

PAMLICO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY  
2013

OFFICERS

President—Bill Olah, KR4LO  
Vice President—Tom Corwin, KI4NSP  
Treasurer--Gail (Wally) Wallace, KK4ASP

ARES Emergency Coordinator—Mike Hurm, KK4HPS  
Newsletter Editor--Jim Hartmeyer, AI4WL  
N4PRS Web Master, Larry Wall, KK4SEO

MEETING NOTES

These notes taken at monthly meetings are extracted from the Pamlico Amateur Radio Society weekly newsletter, the PARSgram. Although they are not formal minutes, they constitute a record of those meetings. Even though the weekly emailed newsletter known as the PARSgram began in 2007, meeting notes were first reported in the July 29, 2013 PARSgram.

PAMLICO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (PARS) JULY MEETING NOTES--

- \* President Bill Olah KR4LO outlined a proposal to renovate and equip a small travel trailer or suitable commercial trailer as a PARS communications center. It would be available for emergency response, field day, and other public service activities. He is soliciting for someone to donate such a trailer to the club. Bill will perform the work needed to make the trailer usable.
  - \* Lor Kutchins W3QA noted that more emergency services are using WINLINK and WINMAIL for message services over HF Radio. He offered help to anyone interested in making their station capable.
  - \* Bill Cresswell K2ONN advised that he has wrapped up the PARS Field Day for 2013. The final report has gone into the mail.
  - \* Tom Finta K8TF outlined the Dragon Boat Race Event Schedule and communications needs. He still needs help. It's on Friday Aug 9th and Saturday the 10th.
  - \* The program by Dick Goodwin K4JJW on RF Noise Finding and Abatement follows the August Meeting.
  - \* A PARS Flea Market will be held in conjunction with our September and October Meetings. Start gathering your stuff.
  - \* A PARS Web Site may be in our future. Larry Wall KK4SEO has volunteered to lead the effort.
  - \* A Technician level license course is being considered for the fall subject to interest and instructor availability.
- (PARSgram 2013-07-29)

PAMLICO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (PARS) AUGUST MEETING NOTES--

- \* 31 Members and guests attended the August 31st Meeting at Brantley's Restaurant.
- \* Treasurer Wally KK4ASP reported \$1171 in the bank.
- \* ARES/EOC FM Radio Update: President Bill KR4LO reported none of the 5 club owned radios work and all appeared uneconomically repairable. They

will be available for parts at the forthcoming October flea market. Purchase of a QUADBAND 29/50/144/430 VHF/UHF full duplex FM transceiver was recommended at a price of less than \$400 after rebate. Purchase was approved by the members present. (The club DOES HAVE a working radio that is deployed for use at Pamlico Community College--the county evacuation center,)

\* After discussion, pursuit of a trailer for use as an operations center for public service events was tabled. Liability insurance is a major issue.

\* Larry KK4SEO outlined PARS Web Site options and maintenance/security issues. Based on members' guidance, he will start work on the site, free of cost, with updating to be done by club officers. Enhancement to include a club specific domain name would incur an ongoing registration fee.

[Ed note--Larry, already at work on the site, is looking for photos of PARS activities, especially of people having fun doing Ham radio. Email them to Larry at [barefootlogic.com](mailto:barefootlogic.com)]

\* Dragon Boat Race communications support went well according to Tom Finta K8TF. It resulted in good PR for the club.

\* At least 2, perhaps 5 or more folks, are interested in a Technician Course. Schedules of students and prospective instructors need to be worked out with a goal of having the course start as soon as possible.

\* President Bill Olah asked for a volunteer to head the nomination committee for officers. He/she would solicit/ receive names of those interested in running. Officers are to be elected at the October meeting. Willing incumbents are Bill and Wally (as bookkeeper/treasurer). VP Tom Corwin KI4NSP does not wish to run for re-election.

\* PARS will support the local scouts in the Jamboree on the Air. President Bill and Dave N4ENE will take the lead.

