

Linear Lines

Trident Amateur Radio Club Newsletter
May 2015



From the President's Shack

100 years of voice

From the time he was a young boy, Canadian Reginald Fessenden was fascinated with the idea of transmitting voice. Upon hearing his uncle describe Alexander Graham Bell's demonstration of the telephone, the 10 year-old reportedly asked, "Why do they need wires?" He then spent much of his life trying to figure it out. His early attempts at voice transmission were unintelligible. With government backing, Fessenden, and his assistant Thiessen, kept trying various improvements until they met with success. Fessenden formed the National Electric Signaling Company (NESCO) with a pair of Pittsburgh millionaires as backers after his contract with the government ended, and he began working with the United Fruit Company helping perfect their wireless communications between land stations and ships at sea. With the powerful transmitters and antenna systems at this disposal, he began more earnest experiments in voice transmissions, and in June 1906, he successfully transmitted a message from his Brant Rock, MA office to a receiver at Plymouth, a distance of about 12 miles.



ARRL Field Day is right around the corner. The last full weekend of June, June 27-28, 2015, we need operators to volunteer this year to help raise the number of contacts.

On that note a little tidbit on ARRL Field Day:

Since the first ARRL Field Day in 1933, radio amateurs throughout North America have practiced the rapid deployment of radio communications equipment in environments ranging from operations under tents in remote areas to operations inside Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). Operations using emergency and alternative power sources are highly encouraged, since electricity and other public infrastructures are often among the first to fail during a natural disaster or severe weather.

To determine the effectiveness of the exercise and of each participant's operations, there is an integrated contesting component, and many clubs also engage in concurrent leisure activities (camping out, cookouts, etc.). Operations typically last a continuous twenty-four hours, requiring scheduled relief operators to keep stations on the air. Additional contest points are awarded for experimenting with unusual modes, making contacts via satellite, and involving youth in the activity.

May Birthdays

Terry Fox, N4TLF
 Jackie Green, KK4YKW
 Tom Lufkin, W4DAX
 Michelle Mantooh, KK4WQO
 Steve Vansickle, WB2HPR



If there's something you want to see in Linear Lines, please send it to Michelle, KK4WQO, at KK4WQO@sc.rr.com by the 5th of the month

Local & Statewide 2M Nets

Days	Time	Name	Frequency	Tone	Location
Sundays	8:00pm & 8:20pm	Local ARES Net & Links to State Net	145.410- 146.730-	123.0 123.0	Seabrook Island Trident Med.
Tuesdays	7:30pm 8:00pm	TARC CW Net TARC Voice Net	146.790- 146.940-	123.0 123.0	USS Yorktown Knightsville
1st & 3rd Tuesdays	9:00pm	Lowcountry Skywarn Net	146.985- 147.045+ 147.270+	123.0 103.5 123.0	Summerville Med. St. George Dorchester EOC
Thursdays	9:00am	SCHEART Net	147.345+ 441.450+	123.0 123.0	Adams Run Knightsville
Thursdays	8:00pm	Newcomers Net	441.575+ 442.150+	123.0 123.0	Wallace Trident Med.
Thursdays	8:00pm	SC State Guard on SCHEART			
Saturdays	9:30am	QCWA Net			

Statewide HF Nets

Days	Time	Name	Frequency
1st & 3rd Mondays	6:00pm	South Carolina ARES Net	3.990 MHz Alt. 3.9935 MHz
Daily	7:00pm	South Carolina SSB Net	3.915 MHz
Daily	8:00pm	Carolinas Slow Net (CW)	3.695 MHz

TARC Net Report—April 2015

Nets	Check-Ins	Traffic	Sessions	Reported By
2 Meter Voice	76	15	4	W4DAX, Tom Lufkin
2 Meter CW	17	0	4	W4DAX, Tom Lufkin

Upcoming Events

5/2/15 — SC Section Convention for more information follow the link below: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-section-convention-56th-annual-hamfest>

5/4/15—TARC Board meeting (all are welcome) starts at 7:30pm at Red Cross Building

5/9/15—TARC Tail Gate at Goose Creek Masonic Lodge on St. James in Goose Creek from 8am to 1pm—don't forget to enjoy the pancake breakfast the Lodge will be sponsoring

