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BULLETIN



ALBEMARLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OCTOBER 1997

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☞ **Next Meeting:**
October 14, 1997
at 7:30 PM
NRAO Auditorium
Edgebrook Rd. (UVa area)

CQ CQ All YL'S

June Giovanelli, KD4ATH

We are pleased to ANNOUNCE the START of a "YL NET" on 146.76, WEDNESDAYS, 8:30 pm. All ladies within the range of this repeater are welcome to join us. Let us hear from YOU! The more the merrier, so come on along, and let your voice be heard on the new "YL NET."

UPCOMING AARC EVENTS

The October presentation will deal with U. S. Coastguard communications, given by Jim WB4HMW. We have some idea about ARES communications, but perhaps we don't know all that much about Coastguard communications.

November brings back a familiar face. This "face" will give us the latest "scoop" about APRS, GPS and packet. They all hang out together. If you come to the November meeting (and who would stay home), you'll find out how.

In December, well, wouldn't it be nice if your rig had some feature or other which the maker seemed to have left out? I have. There are add-on units which often can perk up the performance of a good rig and make it a great one. Stay tuned for more.

January is the first month of 1998, and that means it will be time for our Annual Holiday Dinner. Reserve space on your calendar for that. It's a great way to get to know your fellow AARC-ers better.

--Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY



I loved playing with toys when I was growing up. Well, you're right; I still do. Well, it might also be true that I'm still "growing up!"

Most of these toys were propelled by springs of one kind or another. There were helical ones, flat-wound ones, those housed within cups, and there were the ones which stretched. Maybe those weren't springs--hmmm, more like rubber bands. There were a few which operated by Sterno heating water in steam boilers. I always thought they were neat.

Today it's very difficult to find toys which operated using these power sources. Today child's toys are powered primarily by batteries. This isn't to say that we had no batteries in the "dark ages" of youth. We had one kind which we don't even see, what was usually called a "dry cell" battery. It was a 1.5-Volt unit, about the size of an oatmeal box. The size D cell was very common, as it still is today.

Children's toys use these cells, but they also use various kinds of rechargeable cells and batteries. The transistor age made it possible to miniaturize many items, including watches, calculators, computers, HT's--forget it! I can't name all the "goodies" we adults have to "play with."

I could go on for a long time about the different sizes and shapes, the different chemistry of modern batteries. Suffice it to say that there are so many battery types available that we can't remember all of them. Any collection of equipment is likely to require many of these types of cells and batteries.

Back in the "bad old days" we could go into nearly any store and get our AA, C, and D cells. But where do we go to get our 625-U's, our AG-13's and our . . . ? It was getting to me that I had to special order practically anything other than the good, old reliables.

It looks like that problem is pretty much over now because a new store has opened in Charlottesville. It's called Batteries Plus. I went in there with an "I dare you to find this" attitude. I gave them my list of batteries which I always had to special order. What do you know? They had all of them, and, in quantity!

Needless to say, I was impressed and pleased. I was impressed about a couple of other things I found there. You may remember that I discussed a scheme which sometimes helps rejuvenate nickel-cadmium cells? Well, they have a really good gadget for doing that, which involves pulse charging. No more jury-rigged capacitors! You won't find

As you read this, the Club is preparing for its October Business Meeting. There will be many things to do and it is my hope that everyone will make a special effort to be there. At this meeting, the Nominations Committee will present it's slate of candidates for the 1998 Board of Directors. At this time, anyone else who would like to be considered for a Board position will have the opportunity to have their name placed on the ballot. The Club will then vote on its 1998 Board. These are the people who will lead us next year. Make your voice heard! Attend the meeting and VOTE!

Also on the agenda will be a proposed amendment to the By-Laws. As I know that Joe is presenting a copy of the proposal elsewhere in this newsletter I won't go into detail here, but that is another good reason to attend the meeting. A note to all the Committee Chairpersons....be sure to have your reports ready.

Our Public Service calendar is about empty for this year and I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who has made the time to work in these events. The strength of our Club is its members, and those members (YOU) have made this a Club that the Charlottesville/Albemarle County community can count on. Thank you all for your dedication and hard work....and a very special THANK YOU to HEIN!

