

A P R I L 2 0 1 5

N4LNR

News & Views

P. O. Box 3276
Lenoir, NC 28645
<http://N4LNR.ORG>



*Serving Amateur Radio
In Caldwell County*



Save the Date!

Next LARC Meeting

April 9, 2015

Thursday, 5:45 PM

Caldwell EOC

**2345 Morganton Blvd SW,
Lenoir**

LARC Weekly Net

Thursdays 9:00 PM

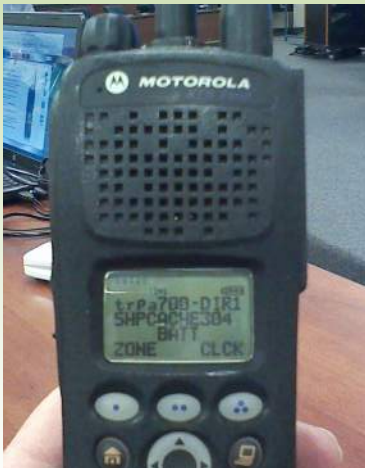
146.625 MHz Minus PL 94.8

Alt 147.330 MHz Plus PL 141.3

Caldwell ARES Net

Sundays 9:00 PM

147.330 MHz Plus PL 141.3

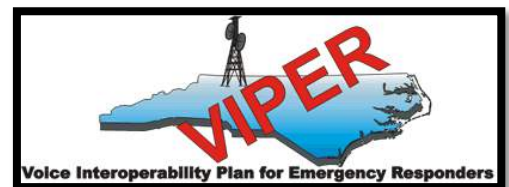


VIPER Training At April 9 Meeting!

The April 9 LARC meeting will be devoted to participating with Caldwell CERT in training on the use of the VIPER radio system used by local law enforcement, EMS and Fire Depts. The training will be followed by a tour of the Caldwell 911 Center. A brief Club meeting will be held prior to the VIPER training.

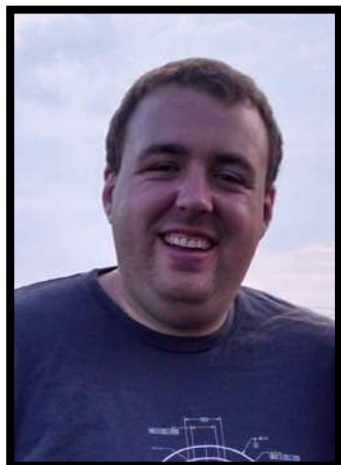
Note: **Change in meeting time and location!** Meet at 5:45 pm at the Caldwell HHS Building, 2345 Morganton Blvd, SW, Lenoir, East Entrance.

This is a secure facility so be there promptly at 5:45 p.m.



Caldwell County Emergency Management provides the training. LARC is asked during public events and disaster situations to monitor/use VIPER and should be familiar with the System and radios. For additional information and online training on VIPER, go to

<http://smrs.emspic.org/viper/>



President's Message

Another month is upon us and spring is well on its way. I have enjoyed the warm weather we have been having and it looks like the last of the cold weather is getting ready to be behind us. This gets me a little excited, as spring, summer, and fall are my favorite seasons. This is also the time of the year when I get the most excited about radio.

Part of the radio hobby is helping serve the community. Hams have long been known to step in in various situations where they were needed. There are numerous stories of hams helping with communication in a disaster. When I was

researching some material on the topic, I found one very interesting story during Hurricane Katrina. There was a group of people on an island in the aftermath of the hurricane and they were calling out on the high frequency band asking for help. There was another ham in California searching the bands and happened upon their frequency. They explained their situation and the ham was able to call the coast guard and direct them to the location of the individuals possibly saving their life.

Now this story may be on the extreme end, but serving the community does not only relate to disasters. There are many times when our help is needed during a normal time in the year. Our club has a good history of helping out during these times. We helped many times with the Bridge-to-Bridge race that went from Lenoir to the top of Grandfather. Even though the race stopped being held, we have not given up and have a great opportunity to serve the community in a few weeks with the Hibriten Hill Run. My vision is that we are able to help out with other events during the year either in Caldwell County or others. We might even help other clubs for some of their bigger events.

One of the great advantages of these types of events is that we get to practice communication as a team. This helps prepare us for a scenario in which some sort of disaster affects our area and we are called upon. With practice we are able to keep our skills sharp and ready to go in times of need. Another often-overlooked benefit of doing events is that it is a great way to promote the hobby. At just the Hill Run, there will be many people exposed to ham radio that may have never seen if we were not willing to volunteer. Recruiting new operators helps keep the hobby going and hopefully (if they join) keep the Club growing. With more members we are able to help more often and in larger capacity.