\* Bill reminded those present that a flea market for amateur radio and related items will be held at the September and October meetings.

\* At the conclusion of the business meeting, Dick Goodwin, K4JJW, led a most instructive discussion on RF noise finding and abatement.

(PARSgram 2013-09-02)

## PAMLICO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (PARS) SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTES

Tom KI4NSP passed along his notes of last Saturday's PARS meeting for those of us who missed it. Thanks Tom:

\* Thirty Five (35) people attended the PARSfest and Meeting. There was a lot of used gear on display both inside and out. A "PARSfest" will be held again at the October 26th Meeting. It is not too soon to check your shelves to see what you can bring.

\* Mike Hurm KK4HPS now has the new YAESU radio that PARS purchased. Mike is our Pamlico County ARES Emergency Coordinator. The new radio was used on last Wednesday's ARES net. This radio will be used at the County Emergency Operations Center when ARES is activated. The Club is accepting donations to cover the cost of the new unit. Please mail your donation to PARS, Box 272, Oriental, NC, 28571

\* Larry Wall kk4seo is working hard on the new PARS Website, [www.n4prs.org](http://www.n4prs.org) The early stages are now up and running. Check back often to watch it grow!

\* Jamie King's kj4jk Tech Class is off to a solid start with eight (8) very

focused students. Jamie is assisted by Bill Olah KR4LO, Tom Finta K8TF and Jim Hartmeyer AI4WL. For the October 24th exam, additional VE'S are welcome--please advise Jaime.

\* Andy Denmark donated a generator to PARS which will be perfect for Field Day. THANK YOU Andy!!!  
(PARSgram 2013-09-30)

#### PAMLICO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (PARS) OCTOBER MEETING NOTES

\* Over 25 members and guests attended the October meeting and "PARSfest" last Saturday at Brantley's Restaurant in Oriental.

\* President Bill Olah KR4LO reported on behalf of Mike KK4HPS, our ARES EC, that over \$240 had been received in donations toward the new transceiver for use at the Pamlico EOC. The transceiver has been obtained and is ready for service.

\* Jim Hartmeyer AI4WL in his VHF/PARSgram report advised that the 10M band had been very active this past week. This was partially due to an increase in solar activity and because many stations were on the air preparing for the CQ WW DX SSB Contest. He reminded technician level hams present that they have privileges to operate in a SSB portion of this very popular band.

\* The new PARS Website, <http://n4prs.org>, is up and running according to Larry Wall KK4SEO, our club WebMaster. Registration is required to access some club related content. (Details follow separately below).

\* The PARS Fall Technician Class graduated Thursday. All seven taking the exam passed, one with a perfect score according Jamie King KJ4JK. (More on the exam results below). A General level course is anticipated for early Spring 2014.

\* In the annual PARS election, Bill KR4LO and "Wally" Wallace KK4ASP were reelected to the offices of President and Treasurer respectively, Randy Davis K4WRD was elected Vice President his term starting in January 2014.

\* The Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) at Aurora was a big success. The team from PARS consisting of Bill, Brian Shepard K4LTE, Dave N4ENE, Mike Hurm KK4HPS, and Mike Marsh KK4NLC set up and began operations on Friday and then operated in shifts all day Saturday. The control operators had a great time putting the Scouts on the air and teaching them about amateur radio.

\* A PARS trip to visit the Voice of America Transmitter site is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20th.

\* In response to a call for suggested presentation topics, "Stealth Antennas" is planned for the November meeting.

(PARSgram 2013-10-28)

#### PAMLICO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (PARS) NOVEMBER 2013 MEETING NOTES

\* 29 members and guests attended the November meeting last Saturday at Brantley's Restaurant in Oriental.

\* President Bill Olah KR4LO reported on behalf of Wally KK4ASP, Club Treasurer, that the club is solvent with 22 members already paid up for 2014. The club coffers were helped by those who contributed to the purchase of the transceiver for deployment to the Pamlico EOC in emergencies.

