

# Davie County ARC

August Meeting

Volume 1, Issue 5

## Daniel Boone Family Festival

The ARES/Communications Group will provide communications during the Daniel Boone Family Festival. We would like to thank those that have signed up to help during this event. Also at this time we would like to ask for a couple more volunteers in case someone can't make it at the last minute. As it is we are stretched to the limit and a couple extra operators would make it possible to give everyone a break once in a while. If you can help for even a couple hours it would be greatly appreciated.

Operators will get in the show at no charge. You will also receive a free white cap and an ARES patch to sew on the

front. You should have a handheld two meter radio with an earbud to keep communications private.

If you would like to volunteer you can do so at the meeting Tuesday evening or contact Jack Davidson by email at [drjrd29@earthlink.net](mailto:drjrd29@earthlink.net) Your participation will be appreciated.

The activities will include Heritage Games at the picnic grounds, Heritage Vendors on Depot Street, music by different artist, Daniel and Rebecca exchanging vows and other activities.

So sign up and get some experience in net operations, and check out the festival at the same time.

## 10 or 15 Meters Anyone?

Ben K4GHS and I tried on two recent nights to make a 10 meter contact to see if it could be done. It didn't work either night. The problem may have been with the antenna that I was using. We were going to try 15 meters a couple nights ago but I had to cancel that one. One day next week, probably after Tuesday we will probably try it again.

We would like to invite anyone else that is interested to join us and we will see how well local communications work on those two bands. I was surprised that 10 meters didn't work for us because I

thought it was almost a given. I was using a vertical antenna the last time, but the next time I will try a dipole and see how well that works. Before I was always working other countries and it was strange not to be able to a station nearby in my backyard.

I am interested in what the results will be when we try 15 meters. I may have to get the antenna books out and bone up on antennas for local contacts.

If you would like to join us send an email to [n4qvm@n4qvm.com](mailto:n4qvm@n4qvm.com) and I will let you know the times and frequencies.

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### Special points of interest:

- Contact John at [n4qvm@n4qvm.com](mailto:n4qvm@n4qvm.com)
- Contact James at [ki4bjr@yadtel.net](mailto:ki4bjr@yadtel.net)
- August 19 -- The Davie County Emergency Communications Group will work with the county Chamber of Commerce during the Mocksville Daniel Boone Family Festival.

## July Meeting Minutes

11 July 2006

In attendance were John Dwiggins—N4QVM, Don Cassidy—KG4IUC, Les Pinnix—N4YSB, David Pinnix—KO4XV, Ben Wasilauskas—K4GHS, Jack Davidson—NW4O, a visitor Dave Flemming—KE4JHJ, Wilson Sparks—KF4ISF, Buddy Easton—KG4DKW, James George—K14BJR, and Norma George—K14ADD

John Dwiggins thanked everyone that helped set up and/or operated during Field Day

There was discussion about things that needed to be changed at the next FD. Among these were the need for a log-book for visitors to sign in and having a separate information table.

We discussed the upcoming Daniel Boone Family Festival and how the club will work to provide communications. At a minimum we need 8 radios for the event—5 shadows, 2 net control operators, 1 mobile.

We discussed doing a Special Event Station for the Daniel Boone Family event if it is a recurring event. If it is not recurring we could still do a Special Event each year. Discussed QSL cards for the Special Event Station.

We talked about possible locations for repeaters in the county.

We need to do a RF survey of Mocksville. We will meet on the square in Mocksville at 6:30 on Tuesday, August 18. Every one needs to bring their HT as we will be checking for communications for the Daniel Boone event.

There is a 10 meter net in Iredell County at 9:00 pm on Saturday nights Frequency 28.468.

We should know something by July 15 about the location of the tower for the repeater.

James George volunteered to get the ARES patches for the Communications Group.

ICS classes will be held soon, date to be determined. Length will be about 4 hours per class.

Dave Flemming, the District EC, delivered a message from the Section Manager about how he had heard about the club and how it is growing.

We watched a video titled "South Sandwich Sage" about the VP8SSI DXpedition.

## Cheap Earbuds for Handhelds

For those that are going to work with the ARES/Communications Group during the Daniel Boone Family Festival on Saturday, August 19, you should have an earbud to use with your radio to keep communications private. If you don't already have an earbud you can get a cheap one at Wal-Mart in the music section. They have high priced units going up to \$30.00 or more, but there is also a simple earbud that only cost 97 cents that worked fine with my HT.