I always end the column with a challenge and this month is no different. Get involved! Help out at events such as the Hill Run, Field Day and the like. It is amazing what we can accomplish together and how we can help out the fellow people in our community. Some people may not have as much time to dedicate to going to the events but there are many other ways you can help. Keep your ear to the ground and let us know when there are opportunities to help. Be on the lookout for ways the Club can stay involved. What a great time of year! We get to get out into nature and enjoy the beauty and our hobby. Who else is excited?

Tanner Greer KK4SZI



New Member Profile Benson Wills NE4W

Benson was born in Raleigh NC and has lived in North Carolina most of his life, except as a Marine military brat he lived in Virginia and Japan. He worked for the Wake County Sheriff 9-1-1 and CAD. In the early years with the Sheriff, he would ride along with deputies on the midnight shift,

where he saw first-hand some of the less savory aspects of law enforcement. Currently, Benson works full-time as a website developer for a real estate marketing company.

Benson met his beautiful wife, Laura, and moved to Wilkes in 1999. He and Laura have no children and travel is one of their passions, including visiting Europe every year or so. They particularly enjoy visiting the German and Austrian Christmas markets that are unmatched in this country. While not counting, Benson and Laura have visited many European cities, including London, Amsterdam, Budapest, Vienna, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Milan, Rome, Munich, Cologne, Dusseldorf, Essen, Aachen, Florence, Zurich, Ghent, Paris and Colmar. The only time Benson has driven a car in Europe was a couple years ago in England, scaring his wife to death several times. Driving on the wrong side of the road is not easy!

Benson is an avid fan of Arsenal Football Club, a soccer team in the Premier League of England. Laura and he visited The Emirates. Arsenal's stadium in North London; unfortunately, there was no match while they were there—another road trip in the making. Maybe he will wear his Arsenal jersey to a LARC meeting

As a teenager in Raleigh, Benson became interested in CB radio, which was his first nibble at the radio hobby. With a smile, he remembers how proud he was when he put up the 5/8 wave Radio Shack vertical antenna on the roof. After the "no-code" Technician license became available, Benson studied and obtained his first callsign--KD4KWQ. He later got the vanity callsign K4GST and, after obtaining his Extra license, he got a 2X1 callsign—NE4W.



His current radio interests include DMR/MotoTRBO as well as digital modes on HF. He is an infrequent HF operator, but is always interested in logging new IOTA and DXCC entities. While not an avid contester, he did have a lot of fun operating in the 2015 NC QSO party--

it's fun having your own miniature pileup going! His current count is 66 islands and 110 DXCC entities worked.



Radios in his "shack" include a Yaesu FT-8800, a Motorola XPR 5550, and an Elecraft K3 feeding a remotely tuned inverted L antenna. He uses DX Lab software (free at dxlabsuite.com) for logging, spotting, propagation predictions, etc.-- highly recommends. While he would love to have a tower for a Yagi or two, his small lot just won't accommodate one.

Benson cites his first DX contact as the Cayman Islands on 6 meters, using a loop antenna. His latest excitement was logging K1N (Navassa Island) on 2 bands - these were tough to get with what he calls his modest station.

Please welcome Benson NE4W to LARC.

Join Us For Breakfast...



Every Friday morning at 7:00 a.m., hungry hams from all over congregate at the **Subway**, 845 Blowing Rock Blvd, Lenoir, for breakfast. Not only will you be treated to a smorgasbord of culinary delights but a feast of lively conversations about Amateur Radio and any other topic that might come up. You do NOT have to be a ham to join in -- anyone interested in radio, electronics and emergency preparedness. Do you, a

friend or family member have questions about becoming a ham? Do you have an HT or rig that needs programming? Stop on by, grab a bite and someone is sure to help or offer good advice.

Everyone is welcome – *Just look for the antennas outside!*



The LARC President is asking you for ideas and interests that YOU want to talk about and/or see hands-on demonstrations at future Club meetings. Nothing is off the table, so send your thoughts directly to the top – tannergreer@bellsouth.net

Trailer Work Continues

Reaching a slowdown in visible progress caused by sand-prime-sand-prime-sand-paint-sand-paint cabinets; nevertheless, the communications trailer is taking shape! The build of the back cabinet is underway, the wall cabinet doors are painted, and the wall cabinets are being painted.

