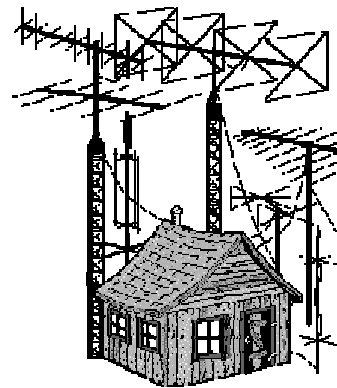


IREDELL WIRELESS W4SNC



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: Jim Hoke, W4ONS~~Treasurer: Matthew Carbone, KC2JSR
Members-at-Large: Walt Schwarzl, AG4AU~~David Damron, KI4CBZ

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

August 2006

This month's Meeting will be held
at Julia's Tally House
Thursday August 10 2006
Come early for rag chew or to eat

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**

August Net Control Stations

2 Meter FM Net W4GPW Patrick 10 Meter SSB Net WA6KWW Mike

September Net Control Stations

2 Meter FM Net KF4AEX Russell 10 Meter SSB Net KC4MJC Tim

July 13, 2006
Iredell County Amateur Radio Society Meeting Minutes

The Iredell County Amateur Radio Society met at Julia's Tally House for the regular monthly meeting. President Margie Persons, KE4YWO called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Eighteen (18) members and three (3) guests were present.

Minutes – A motion that the minutes as published be approved was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Matt, KC2JSR presented and submitted a written report dated 07/13/06.

Previous Balance.....	\$778.24
Check written to John Lamson for Field Day food, etc..	\$72.42
Deposits received from Dues.....	\$15.00
Ending Balance.....	\$720.82

A motion that the report be approved was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business – Chairman of the Field Day Committee Tim, KC4MJC gave a report of the field day activities of June 24 and 25. We had good participation and everyone enjoyed the outing while further honing our skills to operate under emergency conditions. As is customary, our chief chef John, WB4WRY did a great job. Margie thanked Don for his success in obtaining newspaper coverage. Mayor Costi Kutteh came by for a visit. All agreed that McClure Park was a superior Field Day location. There were about 200 more contacts made this year than last year.

Technical Committee -- Chairman of the Technical Committee Don, W4DON presented a list of items that would improve the operations for future Field Day exercises next year and better prepare us for emergency situations.

1. The Club has need of a HF slug for the wattmeter. A motion was made and seconded for the technical committee to purchase a 250 watt slug at a cost not to exceed \$100. Motion carried.
2. The three beams continue to cause difficulties such as missing bolts, instructions not available, etc. Each beam should have its own wooden box with a hinged cover and lock. Construction of these boxes would be on a volunteer basis. Rick, KE4TEP has volunteered to construct the boxes. Margie, KE4YWO volunteered her husband Olen, W4EZR to supply the lumber. The hardware would be purchased by ICARS. A motion was made and seconded that these boxes be constructed. Motion carried.
3. The club does not presently own a tower. Larry, WD4LXC owns two towers and suggested he would consider selling one or possibly both to the Club. A motion was made and seconded for Don to negotiate a price for the tower(s) and come back seeking approval at the next meeting. Motion carried.

ARES Report – Chairman of the Emergency Preparedness Committee Rick, KE4TEP reported he and Tim, N4AVQ had a very nice and productive meeting with ECOM. For some time, a need has existed for a two-meter rig to be permanently located at ECOM. Mr. Martin agreed to write a county check covering costs and there will be a two-meter rig at ECOM headquarters within the next 30 days.

ICARS Thirtieth Anniversary – Chair of the ad hoc committee Jim, W4ONS asked for discussion concerning the proposed get-together picnic. After discussion, it was determined that a picnic would be held at McClure Park. The proposed date, depending on availability of the park, would be Saturday, September 16, 2006, 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM. The September meeting will be held at the picnic. Don, W4DON volunteered to attempt to reserve a shelter.

The next ICARS meeting will be August 10, 2006 at Julia's Tally House at 7:00 PM.
With no further business, the meeting was adjourned 7:37 PM.

