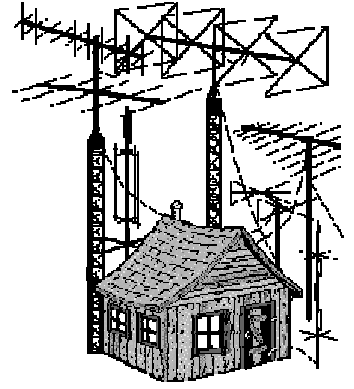


IREDELL WIRELESS W4SNC



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.

SEPTEMBER 2005

**This month's Meeting will be held
on September 8, 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**

September Net Control Stations

2 Meter FM Net--KI4CGY Steve 10 Meter SSB Net--N4ACF Ralph

October Net Control Stations

2 Meter FM Net--KI4JOT 10 Meter SSB Net--N4AVQ

August 11 2005

Iredell County Amateur Radio Society Meeting minutes

The Iredell County Amateur Radio Society met at Julia's Tally House for the regular monthly meeting. ICARS President Margie Persons, KE4YWO opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. There were 13 members and three visitors present. Since there were no minutes to be read for last month, John Lamson WB4ARY Treasurer gave the treasurers report for the last two months. The beginning balance for the July 14 2005 report was \$262.85. One check was written for the amount of \$25.00, that was for a memorial to Hospice in memory of Bryan Cook. He is the Son of ICARS member Johnny Cook, KE4NUN. There was one deposit of dues. That was \$15.00. That left an ending balance of \$252.85. The beginning balance of the August 11 2005 report was \$252.85. There was one check written for flowers for the Robert Forsyth KQ4O service. That amount was \$25.00. There were no deposits so that left an ending balance of \$277.85. A motion was made to approve both reports. The motion was seconded. The motion was then unanimously approved. Margie then noted that ICARS had two members to pass away. Robert Forsyth KQ4O passed away on July 19 2005 and Dan Dishman WA4WRV passed away on August 5 2005. The membership spoke about both members, then Margie had a prayer for them. Margie spoke about HER Field Day and the ICARS field Day. Don Summers, W4DON gave a short report on the health of the repeaters. Tim Misenheimer KC4MJC reported a problem with the ICARS website. It is not on the internet at this time. The server is working on the problem. Margie then had Mike Bryan WA6KWW announce that Tracy Jackson the county Emergency Manager as guest speaker for the meeting. Don, W4DON then gave a report on the two McGuire drills. He said that we needed more Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) members to participate. After this, a motion was made, seconded and approved to close the meeting. So we did.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Misenheimer KC4MJC Secretary.

The following members have paid 2005 dues.

AC4AS, AE4RL, AG4AU, K4SGT, KC2JSR, KC4DBZ, KC4KSX, KC4MJC, KD4III,
KD4IIQ, KE4ERH, 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 (35 Members)

Support your local club and repeater!

**In Memory
of
Danny O. Dishman, WA4WRV (sk)**

I first met Dan in June of 1976 at Mitchell Community College building on our first evening of the first Organization Novice Class. We became good friends, This class was advertised in the local newspaper and many signed up for the class including Dan. There was also two licensed radio amateurs that signed up in order to improve their CW skills.

The study material was the "Gateway to Amateur Radio" by ARRL consisting of the License Manual, Learning Morse Code, Operating an Amateur Radio Station and a supplement.. Fred Steining, K4EYQ, now SK was to help me with the theory instruction. Fred didn't remain with us because of the Republican National Convention began a few meetings later and he wanted to watch that..

Dan was on medical leave of absence from work that summer but I don't remember the circumstances of his illness or injury. He was very eager to get his Novice ticket. Dan had been heavily involved in CB radio and was looking for something different for radio communications. The class gave him an excellent opportunity to move into amateur radio while he was on medical leave. That would leave his wife, Dianne, and the two young daughters at home for only one evening each week for twelve weeks.

Nine to ten weeks later I began to administered the code test and everyone, including Dan, passed that hurdle with no problem. After everyone had taken their code test their applications were sent to the FCC. In a week or so back came the Novice written examinations which were administered, signed and mailed back to the FCC for grading. Around October of 1976 Dan and the others received their Novice License. WA4WRV, WA4WRX, WA4WRY, WB4WRY, WA4WRS, WB4WSA, WB4WRR, etc. These were some of the first Novices to received a call sign without the letter "N" in the prefix. I think there were around fifteen that passed the written exam and one failed. All of these Novices had helped organize ICARS in September 1976 and became most of the Charter Members. Two other classes, one after the other, were taught by Larry Stroud, WB4WSA, at Wayside School. Other classes followed in years to come.

