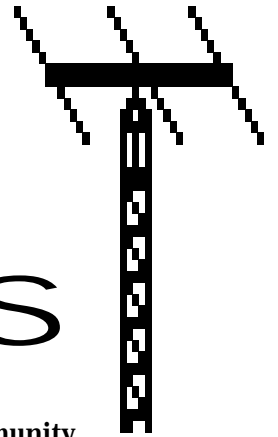




# W4SNC Iredell Wireless



www.icarsonline.org

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

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APRIL 2003

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**President: Larry Earle, WD4LXC~~Vice President: James Hamilton, AC4AS**  
**Secretary: Tim Misenheimer, KC4MJC~~Treasurer: John Lamson, WB4WRY**  
**Members-at-Large: Lee McClure, KE4ERH ~~ Ralph Sparrow, N4ACF**

**Wireless Editor Tim Misenheimer KC4MJC**  
**Special thanks to Mike Gaither, KC4KSX for printing the Iredell Wireless**

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## RADIO COMMENTATOR PAUL HARVEY PLUGS HAM RADIO'S EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ROLE

Veteran ABC Radio Networks commentator Paul Harvey this week offered some kind words for Amateur Radio. The mention was the second item on "page four" of his March 19 Paul Harvey Noon News and Comment program.

"America's quiet warriors are the legion of ham radio operators, 700,000 of them, who are always at ready for backup duty in emergencies--amateur, unpaid, uncelebrated, civilian radio operators, during and after floods and fires and tornadoes," Harvey said. "After the 9/11 attacks, hams were indispensable in reuniting friends and families. Most recently it was they who expedited the search for debris after the disaster to the space shuttle Columbia, and right now, at this moment, they are involved in homeland security to a greater degree than you would want me to make public."

The commentary's enigmatic and mysterious final sentence--typical of Harvey's habit of leaving his listeners hanging--apparently refers to the fact that many Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Emergency Service (RACES) teams have ramped up their alert status as hostilities get under way in the Middle East.

The entire Wednesday noon broadcast is available on Paul Harvey's Web site <<http://www.paulharvey.com/>>. Click on the Wednesday noon link under "Listen Now."

*Reprinted, with permission, from the ARRL Newsletter Volume 22 Issue 12. Editor*

## **Minutes from the March 13 2003 meeting**

The Iredell County Amateur Radio Society met at Julia's Tally House for the March 2003 meeting. There were 12 members present, along with 3 guests. President Larry Earle, WD4LXC asked if everyone got the Iredell Wireless club newsletter. He then asked for approval of last month's minutes that was printed in the Wireless. The minutes were seconded and approved. Larry next asked Treasurer John Lamson, WB4WRY for the treasurer's report. John reported that ICARS had a beginning balance of \$201.52, Deposits from club dues totaling \$88.75. There were no checks written. The ending balance was \$290.27. Larry asked for approval of the report. It was seconded and approved. Larry Earle next announced that he wanted a board meeting. This meeting is to be on March 13 2003 at 6:00pm location Mike Bryan's, WA6KWW house. All officers are asked to attend. Mike Bryan announced that ICARS made \$30.00 from items sold off the club tables at the Elkin hamfest. After deducting the cost of renting the tables (2@ \$10.00 ea) ICARS made ten dollars. At the Charlotte Hamfest ICARS got \$68.00 from items sold. After deducting cost of table and chairs, \$22.00 for table and 2 chairs at \$1.00 each, ICARS made \$44.00. Total made \$54.00. Mike then asked if ICARS wanted to try to sell more at the Catawba Valley Hamfest in Morganton. It was said that as long as a profit was being made, to go. Larry, WD4LXC reminded us that the National Balloon Rally was going to be at the end of May this year. (ED. Note. To coincide with the Wright Brothers flight at Kittyhawk NC one hundred years ago). Mike, WA6KWW next reminded us of the March of Dimes Walkamerica on April 5 2003. Everyone's help is needed. Tim Misenheimer, KC4MJC ordered the book "ARE YOU READY". This book was written by FEMA and is about Emergency Preparedness. He then passed a copy to everyone present. The floor was then turned over to Jim Hoke, W4ONS. He introduced our speaker for the night. Steve Estes presented a very interesting program on Electric Power Systems. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted  
Tim Misenheimer KC4MJC

## **WILL HAM RADIO BE SHUT DOWN IF WAR IS DECLARED?**

Some amateurs have been wondering if the FCC will shut down Amateur Radio in the event that war breaks out in the Middle East. The short answer is "no."

