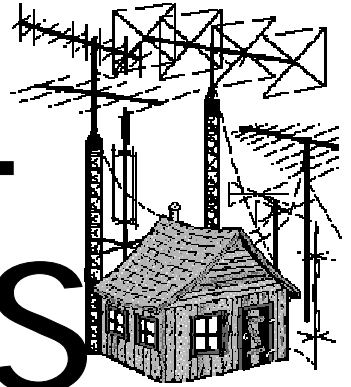


IREDELL WIRELESS



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: Margie Persons, KE4YWO~~Vice President: Mike Bryan, WA6KWW
Secretary: Tim Misenheimer, KC4MJC~~Treasurer: John Lamson, WB4WRY
Members-at-Large: Buddy Eaton KG4DKN~~Walt Schwarzl, AG4AU

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

June 2005

This month's Meeting will be
held on June 9, 2005 at
Julia's Tally House
6:00PM-Eat 7:00pm Meeting

Net operators needed!

We are looking for volunteers to be Net Control for the 2 Meter
FM, 146.685 Wednesday night net, and the Saturday night SSB net
on 28.468

IREDELL COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
May 12, 2005
MEETING MINUTES

The Iredell County Amateur Radio Society met at Julia's Tally House for the May 12, 2005 meeting. There were 14 members and three visitors present. President Margie Persons, KE4YWO called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. She asked everyone to introduce him or herself. After introductions, Margie asked if everyone had received his or her Iredell Wireless Newsletter. Margie then asked for a motion to approve last month's meeting minutes, as printed in the April Iredell Wireless. A motion was made to accept the minutes as printed. Then the motion was seconded. The motion to accept was voted and approved. John Lamson, WB4WRY, Treasurer was then asked to give his report. John reported the ending balance for last month as \$410.65. There were 2 checks written. One to Statesville Parks and Recreation for \$30.00 to reserve McClure Park for Field Day. The second check went to Tim Misenheimer, KC4MJC for \$134.25. Tim paid the club PO.Box \$38.00, Newsletter postage \$37.00, and \$59.25 for a preselector from Hamtronics, for the Hamtronics repeater. There were two deposits of dues and use of the club's hamfest table (from W4UFO) totaling \$40.00. That leaves an ending balance of \$286.40. Margie asked if there was a motion to accept the Treasurers report. A motion was made to accept the report. The report was then seconded and unanimously approved. ICARS then had three applications for membership. The applicants were, John Larew KG4ZJO, Tim Whitson N4AVQ, and Tim's Son Patrick Whitson KI4JOT. A vote was taken and all three were unanimously voted into the group. Welcome to all three. The topic then turned to a discussion of the Balloon Rally. This coming June 3th, 4th, and 5th. Mike Bryan, WA6KWW is unable to be at the rally so Margie will try to contact Johnny Levan, KC4KQC and see if he would be willing to help. Next topic of discussion was Field Day. This year we will be at McClure Park, (I-40 Ball field). Margie KE4YWO reminded the membership to bring everything needed for your personal comfort. Don Summers, W4DON has taken care of the legalities allowing ICARS to be there all weekend. This was followed by much discussion about Field Day. After that, a motion was made, seconded and approved, to adjourn. So we did.

Respectfully Submitted
Tim Misenheimer KC4MJC Sec.

The minutes of this meeting are accurate and correct but are not quite in the order described here. Tim KC4MJC Sec.

Field Day June 25th and 26th 2005. Everyone. There is something for everybody to do.

The following members have paid 2005 dues.

AC4AS, AE4RL, AG4AU, KISGT, KC2JSR, KC4DBZ, KC4KSX, KC4MJC, KD4III, KD4IIQ, KE4YWO, KF4AEX, KG4DKN, KG4PNA, KG4ZJO, KI4CGY, KI4JOT, KI4YV, KQ4O, KU4AM, N4ACF, N4AVQ, N4IB, N4SZF, N8RDP, W0CJV, W0MGB, W4DON, W4EZR, W4ONS, W4UFO, WA6KWW, WA8JZW, WB4WRY, WD4LXC (34 Members)

Support your local club and repeater!

