



NOVEMBER 2018

N4LNR

News & Views

P. O. Box 3276
Lenoir, NC

Serving Amateur Radio
In Caldwell County
Since 1986

Coming Events

Volunteers Needed

- Nov 30 Lenoir
Christmas
Parade
- Dec 13 LARC
Eatin' Meetin'
Dirty Santa
Location TBA

Antennas ~ 2019 Officers Election

Venue Change ~ November Meeting

The November 8 LARC meeting will be held at a new venue – **Foothills Community Workshop**, 141 N. Main St., Granite Falls. You will get a chance to tour the new Foothills Community Workshop. There's a ham station, computer workshop, robotics stuff, workshop and laser cutters just for starters. It's a work in progress rebuilding after the Shuford Mills fire destroyed everything. Parking is in the rear.

Gary Schwartz K3OS will present a program on "Antennas - Fact and Fiction." The program will cover both HF and VHF antennas, feedlines and losses, SWR myths, interpreting gain figures, beams and dipoles and more. It will be a down-to-earth discussion, so bring your questions. Gary is a 58-year licensed amateur and had helped quite a number of area hams with antenna problems since becoming a LARC member.

This meeting will feature the election of 2019 LARC Officers. Nominees are: Tom Land KA4HKK, President. Josh Edwards N4JDE, Vice President. Frank Gordon KN4ACU, Secretary. Dick Blumenstein KOCAT, Treasurer. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor during the meeting. Come prepared to vote!

Next LARC Meeting:

Thursday, Nov 8, 7:00 PM
Foothills Community
Workshop
141 N Main St, Granite Falls

LARC Weekly Net:

Friday, 9:00 PM, 146.625
Minus PL 94.8 Alt. 147.330
Plus PL 141.3

Caldwell ARES Net:

Sunday, 9:00 PM,
147.330 Plus PL 141.3

DMR Digital Net:

Tuesday, 8:00 PM
Lenoir Local DMR

Ham Bits & Pieces

The LARC Fox Hunt/Picnic, scheduled for October 20, had to be cancelled due to low participation and a forecast of rain. The forecast was correct! Thanks to **Frank KN4ACU** for planning the event and for having extra snacks for trick or treaters!

John AG4ZL recently resigned the position of President of the Lenoir Amateur Radio Club due to continuing personal and health issues. Tom KA4HKK, Vice President, will assume the duties of President for the remainder of 2018. Those attending the October meeting send their well wishes and thanks to John for his work for the Club and severe weather reporting. John recently had foot surgery and is dealing with complications and pain. We send our well wishes for a quick recovery

Dick K0CAT reports that his wife Jill has begun her chemo treatment. We know that Jill has a tough road for the next 6 months of treatment and send her our well wishes.

Members can access the updated Constitution & Bylaws and the member roster in the Club Info section of the website. The roster is a members only restricted section of the website, so if you are a member and need a password, contact **Ro K4HRM** hrmaddox@nettally.com. Ro will be updating the website over the next few weeks. If you have comments, concern or items you want to see on the website, please contact Ro at the above address.

Interested in weather? What about space weather, how it affects communications? You may want to follow the www.youtube.com channel, **Space Weather Woman**. TamithaSkov, an aerospace engineer, has several great videos on space weather and how it affects us.

For the 13th year, the 3916 Nets (The Rag Chew Crew, The Tailgaters, The Freewheelers) will be presenting **The Santa Net** on 3.916 MHz. Good girls and boys can talk to Santa Claus via amateur radio nightly at 7:30 PM (Central) starting Friday, Nov 23, running nightly through Christmas Eve, Dec 24.

The next **REACT** meeting is Dec 6, 6:30 PM, Caldwell EOC, HHS Bldg. Sign in to enter at back employee entrance. If you are interested in learning more about REACT, consider attending a meeting.

Frank KN4ACU recently completed firefighter training on chainsaw operation. Now, we know whom to call when that tree blows down!

Hibriten Mountain is close to our ham hearts with repeaters supporting our activities and the many years of the Hibriten Hill Run. Recently, **Tom Ka4HKK** shared a copy of the book Mountain Scenery: The Scenery of the Mountains of Western North Carolina and Northwestern South Carolina, by Henry E. Colton, written in 1859. The book includes a breathtakingly beautiful narrative of Hibriten Mountain in Chapter VI. For those who love to wander in the mountains, this book is a must read. The web link is a little tricky, so if you are interested, email the newsletter editor and I will send you the electronic version.



