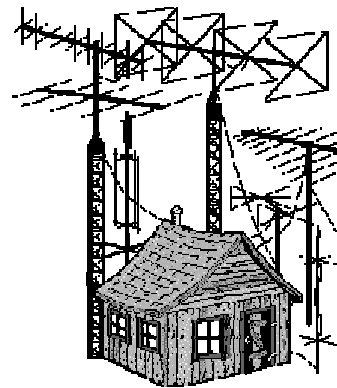


IREDELL WIRELESS W4SNC



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.

July 2006

This month's Meeting will be held
at Julia's Tally House
Thursday July 13 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**

July Net Control Stations

2 Meter FM net WB4WRY John 10 Meter SSB net N4AVQ Tim

August Net Control Stations

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

June 8, 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. Fourteen (14) members and three (3) guests were present. Margie asked those present to introduce themselves.

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

Treasurer's Report – In the absence of Treasurer Matthew, KC2JSR, Secretary, Jim, W4ONS presented Matt's report. Matt submitted a written report dated 06/08/06.

Previous balance \$895.24

Three checks written totaling \$127.00

Deposits Dues \$10.00

Ending Balance \$778.24

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

Old Business – Don, W4DON was absent, but submitted a report that a money order made out to ICARS for \$350 has been received in payment for the duplexer. The buyer sent an extra \$10 for being so tardy. After paying \$40 for shipping and handling cost, ICARS will net \$310.

Plans for the upcoming field day exercises were discussed in detail. Setup will be early Saturday morning June 24.

Bobby Brawley's mother passed away last Friday and a sympathy card was signed by those present. Bobby is a charter member of ICARS.

ICARS thirtieth anniversary for September -- Jim, W4ONS volunteered to serve as committee chair for a special event station. Mike, WA6KWW stated that the Forsyth club is planning a similar get-together and he will get in touch with them to see if someone would agree to speak to us concerning their plans

New Business -- Gary, N1GC began discussion concerning the relationship between ICARS and ARES . He pointed out that the By Laws of ICARS states that in addition to other committees, an Emergency Preparedness committee shall be appointed by the president. This committee will serve to coordinate with ARRL, EC, county and state officials. He asked President, Margie, KE4YWO whether this committee has been appointed. Margie stated it has not, due to the fact no one else will volunteer to serve on committees. Jim, W4ONS stated he feels it is imperative that this committee be formed in order to facilitate the interaction and coordinate the activities of ARES and ICARS. Rick pointed out that the ARES meetings typically run about 1 ½ hours and it would be impractical to combine ICARS and ARES. Rick, KE4TEP volunteered to chair the Emergency Preparedness committee. Tim, N4AVQ and Gary, N1GC volunteered to serve as committee members. Gary pointed out that the repeater is an ICARS owned repeater. He wished to start discussion as to the feasibility of placing automatic announcements on the repeater that would alert for the ARES nets, emergencies, etc. After discussion, Gary made a motion that the ICARS repeater be available for ARES meeting, training net, etc. type of announcements, either by live or multifax means. Motion carried. Trustee, Tim, KC4MJC stated that he would put such announcements on the repeater when requested by an ARES representative. Don, W4DON also has the capability of initiating announcements.

Executive Board meeting -- The board will attempt to meet sometime during first three weeks in July.

The next ICARS meeting will be July 14, 2006 at Julia's Tally House at 7:00PM.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned 7:40PM.