5/9/15—Hurricane Expo cancelled due to weather concerns

5/9/15—Dorchester County ARES Meeting cancelled

5/11/15—CARS Meeting at Ryan's West Ashley starts at 7:00pm

5/15/15—TARC Club Dinner at Breck's at 6:30pm (no RSVPs necessary per Bob McLeod, NG4R)

5/16/15—Charleston County ARES at 9am at 1775 Ashley River Rd., Charleston, SC 29407

5/18/15—TARC Monthly Meeting starts at 7:30pm at the Red Cross Building

5/18/15—Run for the Bacon QRP Contest (CW Contestors)

5/23/15—Berkeley ARES Meeting at 9am at 223 North Live Oak Dr., Moncks Corner, SC 29461

5/27/15—6/18/15—Community Emergency Response Training at Dunes West on Wednesday evenings from 6pm—9pm/ final session is on Saturday from 9am—1pm

5/30/15—Berkeley County ARES Meeting at 9am at Trident Medical Center

6/1/15—TARC Board Meeting (all are welcome) starts at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross Building

6/6 & 6/7/15—Museum Ships Event at Warren Lasch Conservation Center (still need some operators, so sign up using the following link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4eaead2ea5ff2-museum>)

6/8/15—CARS Meeting at Ryan's West Ashley starts at 7:00pm

6/13-15/2015—June VHF Contest

6/13/15—Dorchester County ARES Meeting at 9am at 212 Deming Way, Summerville, SC 29483

6/15/15—TARC Monthly Meeting starts at 7:30pm at the Red Cross Building

6/20/15—Charleston County ARES at 9am at 1775 Ashley River Rd., Charleston, SC 29407

6/20/15—Kids Day Contest

6/27/15—Berkeley County ARES Meeting at 9am at Trident Medical Center

6/27 & 6/28/2015—TARC Field Day

Treasurer's Report



The club continues to grow as we discover more projects in which you are interested. Dayton Hamvention is this month and if you have never been, you must make it at least once in your lifetime. I promise you, you have never seen anything like it. It is also impossible to see everything in one day.

Tom has been hinting that a new balloon launch is in the works, so watch the website for current information. Everything we do we try to post on the website, so be sure to check it for current information on everything.

The HF bands have been really crappy the last few days, and I can't wait until they get back to normal. My latest project is to get my Ten Tec Argonaut V up and running on digital. I have been having a blast with it mainly on 20 and 40 meters, but with conditions so bad, have not had much luck lately.

The radio give away continues to go well. We will definitely be giving one away next meeting, so be sure to attend and donate your two dollars. Robert Wilhite holds the record so far as having his name drawn twice, but he forgot to pay his two dollars. If you need to build anything or need some help, contact Tom Lufkin or Ron Davis. We can use Tom's garage, and we can always find someone to help you.

The museum ships on the air is coming up, and we need operators!! A link was sent to everyone for signing up to help. Support your club and enjoy operating in a semi-contest event also.

Dinner group get togethers are always fun and everyone is welcome. We get together, get to know each other better and try to not talk ham radio, hard as that is for some of us. Spouses always seem to enjoy them and sometimes we bring non ham friends. That's all folks. Bob NG4R

April Board Meeting

TARC BOARD MEETINGS MINUTES for 04 May, 2015

President- Steve KE4THX- 1857 Opened the meeting
Vice President Joe KJ4BNC- No opening comments
Treasurer Bob, NG4R - No opening comments
Secretary David KK4TLR- No opening comments

Discussions:

Museum Ships Weekend

Chris Mantooth - Asked for a summary of the site assessment of the Warren Lasch Conservation Center conducted by Tom & Steve.

Tom Lufkin – It is ok for us to set up across the street in the grass in order to get a better reception.

Steve LaMendola - Thinks we should get there bright and early Saturday morning to set up. We have two computers to use.

Chris Mantooth - Has CAT control if we want to use it.

Steve LaMendola - Has the setup to run digital but we will need CAT cables.

