

# Davie County ARC

April Meeting

Volume 1, Issue 2

## Field Day Planning

At the April meeting we decided to set up in the back parking lot at the hospital for Field Day. We will be using power from the hospital. One objective of Field Day is to operate without using commercial power because in an actual emergency electricity is often the first thing to go. Since the hospital has a generator for emergency power this could still be considered a possible real life situation.

Anyone that is interested in operating Saturday during Field Day should contact either John Dwiggin or James George to let them know so we will know what kind

of turn out to expect. Or better yet join us in planning at the club meeting on May 2. We will need people to set up the operating positions and put up the antennas at the start as well as operators.

Anyone that can bring radios, antennas or feedline please contact John or James and let us know. Later I will add a page to the club web site for Field Day that will list the items we have and what we still need. I will also list the bands and modes we plan on operating with the equipment that we expect to have.

## ARRL Emergency Communication Course

Just a reminder that the ARRL is still offering the online Emergency Communications courses. You can go to the ARRL website and see which courses are coming up. I think it is usually the first of the week when they post a notice with the coming classes, and a link to the registration pages for them. The funding for reimbursements has run out so you have to pay for the course yourself. For ARRL members the cost is \$45 and for non-members its \$75. The courses contain useful information on operating proce-

dures and recommendations on the types of equipment that you may be using under emergency conditions.

There is also information on how to prepare yourself and your family for emergency situations, what items you will want to have on hand ahead of time and thoughts on how long you may be on your own if a bad disaster hits.

There are also guidelines on assembling go kits. The idea is to have a backpack or tote bag ready to go, just pick it up and go.

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### Special points of interest:

- *ARES Net Temporarily Discontinued*
- *K14ORW is Club Callsign*
- *Contact John at n4qvm@n4qvm.com*
- *Contact James at ki4bjr@yadtel.net*

## Meeting Minutes

In attendance were John Dwiggins—N4QVM, Don Cassidy—KG4IUC, Ben Wasilauskas—K4GHS, Les Pinnix— N4YSB, Wilson Sparks—KF4ISF, Kathy Sparks— KF4EKZ, Norma George—KI4ADD, James George—KI4BJR, Joseph Barone—KI4JBG, Buddy Eaton—KG4DKN

The motion was made and seconded to discontinue the ARES net until the 440 repeater is up and operational. After discussion the motion was voted on and passed so the ARES net has been discontinued. Until the 440 repeater is operational and the net restarted those who wish to become familiar with nets can check into a number of other local nets.

The 440 repeater is waiting on the final word on where the tower will be located. This is partly dependant on the construction that is taking place at the EMS building. The equipment and cabinet are being assembled so it is just a matter of where the tower ends up that the repeater will use.

It was decided that we will set up for Field Day in the back parking lot at the hospital. We will use power from the hospital. John Dwiggins and James George are the Field Day Committee.

Norma George will submit the application for the club to become an ARRL affiliated club. The benefits for the club are \$15.00 for all new ARRL members and \$2.00 for all ARRL membership renewals that are submitted through the club.

The application for a club license and call sign was completed. John Dwiggins is the trustee.

We watched a video about Field Day.

## “Hello” Brochures Available

The ARRL has created a brochure designed to provide a little information about ham radio and hopefully interest others in becoming hams. The brochures are free, all the ARRL asks is that you pay for the postage. I ordered 100 of them and have plenty for anyone that would like to have some to pass out to people they know or place in a public place. There will be some available at our Field Day set up. I will have some at the next club meeting or you can call me at 284-2420 to make arrangements to meet if anyone would like to have some.



## The Last Voice Out of Kuwait

At the May meeting we will see a video titled “The Last Voice Out of Kuwait.” The story is about a Kuwaiti ham that remained on the air during the Iraqi occupation. Excerpt from an article ...

Abdul Jabbar Al Marafie is a most reluctant hero, and has received little acclaim for his work from within Kuwait... That he continually risked his own life in order to do so, seems virtually irrelevant to him. "I don't like to be called a hero," he says, adding that he only did what he felt he had to do. From the basement of his house in Salwa, just a stone's throw from the Iraqi occupied police-station, and close to two Iraqi occupied schools, he kept up his transmissions from day one until liberation and after...It was Marafie who broke the news of the premature babies who were removed from the incubators, and who brought vivid accounts of the tortures and atrocities to the waiting world. Frank Moore passed the reports he received in two directions to the State Department, and to the press and broadcast media...