I am going to keep this article short this time. I am looking forward to a great meeting this month and I hope to see ALL of you there.....besides, I am the "Goodies Captain" this month.....believe me, you WON'T want to miss this one.
(-: KC4TQF



too many dealers who willingly can rebuild dead battery packs. The folks at Batteries Plus are willing and able to rebuild darned near any pack. While we try to solder jumpers when trying our own rebuilding, these guys have the little tabs and a terrific welding outfit so they can make the packs properly. (We really shouldn't solder nicad cells together because it's too easy to get solder into vents; that's dangerous.)

It's great to have another option available to us "toy owners!" Oh yeah, the address for Batteries Plus is: 1643 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville, VA 22901 (Albemarle Shopping Center) 804/964-1999.

-W2PVY



WHAT'S THIS?

While glancing through the half dozen or so club newspapers received here each month from clubs in different areas which keep me on their mailing lists as an honorary or life member, one note stood out in bold print. It said, "IT'S COMING! FIELD DAY 98."

Awwww, c'mon guys... the results of the 1997 Field Day have not yet appeared in "QST" and here we are talking about something which won't occur for another nine months! Well, the president of the Larkfield Amateur Radio Club (Long Island) wrote those words and much more. Advanced planning is one thing, but this is ridiculous! LARC's president doesn't think so. He believes that looking ahead to such an event is very worthwhile. And, there is a lot of truth in that statement.

Sure, Field Day is said to be a spontaneous event according to a few who look at it from an emergency preparedness proof-on-air. However, there are those who believe it is something like an on-the-air contest where the skills of operating take priority over any form of emergency drilling. Isn't there a portion of truth in both positions? Perhaps sharpening our operating skills is even more advantageous than our ability to set up rapidly a station or stations in the wide open spaces!

Perhaps the concept of long-range planning by the president of LARC is an effort to bring more people into action for a future club event thus bringing about a successful Field Day and lots of participation along the way. The LARC president goes on to set up committees with chairpeople. They are the standard committees we see here in AARC: Publicity and Public Relations, Generators and Power Distribution, Novice/Tech, Packet Radio, Satellite and Terrestrial VHF, HF, CW, HF Phone and the ever present "Food!"

When you look at the big picture, the LARC effort isn't such a bad idea. Those of us who participate regularly in Field Day ops feel the enjoyment of the

moment. We also realize that it takes a giant effort by many individuals to be a big scorer. And, even if the score isn't the major issue... and it never has been for AARC as observed by this writer ... it's a great deal more pleasant to take part in a well-coordinated event than one shabbily set up. The pressure of last minute arrangements is something which isn't necessary if just a little earlier planning takes place.

Should we do something like LARC? Perhaps not. Should we chat about earlier planning for operating events such as Field Day, Sweepstakes, the DX contests and other activities? Absolutely! We are an ARRL Special Services Club and a good one. We do all of the things necessary to maintain that status. Let's do just one more to take care of "our" other activities. Plan ahead for a fuller enjoyment of other interests. 73...

/s/ Harry, W2HD

Bits and Pieces

New Call--Dave (KE4YLR) has received a new Vanity call sign. It's K4DND (try K4 Dave's No Dummy) --Joe, KD4RWX

Thank You--Brian, KF4FRP, has volunteered to take the AARC-ON-THE-AIR-SWAPFEST on the second and fourth Thursday nights to give K4RKA a break. Don't be shy. Think up something which you want or wish to get rid of and give him some items to read. You may continue to list items to "SALE" or "WANT" or send them to K4RKA as before, or give them to Brian during his session.

--Ron, K4RKA

Wedding Bells--Two members of the AARC, Linda Reust (KC4MYI) and Todd Black (KF4MFL), were married recently. They will reside in Rhode Island. Their address is 68 Albert Street, Portsmouth, RI 02871. Todd is in the U. S. Navy. (Note: I will remember Linda as the person who provide me with the name of John (W6UZ) which allowed me to get started into Amateur Radio.) Best wishes to Linda and Todd. --Joe, KD4RWX

FCC Action Website--Want to find out your brand-new call? Or maybe you're waiting for that vanity call or license upgrade? If you've got internet connections, try the ARRL's FCC Transaction page at: <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/fccltd.html>

Greet the New Folks--Listen for new member John Chappel, WA4IUN.

