

JARS-In
Our 35th
Year

The Official Organ

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JARS meeting
this Thursday
at
Panther Branch
Community Building

The September meeting is this Thursday, Sep. 15th at the Panther Branch Community Building located on Highway Ten - Ten just off of NC50. Talk in will be available on the "Mighty 27" if needed. Supper this month will be "Round Steaks & Tube Steaks" better known as hamburgers & hot dogs. Make to let Tommy know as soon as possible. His e-mail is n4cbi@yahoo.com.

Sorry the Organ is a little late this month. There are two reasons that is so. One is that I was out of town this past weekend and just got home today and the second is that I was waiting and hoping that I would get ALL the monthly reports prior to me sending

out the ORGAN.

In this edition of the "Official Organ"

The storm that could've been:
Hurricane Irene.

A letter to the editor &
The LOM report.

Elections this month
Dues are due.

"It is no exaggeration to say that the undecided could go one way or another"

Hurricane Irene & JARS

Whenever there is a storm of any magnitude or any major event in Johnston County the county activates the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) Johnston County utilizes the "Incident Command System". Part of that system includes the utilization of Amateur Radio for Emergency Communications at the EOC and any shelters that are opened for evacuees, whether they be local or from other counties. In this case, we were the designated evacuation site for

Carteret County and had to open one shelter here in Johnston County at Smithfield-Selma High School.

The Johnston County EOC depends on us, JARS, to provide the radio operators to man the EOC and shelters. Each county has an "E.C." Emergency Coordinator and in some counties an assistant E.C. In order to be an E.C. or to work in the shelters, or for that matter, in any position in the "ICS", there are certain courses that are required. These are: [IS-100.b - \(ICS 100\) Introduction to Incident Command System](#), [IS-200.b \(ICS 200\) ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents](#), [IS-700.a National Incident Management System \(NIMS\), An Introduction](#) and [IS-800.b National Response Framework, An Introduction](#). All these and more courses can be found at:

<http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.asp>

There are many other courses that you can take that are not required. I was lucky or unlucky, depending on which way you want to look at it, to be the one that was acting as E.C. for the duration of Hurricane Irene. Luckily, I was able to find enough people to man the EOC and the one shelter we had open. We were lucky this time that it was a short lived event and a light event in the fact that

the EOC and shelter both maintained electricity and phone coverage. This is not always the case. For those that remember when Hurricane Fran came through, we had several shelters open and the EOC remained in operation for several days and we were able to provide the support needed.

If you are interested in helping at the shelters and EOC providing emergency communications, please contact me at:

jarsmember@hughes.net or Paul Dunn, KD4BJD at pauld@mulecity.com and we can provide you with more details.

73 de KD4UJC, Mike

LOM Report

Hey fellow JARS members some lucky member will be the next lid but you have to be there to find out who

73 de Stephen Fowler, KJ4QNW

Election of Officers

We will be holding election of

officers for the next year at this month's meeting. Be thinking of who you want to be our leaders next year. Officers will take over on Jan. 1, 2012.

Dues are due

Dues for 2012 are due starting at the September meeting and will be collected through JARSFest. The reason for JARSFest being the deadline is so that we can have time to update the roster and other administrative functions that have to be done each year. After much thought and many discussions, we have no choice except to raise our dues in order to continue to meet where we do and to keep JARSFest and other activities that we have through the year. I have been a member of JARS for almost 20 years and this is the only time that we have had to raise our dues. The dues structure for 2012 are \$60 for individual membership and \$80 for family. We realize that is quite a jump from where we currently are. However, if you set aside \$2.00 a day for 30 days, you will have your membership dues in one month.

A letter to the editor:

JARS Members,

Being a JARS member for the majority of my ham career has been a thrill I can't replace. The MIGHTY 27 has gone through some changes in the past years but it seems that it has not lost its flame for being the best repeater in the triangle, and probably the state for that matter. The biggest change to the 27 though has been the club. Can I say that this change has been mostly for the better? It's hard to say.

