

Lenoir Amateur Radio Club

Lenoir, North Carolina

"Dedicated to Public Service"



KF4WOD

News & Views

Volume 1 Number 4

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Published Monthly

GENERAL:

The last issue of the LARC Newsletter was prepared using Print Shop 20.0 and was intended to be transmitted to you as an Adobe Acrobat formatted (pdf) file. Unfortunately, the Acrobat file created turned out to be a whopping 29.6 MB file...much too large to transmit as an attachment to an email! Next, with Gary's help, the .pdf file (August newsletter) was placed on his server, which allowed you to view same online...but with slow, mediocre results. Starting with this month (September), the newsletter will be "published-to-the-web" directly from within Print Shop without using Acrobat at all. Much better, don't you agree?

Happenings!



It's that time again! The annual Bridge-to-Bridge Bike Ride will be held on **September 19, 2004**. Volunteers are still needed to man the many positions for communications slots! See Tom Land, KA4HKK, at the upcoming club meeting for more information.

Upcoming Events

The next scheduled meeting of the Lenoir ARC is set for **September 9th (Thursday), 7PM**, at the Caldwell County Public Library. See ya there!

The granddaddy of them all, the **SHELBY Hamfest**, will be held on September 4th and 5th this year.

The 5th annual **Ten-Tec Hamfest** will be held at the Ten-Tec facility in Sevierville, TN on Friday Sept 24 and Saturday Sept. 25 for 2004.

Net-working

The Caldwell Amateur Radio Emergency Services (CARES) Net is called every Sunday Night at 8:30 PM on the 147.33 (Hibriten) repeater. This is a formal directed net and is sponsored by the ARES. Its' purpose is to train, and keep in readiness, a pool of qualified emergency radio operators in the event of a local and/or regional emergency. Net checkins will be called by alpha groups and, unless you check in & out, you will be called again during the informal portion to offer any comments, etc. The 147.33 repeater has a tone of 104.3.



Digitally Speaking

After discussing with the Newsletter editor, I will endeavor to provide a Digital and/or Satellite column in this space.. Should you have any questions and/or requests, please let me know!

Do you own a TNC, computer, and a 2-meter radio? If so, then you can work APRS! In the interim, please visit the following websites for more information:

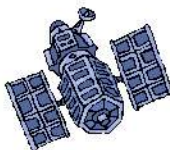
<http://4wyk.com> and
<http://www.tapr.org>

73, Rick, N4WYK

?? Did you know... ??

"Radio echoes helped to win the Battle of Britain. Using a radio-echo principle-radar-the outnumbered Royal Air Force always seemed to the puzzled Nazi pilots to be lying in wait at the right time and never be surprised." (Reprinted from Isaac Asimov's Book of Facts, 1981 Ed., Pg. 270).

GPS



GPS (global positioning system) units are fast becoming a way of life. Many auto manufacturers are now offering "OnStar" (see last month's editorial!) and the price of small handheld units are now competitively priced in the \$100-\$150 range. In addition, the Motorola cellphone, Model V-60X, has a built-in GPS (call 911 and you can be pinpointed to within 300 yards)...much better than the older "nearest tower" concept which could be up to 10 miles distant!

New Car-Jacking Scheme!

Imagine: You walk across the parking lot, unlock your car, start your engine and shift into reverse...only to see in your rear-view mirror a piece of paper stuck to the middle of the rear window. Shifting into Park, you unlock the doors, exit the car, engine running, to remove that paper. When you reach the back of car, the car-jacker appears from nowhere, jumps into your car and takes off! He then has your car and probably your house keys! (Submitted by Bill, KG4GSV)

Snail Mail

Our Mailing address is: Lenoir Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3276, Lenoir, NC, 28645.

Speaking of Addresses...