New Ham Partner

Another in the series of articles for new hams by Gerry Crenshaw, WD4BIS, from Garland, Texas. Additional articles from Gerry will be coming your way as space in the AARC Bulletin permits.

Power Supplies and Batteries

Gerry Crenshaw, WD4BIS, Garland, Texas

Why have Battery backup? How much Power Supply or Battery for the Station? What connectors?

One of the items found in most ham shacks is a battery or a DC power supply. The reason for this is simple enough: most of our equipment is meant to be used in a mobile environment and that means a DC. power supply in the 12.5 v to 13.5 v range. Even a lot of our base equipment has the provision to be run from a DC. Supply.

How big a power supply to get has been the subject of some heated discussions on the air, so how do you pick a supply for the home? My past experience is that I tend to outgrow an existing supply. If you stay in this hobby long you keep on adding equipment that runs off DC and soon you are popping fuses.

Start by looking at the equipment in the shack and adding up the currents in amps. Lets say that the Radio, Linear Amp and TNC add up to about 7 amps. The general rule of thumb is to double that number, in this case 14 amps, and then look for a supply in that range. In this case a 15 amp supply should serve you well and leave you room to change equipment around at a later date. Don't buy the biggest supply you can afford. If you have too little load on a supply, they don't regulate well. Picking a supply for mid range seems to be the best compromise.

Supplies on the surplus market have their hazards. Computer Power Supplies often use switching type regulators. These can generate harmonic interference on your radio. Supplies meant for the audio industry can break regulation when they get in a RF Field. The Radio Shack DC. Supply was notorious for this, as soon as you started transmitting the supply broke regulation and the voltage climbed to 16 plus volts. (This usually meant a trip to repair shop also.)

Since a lot of us want Battery Backup we tend to sooner or later get a battery that will run the station. For those of us who work the "Thons" (Walkathon, Bikeathon,

or Runathon) or other Public Service Events the ideas of a battery for these events become very attractive. Batteries tend to become a ten ton liability after a few of these events. We tend to buy something like a Boat or RV battery to run a handi-talkie for 4 to 5 hours. You are never stationed near the Car and lugging this battery all over White Rock Lake gets old after an event or two.

How do you pick a battery that is the best comprise between weight and length of service? Batteries are rated in "AMP HOURS" meaning that 25 Amp Hour Battery can deliver 25 amps to a load continuously for 1 hour. Most radios only draw maximum current when transmitting so the specifications on the radio are broken up into Transmit and Receive current draw. A mobile radio (for example: 35 W output) draws about 10 amps when transmitting and 0.7 amps when receiving. A 25 Amp hour battery would last 2.5 hours continuous transmit ($25/10=2.5$) or 35.7 hours receive only ($25/0.7=35.714285$) for most of these events. Unless you are the Net Control Station (NCS), this battery is much too large. When trying to size a battery for these events, figure on a 30% transmit and 70 % receive cycle. A small battery such as a 1.2 Amp hour will power a 5 Watt handi-talkie for about 4.7 hours in receive and 18 minutes in transmit (These numbers assume a transmit current of 1.3 amps and a receive current of .250 amps.): more than ample for a public service event.

Connectors for power sources vary widely from automotive lighter plugs to Banana Plugs and Jones Connectors and everything in between. The ARRL Field Service recommends the 2 pin Molex connector that happens to be the Garland/Dallas RACES Standard. Regardless of the Battery or Power Supply you choose please have in addition to your connector, an adapter with standard RACES Connectors on your DC source. This lesson was recently learned the hard way this spring during the Lancaster Tornado. Operators who were not in Emergency Service Organization such as RACES or ARES brought their equipment in to help. Some of this equipment could not be used without extensive modifications and there just wasn't time to tinker with it at the time.

Batteries and power supplies have become as much a part of the shack as Radio and antennas. Having the ability to help in a pinch is a great asset. Even if it's not a major emergency, being able to bring up the auto patch when the lights go out in your neighborhood is a great comfort to you and your family.

