

October, 2020

LARC NEWS & VIEWS

N4LNR



Lenoir Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Events

LARC Meeting

Thu. Nov. 12, 7:00 pm
Webex Online Meeting

Hammarlund Hullabaloo

Thu. Nov. 19– 21
<http://www.arrrl.org/Events/view/165061>
Mars Hill, NC

Next LARC Meeting

Thu. Dec. 10, 7:00 pm
Webex Online Meeting

Emergency Communication

Having good communication is important during disasters and emergencies. At such time, volunteer amateur radio operators may be called upon for communication support to the community. The Lenoir Amateur Radio Club is working in partnership with the Caldwell County Emergency Management to provide communication support when the need arrives. LARC has established a radio room located at the county EOC (Emergency Operations Center) in the HHS Building. The Club is also associated with other communication services such as NC AUXCOMM, ARES, CERT, and REACT NC.

At our last month's club meeting online, Caldwell County Emergency Management Coordinator **Vic Misenheimer** gave a briefing on the current state of EMCOMM in the County.



Vic informed us of how the county's Emergency Services is involved in the Covid-19 response supported by FEMA and the Cares Act. He explained how each communication system works and the equipment involved. He also informed us about future changes.



Hams Losing Band



The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has recently made changes affecting the Amateur Radio Service in which FCC will withdraw Amateur privileges at 3300-3500 MHz (the 9 cm Microwave band) in order to make the band available to 5G Mobile and Internet Service Providers. In this frequency range, Amateur Radio shares the lower half of that band on a secondary allocation with the Department of Defense. The military uses 3450 – 3550 MHz of the band for operating various types of shipborne, land-based, and aeronautical mobile radar systems for national defense purposes. The dates when this is to take final effect have not yet been decided but looking to be sometime in 2021. There have been many objections to this proposal by Amateur Radio operators, including the ARRL.

Hammarlund Hullabaloo

The 2020 Hammarlund Radio Hullabaloo special event station will be operated by the High Appalachian Mountain Amateur Radio Society (HAMARS) on November 19-21, 2020. The birthday of Oscar Hammarlund was November 19, 1861. The Hammarlund radio factory was located in Mars Hill, NC, from 1951 to 1973. HAMARS is located in Madison County, NC. **Nov 19-Nov 21, 1800Z-1900Z, KM4PMO/W4H**, Mars Hill, NC. High Appalachian Mountain Amateur Radio Society. 14.250 7.250. Certificate & QSL. Jerry H. Robinson, PO Box 366, Mars Hill, NC 28754-0366. JerryRobinson@ieee.org

On The Air - OTA

Tired of being locked away staring at a two-dimensional screen in a three-dimensional world? You want to talk on the radio but don't want to sit in the garage, the basement, or the spare bedroom that you call your "Ham Shack"? Well, get up and get out!

Grab your mobile rig and portable antenna, open that door, and move on into the Great Outdoors. Oh, don't forget to grab a map and compass, and maybe a travel guide. Get ready for some OTA fun - be an Activator. Here are some of the most popular amateur radio On-The-Air activities:

- POTA (Parks On The Air)
- SOTA (Summits On The Air)
- COTA (Castles On The Air)

- IOTA (Islands On The Air)
- BOTA (Beaches On The Air)

POTA

Parks On The Air started in 2016 as an Amateur Radio



Relay League (ARRL.org) Program called National Parks on the Air (NPOTA), designed to encourage people into the national parks while simultaneously giving amateur radio a broader exposure to

the public. The program was highly successful, and once the one-year program ended, the Parks on the Air program was born in the wake of the National program. The principle of POTA is – Activators go to a state or national park, which have all been pre-approved through the POTA system and assigned a designation number. All the parks can be found on the POTA Map. Hunters listen for Activators, whether from home or from another park (called a Park to Park contact), trying to collect as many parks from across the country (and around the world!). POTA has a system in place for announcing where Activators are and on what frequencies.

SOTA

Summits On The Air is to operate from a designated list



of summits or to work other radio operators when they activate summits. The summits are assigned points based on elevation and there are scoring systems for both

Activators (radio operators on a summit) and Chasers (radio operators working someone on a summit). SOTA is fully operational in nearly a hundred countries across the world. Each country has its own Association which defines the recognized SOTA summits within that Association.

COTA

Castles On The Air is a program for Amateur Radio operators



interested in historical sites and buildings. The historical buildings of medieval castles and fortresses are the major attractions. This program has been initiated by the World Castle Award Program in 2012. COTA is an

international program in which hams from all over the world can participate to highlight historical places of their countries. COTA operators are also called Activators and Chasers.

