

IREDELL WIRELESS

Newsletter

W4SNC 146.685- Repeater

Published monthly as a service to the Iredell County Amateur Radio Community
By the Iredell County Amateur Radio Society (ICARS)
P.O. Box 142 Statesville NC 28687

www.w4snc.org
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President: Rick McClure, [KE4TEP](#)~~Vice-President, Dennis White [N4WHK](#)
Secretary: Jim Hoke, [W4ONS](#)~~Treasurer: John Lamson, [WB4WRY](#)
Members-at-Large: Don Summers, [W4DON](#)~~Tim Misenheimer, [KC4MJC](#)

Wireless Editor, Tim Misenheimer [KC4MJC](#)

JULY 2008

This month's Meeting will be held at Julia's Tally House. Thursday July 10, 2008. Come early (6:30PM) and eat or rag chew. The Meeting Starts at 7:00 PM. *All ICARS members and Families are encouraged to attend!*

Iredell County Amateur Radio Society Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2008

The Iredell County Amateur Radio Society met at Julia's Tally House for the regular monthly meeting. President Rick McClure, KE4TEP called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and asked everyone to introduce themselves. There were fifteen (15) attending – twelve (12) members and three (3) visitors.

Minutes – A motion to approve the May 8, 2008 minutes as published was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer, John WB4WRY presented and submitted a written report dated June 10, 2008.

Beginning Balance.....	\$691.80
Deposits...Dues.....	\$62.00
Checks written...First United Methodist Church, Ouida Watts Memorial...	\$25.00
Post Office Box, Rent.....	\$40.00
Don Summers, Repeater antenna mounting supplies.....	\$31.50
Joe Binkley, Tower Climbing,	\$200.00
Joe Binkley, Tower Climbing.....	\$100.00
Ending Balance.....	\$357.30

Technical – Don W4DON reported that the repeater antenna and pig tail have been replaced by a professional tower climber that was doing tower work for WSIC.

In order to evaluate the performance of the new antenna, it is proposed that the next Wednesday night net will be called on 146.685 simplex by W4DON and KE4TEP from the repeater site. The transmission line from the repeater antenna will be connected directly to a transceiver. The net will be called as usual, but they will make a note of the location, signal strength and type of equipment used by each participant.

The proposal to install a voter system to improve repeater coverage was discussed briefly. Suitable receivers have been purchased and tested. A northern site and a southern site for the receivers are being proposed. Phone lines will be used to interconnect the equipment.

Emergency Preparedness – Dennis N4WHK reported that ARES held a meeting last week and has two new members.

Each year, the James Cash Penney Award for Community Service recognizes active and retired J. C. Penney Associates for their volunteer work in the community. Dennis White, as a recipient of the 2007 award, has selected ICARS to receive a gift of \$250 for ICARS. This contribution is to be earmarked for the use of ARES. Dennis stated that some of this will be used for the ICARS repeater fund.

Field Day – Dennis reported that everything is on schedule. He is attempting to get newspaper coverage and web coverage. Billy Buck has said he would be pleased to interview someone for airing on WSIC. Rick stated that he would volunteer to be interviewed.

It was pointed out that we need all the manpower we can get for set up and operation of the equipment. Set up can begin as early as 2:00 PM Friday according to the rules. Five laptops are available and additional can be obtained if needed.

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 10, 2008 at Julia's Tally House at 7:00 PM. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Secretary Jim Hoke, CPBE, W4ONS

FIELD DAY 2008

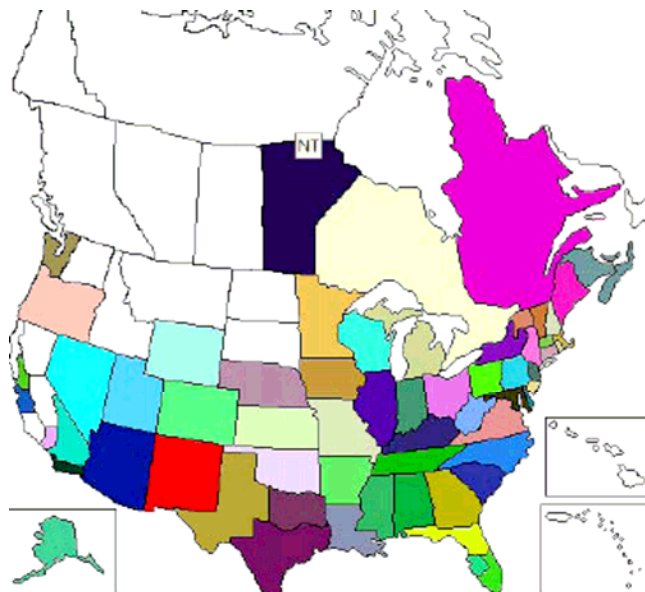
Evidently there is a well kept secret in Iredell County!! Evidently Iredell County residents are comfortable with their cell phones and email as a source of communication. I was fortunate enough to witness a group of dedicated radio operators utilize their expertise and talent during the recent Field Day operation. I wish to thank everyone that participated in the Field Day operation. I know that I feel better knowing there is a dedicated group of people willing to serve in the public interest. Again, thanks to all for making this event such a success.

