

# Davie County ARC

October Meeting

Volume 1, Issue 7

## Participate in the Rowan SET

The Rowan County ARES group will be participating in the Rowan County SET on 21 October, and members of the Davie County ARES group are invited to join in.

The planned event is a tornado simulation in the area of Grace Church Rd and Highway 29. This will be a multi-agency event and the ARES group will most likely be working with the Red Cross in damage assessment.

This would be good training for anyone that can attend. You will also meet some of the members of the Rowan ARES group whom we may one day have to work with.

If you plan to participate it is strongly advised that you attend the ARES meeting next Tuesday, 10 October, at the Red Cross building on Jake Alexander in Salisbury at 6:15.

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## ARES Registration Web Site Good Model

(From ARRL ARES E-Letter) I believe we have one of the most advanced ARES registration sites in the country. Our server sits behind an SSL firewall, and both collects and delivers an incredible amount of data on demand. Since rolling out the site in June, we have registered more than 220 members into the system. Our Web site collects personal contact information as well as equipment capabilities and completed training.

Additionally, members can record hours spent on events, drills, emergency operations and ARRL administrative time. Another item we consider critical is to know what groups (clubs, RACES, SATERN, etc) a member belongs to and which group he or she pledges to support.

Virtually all data is searchable by ARES

management (data returned is determined by their ARES role), and they can even save favorite searches for later use (up to ten searches). To tour the site at <<http://www.az-arrl.org/secure>>, use the following: Login: Z1ABC Password: DEMODEMO

Although you won't see the search capability, you will see what data we can collect, and view the hours reporting and the "groups" tools. I will be presenting our site (we have also given the code to the Orange Section) at the Southwest Division Conference this month in San Diego. By that time, we will be beta testing additional tools, one of which is a multi-user comm plan builder to support multi-day deployments as well as multiple planners concurrently. -- Rick Aldom,

### Special points of interest:

- Contact John at [n4qvm@n4qvm.com](mailto:n4qvm@n4qvm.com)
- Contact James at [ki4bjr@yadtel.net](mailto:ki4bjr@yadtel.net)
- October 3 -- Tim Slay, the NC Section Manager will be at the October meeting.

## September Meeting Minutes

5 September 2006 Present were John Dwiggins—N4QVM, Buddy Eaton—KG4DKN, Don Cassidy—KG4IUC, Les Pinnix—N4YSB, Jack Davidson—NW4O, Ben Wasilauskas, K4GHS, David Pinnix—KO4XV, James George—KI4BJR, Wilson Sparks—KF4ISF, Kathy Sparks—KF4EKZ, Charles London—KI4NCQ

John thanked everyone that participated in the Daniel Boone Family Festival event. It seems that there is a chance that the festival will become an annual event and the club may want to set up an information booth at the next one. The club may also want to think about having a Daniel Boone special event station on the air next year regardless of the status of the festival.

John N4QVM has extra space on a server and can register the club callsign for free. It was decided to register the domain name ki4orw.org.

Rowan County is going to have an ARES meeting at the Red Cross building on Jake Alexander. If anyone is interested in working with the Rowan ARES they are welcome to attend the meeting. You do not have to be a member of the Rowan club to work with Rowan ARES.

James George announced that Austin Caviness will come and talk to the club about winter weather on Thursday, 9 Nov at 6:00 PM at the hospital. James also suggested that we have a float in the Christmas Parade in Mocksville.

We had a visitor, Charles London—KI4NCQ. Charles works with the Boys Scouts and will be working with them in JOTA, Jamboree on the Air, 21 Oct in Lexington. If anyone wants to help out Charles would appreciate the help.

Jack Davidson will be leaving sometime in October.

We watched a video about the different digital modes used in amateur radio.

## 2006 Simulated Emergency Test

From the Monthly North Carolina Section News , ARRL newsletter

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications, administered by the ARRL field organization. The SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emergency-communications capability within your community while interacting with NTS nets. This year's North Carolina Section SET will be held on October 28 from 8am to 12noon. The test scenario will be announced later by our Section Emergency Coordinator, Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK. Your local area may choose to hold an SET anytime during the fall season, just make sure your report reaches ARRL headquarters by January 31, 2007.

## It's Contest Season

October brings cooler temperatures, fall colors, and the beginning of the amateur radio contest season. For those working on DXCC or WAS it is possible to add a lot of needed countries or states in a very short time. If you are working on Worked All States it is possible to work every state in just a weekend if you play in the ARRL Sweepstakes. This is the biggest contest for working state to state, and you get two chances. There are actually two separate contest, one for CW and one for SSB. If you get lucky there will be at least one station from each state you work that uses the ARRL LoTW, Logbook of The World, that you can get all your WAS credits without having to send for any QSL cards.

