

February, 2021

LARC NEWS & VIEWS

N4LNR



Lenoir Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Events

Feb. LARC Meeting

Thu. Feb. 11, 7:00 pm
Webex Online Meeting
SDR 101

NC ARRL Affiliated Club Forum

Wed. Feb. 24 7pm
Zoom Online Meeting

NC QSO Party

Sun.-Mon. Feb. 28 - Mar. 01
10 am - 08 pm EST
<http://ncqsoparty.org/>

Next LARC Meeting

Thu. Mar. 11, 7:00 pm
Webex Online Meeting

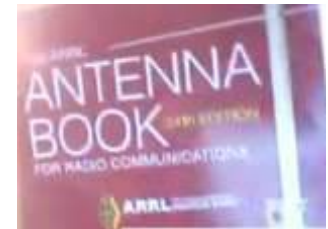
QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo

Fri.-Sun. Mar. 12 - 14
<https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/>



Show & Tell

In January, the Lenoir Amateur Radio Club kicked off the first meeting of the year with a Show & Tell. Although they were not all necessarily gifts received during the holidays, they were still interesting items shown and told. Some of the Club members were very enthusiastic and eager to talk about their “non-radio-and-communication-related” possessions as well. So, conversation continued at the rag chew session after the meeting about those “other items” and their stories. We had fun and had a good laugh.



Winter Field Day 2021

LARC participated in Winter Field Day and it was a success. Some of the members operated from home and some operated in the communication trailer. A total of 11 people visited the trailer site and some stayed the whole time over the two days. *Scott K4SEH, Jeff KM4AYW, and Ro K4HRM* operated from their homes. Scott made 35 contacts, Jeff made 69 contacts, and Ro made 98 contacts.



Antenna attached to a light pole.



Hurry up and take the picture so I can eat my lunch!



Here is a shot of LARC member *Dwayne WD8OYG* participating in Winter Field Day 2021 from Shed #3 and his account of the event.

The weather was a little challenging as the overnight hours dipped into the 20's with five inches of snow. The station was an IC-705 at five watts and a standard 40M dipole at about 30 feet. The band was pretty decent in the evening with good openings toward the west. After midnight, the long distance DX from Europe came in pretty well.



Mitch KN4AYD trying to take a selfie with everyone in the background.



It was a great experience that exposed a bunch of emergency preparedness issues, with "heat" being the number one thought at almost all times. Preparations are already being made for next year to make it even more enjoyable.



Everyone watching Mitch trying to take a selfie with them in the background.

*Dwayne
WD8OYG*

FCC Warns You Shouldn't Use Radio For Crime



The Federal Communications Commission issues an Enforcement Advisory to remind licensees in the Amateur Radio Service, as well as the Personal Radio Services, that

FCC prohibits the use of radios to commit or facilitate criminal acts.

They recognizes that radio services can be used for a wide range of permitted purposes, including speech that is protected under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. But they are also aware that radio services may be used as an alternative to social media platforms for groups to communicate and coordinate criminal activities.

Individuals using radios in the Amateur or Personal Radio Services in such manner may be subject to severe penalties, including significant fines, seizure of the offending equipment, and, in some cases, criminal prosecution.

For more information go to:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-issues-enforcement-advisory-radio-users-reminded-not-to-use-radios-in-crimes>

<https://www.fcc.gov/document/amateur-personal-radio-users-reminded-not-use-radios-crimes#:~:text=Amateur%20%26%20Personal%20Radio%20Users%20Reminded%20Not%20to%20Use%20Radios%20in%20Crimes,-Full%20Title%3A%20Warning&text=Description%3A,to%20commit%20or%20facilitate%20crimes>



NC ARRL Affiliated Club Forum

A representative from each radio club is invited to join the next NC ARRL Affiliated Club Forum on Wednesday, February 24 at 7:00pm. We will get an update on ARRL activities from NC Section Manager *Marv Hoffman, WA4NC*. The meeting will share ideas and best practices for keeping your club active during the pandemic. This meeting will be online through Zoom.

LARC will be there and we will relay any pertinent information to our members after the meeting.

Radio Museum

Did you know that there is a radio museum in Asheville? Now you do. It evolved from being a collection into a teaching museum developed by a small group of amateur radio operators to foster an understanding of the technology and history of amateur and commercial radio.

Visit their Facebook website

<https://www.facebook.com/avlradiomuseum>

From February through July, the Asheville Radio Museum will test your knowledge of various radios and radio-related accessories on their Facebook. During the first week of each month they will post a "What is This?" photo of an item from the museum for you to identify. Then, in the first week of the following month, they will reveal the answer. February photo is up now, so check it out! There will be a random drawing each month from all those who participated and the winner will get a \$20 gift card.