## ICS Training

Hopefully the EMS building is completed, or will be in the very near future. We are still planning on taking the ICS 100 and 200 classes at the EMS building in August. At this time I don't have any dates yet but I hope to have them soon. I want to remind everyone again that in order to work as a volunteer in a disaster or emergency area you HAVE to have these two classes, plus ICS700, by 1 October. This is a federal thing, not a local or club thing. If you are interested in doing ARES communications you must take these classes if you haven't taken them already. If you have taken the classes you need to make copies of the certificates and give a copy to the club secretary to be maintained in the club documents. Local EMS offices may also require a copy for their records so they have a known group of people that have taken all the required classes.

There is no charge for taking these classes, either at the local EMS in August or online. If you want to take these classes at the local EMS building and you have not contacted me before please do so now. You can send an email to n4qvm@n4qvm.com and I will add you to the list. As soon as I find out when the classes will be held I will let you know.

## Topics for Discussion at August Meeting

Treasury Report—There was \$60.00 in the treasury last month.

Ask if anyone tried the Iredell 10 meter net.

Callout tree needs to be updated. Some people on it haven't been to a meeting in 6 months. Those on the call out tree should have ICS100, ICS200 and ICS700 before October or they cannot be called out for emergency/disaster communications.

Personal information needs to be updated such as contact information, license class, operating frequencies and modes, any EmComm - ICS - ARECC classes taken.

Check on status of ARRL affiliation.

Club insurance - we need to look into liability insurance for the club before we get into too much public service or EmComm service. After we get ARRL affiliation we can get insurance through them.

Status of repeater - decision on tower yet?

Does the club want to start an equipment fund? This money to be kept strictly separate from dues and solely for purchasing equipment for the club. Pass around a piece of paper for list. Take suggestions for equipment to purchase. Examples, a G5RV for HF communications, feedline.

Need a couple more volunteers for the August event.

Do we need to have another table top exercise before the August event.

Any more information on the Tanglewood bike event?

**Hand out caps and patches if they have arrived.**

## Upgrade Anyone?

At the last meeting I asked if anyone was interested in upgrading since there are a number of Technician and General class members. For Technicians upgrading to at least General would open up the HF amateur bands. With the HF bands world wide QSO's are possible on a daily basis, with some days being better than others. For a few dollars you can experiment with making wire antennas that will perform well when using a rig with only 100 watts of power. Some of the most popular operating modes on HF are SSB, CW, RTTY, PSK31 and SSTV. On SSTV you can exchange pictures via radio with people across the country or around the world using an inexpensive and easy to install interface that goes between your radio and a computer. This same interface will also work the digital modes which includes CW, PSK31 and RTTY, the last two basically being "keyboard to keyboard" because you type in on the computer what is to be sent out through the radio. What you receive is decoded by the computer and printed out on the screen. For General class operators upgrading will give you access to portions of the bands that Generals aren't supposed to operate in. If anyone is interested in upgrading contact [n4qvm@n4qvm.com](mailto:n4qvm@n4qvm.com) and we'll see about getting classes set up.

## DX'ers get two new ones

DX'ers got a two fer this weekend. There are actually two brand new countries on the air at the same time. That doesn't happen often. One of the new countries is Montenegro, whose citizens voted in late May to separate from Serbia and become a fully independent country. The other new one is actually an island, Swains Island, that became eligible as a new 'entity' after a rule change the ARRL made to the DXCC rules. It is actually a US territory and qualifies as an entity because of a wide area of separation. There are now 337 entities on the DXCC list.

## August Meeting

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

Next meeting is 1 August at 7:00 pm at  
the Davie County Hospital

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

## Watch out for Summer Heat

Over 150 people have died due to the heat this summer, 132 of them in California.

Heat-related illnesses such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion or heatstroke can occur when high temperatures overcome the body's ability to dissipate heat. Older adults, young children, and persons with chronic medical conditions are particularly susceptible to these illnesses and are at high risk for heat-related death, the CDC said.

"Older people are most at risk for heat-related death," said Potter, a professor of medicine at the University of Nebraska. "Changes in physiology affect how a person responds to heat as they age. It is also due to chronic heart and lung disease, which is increasingly prevalent in this population, and some of the medications older people take."

One key vulnerability, according to Potter, is that older people don't sweat as much as younger people. "Since body cooling occurs with sweating and evaporation, people shouldn't use just fans, because fans work only when you sweat. So you have to take cool baths or spray yourself to get cooling from evaporation," she said.

The CDC offers these tips for staying healthy during a heat wave:

- Avoid strenuous outdoor activities.
- Drink adequate amounts of fluid, and avoid alcohol.
- Wear lightweight clothing.
- Use air-conditioning, if possible.

While we haven't had temperatures in the 110 to 115 range like they have in some areas, temps in the mid 90's can still do plenty of damage. Until the heat breaks y'all be careful out there.