

CHARLOTTESVILLE (Albemarle County) VIRGINIA

Editor: Joseph D. Fritz, KD4RWX

Ti JULY CLUB MEETING
July 13, 1999 7:30 PM
Weather Satellite Images.
Dick, W4BZW
on tl NRAO Auditorium ad

SPECIAL NEWS ITEMS

KD4ATH, June - Can you imagine the pleasure and surprise offered to Harry, W2HD, on the 20th of June, when he was talking to W2PVY and was asked to standby for a moment. The next voice he heard was June, KD4ATH, on the air for her birthday. It was June's first Ham Radio contact in months and months and she sounded just fine. Let's all hope we will hear June often in the weeks to come.

W2HD's XYL, Kay - Kay underwent knee replacement surgery at the UVAMC on the 22nd of June. The operation was a success and Kay is now in the UVA Fontaine Rehab Hospital where the rehab folks are applying the necessary adjustments so that she will be walking around in a short time.

WHERE ARE 'WE' GOING? Harry, W2HD

Twice within the last several weeks this question has been raised during serious discussions about the future of Amateur Radio with local Hams. The "future" for some of us is what's for breakfast tomorrow. For others it becomes a deep, dark mystery... one that we must probe to determine if we know what we are looking toward.

You may think this is a kinda crazy subject, but I assure you, it is not. The President of the American Radio Relay League recently directed the Executive Vice President to bring to the next Board Meeting a plan to look into the future. He has taken this action so that the League can begin now to plan for the needs of Ham Radio in the years to come.

Industry and governments do this, as well. You have heard about "five-year plans" and "brain-storming sessions" where even the most way out ideas are given the light of day. And so it should also be with the AARC. We have ten meetings a year with the two other dates established as the annual dinner and picnic. Some of the other ten dates are almost always devoted to Field Day and similar special events.

However, the Vice President, assigned to the task of arranging programs for meetings, is frequently given a miserable task. Should this be? No, not at all! The Club has a Board of Directors to handle affairs of the Club in between our regularly scheduled meetings. Why can they not enter into the activity of meeting plans? I think they should. And, not only that, it is this writer's opinions that every club member should be a part of the program committee.

If you do a little brain-searching, you will find a subject or two where a little explanation will help you in your enjoyment of Ham Radio. Within the ranks of our Club's membership you will almost always come up with an expert in the field in question. Do you ask the VEEP if it's possible to arrange a meeting about this Subject "X?" If not, why not? There are probably many others who share your doubts and lack of knowledge. Speak up!

Our club is like many others... made up of members with varied interests... no particular specialty, but wanting to know more. The subject doesn't have to deal solely with ohms 'n amps. With the many facets of Ham Radio, it could be preparation for another emergency event and a discussion of your emergency "kit." You can begin to see a pattern developing and it's really very simple. There are literally dozens and dozens of topics for the

club to discuss around the leadership of a knowledgeable speaker.

But... and that's that big ol' "but" entering into the picture. If you sit back and fail to participate in your club's future, it is certainly possible that there won't be a club to provide these specialty talks. This topic will be discussed further next month.

CALL FOR ARTICLES

Joe, KD4RWX

The preceding article, "WHERE ARE 'WE' GOING?" by Harry (W2HD), is one of many Harry has written. I believe its topic to be of sufficient importance, to try and promote commentary from the AARC membership regarding the issues mentioned.

Rather than me presenting my thoughts on these issues and others, this month, I am inviting articles to be submitted concerning these topics. They will be published in the August issue (and, September, if required. Mine will be included at that time.

Why now? September is when Nominations are made and some members will be called upon to serve the Club. Elections are in October. Committees are formed in January. Perhaps a discussion of "Where are we going?" would be appropriate before the elections.

I am interested in ramping up the educational component. Why don't we always promote classes on the theory beyond the Technician Class license?

What type of meeting programs would encourage attendance? How do we identify them?

Do we all work together as a team? Start your writing today!

FROM THE PREZ

Don, KE4DDR

Well, another Field Day is in the books. I hope everyone had a great time. Paul (WB9HGZ) and his crew did a outstanding job. Thanks to Jessie (KE4OID) no one went hungry.