Future workdays will involve building the shelves in the front, hanging cabinet doors, putting Formica on the worktable, installing flooring, baseboards and mounting the heater.

Be a part of the progress! Join the “hammers” on the scheduled workdays! Help is always appreciated.



Rolled Up = Fire Hazard

Irv W4IWK sends a warning—*“Be careful using reeled extension cords without fully unwinding them.”* He reports that he used a 15amp rated extension cord to power a 10amp heater for a few cold nights this winter. The cord was longer than needed so he left 25 feet tightly wound on the reel. When he went to reuse the cord, it wouldn't fully unwind. He found that the outer insulation on the inner winds had melted and fused together and melted part of the plastic reel. The reel was outdoors during use. Even though it was exposed to temperatures in the low teens, it couldn't dissipate the heat.

An Internet search indicates this has happened to others and some reels have a caution molded into them. For more information, see



<http://www.safetyattitude.com/articles/home/electricalcord.pdf>

Web Article Explains How to Research Old Ham Call Signs: A web article, ["How to Find Old Amateur Radio Call Signs"](#) provides useful tips on how to research old Amateur Radio call signs. It includes access to old *Call Book Magazine* editions dating back to 1913 as well as privately compiled listings and valuable information on considerable online resources.



New Member Profile

Gary Schwartz K3OS

I was licensed as KN3OSK in 1961. An Ameco 15 watt crystal controlled transmitter with a National NC-109 RX was my first rig. At the age of fourteen I hopped on a bus with an older friend to get from Warren, PA, to Buffalo, NY, a 90-mile jaunt where the nearest FCC office was located. No volunteer examiners! After what seemed an interminable month or so, the General license and call sign K3OSK arrived in the mail. Radios from Heathkit and Drake dominated my early years.

I was primarily a CW operator and handled traffic in the Western PA Net. I also found myself on 80 meter AM and became friends with a bunch of high school aged hams. Some of them I met later while attending Penn State. One memorable Field Day with the State College, PA, Club, found me operating from their mountain top location on 6 meters -- 500 watts AM on 6-meters feeding a wide spaced beam that had a 50-foot boom on a 50-foot tower on top of the mountain. What an experience, to say the least.

After college I wound up in Winston-Salem as a band director for a few years, met Betty who married me -- despite my hobbies. In Winston-Salem, I became an Extra Class. We moved to White Plains, NY, a NYC suburb when I worked in retail for the Baldwin Piano Company. I was quite active in the Forsyth Club and the Westchester (NY) Club and also developed an interest in RTTY. A complete model 19 teletype with the table was acquired and put in a two-bedroom apartment. Some invisible magnet wire out the bedroom window was the antenna. And, yes, there was just a bit of RF in the shack -- oooh, the noise and the smell of grease! Every ham should have the opportunity to type on one of those original keyboards, three rows of keys, no caps, and a "letters" and "figures" key to shift the characters around. There was plenty of homebrew construction, too. All the RTTY TU units, a self contained "silent" RTTY keyboard and video unit to name a few. We even experimented with simultaneous RTTY and voice on the repeater by shifting the repeater's carrier instead of using audio tones.

Betty and I moved to Garden City, NY (Long Island) and our first home. Up went the dipole and a tri-band beam was purchased. I took the beam out of the box and roughed it out in the back yard. Only then did I realize that if I put it in on the roof, the ends would overhang both sides. The house was on a "postage stamp" 80x100 foot lot and that antenna in those days, would have been blamed for every form of interference known to exist. I carefully put the parts back in the box and returned the antenna to Harrison Electronics.

Thanks to this hobby, I managed to parlay my self-learned computer and electronics skills into a sales job at Digital Equipment Corp., a large computer manufacturer. This ultimately led to starting a small computer storage systems company with a friend and a move to Connecticut.

As a member of the Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club, I was again active, mostly on RTTY AMTOR, the “new” digital mode PSK31 and two meters. That club is the home club to a couple of noteworthy hams, W1ZR, Joel Hallas, of QST/ARRL and Jonathan Taylor K1RFD, who designed EchoLink.

One of the most memorable events was operating the Marconi commemorative station, W1BCG, celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the first shortwave message across the Atlantic. In the accompanying photo, note the tubes lit up in the foreground. That was the 160-meter CW transmitter we used. Tim Walker N1GIG is the other operator in the photo and was the event chairman. The antenna was a 160-meter vertical monopole. There is nothing like being the source of a pileup on 160 meters!