Have fun and 73's Gerry WD4BIS
Copyright 1996 Gerald Crenshaw WD4BIS. All rights are reserved.

*H*ow do things get so busy? I'm writing this right before the September 18 drill, and am hoping that we have enough people to cover all the areas that are necessary. It's a real pleasure to have so many people willing to participate on short notice, and without having a detailed script in hand; this is a real credit to our group. That we can function effectively in a situation where the details are a little thin, exactly the challenge that an emergency exercise should present is a real test of our ability and preparedness. I have no doubt that we will be able to do a fine job in each of our assigned areas. After we get through this drill, there will still be plenty of work to do in order to get ready for our October 4 SET exercise. Anyone interested in participating in the SET exercise, which will require 2-3 hours the afternoon of the 4th, please let me know as soon as possible.

This Fall, I anticipate being able to operate in and around the University of Virginia Medical Center more extensively than we have been allowed to do in the past. The Clinical Engineering unit at the Medical Center has a new Director, Kevin Morrison, whose call sign is W1JFX. Another member of this unit is Lee Groller, WD4BAV. I met with them earlier this month and learned that they don't see any reason that we would not be able to assist the University of Virginia in much the same way that we have always been able to do for Martha Jefferson Hospital. So you should be looking forward to some interesting exercises at UVA coming up this winter. As a start, we will go into the Medical Center and check out our ability to communicate from various areas just like we did at Martha Jefferson Hospital earlier this year. In fact, I was hunting around this afternoon for a good spot to park a mobile unit in order to cross-band out of the designated command center.

For anyone who is interested in ARES/RACES at a state-wide level, the Old Dominion Emergency Net has been meeting on the third Monday of each month at 3.963 MHz. Check-ins are taken by district, and all amateurs in the state are welcome to participate. If you would like to check into this net, please feel free to do so as a check-in from District 3, you will be asked to check-in with your call sign, name, location, and ARRL appointment, if any. The September session had 11 stations checking in from all over the state, and conditions on the band were spectacular. I hope this net will start meeting twice each month so that more of us in District 3 will be able to meet

more ARES/RACES appointments around the state. The future of this net and other ARES/RACES issues will be discussed in a forum at the Virginia Beach meeting. If anyone who attended the hamfest looked in on the ARES/RACES forum, please let me know what was discussed.

I am again asking club members to participate more regularly in the Northern Piedmont Emergency Net which meets each Thursday evening at 8:00PM local time on the 146.76 repeater. We have tried to have net sessions that would interest and hopefully sometimes challenge, and frankly, I can't tell whether this effort is worth pursuing. I continue to evaluate the success of the net

activities largely by the number of participating stations. If anyone has ideas for alternative net activities, please let me know. I would be willing to entertain any ideas that might encourage wider participation. Since we currently have 61 local amateurs registered for ARES service, our average net attendance of 18 stations per session leaves a lot of room for improvement. So please take a little time and join us on Thursday evenings and support this important aspect of amateur radio.

AARC & ARES/RACES

Dave Damon, KE4YLR

Public Service Events 1997

Contact Hein, N4FWA, to sign up for events.

BKR7 Sunday 28 September 1997

State championships. Walnut Creek Park.

HRS1 Saturday 1 November 1997

Montpelier Horse Races

Upcoming Skywarn Classes

BASICS I, an essential beginning for all Skywarn spotters, will be offered on Tuesday, Oct. 7, from 7:00 to 10:00 pm, and again on Wednesday, Nov. 19 (same times). For those who've already completed BASICS I, the NWS offers additional training. BASICS II can be taken on Thursday, Oct. 16; on Friday, Nov. 7; or on Tuesday, Dec. 2; all classes meeting from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The WINTER STORM CLASS, focusing on Mid-Atlantic snow storms and nor'easters, can be taken on Thursday, Nov. 6, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, or on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. All classes are held at the NWS in Sterling. Pre-registration is required; call 703-260-0107 to register.