PEEP FROM THE VEEP

Jessie KE4OID

This column is being written before field day so I will say in advance, thank you to all of you who participated; be it with food, radio contacts, set-up or take down, and just keeping the rest of us entertained. You know who you are!

I'm sure the food was wonderful, the contacts plentiful and the weather was..... well, you know.

July's program should be very timely. Dick, W4BZW will present a program titled: Amateur Receipt and Processing of Weather Satellite Images. The program discusses one of the fringe interest areas for radio amateurs since the first weather satellite was launched in the 60s. There will be a description of weather satellites, their orbits, how to track them and radio signal structure, receipt and processing. This is very important information especially since we are in hurricane and tropical storm season. Those of you who belong to SKYWARN should doubly enjoy this program.

Thank you to Dick for taking the time to share with the club his interest and knowledge on Weather Satellite Images.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS??

Grayson, KF4FYI

This is a subject that many HAMS refuse to deal with as most people

think this country is the most powerful country in the world and prepared for any emergency. Well, I hate to pop your little bubble as this country is not prepared for emergencies such as war on our soil, earthquakes or storm damages as we may be seeing in the next few years.

For example, an earthquake would hit Los Angeles, New York or any big city in the U.S. Just what would we do? Would we be able to handle the situation? Would the Federal Government be able to handle the crisis?

The Federal Government says NO. No one could handle a situation such as this. Collapsed buildings, power and gas lines ruptured, highways and railways torn apart, people dying while trapped in burning buildings or dying in the streets from lack of medical attention, food or water. Just what would we do in a situation such as this?

All the medical personnel, ambulances, helicopters, hospitals blood supplies and other medical supplies in the United States would not be enough to handle one tenth of a catastrophe such as this. This country couldn't even handle the burn victims of such a catastrophic event as this.

All we could do would be to make an attempt to save and treat as many as possible, and even then there would be problems.

The National Guard would have to be mobilized to stop the killing, looting and whatever else that would be taking place. There would be utter chaos in the streets.

Now, the big question, Would another country come in and volunteer to help? Not very likely. Most countries around the world are having enough problems of their own and not able to help anyone. Great Britain would be a possibility, but even that would be a big question

mark.

Communications would not be a problem due to the Amateur Radio Operators around the country. That would be a plus for the HAMS. So why not make an extra plus for ourselves and take training in medical and life saving techniques. There are lots of classes going on all the time. Find out what classes you want to attend and find out the times and go for it. I have taken medical emergency classes and CPR classes at no charge whatsoever. But even if there is a charge, don't you think it would be worth it? You may be able to save someone's life in your own family.

Info can be obtained from:
www.fema.gov

FROM THE AARC MAIL-LIST

Paul, WB9HGZ

Just finished totaling the FD logs. Results for those interested:

65 CW QSOs
387 Phone QSOs
42 Novice/Tech Phone QSOs

559 Total QSO Points X 2 Power multiplier = 1118 final score.

Bonus points:

100 X 2 Transmitters, emergency power
100 Media Publicity
100 Location in a public place
100 Information booth
100 Natural power

Editor's Note:

Field Day results vary from year to year. Many variables are involved and no positive or negative interpretation should be made. For information only, I am listing the 1998 Field Day QSO counts.
218 - CW
427 - Phone (Non-Novice/Tech)
96 - Novice/Tech Phone

The Central Virginia Area Youth Net (C.V.A.Y.N.) meets weekly at 7:30 PM local time every Wednesday on the 147.075/147.675 repeater. Although the net is designed as a forum for youth to meet, discuss their interests, and get questions answered, check ins of all ages are welcome. For more information contact Matt Bisgaier, KF4TKJ, at 456-4702 (e-mail matt@photoncs.com), or check out the C.V.A.Y.N. Web site at <http://www.photoncs.com/cvayn>.

Editor's Note: One of the Youth Net - Net Controls - Steven (KF4ZGD) recently went from Technician Class to Advanced Class.