\* President Bill Olah KR4LO noted on behalf of Mike KK4HPS, our ARES EC, that the College evacuation center radio is limited to a single band. Perry Cheatham, KG4QHM, confirmed that and advised that the Delamar Center at the

College, although equipped with the newest antenna with coax routed to the conference room, is not used. The building is not certified by the Red Cross because it lacks emergency power. In an emergency, Perry reports to the Chemistry building that has emergency power. There is an older but still good 2M antenna mounted outside on a telephone pole. The coax is routed to one of the laboratories. Perry now has a key to get into the lab when the site is activated. Access used to be problematic. He uses his own radio there now but would welcome a back-up that could be stored on site. He would also welcome a second operator that could take over if needed.

\* Jim Hartmeyer, AI4WL, reported Winter Sporadic E Layer Propagation is beginning on 6M. Reports of Trans Equatorial Propagation into South America have been on the rise. The highest Sunspot numbers in a decade were reached on November 17th (SN of 282). They have since declined. The 10 and 12 Meter bands remain very active for several hours during daylight hours. To insure receipt of the PARSgram keep him advised of email address changes.

\* Eleven PARS members and a number of NBARC members visited the Edward R. Murrow Transmitter Station on Nov 20th according to Bill Olah. He remarked that it was quite a thrill to walk into a transmitter that uses 2 foot tall tubes and capable of 500 KW--it was down for maintenance. (As noted in last week's PARSgram, this is the last VOA Shortwave transmitter site in the US. The others including two in the Greenville area, have been decommissioned. Photos of the trip should be on the PARS web site soon.)

\* Janice Hopkins, KJ4JPE, briefly discussed SKYWARN APPRECIATION DAY, actually an annual two day event. This year it will be held on 6-7th of December. She invited all to tour the National Weather Service Newport Office, operate the station HF radio in the "contest" between the NWS offices, and enjoy lunch on Saturday with the staff. Bill Morine, N2COP, NC Section Manager, is expected to visit on Saturday.

\* Dick Goodwin, K4JJW, briefly talked about his "Vari-Ten" Antenna Tensioner and offered early models to members for "beta testing". The device is a better alternative to the brick/pulley method of tensioning wire antennas to eliminate sag in the horizontal plane. It will also protect the antenna system from snapping with end support (tree) movement. Two models are available based on antenna weight. (Dick is the second PARS member to offer unique products to the amateur radio community. For more information, contact Dick at [rgoodwin41@suddenlink.net](mailto:rgoodwin41@suddenlink.net). The other product is the very successful "Air Boss Antenna Launcher" designed and sold by Bill Olah, see [www.kr4loairboss.com](http://www.kr4loairboss.com).)

\* The new PARS Website, <http://n4prs.org>, is on line with over 30 members registered according to Larry Wall KK4SEO, our club WebMaster. Photos of the 2008 and 2010 Field Days and the VOA visit are coming. Larry is looking for more activity on the forums.

\* The December PARS meeting (Dec 28) will feature the annual gift exchange. Gifts should be ham related valued at \$10 or less. Station grounding will be discussed at the January meeting.  
(PARSgram 2013-12-02)

PAMLICO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (PARS) DECEMBER 2013 MEETING NOTES  
Business was nil at the Christmas End of Year Gift Exchange Breakfast at

Brantley's last Saturday. The folks who made the meeting had shopped or dug into their bookshelves, junk boxes, and attics to find some neat stuff to bring. Attendance was a bit light, but it was good to talk Ham radio and exchange seasons greetings with our fellow Hams. As we enter the new year Bill Olah, KR4LO continues as President and "Wally" Wallace KK4ASP, will keep our finances straight as Treasurer. They will be assisted by a newly elected Vice President, "Randy" Davis K4WRD. Thanks go to Tom Corwin KI4NSP, Past Vice President, for his devoted service to our club. Happy New Year!

(PARSgram 2013-12-30)