FIELD DAY LIST

ANTENNAS (all types)
ARRL MESSAGE FORMS
BANNER (CLUB)
BATTERY CHARGER
BATTERIES
BLANKET
BUG SPRAY CANDLES, ETC.
CASSETTE RECORDER
CHAIRS
CLIMBING AND SAFETY GEAR
CLIP BOARDS
CLOTHING (EXTRA)
COAX CABLE
COAX CONNECTORS
COMPASS
COMPUTERS
COOLERS AND ICE
COTS
DUCT TAPE
ELECTRICAL TAPE
ELECTRICAL OUTLET STRIPS
EXTENSION CORDS
EXTRA COMPUTER DISKS
FANS
FIELD DAY RULES
FIRST AID KITS (Hard hats
hi hi)
FISHING POLE, SLING SHOTS,
SINKERS
FLASH LIGHT & BATTERIES
FREQUENCY CHART
FUSES (EXTRA)
GARBAGE BAGS
GASOLINE
GENERATORS
GROUND RODS, CLAMPS, WIRE
HAMMERS, LARGE & SMALL
HEAD PHONES
HF RADIOS
INFORMATION TABLE MATERIAL (HAND OUTS)
KEYERS
LANTERNS
LIGHTS (FLOOD)
LOG SHEETS
MATCHES
MEDICINES (IF NEEDED)

MICROPHONES
OIL
PACKET SET UP
PAPER, PENS, ERASERS,
PENCILS
PAPER TOWELS
POTS, PANS, KITCHEN THINGS
POWER SUPPLIES
RAIN GEAR
ROAD DIRECTION SIGNS
RF FILTERS
ROPE,GUY LINES,
ROTATORS, & CONTROLS
SANITATION STATION
SOAP & TOWEL
SOLDER IRONS, SOLDER, PASTE
STAKES
SUN GLASSES
SWR METER, ANALYZERS
TABLES
TARPS
TENTS
TOILET PAPER
TOOLS TOWERS
TUNERS
WEATHER RADIO
VHF RADIOS
WATER
WHITE GAS
VOM, JUMPERS, LEADS

PS DON'T FORGET SNACKS

We may not have a place
to hold Field Day yet, but
it's not too early to start
plaining it!!

There Are NO Appliance Operators!

[Charles McNeil \(VE3HBB\)](#) on May 12, 2005

Hardly a week passes that we don't hear from someone or other stating that "rigs are just too complicated to work on," or "we can't repair surface mount constructed rigs," or, we're not trained as techs and should, therefore, be considered "appliance operators..."

I would take an opposing perspective. Yes, radios have become complicated and rely heavily on integrated digital devices. Consider for an instant the schematic for a Yaesu FT-817. Front and center we find a huge square device with hundreds of pins. Yes, it is a proprietary digital device. No, we are not going to be able to open and repair it. However, much of the rest of the schematic is meaningful, and, with basic equipment, there is a great deal a technically competent ham can do to repair this radio.

For example, FT-817s have a charming habit of blowing their finals. The fix is not beyond the average ham. A replacement PA card can be installed with little effort, saving the owner labor charges and providing the satisfaction of a job well done.

Similarly, there are many older rigs still in service which feature straightforward electronics, which can and are repaired by their owners. What is needed to work on these radios (apart from hand tools and test equipment) is knowledge of electronics. Some of this can be obtained by way of the study process needed to qualify as a ham (or, possibly as an advanced ham). Other sources of such skills are courses provided through local community colleges. The fact that some hams do not avail themselves of training should not imply that it is not available or that operators should remain ignorant of basic physics. One may argue, as many do, that the testing in both the USA and Canada should be "beefed up" so to better identify those whose natural abilities and interests would be an asset to amateur radio.