Richmond Amateur Volunteer Examiners Report - June 12th Pat, W4PW

1 passed 20wpm and 4B and became a new Extra Class.
 1 passed 4B and is halfway to Extra.
 1 passed 20wpm and 4A and became new Advanced Class.
 1 passed 5wpm and became a new Tech Plus.
 1 passed Element 2 and is halfway to Technician.

We gave a total of 10 elements and had 7 elements passed.

So it was a good session. 1 new Extra, 1 new Advanced and 1 new Tech Plus.

FCC REPORTS CHANGES

New Calls:

KC0GBV - Jon Sutter, Technician Class. Jon is the oldest son of LeRoy (WA4MHP) and Jan (KE4NNT), now living in Colorado.

Upgrades:

KS4ZR - Ken Reitz to Extra Class

Opportunity for Team Elmering

Joe, KD4RWX

At the April meeting, Ellen (N1BTE) asked me to assist her in finding some help to get her station on the air. I notified the AARC Board. Don asked for volunteers at the May meeting and the request was published in that meeting's Minutes in the June newsletter. So far no one has responded.

Background

About 2 years ago, Ellen and Lowell (WB1EIS) Bennett moved from a northeastern state to the Earlysville area to continue their continued retirement. Soon after arriving, and before the Ham station was set up, Lowell became a Silent Key.

Wishing to maintain contact with the Amateur Radio community, Ellen became a member of the AARC. However, due to difficulty of driving at night, Ellen has not been able to attend many meetings.

Some time ago, some of the club members assisted her in getting a wire antenna in place. But, much more remains to be done before Ellen can once again use her General Class privileges.

Given these circumstances, I will try to place the situation into sharper focus. I will also present a plan of action in order to get the project started. Perhaps we can bring together a team of Hams and do those things necessary to get Ellen back on the air calling CQ, CQ.

A Plan of Action:

Recently, Nancy (KF4MEF) and I visited Ellen's home to get a perspective of the task ahead. In view of that visit, I believe the following goals and associated tasks are appropriate.

Goal 1 - To get Ellen's

station/equipment set up in a proper manner. This can be accomplished by:

- Assisting in the relocating of the equipment to an adjacent room where the "shack" will be established.
- Inventory the major items of equipment to determine the extent to which the various radios systems can be put on the air.
- Propose a plan of arrangement of the equipment.
- Suggest the extent to which we believe her equipment can be activated.
- Get at least one radio on the air - preferably an HF rig.
- Set up a 2-meter capability.

Goal 2 - To help Ellen get

reacquainted with the operation of her equipment. (She needs some refresher help here.)

- Locate individuals who are familiar with the main radios so that they can assist in the testing as well as the orientation of Ellen to the equipment.

If you think you can lend a hand or provide technical assistance in this project, please let me know. Since it is unlikely that all who might volunteer will work on each aspect of the project, I will keep the group informed of the progress.

One individual (perhaps two) will be asked to take the lead on this project. A few of the volunteers will likely schedule a visit Ellen's house to get their own orientation. The first task we will do is to survey the site and begin an inventory. We will begin to think about antenna placements. If possible we will try to schedule a time for moving the equipment to the Shack room.

Preliminary Equipment list:

I saw the following: (Manuals may be available for the radios)

- Kenwood TS-820S . HF
- Kenwood TS-820 . HF

- Kenwood TS-700A .2-meter all-mode
- Kenwood TS-???70 cm all-mode
- ICOM IC-229H 2-meter handheld
- A 20-meter homemade wire dipole- installed.
- multiple position coax switch
- rotor control unit
- a wooden work station cabinet (homemade and sturdy).
- There were other items which I saw but did not record.
- I assume there are antennas for the VHF and UHF rigs.
- I was shown an unassembled HF beam, multi band Yagi which supposedly had a rotor.

I have no knowledge about the working condition of any of the equipment. We can ask about the extent the equipment was working prior to leaving Maine. One possibility following the moving of the equipment, might be to install a G5RV type antenna in place of the 20-m dipole. This might prove to be sufficient for her HF work.

This project will take time to accomplish due to scheduling problems associated with those individuals who might become involved.

