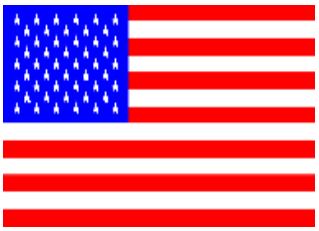


IREDELL WIRELESS

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

October 2010

This month's Meeting will be held at Julia's Tally House. October 14, 2010. 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!

ICARS Website

www.w4snc.org

President:Donald Summers, W4DON~~Vice-President:Jim Hoke, W4ONS
Secretary:Tim Misenheimer, KC4MJC~~Treasurer:John Lamson, WB4WRY
Members-at-Large:Howard Hecht,W1HO~~Greg Cason, KJ4ENR

Wireless Editor, Tim Misenheimer KC4MJC

Iredell Wireless submission cut off date is the first Thursday of each month.

Iredell County Amateur Radio Society

September 9 2010 Meeting Minutes

For the October 14 2010 ICARS Meeting

The Iredell County Amateur Radio society met at Julia's Tally House for the regular monthly meeting. President Don Summers, W4DON, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 10 members and 4 guest's present.

Minutes – Don, W4DON asked if everyone had read the minutes as posted in the last Iredell Wireless. Don then asked for a motion to accept the minutes as posted. Motion was made, seconded and approved.

Treasurers Report-John Lamson gave a written report.

Old Business – Don Summers, W4DON read a card of thanks from Sissy Givens, regarding the death of her Mother.

New Business – Don reported on the ICARS Board meeting held on September 3 2010. The main topics of discussion at the board meeting were:

Delinquent Club Members

Qualifications for ICARS Officers

Lack of participation on ICARS Nets

Due to little or no participation on the Saturday CW net, the Board voted to do away with the CW net starting on the first Saturday in October 2010

The Board also voted to move the start time for the Saturday SSB net to 20:30hrs. local time (8:30PM) starting on the first Saturday of October 2010.

Committee Reports:

Membership – None

Society Publications – None

Publicity - Howard W1HO is thinking of sending questioners to prospective members to try to get more interest in ICARS.

Field Day -None

Directory – None

Awards -None

History – All the main ICARS records are electronically backed up on external hard drives and thumb drives.

Audio Visual – None

Emergency Preparedness – Dennis White, N4WHK reported that the Set at the airport will be on Dec 2 2010 5:00 PM. Dick, W3OA, has bought some equipment for another TO-GO Kit. This one will be primarily for digital use. Dennis has also suspended the Monday night ARES FM nets for the time being. Dennis has moved the Iredell County ARES website to this address. **www.iredellares.net** .

Grant Russell, KB3EMT reported to the group his experience helping with a bicycle race in Waynesville. There were several injuries during the race some due to bad weather. Grant said due to the location and terrain that Amateur Radio was the only reliable communication available. He said cell phone use would not have been possible. Grant said their group received a very nice letter of thanks from the town's Chamber of Commerce, for their help and their professionalism in handling the event.

A nominations committee was then formed. The three members are:

Greg Cason, KJ4ENR

Dennis White, N4WHK

Ed Puckett, K4ELP

The meeting was then turned over to Howard Hecht, W1HO, who keep out attention tied up when he presented his hands on demonstration of knots.

Respectfully Submitted

Tim Misenheimer KC4MJC

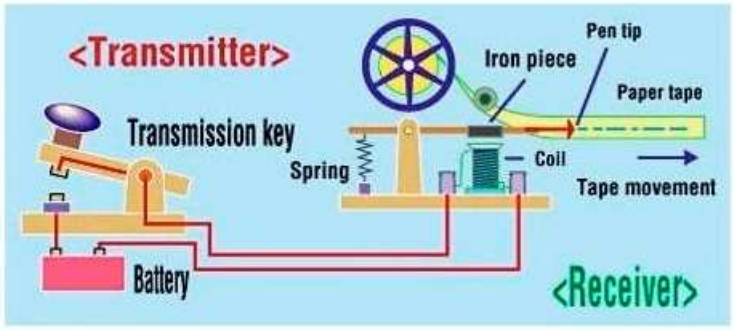
Secretary

Development History compliments of wikipedia.org

Morse Code – *Why did dots and dashes come first?* [1]

Beginning in 1836, Samuel F. B. Morse and Alfred Vail developed an electric telegraph, which sent pulses of electrical current to control an electromagnet that was located at the receiving end of the telegraph wire. The technology available at the time made it impossible to print characters in a readable form, so the inventors had to devise an alternate means of communication. In 1837, William Cooke and Charles Wheatstone began operating electric telegraphs in England that also had electromagnets in the receivers; however, their systems used needle pointers that rotated to indicate the alphabetic characters being sent.