Sometime during those years in “1-land” I took advantage of the vanity call plan and dropped the “K” at the end of my call. It was an awful nuisance on CW.

Betty and I retired, sold the CT house, moved on to our powerboat and spent a year living aboard while we cruised down the Intercoastal Waterway Florida and back. Sorry to say the ham SSB antenna never got mounted, though I tried a few wire antennas. That 22' Shakespeare vertical is still in my garage -- any one interested? Following that adventure, we moved to Hickory where we had purchased a lot 12 years earlier and built our current home. Our boating life of both sailboats and powerboats is now being fulfilled on a much more manageable pontoon boat on Lake Hickory.



I owned a couple of wonderful Ten-Tec transceivers for HF and collected a complete Collins S-Line. The Collins gear except for the amplifier was recently sold as my interests once again changed. A trusty Icom 706MII and a ladder line fed two half-waves in phase on 40 meters (the sexy way to refer to an 80 meter dipole) puts me on 7177 around 8AM weekdays and the 80 meter QCWA net on Saturdays.

An SDR rig is in my future, but which one is still up in the air. I built a Soft Rock QRP SDR transceiver. The acquisition of a CS700 DMR radio has lit the fire to get back into the hobby a bit more.

In addition to hamming, I spend the better part of 3 days per week as a volunteer in two local middle schools assisting the band directors. In a way, my life has come full circle, but on my terms this time around. I also play piano in the Hickory Jazz Orchestra, the LR Jazz Ensemble, and regularly perform in smaller groups at local restaurants and other venues.

Another area of interest is in the Theatre Organ, used at the turn of the century to accompany silent films. I am currently upgrading the keyboards for my virtual theatre organ, and am helping to restore a real theatre pipe organ that will be installed in Monroe.

LARC To Host Booth Catawba Valley Hamfest



The Lenoir Amateur Radio Club will co-sponsor the 18th Annual Catawba Valley Hamfest on Saturday-April 18, 2015, at the Burke County Fairgrounds, 145 Bost Rd, Morganton. Gates open at 8:00 AM. Tickets are \$4.00 advance or \$5.00 at the gate. The Hamfest is a flea market style event where amateur radio operators, electronic enthusiasts, computer enthusiasts, etc. come to buy, sell and trade. Prize drawings for ticket holders.

The prize drawing will include a Yaesu FT-897D, and a 2-meter mobile, an HT, and \$100 Hamfest bucks. LARC will have a booth where members can setup to sell radio gear and distribute Club information. Club members are invited to join members from the other sponsoring clubs and Hamfest vendors on Friday evening for food and fellowship.

Tom KA4HKK is coordinating the Booth, **to volunteer or sell radio gear in the Booth, contact Tom.**

Other event sponsors are McDowell Amateur Radio Club, Western Piedmont Amateur Radio Club and Western Piedmont Community College Amateur Radio Club. The Catawba Valley Hamfest Committee is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a regional resource for ham radio operators to gather and buy sell and trade radio equipment and accessories. For additional information, contact Tom Land KA4HKK thomasland@msn.com or visit www.cvhamfest.com.

I thought you might be interested in this potentially dark and infamous legend from the early days of Amateur Radio, one that pins the ARRL itself with that of the secretive occult traditions of underground fraternal orders of the time - a tradition of *secret works and combinations* that still may be a rite of passage at some ARRL Conventions (or *Hamfests*) today. I hope you enjoy reading about it. I can remember the Hamfests of the 1950's, on Saturday evening and I believe it was after the ARRL Dinner; The Loyal Order of The *Wouff-Hong* would meet at 12-midnight. Those brave souls who wanted to become members of this sacred order would attend, and if found worthy, would be inducted. The following is an article by an old friend who is no longer with us. I hope you enjoy reading it:

Submitted by Art Marshall, W1FJI W1FJI@centurylink.net

The Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch: Lost Traditions?

By L. B. Cebik W4RNL

"The Wouff-Hong is amateur radio's most sacred symbol and stands for the enforcement of law and order in amateur operation. "The Rettysnitch... is used to enforce the principles of decency in operating work."

The Radio Amateur's Handbook, 1930, page 11.

In 1930, the Handbook had pictures of both instruments of enforcement. By 1936, only the Wouff-Hong appeared, and by 1947, the Handbook had deleted both photos. Just when we needed traditions of law and order and of decency in amateur operations to guide its growth in the post-World-War-II explosion of technology and easier licensing, the symbols had disappeared from view.