There are many opportunities to homebrew equipment: dedicated operators can build Low power transmitters, receivers and other pieces of shack equipment. These are often found in hobby-specific magazines and other documents. Usually these projects are well explained and easy to construct using readily available components. Often they are "kitted" for even greater ease of construction. Beyond radios, we build antennas and other items in the transmission path. I'm currently constructing a PSK-31 Meter.

What of the non-builder? Is he or she not a mere appliance operator? Looking at the front panels of many modern transceivers, we perceive a bewildering array of buttons, knobs and meters. Outside of the hobby, there are few people who could comprehend what all of these controls actually do. Stoves, toasters, washing machines are all appliances. There are no washing machine clubs. No one "elmers" a "stove operator. If your fridge has an operators' manual, it is probably focused on the best ways to clean it out, and the maximum time you should keep foods frozen.

My view is that modern transceivers are more like instruments than appliances. Instruments require skill and training to operate and their skilled operation should be a matter of pride. Let's stop denigrating our abilities and celebrate the fact that ours is a complex and highly skilled activity.

73 de Charles McNeil, VE3HBB

Copied from EHAM.NET

If you would like a copy of the Field Day Logging software we will be using for Field Day, I plan to have some extra copies available at the June meeting. No charge. I plan to have a demonstration of the program after the meeting. If you wish, bring your laptop computers and I will load the software and show you the program.

11 Jun 2005	+	<p>Winston-Salem Hamfest Forsyth ARC http://w4nc.org Talk-In: 145.47 (PL 100), 146.64 (100 Cycle Tone) Contact: Woody Kinney, KF4PLQ PO Box 11361 Winston-Salem, NC 27116-1361 Phone: 336-723-7388 Email: w4nc@triad.rr.com</p>	<p>Winston-Salem, NC Dixie Classic Fairgrounds Coliseum Dr/University Parkway Div: Roanoke Sect: North Carolina</p>
2 Jul 2005	+	<p>Rowan Amateur Radio Society http://www.qsl.net/w4exu Talk-In: 146.13/146.73 (PL 94.8) Contact: Ralph Brown, WB4AQK 1621 Emerald Street Salisbury, NC 28144 Phone: 704-636-5902 Email: rkbrown5902@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>Salisbury, NC Salisbury Civic Center 315 South Boundary Street Div: Roanoke Sect: North Carolina</p>
16 Jul 2005	+	<p>Mid-Summer SWAPFEST Cary Amateur Radio Club http://www.qsl.net/n4nc Talk-In: 146.88 -0.6 no tone Contact: Herb Lacey, W3HL 1022 Medlin Drive Cary, NC 27511 Phone: 919-467-9608 Email: w3hl@arrl.net</p>	<p>Cary, NC Cary Town Hall Campus Parking Deck 101 Wilkinson Avenue Div: Southeastern Sect: North Carolina</p>
30 Jul 2005	+	<p>Western Carolina Hamfest & Computer Fair Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society http://www.wcars.org/hamfest Talk-In: 146.91 (91.5), 146.760 Contact: Dean Blair, K2JB 20 Coffey Place Asheville, NC 28806 Phone: 828-423-3082 Fax: 828-670-9909 Email: k2jb@arrl.net</p>	<p>Waynesville, NC Haywood County Fair Grounds Hwy. 209 Div: Roanoke Sect: North Carolina</p>
13 Aug 2005	+	<p>Seventh Annual CFARS Swapfest Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society Talk-In: 146.910 (PL 100) Contact: David Cowart, KR4OE 637 East Raynor Drive Fayetteville, NC 28311 Phone: 910-237-9097 Email: kr4oe@nc.rr.com</p>	<p>Fayetteville, NC Reeves Auditorium, Methodist College 5400 Ramsey Street Div: Roanoke Sect: North Carolina</p>