Just prior to the Gulf War, §214.4(b)(4) of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations was deleted. This section had mandated the closing of all Amateur Radio stations except Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) stations in the event that the president proclaimed a war or national emergency. The last time Amateur Radio was shut down was during World War II, although the FCC continued to give Amateur Radio examinations.

While the Amateur Radio Service will not automatically be shut down if the president invokes the War Powers Act, Amateur Radio licensees must continue to observe any directives the FCC may issue in the interests of national security and of making spectrum available for government use.

The FCC is directed to work in coordination with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to issue "appropriate rules, regulations, orders and instructions" for use of the spectrum "as may be necessary to ensure the effective use of those portions of the radio spectrum shared by government and non-government users." Amateurs share most UHF allocations with the US government.

**The following people *have* paid dues for 2003.**

Larry Earle WD4LXC  
Tim Misenheimer KC4MJC  
Buddy Eaton KG4DKN  
James Hamilton AC4AS  
Lee Schierbaum AE4RL  
Ralph Sparrow N4ACF  
Mike Norman KG4WWQ  
Jim Freeland KD4III  
Robert Forsyth KQ4O  
Jack Phifer W4RTW

Bob Southworth KI4YV  
Jim Hoke W4ONS  
John Lamson WB4WRY  
Mike Bryan WA6KWW  
Debbie Freeze W0CJV  
Jim Kennedy KD4IIQ  
Nobby Mills W4UFO  
Russ Beck KF4AEX  
Peggy O, Malley KF4AEV  
Terry Devine KF4ZMN

Walt Schwarzl AG4AU

If YOU wish to join this elite group, you can mail your 2003 dues directly to John Lamson WB4WRY or to the ICARS PO Box. ICARS P.O.Box 142 Statesville NC 28687

**Radio Through The Years  
Provided by Jim Hoke, W4ONS**

April 3, 1973 – Comrex develops 450MHz wireless microphone for ENG  
April 5, 1964 – First official SBE meeting held in Chicago  
April 6, 1875 – Bell granted patent for multiple telegraph  
April 19, 1993 – Harris introduces digital FM exciter  
April 25, 1874 – Guglielmo Marconi born  
April 27, 1791 – Samuel Morse born

May 4, 1920 – RCA holds first annual meeting  
May 9, 1932 – WFLA/WSUN, Clearwater, FL tests first directional antenna in the U.S.

**NETS**

2 Meter FM net Wednesday night at 9:00 PM 146.685 repeater  
147.45 backup repeater

march ncs john lamson wb4wry  
april ncs tim misenheimer kc4mjc

10 meter cw net Saturday night at 8:00 pm 28.150  
john lamson ncs

10 meter sbw net Saturday night at 9:00pm 28.468  
March NCS Ralph Sparrow N4ACF  
April NCS Nobby Mills W4UFO

## Editorial Comments

It's almost the time of the year for MY favorite Amateur Radio event. **FIELD DAY!** This is when we get to go to the woods, get bit by bugs, maybe see a snake or a raccoon or skunk (it has happened) get to drink moths (this happened to me) and enjoy every minute of it. We get to brave HOT weather or maybe THUNDER STORMS or both. It sometimes rains or the wind gets a little strong and sometimes late at night it gets downright chilly. In other words we commune with nature while setting up towers, dipoles, tents, computers and operating radios, run on generator power, for 24 hours straight. THIS IS FIELD DAY! This year Field Day is June 28 Saturday and 29 Sunday but we usually start setting up on Friday (27<sup>th</sup>). We are going to be at Allison's Woods again this year. I have never been to any other location for Field Day in my 14 years with ICARS. To me there could be no better spot. Despite what I said above, everyone who participates in Field Day has a great time. There is a lot of hard work to do in preparation for the 24 hours on the air and it's never too early to start. We need to start thinking what we are going to bring with us. I'm not going into what to bring now but I am going to tell you a little about a NEW logging program for Field Day that I found. I'm excited about this program because it is simple to use. It is a windows program, that is it runs on Windows 95 or later. It will not run on Win 3.1 and this may be a problem. It will produce all the forms needed to send to the ARRL for our contest entry. There is NO way you can enter a "dupe" into the log. It pops up a red screen to tell you the call is a dupe and won't let you continue logging until you click the clear button. You will need your mouse however. There is one drawback to the program though, it can only hold 10,000 contacts! I am so sure this program will work for us I have already ordered a copy. Did I forget to tell you one of the best things about this program, the cost is only \$6.00! If you are planning to bring a computer to Field Day, or just want a copy of this program let me know. I hope, *with the clubs approval*, to use this program for Field Day. I do want to get with some of you who are going to bring a computer to Field Day and install the program on your machine to see how you like it.