Many of today's hams have no idea what a Wouff-Hong and a Rettysnitch look like. To rectify that gap in hamdom's essential history, a photo is provided. The first is the Wouff-Hong. The two main pieces appear to be wood banded by metal strapping and by heavy wire. [Note] the darkness at the upper end of the longer wood piece, as if stained by blood or purified for its grave duties in the fires of purgatory - or both. The Rettysnitch is an all-metal and of the 5 teeth [oriented] around the disk near the pointed end, only three remain. According to tradition, the other two have done their work and perished in the effort. The photo actually fails to convey the device's true and terrible demeanor, and therefore of its full and relentless force to ensure operating decency among amateurs.



The Wouff-Hong

for the enforcement of law and order in amateur operation

The Rettysnitch

to enforce the principle of decency in operating work

Perhaps the last time the story of the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch was told was in 1934. Thanks to Ed Guilford, AA7HQ, in Bothell, Washington, I have the May, '34, QST in which Rufus P. Turner – famous in the annals of electronics writings – recounted "Hamdom's Traditions: A Bedtime Story for Young Squirts." But even by Turner's time, the Rettysnitch was relegated to a paragraph on the story's continuation page in the back of the magazine, with no picture. Somehow, even then, folks had forgotten that you can never have law and order without first having decency. Some pessimists think that we now have neither.

I do not subscribe to the pessimist's view. Sure, the number of rotten operators has skyrocketed, but not their proportion to the main corps of good, legal, and decent operators, capable and courteous to a fault. We should not be troubled by the size of the job of curing amateur radio of its illegalities and indecencies, for we have more folks to help use the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch just where and how they ought to be used -- No, not on others, but on ourselves – to make sure that we set a model for how amateur operations ought to be conducted.

Turner offers no prescription for using either device, but thought the Wouff-Hong able to beat out King Kong's brains or easily plow up acres of Manhattan bedrock. That will tell you something of the power of these machines. But it won't tell you how they came to be.

Remember T.O.M. -- *The Old Man* -- who wrote in the earliest days of "Rotten QRM." His very first article in 1917 blasted concocted abbreviations just coming into use. Among the almost unintelligible gibberish in his headphones were words like "wouff hong" and "rettysnitch," surely instruments of terrifying punishment! By mid-1917, the ARRL was besieged by orders for these contraptions, orders that could not be filled because the League staff had [purportedly] never seen either device.



In 1919, after World War I (then called simply the Great War since no one could imagine doing all that destruction and killing all over again), the League once more took up its work in earnest. At just this critical time, the Directors received, from The Old Man, a package containing an authoritative and well-preserved specimen of Wouff-Hong. Turner described the contents of the package as "the gruesome instrument of torture." By order of the Directors, it was hung in the office of the Secretary-Editor, within easy reach. Its first portrait appeared in QST for July that year. At each Board meeting, the Wouff-Hong stood on display, to the blanched looks of the humbled Directors.

The Old Man also presented the world with its first glimpse of the Rettysnitch. In 1921, the monstrous machine was presented to the League traffic manager by the Washington D.C. radio Club, ostensibly after receiving it from T.O.M. Even at its first public appearance, two of its teeth were missing, suggesting a long history of necessary and effective use. However, to this day, the Rettysnitch has lost no other teeth. It was ordered to hang by its mate.

In the 20s and 30s, many a reproduction of both instruments, but especially the Wouff-Hong, materialized across the country. A group of hams in Flint, Michigan, created the mystic society called the *Royal Order of the Wouff-Hong*. The society endures to this day, according to legends to which I have so far not been privy. And The Old Man has been given a name: Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW. At least, legend tells the story that way, perhaps based on the fact that T.O.M. glared at “Kitty” while reflecting on the “rotteness” of everything. Maxim did have a cat. However, true to feline nature, Maxim’s cat never spilled the beans.

But what has become of the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch? More important, what has become of their power to enforce both decency and law and order on the hambands? Hams used to cringe at the thought, let alone the sight, of these dreadful tools of enforcement. But, we do not hear of them much anymore. Oh, a tremor of curiosity every now and again brings out a ripple of questions and speculation - but not much more than a ripple.

You see, today, we have much more terrifying weapons, things like Oozies, H-bombs and the like. They scare us in ways that seem to make the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch tame and toothless. However, even in Maxim’s day, objectively more powerful weapons were used in France, like tanques and gas more poisonous than that made by Texas chili. Why were the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch so powerful to those early hams?

