



News & Views

of the

Lenoir Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 3276, Lenoir, NC 28645 <http://lenoir-arc.org> November 2012

Serving Amateur Radio in Caldwell County



President's Column

Where has the time gone? I can't believe it is already time to start looking in the Ham Radio Christmas wish book! Do you have your wish list made out yet?

At the October meeting nominations were made for the club officers for 2013. Nominations are: President: Ted Manuel, Phillip Crump, and Buck McDaniel
Vice President: Scott Livingston, Clayton Crump, Michelle Suddreth, and Buck McDaniel

Secretary: Ted Manuel, Phillip Crump, Michelle Suddreth, and Buck McDaniel
Treasurer: Warren Gruber, Phillip Crump, and Michelle Suddreth

Voting will be held during the November meeting.

For those of you that receive the ARRL letter you've probably already read the following article detailing how ham radio is once again the means of communications "when all else fails." Although HF phone also failed to get the word out, Winlink came through and help came shortly after. . . . well read the following article and see for yourself. BTW a few of us are tinkering with Winlink and we'd like for you to help us learn more about it. See Tom Land, Irv Kanode or myself; if you're already looking into it, let us know.

FROM THE ARRL LETTER; November 1, 2012

+ Robin Walbridge, KD4OHZ, Missing at Sea after Sinking of Tall Ship *Bounty*; Ship's Electrician Doug Faunt, N6TQS, Rescued

Every DXer knows the story of the HMS *Bounty* and Pitcairn Island, VP6: In 1789, the HMS *Bounty* -- a small three-masted sailing vessel sent by Britain's Royal Navy to the Pacific on a supply expedition -- was roiled by tension between its crew and its captain, William Bligh. After landing in Tahiti and taking on a cargo of breadfruit, the *Bounty* set sail for the West Indies; it never reached that destination. Instead, Master's Mate Fletcher Christian led the men in a mutiny, eventually allowing Bligh and his loyalists to sail off in a longboat. After an arduous journey, they reached safety at the Dutch-owned port of Kupang. Christian and his followers ended up on Pitcairn Island where they burned the *Bounty* and settled on the island. Passing ships did not discover the enclave until after the turn of the century.



Bounty Captain Robin Walbridge, KD4OHZ, is presumed lost at sea.

and ARRL Life Member, he was part of the FO0AAA DXpedition crew in 2000 to Clipperton Island. He was also a member of the VP6DIA DXpedition to Ducie Island, and in 2007, he was part of the DXpedition to Lakshadweep. According to Spud Roscoe, VE1BC, Faunt had satellite communications equipment and *Winlink* capabilities on board the *Bounty*, but he was not the ship's radio officer. "Sailing on replica ships was a hobby of Doug's," Roscoe told the ARRL. "He had previously sailed across the Great Australian Bight on a replica of the *HMB Endeavour*, Captain Cook's ship. He was an able seaman of the watch." Roscoe was the radio officer on the replica *Bounty* for its original voyage to France in 1962.



Doug Faunt, N6TQS, served as a deckhand and electrician on the *Bounty*. He, along with 13 others, was rescued by the US Coast Guard.

The vessel left Connecticut on Thursday, October 25 with a crew of 11 men and five women, ranging in age from 20-66. After being treated at a hospital in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, Faunt arrived back home in California on Wednesday, October 31. "I'm looking for a new boat to sail and a DXpedition to go on," Faunt told the ARRL. "Ham radio got me into my position on the *Bounty*, and ham radio got me out alive!"

On Monday, October 29, a replica of the *Bounty* -- built in 1960 for a remake of the 1962 film *Mutiny on the Bounty* -- sank off the coast of North Carolina as Hurricane Sandy made its way toward New Jersey. Of its 16 crew members, 14 were rescued by the US Coast Guard. *Bounty* Captain Robin Walbridge, KD4OHZ, never made it to one of the two deployed life rafts and is presumed dead. Claudene Christian, who claimed to be a direct descendant of Fletcher Christian, was unresponsive and passed away at a North Carolina hospital on Monday evening.