IOTA

Islands On The Air is a program that has caught the interest of thousands of radio amateurs worldwide. Established in 1964, it promotes radio contacts with stations located on islands around the world. It is administered by Islands On The Air Ltd (IOTA Management) in partnership with the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB).



IOTA Management has grouped the oceans' islands into some 1200 'IOTA groups' with varying numbers of 'counters', i.e. qualifying islands, in each group and has published the listings in the IOTA Directory and website. The objective is for the Chaser to make radio contact with at least one counter in as many of these groups as possible and for the Activator to provide such contacts.

BOTA

Beaches On The Air is an program for radio amateurs operating from beaches. There are Activators (those who operate from the beaches) and Chasers (those who contact them from home or elsewhere). You can participate from any beach, country or region around the world. The program currently lists more than 30,000 beaches, often drawn from official sources, such as environmental protection agencies, but also allows the addition of individual beaches sponsored by users.



Unlike in other programs, you can activate, or chase, the same beach as many times as you wish and you can always earn additional points. BOTA does not impose any restriction on how you get to the activation point or on the power source you can use for your station.



My First LARC Field Day

By Ro Maddox K4HRM

It was a very warm June 2010 afternoon as I drove up to "the top of the mountain at Floyd Key's place" with directions given to me by Michelle KD4YTU, then the Newsletter Editor. When I



turned off the highway at Keycraft Place, the road immediately ended. No antennas or life, just a barking dog. I drove to the house at the edge of the woods and a woman came out and told me to head "up the mountain". I saw only a two-lane path in the direction she pointed. I headed up the path, the incline getting steeper and steeper, and the path getting narrower. I looked out my truck window and the drop-off was sheer and straight down - oh, don't let me meet someone or have to back up! I kept heading up that mountain, even though I swear



I heard banjo music and thoughts of Burt Reynolds flashed in my head. I was in the process of moving to North Carolina and didn't want to miss Field Day.

Reaching the top, I saw an open shed with two men sitting at radios - Scott KC4SWL on voice and Tom KA4HKK on CW. This was my first introduction to the Lenoir Amateur Radio Club. Soon Jerry and Floyd arrived on an ATV and Jerry, who was the Caldwell EC, gave me a tour of the antennas located on the mountain. A couple of hours later, about a dozen others arrived and soon a grill was fired up and hot dogs and hamburgers were sizzling. All the while, Scott and Tom stayed hard at it on the radios. They offered me to operate but I declined since I was just visiting.

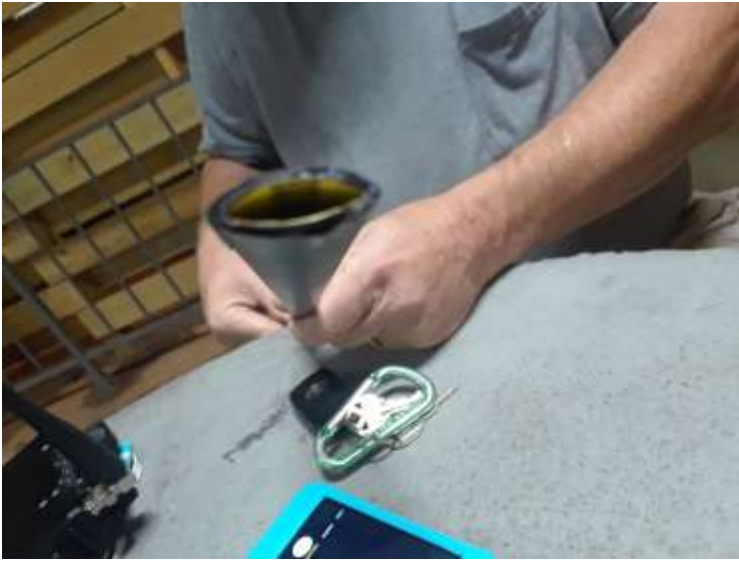


Needless to say, as it started nearing dark, I was not excited about driving back down that "path", but I didn't miss Field Day 2010.

A Ham's Life

Buck (N4PGW) and Mitch (KN4AYD) QRPing.

A couple of Hams hanging out. After stopping by to grab a drink and some ice cream. they examined a new antenna that they took apart. They discovered it had a built in measuring device. A tape measure covered in heat shrink! Made a couple of contacts while they talked Ham. Great stuff!



Hams helping Hams.

Rick (WK4R), Mitch (KN4AYD), Ed (KB4KHR), and Buck (N4PGW) playing with antennas. Buck changing out the antenna he was using with a new type.