The other big contest of the season are the DX contest. You don't have to have a huge antenna farm and high power to work a lot of countries in the major contest. Both the ARRL and CQ Magazine sponsor various DX contest. Some are band specific like the ARRL 10 meter contest, or the ARRL and CQ 160 meter contest. Others are mode specific like the CW and SSB DX contest, or the ARRL RTTY Roundup. If you are just starting out in DX'ing you can get a big jump start with these contest. It is possible to work over 100 countries in a single weekend. Then you can use the LoTW, the ARRL QSL bureau, or mail direct to get the cards to submit for awards.

## Topics for Discussion at October Meeting

Tim Slay to speak.

Surprise for club.

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

Check on status of ARRL affiliation.

Club insurance - Ask Tim Slay if he has any input about club insurance

Status of repeater - is everything ready, any help needed in getting the antenna up on the tower.

Any more information on the Tanglewood bike event, who from Davie was there, how it went?

December meeting—will it be an eat out meeting? If so, where?

Any members, besides David and Les, have packet on 2 meters? Any packet on HF? Anyone know anything about TelPac program for linking VHF/UHF to internet?

Does anyone want to take part in the Rowan SET on 21 Oct? If so they really should attend the next meeting of the Rowan ARES group. They could use some more people. The event will be a tornado near Grace Church Rd off of highway 29. ARES people will meet at the Red Cross building on Jake that morning and will probably work with the Red Cross during the event.

Les Pinnix appointed to Special Committee to Develop Relations with Davie County Officials. Other members to be named at a later date. Duties are to act as liaison between DCARC and Davie County officials.

Shelters are at the high school, Brock building and the new Senior Center.

## KI4ORW.ORG Web Site

The club callsign, KI4ORW has been registered as a domain name and a web site is up at [www.ki4orw.org](http://www.ki4orw.org). For the time being the new site closely resembles the site at [www.daviearc.org](http://www.daviearc.org), with the addition of all past issues of the newsletter. Over time the new site will grow and contain more information, especially a number of pdf files on various topics. It's just a matter of me getting the time to put them on the site.

There is also a section for photos of different club events. There are a few photos there now from the Daniel Boone Family Festival. Soon I will add photos from Field Day.

If anyone has photos from some event the club was involved in and would like them posted on the web site you can email them to me at [n4qvm@n4qvm.com](mailto:n4qvm@n4qvm.com).

If any members have a web site that they would like to have linked to from the web site let me know and I will add the link.

## WAS—Worked All States via LoTW

Some may remember that at a meeting a couple months ago I was talking about only needing one more state to have Worked All States confirmed using only LoTW. During the IARU contest in July I finally worked a station in Delaware that uploaded his logs to LoTW. All I had to do was go online to the ARRL LoTW and submit the application, pay for it with a credit card, and a couple days later the WAS certificate arrived in the mail. No hassle of looking up addresses, mailing out QSL cards with SASE's, and hoping I got a QSL card back. It's a lot cheaper than paying postage two ways for 50 QSL cards.

## October Meeting

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

Next meeting is 3 October at 7:00 pm  
at the Davie County Hospital

We're on the web at  
[www.daviearc.org](http://www.daviearc.org)  
[www.ki4orw.org](http://www.ki4orw.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

## Winter is Coming

As I write this it is hard to believe that winter weather will soon be here. Looking outside it is a late summers day with temperatures around 80, a beautiful blue sky and a slight breeze. It is hard to accept that two weeks from now is the average date for the first frost in our area. Two weeks from now the leaves will be turning colors and falling from the trees. By the next club meeting nearly all the leaves will be on the ground and the trees will be bare. Winter is my least favorite season. You have to wear too many clothes to stay warm. When the wind blows it is cold. Snow is pretty, but it makes the roads slick causing wrecks. If it rains and it's cold enough the rain freezes on tree limbs and power lines. Too much freezing rain and the power lines and trees start falling down.

Most of you remember the bad ice storm we had a few years ago. First our power went out, and then we spent several hours sitting in the dark while tree limbs bounced off the roof. There was warning before they hit. First there was a loud POW and you had just long enough to wonder if this one would hit the house before the KaBoom as the limb landed on the roof. The globes in the chandelier would rattle and then everything would be silent except for the tinkling sound of the ice crystals sliding down the roof. We were out of power for a couple days and lost a couple trees and many limbs. I have finally almost gotten all the brush ground up or burned from that storm. Luckily there was no damage to the house itself; all of the limbs landed flat instead of pointed end down.

We had enough kerosene in the portable heater to keep us warm for a couple days. We had flashlights and batteries so we weren't in the dark and enough food to eat without going out. That was a good thing because the roads were solid ice, and all the streets to our neighborhood are up hill. Besides that there was a tree down across the street about 200 feet east of us, and another across the street about 300 feet west. Even if we could have left you don't get back up the hill when the streets are solid ice. Are you ready for winter?