Rick McClure
 410 Beverly Road
 Statesville NC 28625

	CW		Digital		Phone	
	QSO	Power	QSO	Power	QSO	Power
160	0	150	0	150	0	150
80	0	150	0	150	91	150
40	205	150	0	150	55	150
20	0	150	0	150	242	150
15	0	150	0	150	16	150
10	0	150	0	150	0	150
6	0	150	0	150	0	150
2	0	150	0	150	0	150
1.25	0	150	0	150	0	150
70	0	150	0	150	0	150
33	0	150	0	150	0	150
23	0	150	0	150	0	150
GOTA	0	150	0	150	0	150
Totals	205	CW	0	Dig	404	Phone

Total points claimed 1628 + 780 bonus points claimed = 2408 total score. Score might change when ARRL post's it.

As you can see, we did quite well considering the storms. Almost got WAS!!



TIMES ONLINE

From The Times

July 1, 2008

SOS: the signal that has saved thousands turns 100

Fran Yeoman

“Send SOS,” one of the *Titanic*’s radio operators supposedly said to another after the famous ship struck that infamous iceberg. “It’s the new call and besides this may be your last chance to send it.”

That “new call” is 100 years old today, and people around the world who owe their lives to that piece of Morse code may reflect this morning on its importance.

In the past century, “SOS” has become a firm part of popular culture used in everything from DIY programme titles to Abba hits. But it began life in a far more serious setting after being adopted by the international community on July 1, 1908, as the globally recognised distress signal for ships at sea.

At that time voices could not yet be carried across the airwaves and sailors needed a standard means of saying, in Morse code, that they were in trouble.

Until then, the most commonly used distress call was the “CQD” signal, which was open to misinterpretation. After much deliberation, SOS was chosen to replace it because the signal – three dots, three dashes and three more dots – is such a clear message to send in Morse code.

There was some early success for the new system a year later when the Cunard liner the *SS Slavonia* was stricken off the Azores. She sent out an SOS and not a single life was lost.

Even so, not everybody was convinced instantly, and it took the tragedy of the *Titanic* to reveal just how vital a universal system was. After the collision in April 1912, the ship’s radio operators sent out both the old CQD and the new SOS signals, but some ships in the area ignored both, thinking that they were having a party. They soon learnt otherwise, as international headlines told how Jack Phillips, the *Titanic*’s first radio operator, and 1,500 others had been lost along with the “unsinkable” ship. The new SOS distress signal was rarely ignored after that.

Of course, technology has moved on dramatically since 1908 and only very occasionally are the telltale dots and dashes that have saved countless lives employed today.

[In the Times Archive: on July 2, 1909 wireless telegraphy saved the Cunard liner Slavonia](#)



It took the tragedy of the *Titanic* to reveal just how vital an universal distress system was

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Formal Message Handling Class

A formal class on formal message handling is being planned in future for new ICARS and new ARES members and anyone that needs a refresher course on same. **Date and time will be announced.**

Formal Class for new members will be limited to 10 persons. Those that need a refresher course may audit class but not participate in session. Training is a two-way thing not a lecture and therefore number of trainees are limited for sake of time.

Day: Probably a Saturday 0800 – 1200 L

Time period: Plan on 4 hours depending number in class.

Where: Probably at Red Cross Bldg. on Davie Ave. Statesville.

Food allowed in classroom: No.

Beverage allowed in classroom: Yes.

Bring note pad and pencil with an eraser. **NO INK PENS.**

Trainees will be provided a **Manual** based on the training received.

This training is mandantory for ARES members.

More info will follow in coming months.

@ ICARS & Iredell County ARES

I C A R S
 FM and HF Nets
 2008
July

Net Manager: W4DON

2m FM NET 2100 L 146.685		10m CW Net 2000 L 28.150		10m SSB Net 2100 L 28.468	
Date	NCS	Date	NCS	Date	NCS
2	KC4MJC	5	W4DON	5	KC4MJC
9	KE4TEP	12	WB4WRY	12	N4ACF
16	KE4TEP	19	WB4WRY	19	W4DON
23	KC4MJC	26	WB4WRY	26	KE4TEP
30	N4ACF				

Thanks for volunteering for NCS

Call your Net on time
 If you're unable to call your Net find a replacement NCS
 NCS please give a 5 minute notice before net time.

ARES Training Net each Monday at 2100 L

ICARS was organized on September 9, 1976
 Nets have been running since 1977

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