Jim Hoke, CPBE, W4ONS

2006

A FIELD DAY STORY

By KC4MJC

Once upon a time, a group of Amateur Radio operators, living in and around the county of Iredell, in the state of North Carolina were preparing for the annual Field Day exercises. These amateurs were members of the Iredell County Amateur Radio Society (ICARS). The amateurs were assembled at McClure park, in Statesville NC. A few came in around 8:00 AM and started setting up equipment. One amateur, W4DON started setting up his 40 meter dipole antenna. He was soon joined by KI4CBZ and his wife KI4OSW. They set up the Dipole, then a gazebo tent that W4DON brought. By then KG4DKN and several more amateurs, or sometimes called "hams" had arrived. They brought with them tower sections and beam antennas belonging to ICARS. The tower sections were bolted together and the rotor was installed on top, then they started assembling the 20 meter beam. It was soon discovered that one element has a portion sawed off the end! Being that they were hams, they made this work. Another discovery was that no one had brought the instruction manuals with the beams. Well that put a halt to assembly plans. It also started quite a few comments and suggestions that would not be repeatable over the local repeater. WD4LXC was sent to get the instructions and bring them back to McClure park. While this was going on, KC4MJC arrived. He had the instruction manuals on the hard drive of his laptop. So, between bites of his lunch, he booted the laptop and found the manuals. W4DON copied the lengths down, added them up, and was able to get back to the final tuning of the 20 meter beam. By that time WD4LXC had arrived with the manuals so the job was able to be completed. After the assembly was completed, the beam was mounted on the on top of the rotor mast. Several guy ropes were tied to the tower top then WD4LXC tied a rope to his truck and with W4DON, KI4CBZ, KG4DKN and KE4TEP pushing, pulled the tower in place. After the guy ropes were in place the beam was ready to use. By then KC4MJC had his 20 meter station ready to operate. Next setup was the 40 meter CW station of W4DON. The dipole was already in place so all that was needed the rig, power supply and laptop for logging contacts. It was getting close to the 2:00 PM start time of the Field Day event so KE4TEP filled the generators with gas, checked the oil and started them running. At 2:00 PM KC4MJC started calling CQ CQ Field Day This is W4SNC Field Day! He made the first contact at 2:06 PM with W4MME in Ohio. The first contact on 40 meter CW was shortly thereafter. That station was WA8KAN in West Virginia. The event was off and running.

Continued next page

2006

A FIELD DAY STORY

Continued

While these two stations were operating, N4WHK set up a station to run 40 meter phone and WD4LXC set up a station on 80 meter phone. W4DON had expert relief on the CW station when 12 year old W4GPW, son of N4AVQ, took over and did a great job making contacts.

While this was going on, quite a bit was happening elsewhere in the park. A number of hams and their families arrived, as well as 2 reporters and a photographer from the Statesville Record and Landmark. The purpose of the field day exercise was explained by KE4ERH, KF4AEX, W4GPW WD4LXC and others present. The reporters asked numerous questions and they were given quite a bit of amateur radio information for an article to be published in the paper. Pictures were made for the paper but only WD4LXC had his picture published. The public was invited to this event as well as local elected officials. Statesville Mayor Costi Kutteh arrived around 4:00 PM. He spoke with several hams and learned a little about amateur radio. The Mayor had his picture made with W4DON. This picture will be posted on the ICARS website, www.icarsonline.org soon. His attendance at this event earned the group 100 extra bonus points. WB4WRY also arrived about this time. He started arranging a table with all kinds of good food and soft drinks. He is the official Field Day Chef. He put charcoal in the grill and fired it up. A short while later he started cooking hamburgers and hotdogs for the participants. Several ladies made green beans, slaw and salads. After the burgers and dogs were done, everyone present enjoyed a great meal followed by a Red Velvet cake made by a neighbor of WB4WRY's.

As the Field Day event rolled on, four stations were making contacts with almost every state in the U.S.A. and most Canadian Provinces. Contacts were made with hams in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico as well. By the time it started to get dark, most of the ham's family's had gone home and left the hams to their work. KC4MJC left around 9:30 PM and KE4TEP took over his 20 meter station. KE4TEP had to leave several hours later and W4GPW did a excellent job filling in when he left. N4WHK stayed at his 40 meter phone station most of the night. In the early hours of Sunday morning. His new rig started smoking! He disconnected power, worked with the connections and antenna, then reconnected the rig. It still smoked.

Continued next page

2006

A FIELD DAY STORY

Continued

N4WHK unhooked his rig again. W4DON had an extra rig with him so they hooked up W4DON's rig and power supply to W4DON's mobile antenna and finished the exercise using that rig.

N4WHK, W4DON, W4GPW, WD4LXC elected to stay and operate all night, so by the next morning they were all dragging. Other hams started to arrive by 9 or 10 AM and took over operations of those who stayed all night. N4WHK took a nap in a chair later that morning.