I hope we can keep this a positive experience. We have the opportunity to return to active status a Ham who has had an interruption of operation. Soon, she should be able to continue her enjoyment of Amateur Radio and add to her collection of QSL cards.

If interested, contact me.
Joe Fritz, KD4RWX
2306 Williamsburg Road 22901
kd4rwx@aol.com
804 973-1738

HAMFESTS OF SOME NOTE
Aug 1 Shenandoah Valley ARC
Berryville, VA
E-mail: wkke4pms@vvalley.com
<http://www.vvalley.com/svarc/hamfest/default.htm>
Sep 18 & 19th The Virginia Beach Hamfest.

VE SESSIONS SCHEDULED 1999

17-Jul Fredericksburg
Carolyn Cavanagh (540)373-0572-
14-Aug Richmond
Pat Wilson (804) 932-9424,
9 am - (walk-ins; please call)
09-Oct Richmond
Pat Wilson (804) 932-9424,
9 am - (walk-ins please call)
11-Dec Richmond
Pat Wilson (804) 932-9424,
9 am - (walk-ins please call)

AARC CLASSIFIED ADS

New ADS may be placed directly to the Editor: 804 973-1738 or kd4rwx@aol.com

Please let K4RKA know when items can be deleted from this file.

*** UPDATED 7/1/1999 ***

5/27/99 COMPUTER FOR SALE

80586 133 MHz computer with 16 meg RAM, cd, svga monitor, sound - \$200. If interested, contact Grayson, KF4FYI at 293-4885.

6/17/99 FOR SALE: 2M & 220 MHz ANTENNAS

KF4FRO is offering for sale a 2 meter Ringo Ranger II with a 220 MHz Ringo Ranger thrown in.

6/17/99 FOR SALE: KENWOOD QUICK CHARGERS

Elmer, KF4UCI, is offering for sale two Kenwood KSC14 quick chargers.

7/1/99 WANTED: HF TRANSCEIVER

Bill, KF4EFY, wants to buy either a good quality general coverage receiver or a transceiver with general coverage receiver. Call him at 977-1424 or send email to WAP01@cho.litton-marine.com

7/1/99 WANTED: RADIATION DETECTOR

Grayson, KF4FYI, wants a meter type radiation detector. Call 293-4885.

7/1/99 FOR SALE: ICOM HAND MIKE

K4JMY would like to sell a ICOM HM36 hand mike. Came with ICOM 746 transceiver. Call 973-5589

7/1/99 FOR SALE: HF BEAM

Rick, KO4WQ, would like to sell a Mosley TA33jr, three element triband beam. Call him at 804 823-1128

Many thanks to those individuals who contribute to the Newsletter. I hope their example will inspire others to also share information and ideas with our Amateur Radio community.
Editor.

CLUB BUSINESS**AARC Board Minutes June 1, 1999**

Board Members attending: Don, KE4DDR; Joe, KD4RWX; Dave, K4DND; Hein, N4FWA; Mike, AC4ZQ; Rick, KO4WQ.

- It was noted that no response had been received concerning the Ellen Bennett Help request.
- Joe read the following:

**PINEY MOUNTAIN
GUIDELINES**

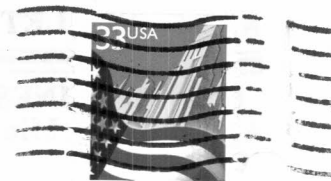
- Grass will be cut regularly;
- NO SMOKING at any time;
- Visiting the site is for maintenance purposes only;
- The general area is to be kept clear of trash.
- Joe handed in his Publications Committee budget as promised.
- Rick mentioned that the 146.760 repeater was still troublesome in his area.
- Mike discussed the tower situation on Piney Mt. Some issues were debated.
- Mike indicated that a work party will remove the remaining antennas and coax from Carter's Mtn.
- Joe will draw up a letter of Understanding for the Piney Mountain site.
- Greg (N4PGS) mentioned the MS-150 event.
- Hein indicated that the 440 repeater tests to now, do not show any interference to existing services on Bucks Elbow.