Chris Mantooth – Tom Lufkin, Ron Davis, David Merritts, Robert Wilhite, Andrew Chaloupka, Michelle Mantooth, Dave Eslinger, Steve LaMendola is Mantooth are the operators for now.

Chris Mantooth - Asked about ideas for starting and ending times. We will need to have at least two people on site at all times over night. He is working on an ONLINE signup sheet for the setup, operation and tear down. There will be food, snacks and water.

Tom Lufkin - Said restrooms can be used in the Warren Lasch Conservation Center while it's open for Hunley tours from Noon-5:00p.m.

Chris Mantooth – The cost for porta-johns is estimated to be \$74/unit from Natures Calling with an extra fee for the sanitizer station. He has heard 20m works best, and we can expect 100-200 contacts for our Museum Ships Weekend event.

Ron Davis – Has applied for a special club call sign for this and other events commemorating the Hunley; it is N4HLH. Ron agreed to set up a Logbook of the World account for uploading and recording contacts made.

Chris Mantooth - Planning on \$1 for self-addressed stamped envelopes in USA, and \$3 for foreign contacts. This is just for a QSL card from TARC... the actual certificates will be coming from the Museum Ships event coordinators in NC. Chris asked Tom to have contact information be switched over to the new web link for the event.

Bob McLeod - Asked what frequencies on which we will be operating. Chris didn't remember & will have to send it out to everyone as the event grows closer, it will be around 14.264 per Ron. The talking frequency will be posted on TARC web site.

Steve LaMendola- Estimated 2 hours for setup and 1-1.5 hours for tear down, and he would like to be home by 8:00 p.m. Sunday. It was recommended we start the set-up at 7:00a.m. on Saturday (will see what we get for operator volunteers before making call about working overnight).

Tom Lufkin - Suggested a 5:00p.m. Sunday tear down and Steve liked that idea.

Steve LaMendola - Has a contact at the Natures Calling but wants to wait to see if we need it for one day or two.

David Merritts - Suggested a large banner for the site and maybe another one to place by the Hunley building. Chris will work on cost estimates.

Chris Mantooth - Asked Tom to Change the web site to include Phone as well as CW.

Membership Meeting Show & Tells

Ron Davis - Suggested doing show & tell at membership meetings.

Steve LaMendola- Asked how to advertise.

Ron Davis - Suggested including signup request in the weekly email and Steve suggested an online signup sheet. Andrew Chaloupka will provide show and tell at the May meeting. May's Membership meeting presentation will be a show and tell of some builds by Andrew & Ron.

Linear Lines

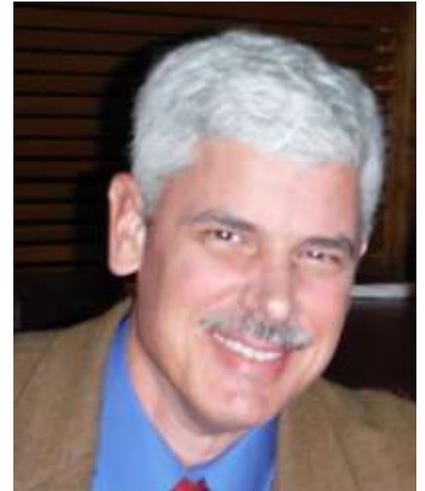
Michelle Mantooth - Linear Lines may be out a little late, but prior to the membership meeting.

Bob McLeod - Said she was doing a great job.

Ron Davis - Suggested doing one chapter a month from the "Arduino for H.A.M. Radio" by Glen Popiel, KW5GP, <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Arduino-for-Ham-Radio>, instead of builds.

Balloon Launch

Ron Davis - Is taking the lead on the next high altitude balloon launch and will contact Todd in Beaufort for interested parties. The PSA School already has the balloon and will pay for helium. Ron will check using prediction software before setting the date.



April Board Meeting

TARC BOARD MEETINGS MINUTES for 04 May, 2015, Continued

Antennas

Ron Davis - Said the Harleyville Police Department antenna is at Kevin's house but he fell and needs someone to pick up the antenna and bring it to the Police Department.

Tom Lufkin - Will get a contact to Steve for Susan to pick up the antenna for the Red Cross building.