We need everyone that can, to come to Field Day. We are going to be at Allison's Woods for 36 to 48 hours so there is plenty of time for all to attend. That's what's so good about Field Day, you can come and help for as long as you wish. For those who have never operated an HF rig, this is your chance. We want many operators! There is something for everybody here. OF COURSE, ONE OF THE BEST PARTS OF FIELD DAY IS SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND CHIEF ICARS CHEF JOHN LAMSON AND HIS GREAT HAMBURGERS! DON'T MISS IT!

### **You might be a HAM if.....**

You know the Latitude and Longitude of your home QTH.

You ask for / receive a Bird 43 for a Father's day gift.

You calculate the HAAT for your new QTH before you sign the loan papers.

Your teenager refuses to ride in your car because it looks like a porcupine

**13 Apr 2003** + Raleigh ARS

<http://www.rars.org/hamfest>

Contact: Chuck Littlewood, K4HF

2005 Quail Ridge Road

Raleigh, NC 27609

Phone: 919-872-6555

Email: k4hf@arrl.net

**10 May 2003** x Durham FM Association

<http://www.durhamfma.50megs.com>

Contact: Joseph Fields, KF4QYY

Phone: 919-596-3738

Contact: Larry Withrow, AF4HX

2583 Nix Creek Road

Marion, NC 28752

Phone: 828-652-4195

Email: af4hx@worldnet.att.net

**7 Jun 2003** + Forsyth ARC

<http://www.w4nc.com>

Contact: Raymond Taber, KG4NTC

165 Gloria Drive

Mount Airy, NC 27030

Phone: 336-786-8241 or 336-723-7388

Email: wshamfest@yahoo.com

**19 Apr 2003** + Catawba Valley Hamfest

McDowell ARA

<http://cvhamfest.org>

Larry Withrow, AF4HX

2583 Nix Creek Road

Marion, NC 28752

Phone: 828-652-4195

Email: [af4hx@worldnet.att.net](mailto:af4hx@worldnet.att.net)

**24 May 2003** x East Carolina Antique Radio Club

Contact: Herman Schnur, K4CTG

3205 Brick Kiln Road

Greenville, NC 27858

Phone: 252-752-2264

Email: hschnur@cox.net

**12 Jul 2003** + Rowan ARS

Contact: Ralph Brown, WB4AQK

1621 Emerald Street

Salisbury, NC 28144

Phone: 704-636-5902

Email: rbrown@salisbury.net

New Field Day Rules (we wish)

25 points per antenna or power connection that had to be kluged because there were no mating connectors on hand. 100 point bonus if ALL connections made without using clip leads or solder. An extra 50 points per 250' roll of duck tape used.

50 points if 3 or more beam elements lie in the same plane with no greater than 10-degrees deviation. An extra 50 points if the plane is within 10-degrees of horizontal.

500 points for getting a signal on the air without using any duck tape at all.

50 points for installing a PL-259 coax connector while dangling from the mast, at least 15-feet above the ground. Extra bonus of 25 points for remembering to install the sleeve before soldering. Additional 5 points if the sleeve was placed in the proper direction.

10 points per inhaled moth or fly, while speaking into the microphone. 5 points per stuffed mosquito, squashed on log; must submit log.