Because those hams cared about amateur radio in their hearts. They wanted what they knew they could never have: a perfectly law-abiding and decent radio service that would inspire young and old alike to become hams or, lacking the inclination to electronics, to become admirers of hams. Every minute of on-the-air time was a chance to show how noble a pursuit amateur radio was and should always be. They feared the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch as instruments of their own consciences, as they strove to meet the standards they set for themselves.

And that is where today you will find both the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch – deep in your own conscience. If they seem to hold no power, then you know it is time once more to elevate your standards a notch higher, and then to strive to achieve them perfectly. Each of us [if even in the recesses of our minds] has a secret and private office where no one else may go. Above the door, facing our individual operating tables, hang two instruments, one of law and order, the other of decency. However, much the outside world may neglect the tradition of these terrible reminders of responsibility, each of us possess our own Wouff-Hong and Rettysnitch. May you never deserve their sting!

Like all legends, this one, too, must end with special words: ***pass it on.***

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Newsletter of the Tallahassee Amateur Radio



Field Day 2015 is June 27-28, 2015

Mark your calendars, dust off your equipment and make plans to join LARC in a 24-hour public demonstration of amateur radio skills and readiness for disaster response. This amateur radio event will involve over 50,000 radio operators across the country participating in the largest amateur communications event of the

Tom KA4HKK will be coordinating this event. Please contact Tom and volunteer to assist in setup/take down of stations/antennas, station operation, overnight operations, and food service. Help make this event a success!

Places to be...People to see... Mark Your Calendar



April 9: VIPER Radio Training for CERT members, 6 pm til 8 pm, Caldwell EOC. The April LARC meeting will follow VIPER training at the EOC.

April 18: 18th Annual Catawba Valley Hamfest, McDowell Amateur Radio Association, Morganton, NC, see <http://cvhamfest.com> LARC is a sponsor of this event. Tom KA4HKK is asking for volunteers to work the LARC booth.

June 13: Winston-Salem Hamfest, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Winston-Salem, NC, see <http://www.w4nc.com>

June 13: NC CERT 2015 Conference. Information now available at press time.

July 11: 30th Annual Firecracker Hamfest, Rowan Amateur Radio Society, Salisbury, NC, see <http://www.rowanars.org>

July 18: Mid-Summer SWAPFEST, Cary Amateur Radio Club, Cary, NC, see <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc>

July 25: WCARS Hamfest 2015, Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Waynesville, NC, see <http://wcars.org>

September 5-6: 59th Annual Shelby Hamfest/Roanoke Division Convention, Shelby Amateur Radio Club, Shelby, NC, see <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

ARRL National Traffic System, North Carolina Section

By Will King WB4Y

When I was first licensed in 2003, I started hearing about Traffic NETS. At that time, I only had a HT and couldn't pick up any of these NETS. Not really hearing any more about them and not investigating myself, I thought they were talking about vehicular traffic reports in urban areas. Of course, that was wrong.

After finally getting a 50-watt radio in the shack and a base antenna where I could hear and get out, I learned about the ARRL's National Traffic System (NTS). The traffic I thought was vehicular was actually message traffic in the form of Radiograms.

Since that time, I have been involved in varying degrees with the National Traffic System. Starting out only listening to finally taking a message to be delivered on a VHF NET. After upgrading my license, I became a traffic handler on HF via the North Carolina Evening NET. I eventually took a position as a "NET Control" operator for the Central North Carolina Traffic NET for a period of one year on Monday nights. A position I very much enjoyed. I am also the NTS liaison for Caldwell County ARES.



Standing L-R: WV4Z, W3HL, WB4Y, K4IWW, W4CC, WB4ZIQ, AK4RJ, WK4WC, W4DNA, WK4P, KE4AHC, W4WNT, W4CHX, WS4P, Kneeling: KJ4RUD, K3GK

The NTS has had varying degrees of participation over the years and getting traffic into certain geographical areas has sometimes been quite a challenge. Those of us who participate are always looking for opportunities to get the message out to all Amateurs about the NTS and recruit new participants.