Kit Builds

Ron Davis - Said Dave Eslinger, K4DLE, and Robert Wilhite, KV4LV, have some plans to build one for the 10M rig they setup.

Dinner Meeting

Steve LaMendola - Is looking for a volunteer to take the lead, Bob McLeod will host the dinner at Brecks, Rivers Ave., N. Charleston on the 15th of May at 6:30p.m.

Picnic/Fox Hunt

Steve LaMendola - Asked David Walden concerning the status of the Picnic/Fox Hunt.

David Walden - Understood we were looking for the date of 10 Oct and asked what funds were available for food and drink (hamburgers, hotdogs, rolls, condiments and soft drinks). No amount was available, so David will continue with the planning..

Tom Lufkin - Said Beverly Boyd, KM4AR, has a house on Lake Marion that TARC can use for free for the Picnic. Tom will put Beverly in touch with

JOTA

David Merritts - He needs to get with Tom to get fliers distributed at the next Boy Scouts of America district meeting to see if they want to have two sites... if interest is low, then we may just use Oscar's farm for the event. TARC will teach a merit badge class. It will take 0.5 -1 hour to complete the youth protection class and get set up to teach the Ham Radio Merit Badge. Brian, David M., and Andrew will be going to the Boy Scouts of America district meeting on Thursday, May 7th at 7p.m.

Field Day

Field Day is June 27th-28th, 2015

Site reserved, Permits?

Porta johns?

Need 2nd generator

Dinner for Saturday night?

Volunteer Sign up

Operator sign up

Steve LaMendola - Has permits in process.

Tom Lufkin - Offered up his generator as a second for the event.

Steve LaMendola - Poor turnout for last year's dinner so we will fend for ourselves (pizza?).

Tom Lufkin - Will get Kelly at City of Goose Creek to get us a proclamation. Friday, 3p.m. setup time.

Steve LaMendola - Will send out a signup sheet.

Tom Lufkin - Said Mel will do CW. Steve is looking into bringing his camper and setting it up for the CW station.

Steve LaMendola - Suggested taking orders from ARRL for T-shirts and selling them.

By-Laws

Steve LaMendola - Asked if people will be sending in notes/comments on the recent By-Laws draft.

David Merritts - Said he had sent some notes included and Steve asked that everyone send "Reply All."

Treasurer's Report

Bob McLeod - Made a deposit of \$156 bringing the club's balance to \$2,080.58 total.

Tom Lufkin - Asked how the Hunley did and Bob said it was a bit of a wash, but we still have some supplies leftover from the event.

Bob said it was a great event and will grow.

Tailgate

Andrew Chaloupka - Tailgate is 8:00a.m.-1:00p.m. on Saturday, May 9th. Raffle for door prize is at noon and the winner will have to be present to win.

Ron Davis - Thanked Andrew and Tom for stepping up and taking over the Tailgate.

8:20p.m. Steve LaMendola motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Joe Chapman seconded with everyone else in favor.

Membership Report for May 2015—Ron Davis

We added two new members this month:

Steve Vansickle WB2HPR wb2hpr@arrl.net

Rachelle Perry WB2DGE sperry374@gmail.com

Let's make them feel welcome.

We are up to 59 members now.



Upcoming Contesting Events of Interest

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar> (for more events including non-ARRL events)

May 18th: Run for the Bacon QRP Contest—CW

June 6th & 7th: Museum Ships—Phone, CW, and Digital

June 13th—15th: June VHF Contest

June 20th: Kids Day Contest

June 27th & 28th: ARRL Field Day

Low Country VE — David Merritts

April 15th proved to be more than the deadline date for filing TAXES. It was the day that the Low Country VE Team met at the Masonic Lodge on St. James Avenue in Goose Creek to administer the Amateur License Exam to three individuals. This proved a great day for all three who passed their exams. Congratulations to Doug Cohen, KM4HWW for getting his General Ticket. Not to be left out, Karen Cohen got her new Technician License, KM4JUR. James Lanier, KW4IN, upgraded his license to Extra. James has even inquired about joining the VE Team. Great job by all three candidates! Look for them on the air and be sure to say HELLO.