<https://www.avlradiomuseum.org/>



QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo

The QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo is March 12th 6pm EST - 14th 6pm EST. The event will devote a speaker track to AMSAT and the world of amateur radio satellites with a world-class lineup of more than 60 speakers and workshops for beginners to experts. Presenters at AMSAT sessions will discuss the broad spectrum of ham radio satellites, including:

- Introduction to Amateur Radio Satellites
- Getting on the Air with Satellites
- Getting on the Air With Amateur Radio Satellites
- How to Enjoy Amateur Radio Contacts with the International Space Station
- Implementation of LDPC Encoder on FPGA
- Debris Mitigation in Earth's Orbit
- Digital Multiplexing Transponder from the Open Research Institute
- Solving the ITAR and EAR Problem for the Amateur Radio Satellite Service
- Remote Labs for P4XT Engineering Development

Early Bird Tickets are just \$10 (to help cover the cost of this event, \$12.50 at the "door") and include entry for the Live 2 day period as well as the 30 day on-demand period).

<https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/>



NC QSO Party

LARC will participate in the NC QSO Party on February 28, 2021 to March 1, 2021. (10 am to 8 pm EST) . The Communication Trailer will be set up for those who wish to operate there.

The Object of the contest is:

- For amateur radio operators outside the state of North Carolina to make contact with North Carolina stations.
- Amateur radio operators within North Carolina, to contact as many NC counties as possible, making contact with everyone.

Single-Operator (Single-Op)

- One person performs all operating and logging functions operating from a fixed location

Multi-Operator (Multi-Op)

- More than one person all using the same call sign.
- All apparatus should be located in the same location (within 1000' dia. Circle).
- A maximum of two simultaneous transmitted signals on the air.
- No remote operation is allowed .

For more information go to:

<http://ncqsoparty.org/>

For the Rules:

<http://ncqsoparty.org/rules/>

How did the Club get the Pneumatic Antenna Mast

By: **Ro Maddox K4HRM**

Scott Livingston KC4SWL noticed an advertisement on Craig's List where a man had purchased a used NASCAR communications trailer and wanted to sell the 42' pneumatic antenna mast. He contacted the Seller and learned it was a 42' Will-Burt mast with an air compressor. The mast has an estimated resale potential of \$6,000 to \$12,000 on the used market. Scott also explored the possibility of the Seller donating it to Lenoir Amateur Radio Club.



She also knew of a possible donor of a heavy-duty trailer made from a 1950s era mobile home frame that would handle the weight and provide space for jacks that would avoid having to guy the mast when operating.

Ro K4HRM contacted the potential donor about the trailer. Ted Manual KF4FLY, the Club President, went to inspect the trailer for its possible use. The owner agreed to donate the trailer and that began another chapter in the history of the Club and its Antenna Trailer.



As the story goes, the Seller was Patrick Parsons of Parsons Construction. He wanted the trailer for his business use and had no need for the pneumatic mast. The Club members agreed to authorize Scott to make an offer of \$6,000, consisting of \$1,000 cash and a receipt for donation of \$5,000, all contingent on inspection of the unit in full operation. Mr. Parsons accepted the Club's offer.



Scott and several Club members inspected and operated the mast. It worked perfectly. The Club members arranged to dismantle it and related equipment from the NASCAR trailer. The acquisition of



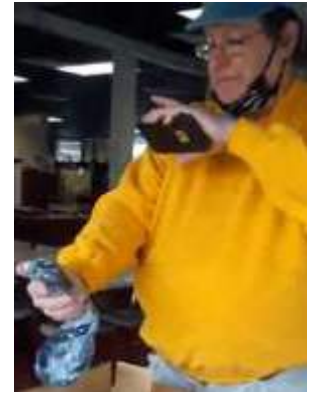
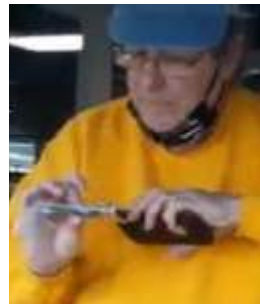
the pneumatic mast, when operational, would greatly enhance the operability of the LARC communications trailer.

Initial discussions of how to "mount" the mast on the LARC Communications Trailer ensued and it was decided to be mounted on the trailer tongue. Ro Maddox K4HRM continued to insist that was a bad idea due to its weight and limited trailer tongue space. She told of how her prior radio club had mounted a crank-up antenna



A Ham's Life

Buck N4PGW unboxing his IC-7100



The ICOM IC-7100 HF/VHF/UHF Base/Mobile Transceiver

The radio control head features a large, multi-function, touch screen LCD display. The latest 32-bit floating point DSP (Digital Signal Processing) supports many digital processing features.

- All-mode operation: USB, LSB, CW, RTTY, AM, FM, WFM (Rx only)
- Digital voice (DV) and data on VHF/UHF D-STAR
- All bands 160 meters through 70cm (except 1.25m)
- Low speed data communication on the 2 meter and 70 centimeter bands
- A large internal speaker
- A jack for a CW key
- A headphones/speaker jack
- A microphone jack
- A control cable connection
- Built-in SD Card Slot for voice storage and data cloning



This is FYI and not an advertisement . No one have been paid money to do this. Although we're not sure, we think Buck was compensated with cardboard and plastic bags. If you want to view Buck's video, please email us news-letter@n4lnr.com and we'll have him contact you. It might be on YouTube already!

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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send an email to above address.