The refreshed arrivals took over the stations and so it went till after 1:00 PM. Some of the hams were starting to get tired by then, so it was decided to start breaking down some of the equipment. The 40 meter CW station was dismantled, 200 contacts were made on that station! One error was found later so that total was reduced to 199 contacts. Still a awesome score. Then the 80 meter phone station and the 40 meter phone stations were taken down. KC4MJC at the 20 meter phone station was informed that the generator was just about of gas so that station was shut down also.

The tower was let down by KE4TEP and his truck, with W4DON, WD4LXC, KG4DKN and others walking it down. The beam was removed, the tower dismantled, WB4WRY's tent taken down, the site was checked for litter, everything was packed away to be taken back to the amateurs home's to get ready for FIELD DAY 2007!

Cast of Characters:	KI4CBZ-----David Damron	KI4OSW-----Carlene Damron
	KG4DKN---Buddy Eaton	N4WHK-----Dennis White
	W4DON-----Donald Summers	KC4MJC-----Tim Misenheimer
	N4AVQ-----Tim Whitson	W4GPW-----Patrick Whitson
	KF4AEX---Russell Beck	WD4LXC-----Larry Earle
	KE4ERH----Lee McClure	KE4TEP-----Rick McClure
	WB4WRY—John Lamson	

The above story is the property of the author, and the Iredell County Amateur Radio Society . Any reproduction of this story, without my permission, will be a hazard to your health and will make me angry. YOU WOULD NOT LIKE ME WHEN I'M ANGRY!!

Tim Misenheimer KC4MJC

I hope you enjoyed my Field Day Story. This years Field day was a great deal of fun for me but it was also a lot of hard work for many other people. Think Heaven the weather was good, no thunderstorms to deal with. It was rather hot, but it has been hotter.

There are many people that helped make the Field Day a success, First was Don Summers, W4DON, Publicity Committee Chairman, and Dennis White, N4WHK, assistant publicity chairman. He got public service announcements to both radio stations, both local newspapers, the public Library and I don't know where else. Don also sent e-mails to the Mayor of Statesville and other local elected officials. Notices were also sent to the emergency services agencies. Costi Kutteh, Statesville Mayor came Saturday afternoon. This is the first time since the ARRL added the bonus point incentive, to get elected officials to attend, that an official did attend.

Thanks also to David Damron, KI4CBZ and his wife, Buddy Eaton, KG4DKN, Rick McClure, KE4TEP, Patrick Whitson, W4GPW, Larry Earle, WD4LXC and numerous others for helping with hauling in equipment, setting up everything, making contacts, logging and dissembling all the stations, tower, beams, clean up and everything in between.

Thanks to John Lamson, WB4WRY, who put on his usual superb Field Day meal. Thanks to the ladies who brought green beans, potato salad, slaw and other fixings.

A big thanks to everyone who got behind a microphone or CW key and made a contact. I have not, as of this writing, tallied the final Field day scores because I don't have all the logs. It does look like, from what I have so far, that we have almost 200 more contacts than in 2005.

We had a total of 33 people to attend this years Field Day. I think that is close to a record. If we could only get these folks behind a microphone we could wipe up the state. Maybe Next year.

If I get the final logs before the e-mail version of the Iredell wireless is published I will put the score in it.

73 till next time.

KC4MJC Tim Misenheimer

FOR SALE Icom IC-211 all-mode 2m Transceiver. Built in power supply. 1 watt low power and 10 watts high power. This is a 1970's vintage Transceiver. No tones and no battery for memory retention. S-Meter/Wattmeter and Frequency Deviation Meter. \$90.00 cash. Photos via e-mail for asking. W4DON at w4don@adelphia.net or 704-872-3312

Field Day score

40 METER CW 199 CONTACTS
20 METER PHONE 167 CONTACTS
40 METER PHONE 92 CONTACTS
80 METER PHONE 56 CONTACTS
6 METER 5 CONTACTS

TOTAL SCORE WITH BONUS POINTS ADDED

2506!