When I first joined after getting my license, the meetings were always full and lively. It was pretty hard to find an empty seat and the tables were crowded. It was also not too soon after I joined that I saw a president step down and walk out of the meeting leaving his membership behind. Things have not always been so obvious to me through the years, and a lot still confuses me. When it comes time to elect new officers, the president spot is always exciting to see who will take the challenge. Those without thick skin need not apply. Byron was always great and he shot straight and told you how he saw it. We had some good programs for the meetings and the meetings would run for a long time with most of the

members getting to check-in to the nightly net on their mobiles, but sometimes the net was already over.

What happened?

I have noticed a lot of members leave lately and meetings seem a little dulled down. New members seem to be hit and miss. The repeater isn't as active as it once was either. Friday and Saturday night nets get a lot of attention and I like that. I enjoy the long-lasting net that never seems to end, but when it's over you realize that what you have experienced was a well controlled discussion about supernatural topics, sci-fi fiction, thoughts of interest about what we are as people and all the things that make JARS members the most interesting specimens on the air.

The JARS fish wrapper turned into a rant and complaint bulletin for hypocrites and those wanting to stir the pot/ Men should be men and just stand up for what you believe in. I'm not here to say that we are not entitled to our opinions, but that we should take care of them in an adult manner. When I read that "members" have been complaining and don't want to renew their membership is quite backwards to what I hear on other repeaters. I hear quite often on the SWARC repeater that if a new ham needs some info, that the 27 is a great place to request help. I'm proud to

hear that said in QSO's on other repeaters.

To anybody interested in some thoughts about what we can do to make the club better, I have a few ideas that may be good to some, and may be nothing to others, but here they are nonetheless:

E-mail the secretary's report of the Thursday night meeting to all the members by Sunday night following the meeting. If some important information was discussed (i.e. raising membership dues) then I believe we should be getting that information out to the members as soon as possible instead of having to wait a week before the next meeting to hear about it, IF the secretary has turned in a report of the last meeting's minutes.

HAVE A PROGRAM FOR THE MEETING. If the membership fee of the JARS club will be raised to its new cost, then give me a reason to come to the meeting and make it enjoyable. I know that these are difficult times and that the prices of everything are going up, but if I'm going to make the decision to attend the meeting, feed me some new information about ham radio and teach me something I didn't know. I could take my membership money and join ARRL and get a magazine

subscription that could cover lots of new information, but I would like to see the club in action and applying new projects and techniques at the local level.

Reduce the number of meetings that take place at the Panther Branch Center.

There are certain times of the year in which we need the meeting place: JARS auction in February, Presidential picnic in May, Christmas Dinner in December. And sometimes we have a gathering in which we most of us meet in a large group and see each other too: Field Day in July and JARS Fest in November. So, why can't we reduce the number of meetings that we have at the center to maybe just 6 in a year? Has anybody thought about having a meeting over the air(our meetings are open to the public, so there shouldn't be a problem with discretion)? We threw around ideas about meeting at another place that would be **FREE**, but that didn't seem to amount to much. Golden Corral at 40-42, I think, would be a great place to start a few trial meetings to see how bad the crowd is and how long we could keep the meeting there until they throw us out for being too loud and rowdy? Plus it's actually in JOHNSTON COUNTY. I would much rather meet at a place for free that have to raise our membership dues again next year.

Do we need to have a separate JARS website?

Concerning this matter, I've tried to access the JARS.net website and have not had any luck getting it to come up. For just an easier fix, could we just make a Facebook page and keep it members only accessible? I could see us uploading more pictures and getting a lot of information out to the members in an up-to-the-minute kind of fashion and be able to have discussion boards so we can help out those who need it.