The LARC now has a brand-new web domain identity - thanks to Gary, KD4YTU! He has secured for us the domain address of Lenoir-ARC.org (and .net) . Gary will set up a number of email addresses using this domain and later will host our very own website on his server free of charge! Additionally, this newsletter will be available on the website for viewing and/or printing simply by clicking on one of the several "tabs". Work will begin shortly on the design and implementation of the new website!!

ARRL Affiliation

Tom, KA4HKK, has submitted our application to become, once again, an ARRL-affiliated club. He was able to do this via email.

New (?) Members

No new members were inducted at the August meeting and no visitors were present at the meeting.

Please note!

The editor reserves the right to edit and/or paraphrase articles or "news" submitted for inclusion into the LARC newsletter due to time and/or space constraints. Submit articles, etc. to Jim, N4EUX, at bozo38@charter.net. tnx!

Editor's Desk



This issue of the newsletter is coming to you a bit earlier this month, since the day of the month (5th) that I try to get the newsletter posted on the server will find me viewing the nurse inventory at Baptist Hospital in Winston following a planned "abdominal aneurism endograft by-pass surgery" procedure on the 3rd of September.

No, don't get alarmed, the "member" profiles which are due later, will not be nearly as extensive as the "club officers" profile. Hi Hi. The *member* profiles will have a present-day snapshot with, perhaps, a hamshack photo (either early, present-day, or both), and a brief history of their

President's Corner

Looking back...during the 1991 Bike Ride, we had 31 volunteers and we passed approx. 270 pieces of traffic—mostly rider positions, minor injuries, breakdowns, rider pick-up, and needed supplies. A hunt for the Water Buffalo found the driver dozing beneath a large tree slightly off the trail during the '91 Bike Ride. First to cross the Finish Line atop Grandfather Mtn. was George Mayer at 12:10 PM (103 miles in 5 hours, 10 minutes! Wow!).

-Tom Land, KA4HKK.



Keep those comments, photos and info coming in!

From the history archives...

From the August '86 newsletter (entitled "Lenoir Amateur Radio Newsletter" -after it was adopted as the official newsletter of the LARC but before it was renamed as the "News and Views"), it was reported that we had 31 paid-up members according to the attached member roster. In the same issue, it was noted that James Bradshaw, N4NIN, moved to Advanced Class (now Extra Class) and Susan Bradshaw, N4OJN (formerly KB4SFY), moved to Technician Class (now Tech Plus) as a result of standing for examinations on May 31, 1986 at Valdese, NC.

Vintage Equipment

(Each month, a brief spotlight will appear here on equipment you may have seen at hamfest swap tables. This month it is the humble Heathkit DX-35).

The DX-35, ca. 1950's, was a CW/AM kit-built transmitter with the Novice in mind! Running 35 watts, the rig belted out a fairly good signal on 5 bands. After receiving his/her General ticket, the owner could move up to AM transmissions on the AM phone bands (SSB was around-but was not popular at the time!). Low in cost and simple to build, the DX-35 can still put out a decent signal on CW! When found at a swapfest table, you can expect them to be in the \$65-\$85 range if in good condition.



About your club officers:

Spotlight on...Jim, N4EUX, Newsletter Editor



ca. 1944



1957



1959



1975



1982



Present

Born in Vernon, Texas in 1938, Jim lived for the first 18 years of his life in that state, joining the USAF in 1957. The Air Force felt that South Carolina was the place for him to be...and promptly assigned him to Donaldson AFB in Greenville, SC as an Administrative Specialist, where he remained throughout his service career.

In 1961, after serving four years in the military, Jim was honorably discharged. Since he had married a Greenville, SC resident in 1958, he decided to make SC his permanent home rather than returning to Texas. He remained in SC for the next 20 years until he remarried (Ruby Rogers) in 1982...moving to Lenoir early that year. A Son, Steve, N4TTB, (Greenville, SC), stays in touch via 2-meters and cellphone in spite of his busy schedule as a certified computer Customer Service Engineer and running his own firm, iCompuTec, Inc.