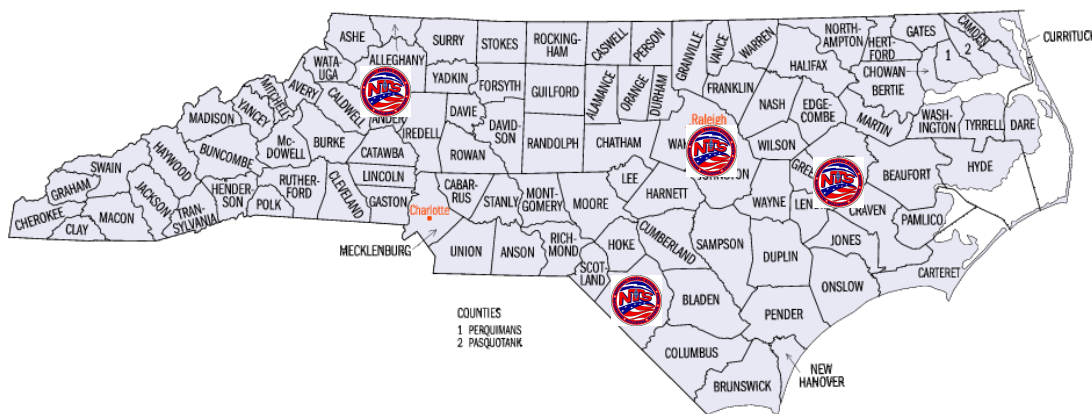
This year, the NET manager for the North Carolina Evening NET, Lane Kendall WK4WC, had the idea of having a NTS booth at the Charlotte Hamfest. From that idea and the help of many, the North Carolina Section of the National Traffic System was very well represented at the Charlotte Hamfest. In addition to Lane, credit must be given to Section Traffic Manager Dave Roy W4DNA, Assistant Section Managers Tim Slay N4IB and Bill Morine N2COP, and Section Manager Karl Bowman W4CHX. Also thanks to the Charlotte Hamfest Committee for providing the booth free of charge.

Personally, I can take no credit in this great showing in Charlotte. I will say I am proud and privileged to be associated with such a fine group and was pleased to see everyone in Charlotte.

For more info on NTS, go to <http://arrl.org/nts> or see me.



Welcome to The National Traffic System North Carolina Section



Learn how to move traffic in a Formal Net Structure.

(Informal discussions permitted following each net.)

Meeting Daily (All Times Local)

HF Nets:

North Carolina Morning Net	0745	3927 KHz
North Carolina Evening Net	1830	3923 KHz
Carolinas Net (Early)	1900	3573 KHz (7114 KHz Summer)
Carolinas Slow Net	2000	3571 KHz
Carolinas Net (Late)	2200	3573 KHz

VHF Nets:

Southeastern NC Traffic Net	2000	147.045 (+)	No Tone
Eastern NC Traffic Net	2030	146.685 (-)	82.5 Tone
Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net	2100	146.880 (-)	No Tone
Central NC Traffic Net	2130	146.820 (-)	94.8 Tone



New Member Profile Marty Bumgarner KM4IOU

I am 45 and live in Dudley Shoals area of Caldwell County. My beautiful wife, Lisa, and I have been married for 22 years. We have two children: Scott, 21, who works at Lowe's Hardware in Lenoir, and Tiffany, 20, who works at Bemis of Lenoir.

I work for NC State Highway Patrol, starting in 2009 as a Patrol Telecommunicator and in 2011 I transferred to the VIPER division, where I am a Facilities maintenance Coordinator,. Basically I am responsible for maintaining (buildings, grounds, security of sites, access roads, weed & bug control, etc.). My VIPER sites are west of Durham. Approx. 120 sites with more to come.

I also work for Bumgarner Septic Tank, a family owned business that started in 1961 by my Dad. I pump, install, repair, and inspect septic tank systems, operate heavy equipment and anything else that needs done on the weekends. I usually relieve the guys so they get the weekends off work.

My interests include being Fire Captain at Grace Chapel Fire Department, which I joined in 1987. I have held the positions of Lieutenant, Safety Officer, & Training Captain. As Training Captain, I implemented and delivered the Caldwell County Rookie School that starts January of each year. I hosted and taught this program for 6 years. In 2012, I turned this program over to Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute where it is still doing well.

In 2013, I was recognized by my peers at the Caldwell County Fire & Safety Festival for Fire and Injury safety programs developed and executed by Grace Chapel Fire Dept. in Caldwell and surrounding Counties.

I joined the NC Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NCFFF) in 2012 where I help the families and departments of Fallen Firefighters in western NC upon request of the NCFFF.

My work with the Fire Department has left little time for hobbies. In 2014 I took a break from the FD due to burnout. My plan is to find something else to occupy my time and I hope to make amateur radio my hobby.



Currently, my interest in amateur radio leans to digital and emergency communications. Due to my job at VIPER and my service in emergency services, I hope to better understand radio communications. For now I know you push the PTT button and someone answers you.