I know that I don't have the best track record for attending JARS meetings and that is due to many reasons dealing with being married and financial situations, but I'm looking forward to being at more meetings in the coming year, and definitely involved with more amateur radio activities. I know that everybody's life is not the same and we all have our own situations that life throws at us, but I do think we can find common ground. I love to be one of the first to show up at JARS fest to help set up and be the last to get all the tables put up in the Lee farm house as well as help raise as many antennas at field day to make radios get on the air. I look forward to serve, and hopefully, become an officer in the coming year for the club.

In the end, I really want to say

that I believe the club can change for the better and we can get to be more focused on the reasons we became AMATEUR radio operators. And I say amateur because I still have troubles with switching dual receive frequencies on my handheld and try to check in on the JARS net on the RARS or SWARC frequency. We have our mistakes and that makes for great LID nominees. Many of us got into this hobby because of the ability to communicate in times of bad weather and emergencies. Many of us strive to make long-lasting friendships with people all over this planet. Let us get to serving our community and keeping Amateur Radio around for many years. Let us get to the point that we have too many operators wanting to be net controls. Let us fill up field day with many tents and bring new people to the hobby. Let us be willing to give the correct length for a 1/4 w 2 meter antenna without berating somebody for not knowing.

FCC Rules and Regulations,
Subpart A, 97.1:

The rules and regulations in this Part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly

with respect to providing emergency communications.

(B) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.

(C) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communications and technical phases of the art.

(d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.

(e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

P.S.- I am working on research for many topics covering many facets of ham radio and the 2 meter band in particular and hope that I can get some support for demonstrations in the near future. If there is a topic that you would like to hear about or maybe you have a lot of experience in and would like to share about it with the club, please contact me. Here is a list of topics that I would like to begin with:

1. Direction Finding/Foxhunting.
2. Digital Communications.
3. EME/AMSAT Operations.
4. ATV
5. Setting Up a HAM shack/
Beginners Advice.
6. IRLP/ECHO LINK.
7. Emergency Comms, RACES, ARES.

8. D-star and APRS.

And lastly, I have received my VE credentials and will be trying to assist with local test sessions to get as much information about running a test session. I know that the JARS once had a VE team and I would like to bring it back. I would like to talk to members of the SWARC to see about maybe making this a combined club test group also. If you already have VE credentials and would like to help, contact me and we will discuss the future of a VE team as I get more information.

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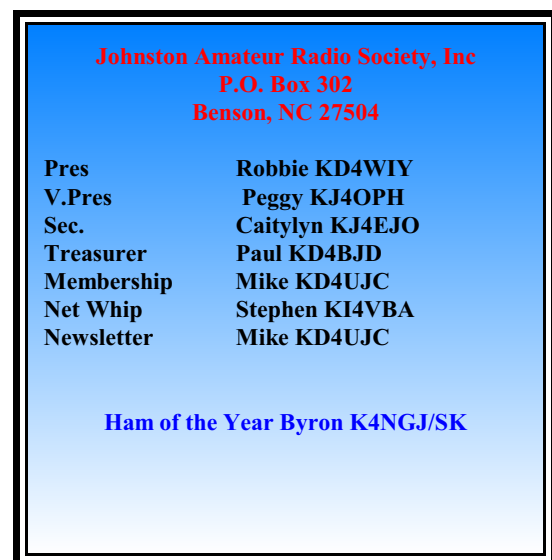
Please contact me if you have response to any ideas listed above or you can help with any of the research topics.

Lots of help needed!

I am trying very hard to put together a newsletter each month, but it is getting harder to do each month. Each month I send out a reminder usually on Monday or Tuesday before the Friday that I start working on the newsletter. The past few months, I have been getting fewer and fewer contributions. In order to keep this a "Club" newsletter and not just my opinions, I need some contributions. I

am sure that each month that someone makes a rare contact, gets a new radio or antenna or comes up with some suggestions for installing radios in vehicles. It would be nice if you would share them with the club. So once again, here I am asking that you send your contributions to:

jarsmember@hughes.net .



Well, that does it for another edition of the JARS Fishwrapper. Hope to see everybody at the meeting.

73 de KD4UJC, Mike