CLUB BUSINESS



AARC Board Meeting

Date: September 2, 1997

The Board was asked to suggest several names for possible service on the Nominations Committee. This was done and the President will make the nominations at the Regular meeting. Job descriptions by Board members and Committee Chairs should be forwarded to Joe (KD4RWX) for inclusion in a reference document. Send via email if possible. Use kd4rwx@aol.com

Bylaw amendment wording was suggested. The board approved the nomination of Hein (N4FWA) as a Life Member. The name will be submitted for Club approval at the next meeting.

A motion was made and approved to purchase Amateur Radio related library materials to honor local Silent Keys. The materials will be added to the Amateur Radio collection the Club has already established at the Northside Branch of the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library in Albemarle Square shopping center. Also, a letter notifying the family of the Silent Key that the materials have been donated to the library shall be sent by the AARC Secretary.

AARC Regular Minutes

Date: September 9, 1997

Minutes of the July meeting were approved (There were no Official Minutes in August -Picnic)

Terry, from the MS Society, presented the AARC a plaque for service to the organization she represented. It reads as follows:

National Multiple Sclerosis Society
In appreciation to
Albemarle Amateur Radio Club
for outstanding support of
the 9th Annual Blue Ridge MS 150 Bike Tour
"Bike to the Border"
June 7 and 8, 1997

New member approved: John Chappell (WA4IUN)

Nominating Committee Appointed by Bill, President of AARC: Don (KE4DDR), Chair; Greg (N4PGS); Ann (KF4JHA); Fred (KE4ZNO); Ken (WA4GHY). They will present their recommendations for Officers and

Directors at the Annual Meeting on October 14th. Elections will take place at that meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

The following Life Membership nomination was read.

Nomination For Life Member in the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club

We wish to nominate Hein Hvatum (N4FWA) to Life Membership in the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club.

To say anything is to leave out much of what Hein has done, and continues to do, for the AARC and Hams in the area. For a period too long, Hein has unselfishly organized the Public Service events. A daunting task which will be fully recognized when a new person begins to do it. He has served as a repeater troubleshooter and care-giver, even after giving that up officially. Hein has served, and still serves, the Club as a Director. He is often a calming voice, yet a constructive voice.

He was our first Ham of the Year, and graciously withdrew his name when nominated again the following year. He has participated in more public Service events than any other member.

As we said at the start, we could not possibly mention everything. His qualifications for Life Membership are intuitively obvious.

It is with the feeling of "doing the right thing" that we Nominate Hein. We hope the AARC Board of Directors will see fit to pass this nomination on for consideration by the full AARC Membership at the October meeting.

/SS/ Joseph D. Fritz, KD4RWX

/SS/ Bill Bearden, KC4TQF

A motion was made by several members that his nomination be approved. It was unanimously approved.

Two proposed Bylaw amendments were given First Reading. By way of explanation, the Board has evaluated the current receipts and disbursements of funds and concluded that a dues increase is required in order to maintain the current level of activities. The Board wishes to recommend an increase to \$20. However, it also wishes to establish a mechanism for Dues changes which does not require a Bylaws change each time.

Therefore, the Board proposes this (*see Minutes, p. 7*)

Minutes

(from p. 6) first Bylaw change.

BEGIN PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE

Strike the first paragraph in ARTICLE VII Dues which reads as follows: "The annual dues shall be fifteen dollars (\$15), assessed of each Full and Associate Member, an additional five dollars (\$5) will cover the membership dues of all other adult members (eighteen years or older) in the same household. Membership dues are waived for members who are not yet eighteen years old on January first of the membership year."

Substitute the following paragraph. "The annual dues assessments for the following year shall be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting in October for a vote. The recommendation from the AARC Board shall include considerations for Full and Associate Members, additional Family Members (eighteen years and older), and Youth Members. If no recommendation is made, the current dues will continue for the following year.

END PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGE

If this proposal passes, a motion to change the Associate and Regular Member's dues to \$20 will be in order.

In the event the above change fails, the following Bylaws change will be read and a motion made for approval.

BEGIN ALTERNATE PROPOSAL FOR A BYLAWS CHANGE

Within the first paragraph under ARTICLE VII Dues Strike fifteen dollars (\$15) and substitute twenty dollars (\$20).

