

December 1st, 2015

# The Signal

## From the shack of the President...

### Peter M. Wene, WA5T

It looks like 2015 is coming to an end. It seems the years go by faster and faster with each and every year. With respect to the club and activities, we have had a very productive year.

As you know one of the clubs goals is to promote amateur radio by doing those things which bring in new Hams or assist in getting current Hams up graded. This past summer, at the behest of the Salvation Army, we held a Technician Licensing class. With the assistance of Ray Lane, kd4fv, Albert Lioen, n4zfg, Dave Roy, w4dna, Pete Benton, kk4qaz, and Bob Howett, wd4fix, we were able to pull a very successful class. Of the ten individuals who finished the class and took the test, eight passed and got their ticket. Of the eight that passed, we gained five new members.

Members giving back - We had two very generous donations to the club in the form of hardware. Kirk Ellis, ki4rk, donated two high capacity cell site backup batteries thus allowing the VHF repeated to operate under emergency conditions. Also, Bobby Lane, kk4fmh, donated a commercial grade VHF folded dipole antenna. Since we installed the antenna, we noted a significant gain in TX and RX performance. Thanks Kirk and Bobby.

I am looking forward to 2016, it will be a great Radio year.

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Pete Wene, wa5t, getting the beam 20 meter beam ready!

## The 2015 ARRL Field Day

Field Day was a resounding success! A total of 4,316 points were accumulated, for a rank of 16 in the 5-A station class.

That's 16th in the United States!



Anna and Wilson, aa5az getting the 40 Meter station ready for action

### Your 2015 Officers are...

President – Peter M. Wene, WA5T  
pete@wene.net

Vice President – Wilson Hines, AA5AZ  
wilsonhines@icloud.com

Secretary – Bob Howett, WD4FIX  
lefty4026@aol.com

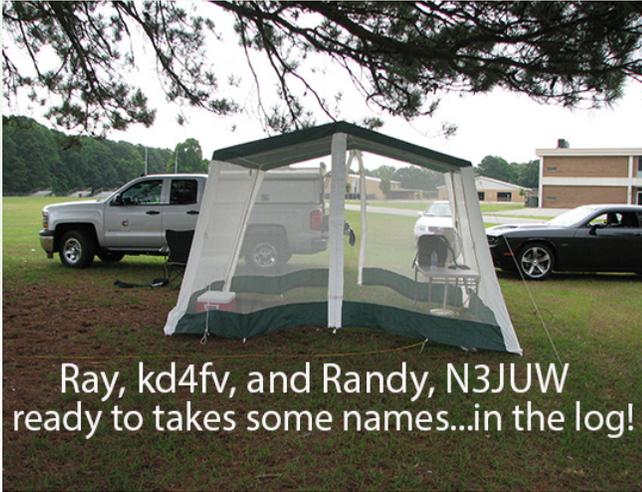
Treasurer – Randy Weiss, N3JUW  
randy.weiss10@yahoo.com

Director at Large – Albert Lioen, N4ZFG  
n4zfg@yahoo.com

Director at Large – Ralph Benedetto, KK4EIA  
rgb@waynecc.edu

# The 2015 ARRL Field Day Pictorial

Setting up for two days of heat and fun!



Pete is just about ready!



Some will spend the night...

Steve, kf4ztc has the digital station fired up!



Wilson, aa5az & Will, kk4qbc, working 40 Meters



Roger and the CW station are a huge part of our points!



# Amateur Radio Service to Scouting Award

Volume # 1

3

Issue # 3

In 2014, the ARRL and the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding in order to recognize the folks who have dedicated their lives to the Boy Scouts and also to amateur radio. With total secrecy, our ARRL Section Manager Dr. Karl Bowman, w4chx, Michael Saviak, ke4ljv, Pete Wene, wa5t, and the family of the renown Dave Price, k4kdp, worked for at least four months on keeping the truth of the real reason for the August 2015 WCARA business meeting. The real reason for the meeting: awarding Dave Price the ARRL Amateur Radio Service to Scouting Award.