Caldwell ARES/AUXCOMM



Caldwell Dodges Hur. Michael

“**Hurricane Michael** was the third-most intense [Atlantic hurricane](#) to make [landfall](#) in the [contiguous United States](#) in terms of [pressure](#), behind the [1935 Labor Day hurricane](#) and [Hurricane Camille](#) of [1969](#). It was also the strongest storm in terms of [maximum sustained wind speed](#) to strike the contiguous United States since [Andrew](#) in [1992](#). In addition, it was the strongest storm on record in the [Florida Panhandle](#), and was the fourth-strongest land falling hurricane in the contiguous United States, in terms of wind speed.

The thirteenth [named storm](#), seventh [hurricane](#), and second [major hurricane](#) of the [2018 Atlantic hurricane season](#), Michael originated from a broad [low-pressure area](#) that formed in the southwestern [Caribbean Sea](#) on October 2. The disturbance became a tropical depression on October 7, after nearly a week of slow development. By the next day, Michael had intensified into a hurricane near the [western tip](#) of [Cuba](#), as it moved northward. The hurricane strengthened rapidly in the [Gulf of Mexico](#), reaching major hurricane status on October 9, peaking as a high-end Category 4 hurricane on the [Saffir–Simpson scale](#). Approaching the Florida Panhandle, Michael attained [peak winds](#) of 155 mph (250 km/h) as it made [landfall](#) near [Mexico Beach, Florida](#), on October 10, becoming the first to do so in the region as a [Category 4 hurricane](#), and making landfall as the strongest storm of the season. As it moved inland, the storm weakened and began to take a northeastward trajectory toward [Chesapeake Bay](#), weakening to a [tropical storm](#) over [Georgia](#), and transitioning into an [extratropical cyclone](#) off the coast of the [Mid-Atlantic states](#) on October 12. Michael subsequently strengthened into a powerful extratropical cyclone and eventually impacted the [Iberian Peninsula](#), before dissipating on October 16.”

Source: Wikipedia. Front page photo credit: Master0Garfield.

Members of the Caldwell ARES/AUXCOMM team were anxiously glued to weather reports and testing their gear in the event the projected track into the Carolinas materialized. Several reports of severe weather were received, however, CARES was not activated for this event.

Western Branch Area 12 ARES/AUXCOMM Meeting

The annual meeting of representatives of the county ARES Emergency Coordinators/AUXCOMM Coordinators was held October 27 in Lenoir. Marv Hoffman WA4NC, Assistant District Emergency Coordinator, welcomed attendees and a number of presenters provided updates on the shift from ARES to AUXCOMM in NC Emergency Management, training requirements, use of Winlink and SHARES systems, and expectations for the future.

Greg Hauser W3FIE, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator, has the leadership role in making sure that all agencies within NC AUXCOMM are communicating and working together, including amateur radio, and working with local emergency officials to keep them informed about AUXCOMM and the use of AUXCOMM trained amateur radio operators.

Tom Brown N4TAB, discussed operational security (OPSEC) and the importance of those radio operators assigned to an agency not share any information in any form about their activities. Only the Agency's Public Information Officer is to release information. Also, no pictures are to be taken or distributed. He stated that when assigned to an agency, the radio operator belongs to that agency as long as assigned. He mentioned that the NC EM is heavily involved with Winlink. He went over the privacy aspect of sending email via HF radio - a great desire for served agencies. He also mentioned that the State EOC has a Winlink station operational 24/7 monitored continuously.

Karl Bowman
W4CHX, ARRL
Section
Manager,
discussed the
efforts of ARRL
to revitalize
the ARES
program with
the goal of
more closely
aligning it
with NIMS and
ICS as well as
requiring
additional



training and creating levels for amateur operators to participate in events. He commented that DHS is required to update the NIMS required ICS courses within the next couple years. He mentioned that the new ICS-100 is now available online and suggested hams try to take some AUXCOMM courses being offered by agencies. Karl mentioned the importance of credentials (ham callsign name badges are not credentials) and suggested reading a book Security Mom: An Unclassified Guide to Protecting Our Homeland and Your Home, written by Juliette Kayyem.