END ALTERNATE PROPOSAL FOR A BYLAWS CHANGE

Harry (W2HD) played the recording of a recent radio interview on WINA featuring Bill (KC4TQF), Chuck (W4SM), and Dave (KE4YLR [Note: call is now K4DND]).

Dave (KE4YLR/K4DND) mentioned the Drill on September 18th. It is scheduled for about 6 hours. He also encouraged members to check in on the Thursday evening Net. The Youth Net is to resume - perhaps expanding to the Waynesboro repeater.

June (KD4ATH) announced the beginning of a YL Net on Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. on the 146.760 repeater. She called for suggestions for a name, purpose, and topics which might be covered. All Lady Hams are invited to participate.

PROGRAM: Chuck (W4SM) presented a very good program on Satellite operations. The first Orbiting Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio (OSCAR) was launched in 1961. It was designated OSCAR I. There have been over 30 placed into orbit. Approximately 12 of which are still in operation.

The following Web site will provide access to more information: <http://www.amsat.org>

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Joseph D. Fritz, KD4RWX, Secretary of the AARC

AARC SEPTEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT

CLUB FUND	489.59
REPEATER FUND	2275.65
PACKET FUND	195.00
TOTAL FUNDS	2921.34

INCOME	
Directory sales	2.00
Donations:	
Packet	5.00
Repeater	95.00
Surplus	<u>211.00</u>
Total donations	311.00
Dues	1052.50
QST Renewal	4.00
Raffle	<u>207.00</u>
Total Income	1576.50

EXPENSES	
Club Banner	214.23
Refreshments	298.95
Corp Fee	25.00
Winter Dinner	31.00
Equipment	324.86
Insurance	149.31
Pager Service	225.60
Postage, publications	961.64
Recreation (shelter)	50.00
Telephone	295.14
Textbooks	147.25
Total Expenses	2722.98

TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE	-1146.48
BALANCE FORWARD	<u>4067.82</u>
OVERALL TOTAL	2921.34

AARC Treasurer, Sharon Duval, KO4OC

Amateur Radio Exam Dates for Virginia

- 10/04/97 (ARRL) Gate City Walt Sickmen,KT4PI, 540-452-2363
- 10/04/97 (ARRL) Toano Michael A Conte, 757-566-8015
- 10/08/97 (W5YI) South Boston Charles D Lowery, 804-572-1581
- 10/09/97 (ARRL) Chesapeake Pat Phelps KE4UR, 757-421-9598
- 10/09/97 (ARRL) Galax Joseph Kolb, 540-766-3121
- 10/11/97 (ARRL) Harrisonberg Brown Snyder, N4ZHV, 703-434-3133
- 10/11/97 (ARRL) Richmond Pat Wilson, N5PW, 804-932-9424
- 10/12/97 (ARRL) Dublin Roger Coulter, KT4HV, 540-639-4846
- 10/18/97 (W5YI) Richmond Tony Amato, 804-717-2436
- 10/19/97 (ARRL) Lynchburg Charles Beard, AD4ST, 804-832-7651
- 10/19/97 (ARRL) Roanoke Terrance V Vlug, 540-890-6782
- 10/25/97 (W5YI) Clintwood Mark W Mullins, 540-926-8193
- 11/01/97 (ARRL) Big Stone Gap Walt Sickmen, KT4PI, 540-452-2363

Remember, if you are interested in taking an Amateur Radio exam at any of these sites, CALL AHEAD for information. Not all test sites accept walk-in registrations.

Area Hamfests

- Oct. 5 Columbia ARA, West Friendship, MD. Contact: Richard B. Frank, W9RZ, 12933 Kentbury Dr., Clarksville, MD, 21029. 410-531-2933; Fax: 301-854-2756; E-mail:rf52@umail.umd.edu; <http://www.clark.net/pub/jrmasi/caranews.html>
- Oct. 26 Carroll County ARC and Penn-Mar RC, Westminster, MD. Contact: George Johns, N3JKY, 3291 Hoff Rd., RD #3, Spring Grove, PA 17362, 717-633-6641; E-mail: gjohns@sun-link.com; <http://www.qis.net/~k3pzn>

DEADLINE for the November issue of *AARC Bulletin* is October 24.