AARC Regular Meeting**Minutes-- June 8, 1999**

- May Minutes approved
- New member approved: Jim Pierpoint, W4CAD
- Mike (AC4ZQ) indicated that the recent audio distortion on the 146.760 repeater was probably associated with the tone board. Soon, the antenna height will be increased in a test.
- Hein (N4FWA) indicated that the 440 repeater coverage is very wide. However, the Charlottesville area is in a shadow and has spotty reception.
- Dave (K4DND) stated that the ARES/RACES ID card requires a new form which is now available. Price is \$7. Give form and check to area EC. Dave has applications for ID and ARES.
- Greg (N4PGS) showed certificates received from the American Diabetes Assoc. and the Tour de Cure. Also, a plaque from the MS Society regarding the MS-150. All involved the assistance of local Hams assisting in those events.
- Jessie (KE4OID) mentioned that at her work orientation, mention is made that Amateur Radio operators will get you to the MJ Hospital. She also mention an August 8th bike race.
- Rick (KO4WQ) suggested the reading of a change in policy regarding the use of amber lights on highways.
- Dick (N3DFS) promoted SKYWARN patches
- Bill (KC4TQF) said that SAREX is on hold/delayed.
- The program was a presentation by Paul (WB9HGZ) regarding the soon to be held Field Day.

Submitted by Joseph D. Fritz,
Secretary

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club
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<http://members.aol.com/wa4tfz/aarc/default2.html>

AARC BULLETIN
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DEADLINE FOR EACH ISSUE
The 23rd of each month

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On The Fritz Publications
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TO CORRECT LABEL INFORMATION CALL PHONE 973-1738: Your License expires... Oct 31, 2004 D Y A
KA4JJD G 1999 **CURRENT MEMBER**

Michael F. Rein
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22901-2113 43

AARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Notify Joe (KD4RWX) to place information on the calendar.
Month Day(s) Activity
July: 13 Meeting
August 8 James Madison Bike Stage Race
Aug: 10 Picnic Meeting
Sept: 14 Meeting Nominating Committee named
Oct: 12 Annual Meeting Elections and Committee reports; Nominations due for Ham of The Year
Nov: 9 Meeting
Dec: 14 Meeting

PUBLIC SERVICE SCHEDULE

DATE EVENT
Sat May 15 Tour de Cure Bike Tour
Canceled Walnut Creek Road Race
Sat June 5 MS 150 Bike Tour - 1st Day
Sun June 6 MS 150 Bike Tour - 2nd Day
Sat Aug 8 James Madison Bike Stage Race
TBA Heart Walk
TBA Montpelier Horse Races
Please sign up at meetings when the SIGN UP CLIPBOARD is passed around. You can also send an email to Greg (N4PGS) indicating your interest in working particular events.
Greg (N4PGS) and Hein (N4FWA)

CLUB MEETINGS

Regular Meeting: Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
Board and Technical Meetings: First Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
Meetings are held at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) building, Edgemont Road (UVA area)

WA4TFZ REPEATERS

INPUT/OUTPUT TONE ACCESS (if required, etc.)
146.160/146.760 88.5 Hz
(If tone is enabled, you can turn the tone off and back on temporarily by:
Temporary Tone OFF DTMF 325*
Remove Temporary Tone Off DTMF 326*
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 Packet Bulletin Board

LOCAL NETS: (146.760 repeater)

Monday night: Information Net (each Monday) 7 PM
YL Net (1st Monday of month) 8:30 PM

Thursday night: Northern Piedmont Emergency Net & Swap Net & Technical Session (each Thursday) 8 PM

LUNCHEON:

Wednesday: Area Hams gather at the Old Country Buffet (OCB) next to TOYS R US on 29 North 11 AM- 1 PM

BIRTHDAYS: JULY

KD4IGX.....E. J..... 1
K4RKA.....Ron..... 1
K2AOE.....Ken..... 1
W2HTJ.....Mella..... 4
KF4FYI.....Grayson..... 6
K4ISW.....LeRoy..... 7
KA4VMP.....Ed..... 15
KE4UKY.....Matt..... 16
KE4UKX.....Mike..... 16
N3DFS.....Max..... 16
KF4FRO.....Marty..... 23
AD4GK.....David..... 23
K2SSB.....Stan..... 29