Doug Faunt, N6TQS, of Oakland, California, was one of the 14 who was rescued by the Coast Guard; Faunt served as a deckhand and was also the ship's electrician. A noted DXer

Faunt told the ARRL that the *Bounty* crew tried various methods, including a satellite phone, to call for help, "but we got nothing when tried calling out on HF. We tried calling the Maritime Mobile Net, but nothing was out there. We had *Winlink* on the ship that we used for e-mail and accessing the Internet to post to blogs and to Facebook, and we finally found an e-mail address for the Coast Guard. As a last-ditch effort, we used *Winlink* to e-mail the Coast Guard for help. Within an hour, we heard a C-130 plane, and later, a helicopter overhead." According to Faunt, it was Walbridge, as master of the ship, who sent out the distress messages.

"I don't know how I made it off the ship," Faunt recalled. "I had finished serving a long watch, and then we started going down. I was exhausted. I had to swim to get to the life raft.

The water was full of rigging, and here I am, in my Gumby

suit, trying to swim. It was so difficult. While swimming to the raft, I came up for air and a spar was coming at me. I finally found a raft and tried to climb into it, but I almost didn't make it, tired as I was. Through the help of my shipmates who were already aboard the raft, I got on." The two life rafts were out about 100 miles from shore when they were rescued.

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Reprinted from ARRL newsletter dated November 1, 2012

Well, once again I won't be able to make the meeting Thursday night but I hope to see you all sometime around the Christmas eating meeting.

73 Scott KC4SWL

Editor's Column



Michelle - KD4YTU

Greetings. I enjoyed the extra hour of sleep Saturday night. Too bad that it gets taken away again in the Spring. With the passage of the cross-quarter day (aka Halloween), it is starting to seem more like Winter, with the earlier dark.

I had several friends in NJ affected by Hurricane Sandy. They are ok but there was much property loss in the area. It just goes to show just how dependent we are on the existing Infrastructure. Power, phone, Internet, cable, and cellphones were all out in many of the affected areas. Even those with generators found it problematic to find gas.

I attended the Western ARES meeting at WPCC on Oct. 27. There were around 40 there from various ARES branches in the western region. There is still a big push for Winlink use in emergencies, but the backbone is using MARS frequencies. Since MARS is channelized, the stations can be automatic. The other big item is that ARES is losing importance as a distinct entity. ARES, RACES, MARS, REACT and non-affiliated operators are being treated as part of AUXCOMM which is a national emergency communications organization. The major requirements for AUXCOMM is completion of the NIMS training (100, 200, 700, 800). This does not mean that Amateur Radio is un-important, just that to be deployed, the training is what is important, not the organization.

The Fright Night at Foothills Community Workshop went well, with around 120 visitors attending sometime during the 3 nights. It was great for a first attempt and we are already planning next year. FCW is having an open house and visit with Santa on Saturday, December 15. There will be free pictures of kids sitting with Santa in the sleigh.

FCW also has VE exams scheduled for Saturday, November 17 at noon. All levels will be offered and anyone wishing to obtain or upgrade an Amateur Radio license is welcome. There will be a Q & A session for Ham topics on Saturday, Nov. 10 at noon.

Don't forget LARC elections this Thursday.

Until next time, 73,

Michelle – KD4YTU

For Sale

Nice looking and good working original Icom IC-706 transceiver (receive does not work on 2mtrs but transmit is fine). Complete with mic and power cord as well as original manual. \$450.00

Antenna mast receivers: screw auger screws into the ground holding various size antenna poles. \$25.00 each

Very nice Zenith Transoceanic T600 shortwave receiver. Cabinet and covering in very good shape. Complete with original manual, and operating guide. Needs filter caps replaced. \$125.00

Rigblaster Plus. I've had this a while but never hooked it up. Complete as purchased. \$75.00

If you're interested in any of this stuff give me a call or send me an email. I will make pictures of any or all of it. 73 Scott 828-758-4735 or bscout@charter.net



LARC Meeting - Thursday November 8 @ 7PM
Gamewell Fire Department
Bring a friend



VE Exams
VE Exams will be given at Foothills Community Workshop in
Granite Falls on Saturday, November 17 @ 12 noon
All levels will be available.
<http://foothillscommunityworkshop.org>

2012 LARC Officers



President
Scott Livingston
KC4SWL



Vice-President
Jerry Gragg
AD4JG



Secretary
Susan Bradshaw
N4OJN



Treasurer
James Bradshaw
N4NIN

Events

Ares Net – Each Sunday @ 8:30 on 147.33

Contests

Nov 10 – HF, 6m – Kentucky QSO Party
Nov 17 – HF – ARRL Nov Sweepstakes
Nov 19 – HF – CQ WW CW contest

For more information see

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/#corral>

Hamfests

Major hamfests are over for the season