Send your articles to Paul (WB9HGZ) or Eileen (WD9EIA) at: 4300 Sylvan Lane, Charlottesville, 22911 (U.S. mail), or at wd9eia@super.zippo.com (email). To reach us through the club bulletin board, send your messages to Mike, KE4UKX, our resident packet operator, and he'll pass them along.

OCTOBER 1997						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
☺ Congratulations to the October birthday hams! Novice/Tech class continues at CATEC on Wednesday nights			1 Lunch (11-1) Old Country Buffet YL Net 8:30 PM ☺ KN4FM	2 ARES Net 8:00 PM	3	4 ☺ KE4UFP
5 ☺ KD4HBX	6 INFO-NET 7 PM 220 Net 8:00 PM	7 Board and Technical Session 7:30 PM	8 Lunch (11-1) Old Country Buffet YL Net 8:30 PM	9 ARES Net 8:00 PM	10	11
12	13 INFO-NET 7 PM 220 Net 8:00 PM ☺ KD4KWE	14 AARC MEETING 7:30 PM	15 Lunch (11-1) Old Country Buffet YL Net 8:30 PM	16 ARES Net 8:00 PM	17	18
19	20 INFO-NET 7 PM 220 Net 8:00 PM	21	22 Lunch (11-1) Old Country Buffet YL Net 8:30 PM	23 ARES Net 8:00 PM	24 ☺ AC4ZQ ☺ KB4JNI	25 ☺ KF4APO ☺ N7RI
26	27 INFO-NET 7 PM 220 Net 8:00 PM	28	29 Lunch OCB YL Net 8:30 PM ☺ N4MKW ☺ WB4RBW ☺ KF4APM	30	31 <i>Happy Halloween</i> ☺ KE4RUZ	



CLASSIFIED COLUMN

To list an item in this section that is NOT on the WA4TFZ packet bulletin board, contact WB9HGZ or WD9EIA.

FOR SALE: Whiterook Model MK-88 pocket-sized iambic keyer/paddle combination. Almost new. See detailed information at <http://www.west.net/~wpc/mk88.html> \$45 WB9HGZ Paul 978-4903

WANTED: 12 VDC POWER SUPPLY (8/21/97) KF4RKT is looking for a 12 VDC 20 amp power supply. Call him at 985-4817.

WANTED: DUAL BAND ANTENNA (8/27/97) Brian, KF4FRP, is looking for a dual band (2 m/450 mhz)antenna w/NMO connector. Call him at 804 589-3073.

WANTED: EQUIPMENT FOR SCHOOL RADIO CLASS (9/11/97) David Slezak, KD4CTZ, is looking for radio equipment of almost any frequency range including scanners and general coverage receivers as a donation to a class for students at Tandem School. Donations could qualify for a tax deduction. If you have something please call David at the school during weekdays at 804 296-1303 or other times at 804 823-4798.

From the Editors

Other people plan their vacations around things like historical points of interests, or maybe golf courses or shopping expeditions. With WB9HGZ in charge, we plan around hamfests. Of course, one expects to see radio gear at hamfests, and even, these days, computer periphery--but size 13 red tennis shoes? Yes, and even the kitchen sink! Here, in no particular order, are the ten weirdest things we've seen over the course of twenty-odd years of hamfesting.

1. Sombrero with a meter-wide diameter brim
2. Toilet plunger for 50¢ (still there when we left)
3. Truck attempting to drive over a tableful of gear
4. Man leaping in front of moving truck to stop it from driving over gear
5. 17--we counted--hams trying to advise a county police officer in the use of his jimmy tool on a vehicle with the keys locked inside
6. A line at the ice cream truck at nine on a late-September northern-Midwest morning (we're talking low-40s here!)
7. An entire booth selling nothing but leather whips
8. A computer demo rigged to talk to passers-by, reciting "I'm a talking parrot--please talk to me!"--with a Chinese accent
9. Every kind of dog known to humankind, some with backpacks
10. an outboard motor (for mobile marine contacts?)