Electrical tape, wire cutters, and some playful jokes accomplished the work. What great fun!



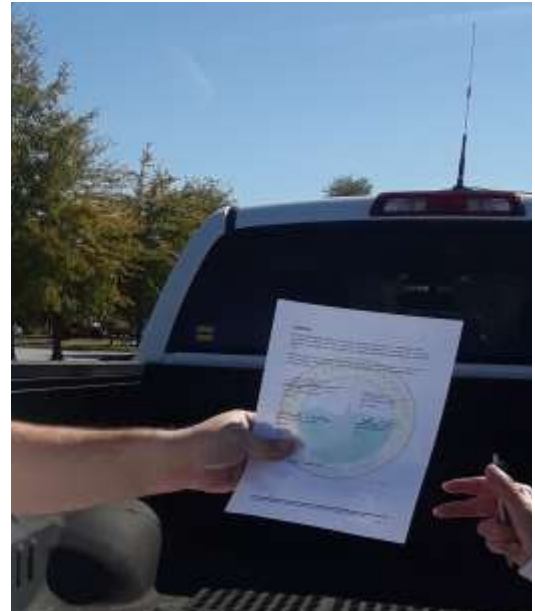
The Parking Lot

Bring the Stuff & the Papers

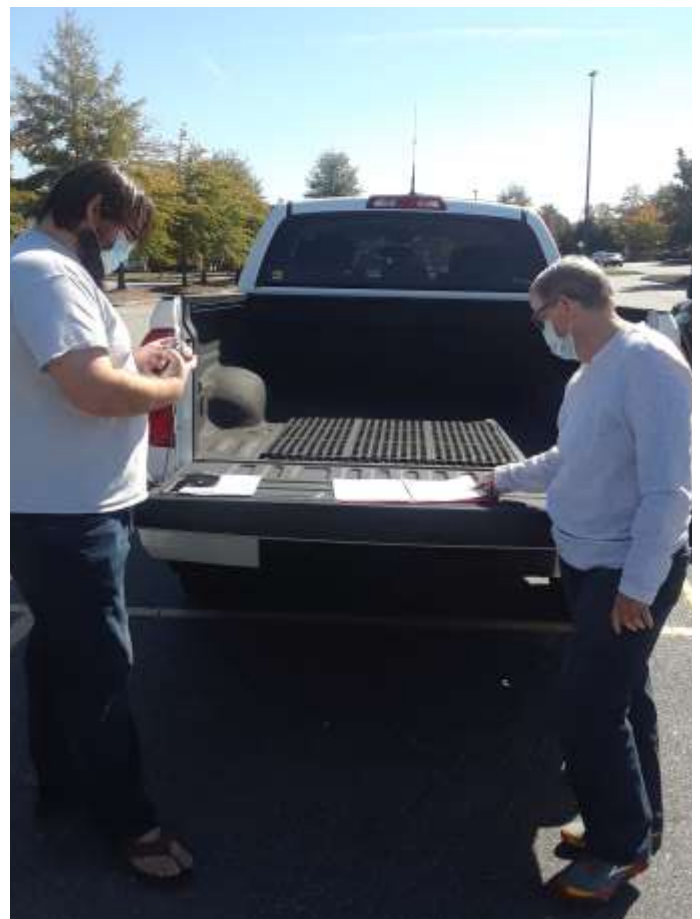
Our Club Leader and masked Associates met at a neighborhood big-box-store's parking lot for some Club Biz.



By-Laws Signing



Avoiding the plague but dealing with plaques.



A new meaning to "Tailgating with Corona"

Frequencies

146.625- 94.8

Club Repeater (N4LNR)

147.330+ 141.3

Hibriten Mountain Repeater
(KG4BCC)

145.535

Simplex

29.6

Simplex FM

28.374

Simplex USB

Nets

LARC Weekly Net

Tuesday, 7:00 PM

146.625 Minus PL 94.8

Alt. 147.330 Plus PL 141.3

Caldwell ARES Net

Sunday, 9:00 PM

147.330 Plus PL 141.3

DMR Digital Net

Tuesday, 8:00 PM

Lenoir Local DMR

Lenoir Amateur Radio Club, Inc

P O Box 3276

Lenoir, NC 28645

N4LNR.org

Serving Amateur Radio In Caldwell County Since 1986

Become a member or renew your membership

Pay your dues in person to the Treasurer or by mail

Full Member \$15/year

Family Member \$25/year

Ask about our Life Time memberships

Send comments concerning the LARC NEWSLETTER to

newsletter@n4lnr.com

Suggestions and your articles are appreciated. Tell us about yourself so we can feature you in our newsletter.

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