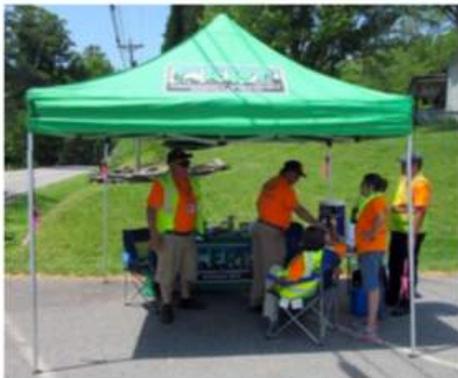
Marv Hoffman, WA4NC discussed "Go Boxes" that will be available to the Western Branch AUXCOMM. These Go Boxes are equipped with a Winlink station that operates on the SHARES frequencies. Each AUXCOMM county jurisdiction will be able to train with these boxes upon request through the EC and DEC. Priority training on these units will be for AUXCOMM members in the database, and there will be an expectation that trained persons make themselves available for deployment.

Over the next few months, the local Caldwell ARES/AUXCOMM team will provide additional information on all the issues discussed at the Area 12 meeting. Additionally, Memorandums of Understandings will be prepared with served agencies as well as some basic operating expectations.

All area hams are encouraged to become involved in emergency communications so that we have a cadre of trained radio operators when Caldwell is in the cone of the next Hur. Florence or Michael. You do not need to be a member of the Lenoir Amateur Radio Club to be a disaster volunteer, however, you do need to be registered in the AUXCOMM database and have the required ICS courses.

Caldwell County REACT/CERT 2018 Overview

Submitted by Shirley Kanode



Our volunteers are committed to our mission which is to **assist the community** during disasters, **educate our residents** about disaster preparedness, and **support our first responders**. 2018 has been a challenge as we have been called into service for all these duties.

We have donated hundreds of hours **assisting our community** during Hurricane Florence, searching for a missing elderly man, and setting up a shelter for Collettesville flooding victims. We staffed 3 aid stations during Cycle to Serve. We serve on the LEPC, Local Emergency Planning Committee.

We have **educated our residents** in various ways. We taught 2 classes at the Caldwell Senior Center, 2 classes at the LDS church, and administered 3 Basic CERT classes, one of which just completed October 25. We added 9 new members from these classes to Caldwell County REACT. We presented to LARC and a neighborhood watch group; taught 50 homeschooled students and their parents about disaster preparedness;



and on November 6 will present a class to Caldwell Insight, a group of 40 blind/visually-impaired individuals. We have met the community and passed out educational material at festivals. We spoke at the NC State CERT Conference as a featured CERT county program.



We **supported our first responders**. Our volunteers directed traffic at Broyhill Center for a firefighter's funeral; we provided moulage artistry on our members to perform as victims in an Active Shooter exercise at a local elementary school; we assisted at the Little River Fire/Rescue Pumpkin Bash Festival; and will assist Caldwell County

Emergency Services during their annual Christmas Toy Drive on December 1.

Caldwell County REACT is proud to serve our community when needed and appreciate our partners in Emergency Services, LARC, Red Cross, and the other organizations that make up the VOAD, the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster.



Upcoming Hamfests: Mark Your Calendar

November 18: **JARSFest**, Johnston Amateur Radio Society, Benson, NC, <http://www.jars.net>

January 5: **Winston-Salem FirstFest**, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Winston-Salem, NC
<http://W4NC.com>

March 8: **North Carolina Section Convention/Charlotte Hamfest**, Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, Concord, NC <http://charlottehamfest.org>

April 20: **North Carolina State Convention/Raleigh Hamfest**, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Raleigh, NC <http://rarsfest.org>

What Do You Want In 2019?

With the election of a new slate of officers for 2019 comes the planning for activities and events. In what direction do you want the Club to go in 2019? Start thinking now so you can have your ideas before the officers at their January planning meeting.

LARC 2018 Officers



John Crowe
President
AG4ZL



Tom Land
Vice President
KA4HKK



Frank Gordon
Secretary
KN4ACU



Dick Blumenstein
Treasurer
KOCAT

Send comments concerning the LARC NEWSLETTER to Ro K4HRM hrmaddox@nettally.com

Suggestions and articles are appreciated.

To unsubscribe from the Newsletter, send an email to the above address.