## Club Callsign Application Submitted

The application for a club license and call sign was submitted and the club received the call KI4ORW last week. Now when the club operates during Field Day or other on air events it has it's own call sign. In the future members of the club may wish to participate in contests such as the ARRL Sweepstakes, or operate as a Special Event station. For example the Rowan Amateur Radio Society recently operated as a Special Event station when Rowan County celebrated its 250th anniversary. Davie County's 200th anniversary is in 2036, but there are probably other events when the club would like to operate. One event that members may want to operate is the North Carolina QSO party which is held in the spring each year. Davie County is one of the counties that county hunters sometimes have a hard time working on HF, so an announced Special Event would probably attract a number of hams that would be glad to get a card. I had the pleasure a year or so ago of working WA4PGM and giving him Davie County, the last one he needed to have worked them all.

I just did a qrz.com search and see that nine people have already looked up the new call. I assume they were all club members. Also you will note that the FCC scrambled up the address. I just went online to the FCC database and entered the correct address. The corrected information should filter down to all the lookup sites in a few days.

## Stormy Weather

I am sure everyone has seen the news about all the tornados this spring. The last numbers I saw had this year running about fifty percent higher than average. This year is also supposed to be above average for the number of hurricanes. Davie County has had wind damage from storms moving through the area. Now is the time to check your emergency preparations. Usually the worst that happens around here is the loss of electricity for a couple days, but a major hurricane moving through the area could result in the loss of power for a week or more. How would the loss of power affect you if it happened today? Flashlights and battery powered lanterns can get you through a day or two for light. Battery operated radios can relieve the boredom. A simple camping stove can be used to heat canned foods, or even to cook "real meals" if you wish. How would you cope with a power outage? Share your ideas by sending them to me at n4qvm@n4qvm.com and I will put them in the newsletter so others can benefit from your ideas.

## Local Nets

Here are a few nets you may want to monitor or check in to.

### 2 Meter Nets

Piedmont Emergency Training Net 145.35 - Dy 8:00 PM

Forsyth County ARES Net 145.47 - (100) W 8:30 PM

Charlotte (CLT) SKYWARN Net 145.35 - when needed

### HF Nets

Tar Heel Emergency Net 3.923 7.232 Dy 7:30 PM

Hurricane Watch Net 14.325 as needed

## April Meeting

Davie County Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 516  
Mocksville, NC 27028

We're on the web at  
[www.daviearc.org](http://www.daviearc.org)

Monthly meetings are the first  
Tuesday of every month.



The Davie County Amateur Radio Club was formed on August 16, 2005. DCARC was formed for two reasons. First, there was no amateur radio club in Davie County, and second, there was a need and desire to form an ARES group in Davie County.

We would like to welcome any amateurs in Davie County or surrounding counties to attend meetings, and if you are interested, become a member.

Club officers for 2006 are:  
President John Dwiggin N4QVM  
Vice President James George KI4BJR  
Sec/Treasurer Norma George KI4ADD

## Additional Training Will be Required for Volunteers

An excerpt from the departing Section Manager for NC:

Those of us who work with Emergency Management will need some additional training in the near future. The Department of Homeland Security is requiring all first responders, including volunteers, to complete training in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) by 2007. There was some question about whether this requirement also applies to radio operators, and Ron Breitwisch, KC0OX, a DEC in Iowa recently contacted FEMA to ask for a clarification. Here is the response, also from the ARES E-Letter: "Thank you for contacting the NIMS Integration Center. The short answer is:

Yes. In a response scenario that extends beyond local government, there needs to be common terminology and doctrine that everyone can follow so that personnel and resources are feathered in a seamless manner. This is especially true for radio communications. Radio operators need to understand what is being said and asked of them during an incident so that they can convey this information effectively and efficiently. Please let me know if I can provide further assistance. Regards, Paul F. Ganem, NIMS Integration Center" The specific courses recommended for entry-level volunteers are IS-100, Incident Command System; and IS-700, National Incident Management System. Both are available free of charge at the FEMA Emergency Management Institute Independent Study web site. There are also instructor's materials available for download, so if you wanted to conduct an in-person course for members of your ARES group, they have done a lot of the work for you! There are lots of other courses that you may find helpful also. The home page for the Independent Study Program is: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/>