I was a 911 Dispatcher for Caldwell County Sheriff's Office from 1994 till 2005 full and part time. I also was a patrol Officer for Granite Falls Police Department from 2002 to 2007. Radio communications is an important part of emergency services.

In my exposure to radio communications, dispatching has been my most fun experience. So far what has been your most fun radio experience. As a user, not having service probably is my worst experience. I hope to learn and build my radio "shack" sometime in the future. As of right now, I don't know enough about what is my best fit.



LARC To Support Hibriten Hill Run



The Lenoir Amateur Radio Club will provide communications support for the 4th Annual Hibriten Hill Run for the Children on Saturday, April 18, 2015. The Run is a charity event and all proceeds benefit Communities In Schools in Caldwell County by helping students learn, stay in school, and be prepared for a 21st Century education.



The Run begins at 9:00 AM (Run Day Registration begins at 8:00 AM) and is a 3.6 miles, 1,000 feet elevation gain up Hibriten Mountain.

Ted KF4FLY is coordinating communications support. **To volunteer, contact Ted.** In addition to a LARC club activity, this event will serve as a practice for the CARES members and will use ICS protocols.

From The March Meeting



Attendees.

Tanner KK4SZI,
Tom KA4HKK,
Josh N4JDE,
Susan N4OJN,
James N4NIN,
Ro K4HRM,
Scott KC4SWL,
Will WB4Y,
Michelle
KD4YTU, David
K3DW, Benson

NE4W, Ted KF4FLY, Warren WU3Y, Irv W4IWK, Phil KG4BCC, Jeet KK4CCA, and Marty KM4IOU.

Program: Tanner KK4SZI provided a “how to” build a Go Kit. He explained his Go Kit equipment and operating setup as well as provided schematics and website information for building a “to go kit”.

Membership. Application for membership for Gary Schwartz K30S and Marty Bumgarner KM4IOU were approved.

Communications Trailer. James N4NIN reported that cabinet work is underway and lots of sanding and painting is needed

Antenna Trailer. No activity

Repeater. Phil KG4BCC is still looking for tower climber.

Storage for Trailers. Continuing to search for a place to store both trailers undercover.

Public Service. License exams set for March 21 at Foothills Community Workshop and at Catawba Valley Hamfest on April 18. Tom KA4HKK to coordinate Catawba Valley Hamfest scheduled April 17-18. Ted KF4FLY to coordinate Hibriten Hill Run scheduled for April 18. Coordinators needed for Cycle To Serve scheduled for May 9 and NC Blackberry Festival scheduled for July 11. Tom to coordinate Field Day 2015. Approved door prizes for Catawba Valley Hamfest. Approved Club purchase LARC yard signs for public service events.

LARC Apparel. Josh N4JDE to investigate logo apparel for Club events.

Friday Breakfast. Anyone interested in informal radio talk, join the LARC group for breakfast each Friday morning at 7:00 AM at the Subway, 845 Blowing Rock Blvd, Lenoir.

Next Meeting Program. VIPER Training at Caldwell EOC. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. with possible 9-1-1 tour at 5:30.

ARES Meeting. Updated contact information.





Radio + Hair Dryer = Fire Hazard

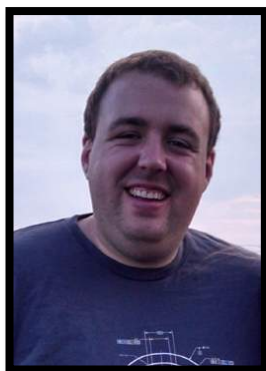
Will WB4Y reports he recently decided to check RMS express for any messages. As it began transmitting its short connect request to the remote station, he heard a loud buzzing in the bathroom consistent with each transmit period. He knew it was caused by the radio but didn't know what it was. After shutting down the radio and investigating, he found it was the GFCI of the hair blow dryer plugged in the wall. It was hot and smelling bad. Will plugged in another hair blow dryer with a GFCI and it had no issue. The one he smoked was a cheap one. This could be dangerous.

Go to the following Internet article to see exactly what happened.

<http://www.wired.com/2014/08/this-hackers-radio-can-fry-your-hair-dryer/>

The person reporting had it first happen just using a hand held radio. For the demo a directional antennal was used.

LARC 2015 Officers



Tanner Greer
President
KK4SZI



Tom Land
Vice President
KA4HKK



Josh Edwards
Secretary
NAJDE



Phil Crump
Treasurer
KG4BCC

Send comments concerning the LARC NEWSLETTER
to hrmaddox@nettally.com

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