During the years 1968-1975, Jim served with the Greenville Police Department, attaining the rank of Master Patrolman. One night, while his partner was

off and he was riding alone, he made another career-changing decision...to leave the field of Law Enforcement, a field he loved, due to its "dead-end" prospects for advancement (someone had to die or retire to move up the ladder).

Never looking back, Jim tried several shorter-term vocations after leaving law enforcement, i.e., real estate sales (4 years), insurance sales (2 years), and as an electronics field sales rep for a local Greenville firm. It was during the latter that, while on his swing up through his NC territory, he met Ruby, KA4CLI, on 2-meters. The rest is history-she still keeps him in check!

For a number of years, Jim taught Basic Electronics at Caldwell Community College, on a part-time basis, through the Continuing Education Department. The Basic Electronics class allowed him to teach Amateur Radio (both theory and morse code). Many of Lenoir's present hams received their Novice Class ham tickets through these classes!

After moving to Lenoir, Jim ultimately attended ASU and received his B.S. degree in Computer Informations Systems in 1991. He retired due to medical reasons from Catawba County (Department of Social Services) as a Computer Programmer/Analyst in 2001.

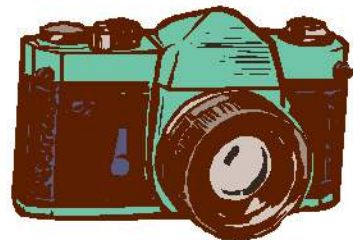
Tradin' Post

(No items listed for this department for this issue of the newsletter).

While not a *Tradin' Post* item and out of room...This just in...Tom informs us that there will be a *spaghetti supper* at the Lenoir Mall between 3 PM and 6:30 PM on the day before the Bike Ride (Saturday). The Bike Ride Officials need an estimate on the number of LARC members that want to attend...so you need to email Tom, KA4HKK, ASAP so he can advise the Rde Official. The meal is free to volunteers and riders...all else pays \$5.00!

If you would like to list an item (FOR SALE, WANTED, SWAP, etc.) in the next newsletter, please email your copy to the editor, Jim Rogers, N4EUX, at email address: bozo38@charter.net by the 5th day of September. Thanks! -Ed

Rambling 'Round, Tidbits and Parting shots...



If you think you have seen a wild animal on the loose in-and-around Lenoir recently, don't fret...it is just Ted's (KF4FLY) zebra coated Jeep Wrangler (dubbed by this editor as "*Wild Thang!*"). These photo's were taken during the "meeting-after-the- meeting" in the parking lot (natch!). Ted's 1990 YJ Wrangler can usually be seen sprinting down Hwy 321 each morning and evening on his way to and fro work in Hickory.



The YJ Wrangler sports a 4.2 liter straight-six engine with a 3-speed auto transmission and factory air. While Jeeps are poorly balanced for optimal highway performance, the YJ is as agile as a goat in offroad use due, in part, to its' low-end torque. Ted acquired the Jeep from a co-worker in Jan '04 who had had it zebra-painted as an idea taken from a 60's or 70's TV series, *Zoo Parade* (a spinoff from Mutual of Omaha's *Wild Kingdom*). Ted states that, while his Jeep is not a show-vehicle, it always attracts a lot of attention, especially from kids. In fact, his XYL and their two daughters (age 10 and 8), and their family dog prefer riding in the Jeep *in lieu* of his pickup truck or car! On the downside, Ted says the interior noise at highway speeds makes it rather difficult to hear his newly-installed 2-meter rig-but easily correctible with an auxillary speaker on the dash or console.

(A little less dramatic, but equally nice, is James', N4NIN, Jeep [also seen after the club meetings on occasions] and his will be featured next month. Last I heard, these two were talking about going on one of the area's "Jeep Rides" together. -Ed).



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and room to grow...

For quick referral, remove this page and post it near your PC & telephone!