In contrast, **Morse and Vail's initial telegraph,** which first went into operation in 1844, made indentations on a paper tape when an electrical current was transmitted. Morse's original telegraph receiver used a mechanical clockwork to move a paper tape. When an electrical current was received, an electromagnet engaged an armature that pushed a stylus onto the moving paper tape, making an indentation on the tape. When the current was interrupted, the electromagnet retracted the stylus, and that portion of the moving tape remained unmarked. See graphic below.



Samuel F. B. Morse and Alfred Vail developed an electric telegraph beginning in 1836 that may have resembled this graphic.

The Morse code was developed so that operators could translate the indentations marked on the paper tape into text messages. In his earliest code, Morse had planned to only transmit numerals, and use a dictionary to look up each word according to the number, which had been sent. However, the code was soon expanded by Alfred Vail to include letters and special characters, so it could be used more generally. The shorter marks were called "dots", and the longer ones "dashes", and the letters most commonly used in the English language were assigned the shortest sequences.

In the original Morse telegraphs, the receiver's armature made a clicking noise as it moved into and out of position to mark the tape. **Operators soon learned to translate the clicks directly into dots and dashes, making it unnecessary to use the paper tape**. When Morse code was adapted to radio, the dots and dashes were sent as short and long pulses. It was later found that people become more proficient at receiving Morse code when it is taught as a language that is heard, instead of one read from a page. To reflect the sound of Morse code, practitioners began to vocalise a dot as "dit", and a dash as "dah". Dots, which are not the final element of a character, became vocalised as "di"; the letter "C" for instance is vocalised as "dah-di-dah-dit".

[1] *Now you know why*. W4DON

Amateur Radio Quiz: Amateur Archaeology

Times change and so does terminology. Some of the old terms were quite colorful and convey a sense of hands-on adventure in those early days of experimentation. You may not consider today's language as evocative, but just wait a few decades to see what future generations think!

1) Which type of component was referred to as a "grid leak"?
a. Capacitor
b. Resistor
c. Inductor
d. This referred to a gassy vacuum tube

2) If you used a "basket weave" style in construction, what did you construct?
a. Transmission line
b. Coil
c. Headphone covers
d. Detector

3) What function was performed by a "slop jar"?
a. Rectification
b. Modulation
c. Storing charge from a grid-leak
d. Filtration

4) What was the earliest type of condenser?
a. Tesla coil
b. Rheostat
c. Leyden jar
d. Voltaic pile

5) What part of early stations was often constructed as a "cage"?
a. Transmitter shield
b. Antenna
c. Entire shack
d. Power supply

6) A "getter" performed what function?
a. Tuning tool
b. Gas adsorption
c. Filament rejuvenation
d. Connections to open-wire transmission line

7) What construction technique was (and still is!) called a "Western Union"?
a. Rack-and-panel enclosures
b. Breadboard and Fahnstock clips
c. Point-to-point
d. Wire splicing

8) What does "TRF" stand for?
a. Tuned Receive Feedback
b. Tuner-Rig-Feeder
c. Tuned Radio Frequency
d. Transmit-Receive Feeder

9) What type of equipment was referred to as a "rush box"?
a. Receiver
b. Transmitter
c. Amplifier
d. Modulator

10) Which of these is *not* a type of oscillator circuit?
a. Hartley
b. Colpitts
c. Lorentz
d. Meissner

Bonus -- What did a "tickler coil" tickle?

Answer each question by circling one letter (a, b, c, or d) that represents your answer. 10 points for each correct answer. Maximum score is 100 points.

Correct answers will be given at the ICARS monthly meeting in September 2010. Bring your answer sheet.

I C A R S
FM and HF Nets
OCTOBER
2 0 1 0

Net Manager: W4DON

2m FM Net 2100 L 146.685		10m SSB Net 2030 L 28.468 USB	
Date	**NCS**	**Date**	**NCS**
		2	W4DON
6	N4ACF	9	WB4WRY
13	KC4MJC	16	KC4MJC or KE4TEP
20	K4ELP	23	N4ACF
27	KC4MJC	30	WB4WRY

Thanks for volunteering to be a NCS

NOTE TIME CHANGE ON THE 10m SSB NET

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.
Don't forget to file your Net Report to N4WHK & W4DON

ARES Training Net each Monday at 2100 L

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