QCWA

The QCWA celebrates fifty years of existence this month in Kansas City, Missouri, at the QCWA Golden Anniversary convention. In celebration of that event--and for those of you too young to know what we're talking about--here's a brief introduction to the organization, courtesy the QCWA's webpage.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association was organized to Promote friendship and cooperation among Amateur Radio operators who were licensed at least a quarter century ago. There are presently more than 10,000 active members of QCWA -- and nearly 30,000 membership numbers have been assigned over the years by Headquarters. Although the majority of these amateurs live in the United States, membership stretches from Australia to Zimbabwe.

A great deal of the growth and dynamic character of QCWA, since it was founded in 1947, is a direct result of the Chapters chartered across the continent and around the world. Today there are 152 QCWA Chapters in the United States. These Chapters are self-governing, making an annual report to the National organization, and they operate in substantial agreement with the National Constitution and By-Laws.

Members may belong to multiple local Chapters, although they must designate a Home Chapter. Regardless of local affiliation, every QCWA member is welcome to partake of all local and national QCWA meeting and on-the-air activities.

Locally, the QCWA chapter is currently headed up by president Bob Pattison, K4DU. The local chapter meets periodically for dinner and--what else?--conversation!



Reprinted courtesy April 1990 QST

1997 ALBEMARLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President	Bill Bearden	KC4TQF
Vice-President	Joe Giovanelli	W2PVY
Treasurer	Sharon Duvall	KO4OC
Secretary	Joe Fritz	KD4RWX
Directors:	Rick Berman	KO4WQ
	Dave Damon	K4DND
	Hein Hvatum	N4FWA
	Bob Pattison	K4DU
	Jessie Preston	KE4OID

COMMITTEE LEADERS

	<u>Committee Chairman</u>	<u>Director</u>
Activities	Hein Hvatum N4FWA	Dave Damon K4DND
Education	Ken Johnson WA4GHY	Bill Beardon KC4TQF
Fundraising	E.J. Bearden KD4IGX	Sharon Duvall KO4OC
Publications	Joe Fritz KD4RWX	Joe Fritz KD4RWX
Public Relations	Janie Narducci KF4NOQ	Joe Giovanelli W2PVY
		Rick Berman KO4WQ
Technical	Mike Duvall AC4ZQ	Hein Hvatum N4FWA
Youth	Noah Hillstrom, KF4JHB	Jessie Preston KE4OID

OTHER POSITIONS

ARRL Liaison	Bob Pattison	K4DU
ARES/RACES Coord.	Dave Damon	K4DND
ARRL VE Coordinator	John Gray	W6UZ
Trustee (WA4TFZ)	Morris Jones	NM4R
Newsletter Editors	Paul Dean	WB9HGZ
	Eileen Dean	WD9EIA

CLUB MEETINGS

Regular Meeting: Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM
 Board & Technical Meetings: First Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM

Meetings are held at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) building, Edgemont Road (UVa area)

WA4TFZ REPEATERS

<u>INPUT/OUTPUT</u>	<u>TONE ACCESS</u>
146.160/146.760	88.5 (if enabled, DTMF 325* will produce temporary Tone off and 326* will turn Tone back on)
Door alarm OFF.....	DTMF 100*
Emergency Autopatch to access 911 Center.....	DTMF 911*
Emergency Autopatch to access VA State Police.....	DTMF 918*
Autopatch exit.....	DTMF 0*
Time.....	DTMF 10*
Tone status of repeater.....	DTMF 700*
146.325/146.925	88.5 Hz (if enabled)
223.160/224.760	no tone
449.250/444.250	151.4 Hz (if enabled)
145.030	MACHO node
145.030	CHO WA4TFZ Packet Bulletin Board

NETS

Northern Piedmont	Information Net
Emergency Net	146.76 repeater
146.76 repeater	Thursday 8:00 p.m.
Plus Swap/Trade & Technical Sessions	Monday 7:00 p.m.
Net Control: Morris, NM4R	Newsline program & general news
	Net Control: Harry, W2HD

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. Box 6833
 Charlottesville, VA 22906



AARC BULLETIN OCTOBER 1997

TO CORRECT LABEL INFORMATION CALL PHONE 973-1738: Your License expires.. Oct 31, 2004 D Y A
 KA4JJD G 1997 CURRENT MEMBER

Michael F. Rein
 109 Sturbridge Rd.
 Charlottesville VA 22901