Jim Hoke, CPBE, W4ONS

The term "HAM"

Kathy Hadaway recently asked about the meaning of the term HAM. I replied with some info I found, as best I could recall, from somewhere deep in the bowels of the ARRL Web page. Quite coincidentally, we received the following from a distant friend of Mary's.

Ham. Amateur radio operators are often referred to as "hams" -- a term with an complicated history. At the start of the 1900s, "ham" was sometimes used to refer to someone as "unskilled" -- "Ham actor" being the most common example. Wire-line telegraphy employees at this time had a rich vocabulary of insults for describing less-than-capable operators, and in The Slang of the Wire section of "Telegraph Talk and Talkers", from the January, 1902 issue of McClure's Magazine, author L. C. Hall noted "It is an every-day thing to hear senders characterized as Miss Nancys, rattle-brains, swell-heads, or cranks, or 'jays,' simply because the sound of their dots and dashes suggests the epithets." Hall's review further noted that "senders of hog-Morse, called technically 'hams' " were known for their propensity for transmitting garbled Morse code. So it was natural, in light of wire-telegraph practice, for commercial stations to dismiss amateur radio operators as "hams"--and in Floods and Wireless by Hanby Carver from the August, 1915 Technical World Magazine the author noted "Then someone thought of the 'hams'. This is the name that the commercial wireless service has given to amateur operators..."

But, interestingly, "ham" would eventually lose its negative meaning and become a general nickname for all amateurs. This evolution was spotty and not very well documented. As early as the May, 1909 Wireless Registry list in Modern Electrics, Earl C. Hawkins of Minneapolis, Minnesota was listed with the callsign of "H.A.M." This callsign was likely assigned by the magazine -- this was before the U.S. government began licensing stations and issuing call signs -- but was this an inside joke or just a coincidence? In two articles by Robert A. Morton, Wireless Interference, in the April, 1909 Electrician and Mechanic, and The Amateur Wireless Operator, in the January 15, 1910 The Outlook, the author included an overheard transmission between amateur stations asking "Say, do you know the fellow who is putting up a new station out your way? I think he is a ham." However, "ham" took a while to completely lose its negative connotations. A letter from Western Union employee W. L. Matteson in the December, 1919 issue of QST, Why is an Amateur?, complained that amateurs, now regulated by the government, were not getting the respect they deserved, noting that "Many unknowing land wire telegraphers, hearing the word 'amateur' applied to men connected with wireless, regard him as a 'ham' or 'lid'." But in the next month's issue, Thomas Hunter's exuberant "pome", I am the Wandering Ham, showed that other amateurs had already embraced "ham" as a friendly description for their fellow hobbyists.

ICARS 30th ANNIVERSARY PICNIC

ICARS has reserved McClure Park, (Field Day Site) for the 30th anniversary picnic. The date is **Saturday September 16 2006 from 3:00 PM till 7:00 PM**. This will also be the regular monthly meeting date. The meeting will **NOT** be on **Thursday** this month. For more information about the picnic, listen to the ICARS nets or be at the August 10, 2006 regularly scheduled ICARS meeting.

Friends, does anyone have a stereo turntable that I could borrow? I have a large stack of LP's that I would like to convert to CD's so I could play them again. If so, please contact me at 704-873-4446 or E-mail me at kc4mjc@ststesville.net. Thanks. Tim KC4MJC

2-3 Sep 2006	+	Shelby Hamfest "The Grand Daddy of Them All" Shelby ARC http://www.shelbyhamfest.com Talk-In: 146.880 (-600) Contact: John T. Ledford, W4JL 9555 Knob View Drive Vale, NC 28168 Phone: 704-462-4910 Fax: 704-462-4910 Email: w4jl@shelby.net	Shelby, NC Cleveland County Fairgrounds 1751 East Marion Street Div: Roanoke Sect: North Carolina
16-17 Sep 2006	*	Roanoke Division Convention Tidewater Radio Conventions http://www.vahamfest.com Talk-In: 146.97 Contact: Lynn Lilla, W9DJQ 848 Stacey Place Virginia Beach, VA 23464 Phone: 757-479-1597 Fax: 757-673-7426 Email: hamfest@exis.net	Virginia Beach, VA Virginia Wesleyan College 1584 Wesleyan Drive Div: Roanoke Sect: Virginia

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