

IREDELL WIRELESS

W4SNC

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

ICARS WEBSITE www.icarsonline.org

President: Larry Earle, WD4LXC~~**Vice President:** Margie Persons, KE4YWO
Secretary: Tim Misenheimer, KC4MJC~~**Treasurer:** John Lamson, WB4WRY
Members-at-Large: Lee McClure, KE4ERH~~Mike Bryan, WA6KWW

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

March 2004

*The Iredell County Amateur Radio Society will meet at
Julia's Tally House Thursday March 11, 2004.
Come and eat at 6:00pm. The meeting starts at 7:00pm.
Bring the family. Everyone welcome!*

The following have started the new year right , by paying their 2004 dues!

KC4KQC	JOHNNY	W4ONS	JIM
AG4AU	WALT	N4ACF	RALPH
KG4DKN	BUDDY	WB4WRY	JOHN
W0MGB	BOB	N8RDP	HARLAN
W4RSD	STEVE	N1GC	GARY
N4SUE	SUE	KU4AM	HERMAN
KI4YV	BOB	KC4MJC	TIM
WA6KWW	MIKE	WD4LXC	LARRY
KE4YWO	MARGIE	W4EZR	OLEN
KF4AEW	RUSSELL	AC4AS	JIM
KD4IIQ	JIM	W4SDT	SHERRILL
W4UFO	NOBBY		

**February 12 2004 Iredell County Amateur Radio Society
Meeting Minutes**

The Iredell County Amateur Radio Society met at Julia's Tally House for the monthly meeting. There were 12 members and six guests present. President Larry Earle WD4LXC called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Larry first asked if everyone received their copy of the Iredell Wireless newsletter. Larry then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of last month's meeting, as printed in the newsletter. A motion was made. It was seconded and then approved. Next Larry asked for a report from John Lamson, WB4WRY, ICARS treasurer. John reported a beginning balance of \$485.91. Next he said there had been a discrepancy in what was in the ICARS checkbook and what the bank statements said was there. This has been the case for some time, so to make things right, John deducted \$10.50 from the ICARS checkbook. Next item was a check written to Don Summers, W4DON for \$132.98 for parts for the 146.685 repeater. Twenty dollars of that amount was to go to Ralph Mowery, KU4PT for the use of his test equipment. When Don tried to give the \$20.00 to Ralph, he returned it to Don. John said we had a **\$20.00 rebate!** The rebate to be reported on next month's treasurer's report. The last item ICARS had to pay, John had to order more checks for the club at a cost of \$15.50. John deposited dues three times this month. The total deposit amount was \$155.00. This brings the ending balance for the month to \$472.13. After that lengthy report John received a round of applause. Larry WD4LXC asked for a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented by John. WB4WRY. A motion to approve was made, then seconded and approved. Next Tim Misenheimer, KC4MJC asked for the floor. He stated that the money \$285.00 donated to ICARS for the repair of the 147.045 repeater was donated in good faith, that it would be used for that purpose. He noted ICARS has voted to give the frequency pair 147.045/645 back to SERA and only support one repeater. Tim made a motion that all donations to the club for repairs to the 147.045 should be offered back to the person who made the donation. The motion was seconded and approved. Tim said he would get in touch with the technician working on the Hamtronics repeater regarding its status. Next Larry asked everyone to introduce themselves since we had many visitors present. Jim Kennedy reminded us that after this month, there were only 3 months left till FIELD DAY. Mike Bryan WA6KWW reported that March of Dimes Walkathon was scheduled for March 27th. ICARS has been asked to participate again this year. Next the Balloon Rally is scheduled for June 4th, 5th and 6th. They also request ICARS help. The floor was then turned over to Margie Persons, KE4YWO and she introduced Don Daso, K4ZA who gave us some very interesting stories about his contesting and some good ideas for use at our Field Day. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Tim Misenheimer KC4MJC Sec.

NOTICE

ICARS has voted to, no longer support 2 repeaters. Since the 147.045 repeater is no longer supported by the club, anyone wishing their donation to the *147.045 repeater* fund refunded. See John Lamson, WB4WRY and your money will be refunded.

==>NPR FEATURE SPOTLIGHTS ADDITION OF @ SYMBOL TO MORSE CODE

Some hams may have thought they'd left their transceivers turned on Tuesday, February 17. That's when the popular National Public Radio <<http://www.npr.org>> afternoon news magazine All Things Considered ran a piece about the pending addition of the @ symbol to the official international Morse code lexicon. That's because NPR introduced and closed the nearly four-minute segment with actual CW, catching the ear of many hams.

ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, conceived of the new character, necessary for transmitting e-mail addresses in CW, among other possible purposes. Assuming approval by International Telecommunication Union <<http://www.itu.int/home/index.html>> member-states, the new character--the first added to the code in many, many years--will be "AC" run together (.-.-.).

The new character, Rinaldo says, is both unique in the Morse world as well as a mnemonic (think of an 'a' wrapped in a 'C').