Many of these new Novices, including Dan, jumped into ham radio with both feet and hands. They immediately began studying for their Technician license so they could use the new 2 meter repeater they helped pay for.

Dan progressed to Technician Class in a few weeks and a few months later to General Class. Dan was active in ICARS, ARES, Field Days, and amateur radio public service events until he became too ill due to diabetes and blood pressure problems in early 1990's. He loved to operate on 3915 kHz during days and evenings. Later he installed a 70 foot tower with a triband beam. On top of that was a two meter vertical polarized beam.

He became fully disabled from General Electric in Hickory, NC where he was employed for many years. He continued to operate his station, intermittently, up until around 2002 or 2003. His medical problems continued to plague him and this limited his radio operation. In 2004, while he was in IMH, his wife Diane moved their belongings to her late father's home on Old Mtn. Road. Dan didn't like this too much because that really put him off the air. Although the move was anticipated this was a surprise indeed.

I contacted Dan in 2004 and he wanted me to salvage his 3915 dipole and coax cable which I

did. We continued to communicate via the telephone about getting his dipole up at their new home. I notified ICARS members about helping when Dan gave us the go ahead. W4UFO and N1GC were anxiously waiting to be called.

Our last conversations discussed the trimming of his trees then put the dipole up. He wanted me to looking up something on the Internet for him which I did. Later on I called Dan again but he was not ready to put the dipole antenna up because tree work was incomplete.. I asked him to call me when he was ready. The call never came and I still have his 3915 dipole in the trunk of my car.

It's my understanding that Dan had been in the hospital about thirty days, due to a fall at their home, and was about ready to return home when a nurse found that he had passed away in his hospital room at age 61.

In Dan's earlier years and into the 90's he was interested in modifying cars, building a hot rod, gardening, model airplanes, older firearms, and of course having many of his ham friends come by and visit with him and his family. He spent his last 29 years on this good Earth as a licensed radio amateur. Dan, an ICARS Charter Member, has joined the other Silent Keys now and leaves a widow and his two daughters and their families including his grandchildren. Let's remember them in our daily prayers. Dan was a Christian.

Don, W4DON

NC Community Watch Association

Citizens and Law Enforcement Working Together



Quarterly Training Meeting

September 10, 2005

10: 00 a.m. — 12: 00 noon

Mitchell Community College

701 West Front St Statesville, NC

**Neighborhood Disaster Preparedness
Identity Theft**

Hosted by:

**Iredell County Sheriff's Office
Lt. Rick Eades**

True incident. It was not our radio organization.

Near miss??? Perhaps you decide.

Man, on top of tower, preparing to remove an antenna, got a big jolt (shock) when he disconnected the coax connector at bottom of old repeater antenna. Reason. Power company had lost their neutral at distribution point. This created a dangerous situation.

Now in this particular situation it was possible for someone to have gotten shocked or even electrocuted while unhooking coax cable at their repeater or radio room.

Power companies, cities and community owned distribution systems should routinely inspect and test their neutral connections at ALL distribution points or a lawyer could soon be knocking on their doors.

RULE: Unplug or disconnect all power cords (first) and coax cables (second) before working on any antenna. In other words isolate the antenna and tower first. Take AC voltage readings if any doubt before work begins.

Remember, the neutral wire/cable that connects to the power transformer at the power pole is the neutral wire for all 120 vac distribution points in our homes, radio rooms, shops, etc. The other two insulated wires coming from that transformer are "hot" wires having a potential of 230-240 vac between them and 120 vac with reference to the neutral wire. Therefore, the neutral wire carries current for any 120 vac appliance or machine that's turned on. IF . . . that neutral wire connection is lost at the transformer or at your breaker panel that current will seek another path to flow. If a person becomes connected in that path current will pass through the persons body. If the current exceeds one-tenth of an ampere (100 milliamperes) the person can be electrocuted instantly. (He/she becomes a fuse.)

In the case of this incident mentioned above the neutral point became the antenna tower foundation and it's grounding in the earth. The neutral wire for the radio equipment and building lighting became the shield on the coax cable going to bottom of antenna and then back down tower to tower foundation and grounding in the earth. Therefore, when the man on tower was disconnecting the coax cable at bottom of antenna he partially broke that metallic path for neutral current and he felt the results due to the potential difference in voltage. Yes, some current passed through him but it was not enough to cause injury or electrocution. Work was stopped immediately until tower and antenna were isolated. Power company repaired their neutral cable connection two days later.

Spreeeeeeeeeeed the word. Those ungrounded neutrals can / will cause death.

Charles D. Summers
W4DON
IREDELL COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY