



# W4OLB



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### Next Month's Feature:

#### The Plan is for Something Special

What actually happens remains to be seen!

### Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club

Founded: 1947

- President:** Kurt Meltzer, KC4NX
- Vice-President:** Tom Jenkinson, WB7TLW
- Secretary-Treasurer:** Carroll Peabody, W4PCA
- Net Manager:** Melvin Turner, WB5KSM
- Newsletter Editor:** Steve Carpenter, K4DXV

Newsletter published monthly and available via e-mail direct, online at [smokymountainarc.org](http://smokymountainarc.org), or in print at monthly meetings.

Direct comments, suggestions, article submissions, photos, etc. to [k4dxv@arrl.net](mailto:k4dxv@arrl.net)

## The President's Key



Greetings, fellow SMARC hams!

I hope everyone enjoyed the tailgate swap and dinner meeting in April. We were blessed with good weather and it was great to see everyone. Thanks again to **Carroll Peabody** and his XYL **Betty** for preparing and serving the food.

ARRL's annual Field Day will be held the weekend of June 24 – 25. Our club has a long history of participation in this yearly event – a combination picnic, campout, practice for emergencies, informal radio contest, and, most of all, fun and fellowship! Hundreds of amateur radio clubs all over the U.S. take their gear into the great outdoors and get on the air during Field Day each year. Among Tennessee clubs, SMARC has a well-deserved reputation as a high-scoring bunch of radio ops, thanks to the technical abilities and operating skills of our members. We've placed at or near the top of our category in the state for over ten years.

At our next club meeting on Monday, May 22nd, we will be discussing this year's Field Day outing. **Ned Swartz, K1GU**, will present some techniques we can use to keep our contact rate high and achieve the best possible score.

We have the same wonderful, picturesque site reserved again this year, with comfortable amenities and high trees for deploying successful wire antennas (2508 *Middlesettlements Road*). We will be making a list of members who would like to attend and items to bring. Field Day means different things to different people. Some folks primarily enjoy setting up antennas and gear, while others enjoy the thrill of contest operating. Everyone likes the fresh air, food and camaraderie. Whatever your interest, there's plenty of fun to be had, so mark your calendars and plan to attend. We need you!

CU on May 22nd.

73...

**Kurt Meltzer, KC4NX**  
SMARC President



Happy Birthday to Us!



### Club Minutes – April, 2017

No business meeting was held in lieu of the tailgate/hot dog supper.



### May Birthdays

1 <sup>st</sup>	Paul Sexauer	K3VIX
5 <sup>th</sup>	Hal Weeden	WB4E
18 <sup>th</sup>	Rip Noel	W3RIP



### 2-Meter Net News

The SMARC weekly net meets on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. EST on the club's 2-meter repeater. (146.655 MHz; Offset: -600; Tone: 100.0 Hz)

If you have questions or concerns regarding the net, or if you would like to serve as a net control station (NCS), contact net manager **Melvin Turner, WB5KSM**.

#### April – May 2017 NCS

<b>MAY</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>WB5KSM</b>	<b>MELVIN TURNER</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>AL4B</b>	<b>LARRY ANDERSON</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>WA3GSR</b>	<b>ED MARTIN</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>KK4XA</b>	<b>BOB WILSON</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>W3GLR</b>	<b>GEORGE ROEMER</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>KK4HCF</b>	<b>SAM HOLLOWAY</b>



### VE Testing Schedule

#### EXAM DATES FOR 2017:

Monday	June	12
Monday	September	11
Monday	December	11



### Friday Morning Breakfast Club

Meet up with fellow SMARC members on Friday mornings at 9:00 a.m. EST at the Cracker Barrel Old Country Store restaurant located at 771 Louisville Road in Alcoa at Hamilton Crossing.



### Contesting

**Ned Swartz, K1GU**, will be presenting at the May meeting (Monday, 5/22) on tips and techniques for keeping your rate up. Although this is primarily in preparation for Field Day, Ned's advice will be applicable in any contesting situation. Those interested in getting into contesting, as well as seasoned hands, should get something of value from Ned's program.

Don't forget the various weekly short contests and sprints. A full listing is available at <http://bit.ly/2muFHLc>.

### DXing

For a comprehensive listing of announced DX operations, I recommend N3GK's page at <http://bit.ly/2qFwLqH>.



### Smoky Mountain Rambling:

Where the editor just found his way home from Ohio

I am just finishing up this very abbreviated edition of the newsletter after a busy, tiring, and fun Hamvention weekend. That's not actually the main reason for the abbreviation, however. Or the lateness...credit that to work and family issues.

I have a new program I am trying to learn for producing the newsletter, and I have high hopes for improvements and additions in future issues. I knew when I took on this task that it would be a work-in-progress for several months. Primarily, I want it to be **member-centric** as much as possible, and that means I need as much input from **YOU** as I can get.

Next month is Field Day, and I plan to have quite a bit of information about that, as well as a recap of Hamvention. I also plan to get the June issue out sooner, which should be easier now that the school year is over!

Until next time, 73, and I leave you with this...



This is not a county fair. It's Hamvention 2017!