David, AE4ZR

VE Question of the Month

From the General Question Pool:

A two-times increase or decrease in power results in how many dB? _____

Builders Group

Contacts Ron Davis, K4TCP, ron.davis@gmx.us & Tom Lufkin, W4DAX, wa4dax@hotmail.com



Museum Ships Event, June 6th—7th, 2015

The Museum Ships Event sets itself apart from other contesting events in that it offers us the chance to spread historic awareness of some classic vessels that have shaped the foundations of our country and made our country the great nation it is. The goal is to work 15 stations in a 2 day period. In 2015, there will be 83 ships participating around the globe, now add in the conditions, propagation and time-zone differences, and therein lies the challenge for this event. To get your certificate for this event, you will need to send a copy of your log for the 15 ships and \$4.00 to the following address by September 30th, 2015. The \$4 covers the cost of the envelope, postage, and printing supplies. The Battle Ship New Jersey Amateur Radio Club will provide the large envelope in which to mail the certificates. They will not give certificates for SWL, and working the same ship on different frequencies will not count as 2 ships having been worked. Mailing address for the certificate is:

**Margaret Burgess, KB2BRR,
150 Schooner Ave.,
Barnegat, NJ 08005, USA**

For the record, TARC will be participating in the event from the Warren Lasch Conservation Center commemorating the HL Hunley. Not only is this our first year participating in this event, but we are also the oldest submarine participating. The HL Hunley has the distinction of being the first submarine to sink an enemy ship of war. If you need more information, contact Chris Mantooth, KV4TQ, at KV4TQ@sc.rr.com. To sign up as an operator for this event, go to this web-site and volunteer: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4eaead2ea5ff2-museum>



A Snapshot View of Nepal



This image pulled from the following web-site <http://www.infoplease.com/atlas/country/nepal.html>





ARRL News & Updates

<http://www.arrl.org/news/new-nepal-earthquake-keeps-amateur-radio-relief-effort-going>

New Nepal Earthquake Keeps Amateur Radio Relief Effort Going

05/13/2015

Amateur Radio relief activity in Nepal had begun to wind down before a magnitude 7.3 earthquake shook parts of the Himalayan nation on May 12, collapsing buildings and killing dozens in a region that's still trying to recover from the much stronger earthquake on April 25. The latest quake revived the ham radio effort. Centered some 50 miles east-northeast of the Nepalese capital of Kathmandu and near the border with Tibet, the temblor was felt in India and Bangladesh. The US Geological Survey considers the May 12 tremor as an aftershock of the magnitude 7.8 earthquake on April 25.

"Immediately after the first tremor I turned on my station and gave a call on 14.210 MHz," said Amateur Radio Society of India (ARSI) National Disaster Communication Coordinator Jayu Bhide, VU2JAU. He subsequently made contact with Satish Kharel, 9N1AA, who reported that power as well as Internet and cell phone service were out, although text messaging was still possible. 9N1AA was operating from battery power at the time, but later got his power back. Other parts of Kathmandu are still without electricity, however.

Bhide said he learned that some three multi-story structures that suffered cracks in the initial earthquake collapsed, killing several people. Other reports from Sindhupal Chowk indicated that eight people had died, he said. Bhide said he would be monitoring continuously on 14.210 MHz.

The Computer Association of Nepal-USA ([CAN-USA](#)) project "Radio Mala" reported that equipment it deployed in 2013 continues to function in the aftermath of the latest tremor. Radio Mala team member Rick Santina, W6IFA, said that Sanjeeb Panday, 9N1SP, had e-mailed the CAN-USA team that the HF station was still working. Panday has installed the antenna for the second CAN-USA UHF/VHF repeater, but the installation was not able to be completed before this week's aftershock. 9N1AJ and 9N1SP were scheduled to be on 21.360 MHz from Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu.

"We are still deploying ham radio equipment to Nepal in response to this humanitarian crisis," said CAN-USA Disaster Preparedness Committee Chairman Suresh Ojha, W6KTM.



Trident Amateur Radio Club

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We're on the Web!

[http://
www.tridenthams.org](http://www.tridenthams.org)

Low Country VE Question Answered

The answer to this
month's question is:

Approximately 3dB