festival – June 4.

Ham Happenings...

April 16, 2016 Catawba Valley Hamfest, Burke County Fairgrounds, Morganton, see <http://cvhamfest.com>

May 7, 2016 Rotary Cycle To Serve Bicycle Race. **LARC Volunteers needed.**

June 4, 2016 Fire and Life Safety Festival. **LARC Volunteers needed.**

June 11 Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest, Forsyth ARC, see www.w4nc/ws_classic_hamfest_2016.htm

June 25-26 Field Day 2016. **LARC Volunteers needed.**

July 9, 2016 31th Annual Firecracker Hamfest at 315 Martin Luther Jr. Ave S, Salisbury NC, sponsored by the Rowan Amateur Radio Society, Salisbury, see <http://www.rowanars.org>

July 16, 2016 Mid-Summer SWAPFEST, Cary Amateur Radio Club, Cary <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc>

July 30 WCARS Hamfest, Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Waynesville, see www.wcars.org

September 3-4, 2016 60th Annual Shelby Hamfest/ARRL Convention, Shelby Amateur Radio Club, Shelby, see www.shelbyhamfest.org

September 23-24 W4DXCC DX and Contest Convention with Ham Radio Bootcamp, Pigeon Forge, TN. See www.w4dxcc.com for information

LARC 2016 Officers



Tanner Greer
President
KK4SZI



Josh Edwards
Vice President
N4JDE



Tom Land
Secretary
KA4HKK



Ro Maddox
Treasurer
K4HRM

**Send comments concerning the Newsletter
to Ro Maddox K4HRM hrmaddox@nettally.com
Suggestions and articles are appreciated.**