Regarding the award, the ARRL website is quoted as saying, "The ARRL award recognizes actively involved Scouting leaders who make a significant contribution to providing Scouts with a memorable and valuable Amateur Radio experience. This program allows Scouting leaders to wear the Community Organization Award square knot on their uniform, in recognition of their service within their community organization.

"This is yet another step in ARRL-BSA cooperation, one that will recognize the Scouting leaders who have worked tirelessly to introduce the science, technology, fun, and excitement of Amateur Radio to the youth involved in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Venturing,"



Pictured: Sara Fernandez, Torhunta District Executive, Dave Price, k4kdp, Karl Bowman, w4chx ARRL Section Manager, & Pete Wene, wa5t, President.

The event was held at Murray's Seafood & BBQ in New Hope area. We had an incredible showing from WCARA, but also there were several members from the Kinston club. We appreciate their participation!

## Repeater Timeline

Time flies when you're having fun.

Sometimes you tend to take things for granted when they become pervasive and ubiquitous. I thought a timeline of work that has been done on the repeaters would be important. Now, with the latest installation of the UHF antenna on top of the hospital, we have county wide coverage on both of our repeaters. They are up-to-date machines and we aren't sitting on pins and needles wondering if we should try to scavenge for spare parts every time we attend a ham fest. Hopefully, other than maintenance, we'll be good for the next 30 years.

### UHF - Hospital Repeater System

February 2014

- The UHF PA failed
- New repeater ordered – Kenwood TRK751 and 100 watt PLT Power Amp.

March 2014

- Danny Hampton did complete systems alignment on the new repeater, new amp, controller and duplexer.

April 2014

- Installed new system at the hospital

November 2015 - \*New\*

- Installed new antenna at the hospital; it will be raised another 20 ft or so here in the near future for a total of approximately 160' to 180'.

### VHF - Goldsboro Milling Repeater System

September 2014

- Ordered new Kenwood TKR-750 and 100 watt PE Systems Amp.

October 2014

- Danny Hampton did a complete system alignment on the new repeater, new amp, controller,
- Duplexer and Link Radio

November 2014

- Installed the new system at the Mill and the new VHF antenna.

October 2015 \*New\*

- Installed link radio antenna.



# From the Editor

# The Club Schedule

## Wilson Hines, aa5az

I'm sorry to send this out so late. I wanted to make this a quarterly newsletter, but life sometimes gets in the way.

2015 is just about done. 2016 is upon us. What do you have planned in regards to amateur radio and yourself in 2016? I think goal setting is important. I want to see me get DXCC (DX Century Club) this year and maybe even WAS (Worked All States). There are several different forms of the DXCC award and just maybe I can qualify for one or the other - or maybe two.

Maybe you would enjoy "county hunting," or HF nets. There's something in this hobby for everybody; everything from emergency communications to contesting. Above all else, get involved with us (the club) in some effective way.

In 2015, I have learned to get involved in my community more than I have in the past. The WCARA is a great way for you to get more involved in your community and help make amateur radio more visible to your community. There is more to this hobby than mono-band FM radios and prepping.

Have you ever heard of the "80/20 rule?" The 80/20 rule is the idea that 20% of the people in any organization do 80% of the work. This year, make the 80/20 rule ineffective in our organization!

I urge you to make a difference.

73, de AA5AZ

**WCARA**

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B. Wilson Hines, AA5AZ  
Editor, Vice President

Addresssee

## November

- TBA - November Business Meeting

## December

- 17th - Christmas Party, 7 PM, Ribeye's Steakhouse, Mount Olive

## January

- TBA - Business Meeting and Election of Officers.
- Club Dues for 2016
- 26th - New General Class, Wayne Comm College

## New Members & Upgraded Licenses

- Daniel Boyette - KM4NDL, Technician
- James Cobb - KM4NDK, Technician
- Jake Titus - KM4NDN, Technician
- Mike Carcirieri - KM4NDM, Technician
- Gregory Clark - KM4NDO, Technician
- Glenn Gwaltney - KK4OJA, Technician and General

## New General Class Tuesday, January 26th Details to come in your inbox

This area is here for a good reason: if you know of someone who used to be a member, is a member who physically can't make meetings & doesn't use e-mail proficiently, I will postal mail the newsletter for free.