ATC co-host Robert Siegel interviewed ARRL Senior News Editor Rick Lindquist, N1RL, for some background on the change, giving Lindquist an opportunity to mention his passion for mobile CW operation. The short feature, "Morse Code Enters Cyber Age," is available on the National Public Radio Web site,

Copied from: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 23, No. 08, February 20, 2004

Help stamp out "dot" and "dash"

Dots and dashes are improper terms when discussing and learning morse code. Greatest hindrance to learning morse that has ever been spoken or even written. Learning code is a "sound" thing (tones) . . not a "sight" thing (symbols). This is the reason a blind person can grasp code easier and quicker than people that have sight.

I get very disgusted when I see articles written, by hams, that use "dot" and "dash". I've even requested that the FISTS CW Club not use those terms in their Keynote newsletter. Editor didn't see fit to publish my article . . . and so those terms continue to be used.

Now read the story of the NEW morse symbol and how those "old" terms ring in your ears. Also better learn the new sound if you work CW. didahdahdidahdit I think I prefer remembering it as "WR" rather than "AC". This may be a hard one to learn for those that have NEVER learned how to send a "space" in CW. Nowitstimeformetogoandletyoureadthearticle. :)

Don Summers, W4DON

http://www.cjonline.com/stories/021704/pag_morsecode.shtml

Remember When?

[Alan Jones \(W4LGH\)](#) on February 21, 2004

Remember when it really meant something to be a Ham Radio Operator? Remember how proud you felt, when you finally passed the exam and got your ticket? Remember hooking up some junkie old equipment, throwing a wire up in a tree and making your first contact? I do!

People now say, we need more youth in the hobby. I agree, we do, but lets be realistic! How many 12 to 20 year olds can go out and afford to buy HF equipment? How many of this same age group, have the time to devote to Ham Radio? How many of this same age group had/have the privilege of growing up in a family owned electronic business? (This day and time most 12 to 20 year olds don't really know their parents.) Current times require both parents to work.

Times change, people change, hobbies change. This is all part of life. And now the ARRL is changing. It used to be an organization that supported Ham Radio. It grew and grew into "Big Business" over the years, and created many new high paying jobs for the select few. It needs the DUES to pay these salaries, trips to nice places, super hotels to stay in etc. The mass majority of Hams this day and age are Technician class operators; they want them as members, dues paying members, so they can continue to keep their high paying jobs, trips, and fancy hotel rooms.

Why is it when people say, "They can't do something", and cry about it, we feel the need to make it easier, so they can. Despite the fact that our government says, "All people are CREATED equal " Some have taken that to mean that we ARE equal. People are NOT equal, this is why some are doctors, some are lawyers, some do GREAT things and others do BAD things. It's a fact of life.

I have no problem in doing away with the CW requirement. Personally I never enjoyed it, although there are many that do, and they can continue to enjoy it. I was raised in a different time, was told you would never appreciate something until you worked for it and earned it. As I got older, I learned this to be true.

What the ARRL has proposed is basically to give in to this group of people, no need to EARN anything. Because they want a license they should have it. I do NOT agree.

Go ahead and drop element 1 for TECH and GENERAL class licenses, they can drop it for EXTRA for all I care, but KEEP the written elements in tact! One MUST do something to EARN their license in order to respect and appreciate it.

I think its time we (ARRL members) take a hard look at the organization we belong to, and reevaluate its role. The multi-tier license system was developed to allow someone to get into the hobby, LEARN about the hobby and GROW with the hobby.

Giving it away will NOT KEEP it alive, it will make a mass growth in the beginning, but it will ultimately KILL it in the long run.

This is just my opinion, and I am sure there are many others that will agree and those who'll disagree, that's your right.

This day and age of just giving things away has go to stop. Because someone wants to be a police officer, are you going to just give him or her a gun, badge and cruiser and turn him or her lose in the world? Something to think about...

73 to all, and STUDY to upgrade that license!

W4LGH – Alan

Copied from E-HAM.COM Editor

I agree with this except I think we need to keep 12 WPM CW as a minimum for EXTRA. Tim KC4MJC

Dates	Type	Event and Contact	Location
13-14 Mar 2004	*	North Carolina Section Convention Mecklenburg ARS http://www.w4bfb.org Contact: Tim Slay, N4IB 141 Queens Cove Road Mooresville, NC 28117 Phone: 704-948-7373 Email: hamfest@w4bfb.org	Charlotte, NC Div: Roanoke Sect: North Carolina
21 Mar 2004	+	Down East Hamfest Association Contact: Jean DuPree, KB4OHX 212 East Capitola Avenue Kinston, NC 28501 Phone: 252-523-2703 Email: jeanhd@icomnet.com	Kinston, NC Div: Roanoke Sect: North Carolina
4 Apr 2004	*	North Carolina State Convention 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	Raleigh, NC Div: Roanoke Sect: North Carolina

03/03/04	W4RSD	03/06/04	W4DON
03/10/04	KQ4O	03/13/04	KE4ERH
03/17/04	N4SUE	03/20/04	KQ4O
03/24/04	AG4AU	03/27/04	AE4RL
03/31/04	KG4RZU	04/03/04	AG4AU
04/07/04	KG4JRF	04/10/04	W4RTW
04/14/04	W4RTW	04/17/04	KC4MJC
04/21/04	AG4AU	04/24/04	N4ACF
04/28/04	W4SDT	05/01/04	W4UFO

**Don't forget the MARCH-OF-DIMES
WALKAMERICA. March 27 2004,**