

The AARC Beacon



**Amateur Radio News For
Charlottesville and
Albemarle County,
Virginia**

Volume 2003, No. 7

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July 2003

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## Meeting Notice

The next regular AARC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, July 8 at 7:30 PM** at the **Astronomy Building on the UVA campus**. The program for the evening will be a **presentation by Carl Clements, W4CAC, our ARRL Section Manager**, who will give a presentation about the programs, leadership, and activities of the Virginia Section. Should be interesting!

See you there!!

## The President Speaks

*Steve, KF4ZGD*

The AARC Field Day 2003 operation was a success! Well, at the time I'm writing this article, the countdown to Field Day is still underway, but I have no doubt it will have been a success. Many thanks to Dave K4DND, Ernie W2EIU, Dick W4BZW, Richard K8EV, Bob K4DU, Steve KD4HBX and the many others who contributed time and equipment. Of course, special thanks go to Pete Thorsen W4PRT for organizing everything and putting together an absolutely fabulous Field Day! As this is still before the fact, though, I'll have the rest of my comments in the August newsletter.

On another note, I have some unfortunate news for the club. One of the several remaining members from the club's early days, Morris Jones NM4R, is retiring his position as club trustee. He has faithfully served the club for many, many years, and certainly is due for a well-deserved rest from club duties. In addition to his long stint as trustee, Morris also served as AARC president several times, and was the person who originally started holding VE sessions in Charlottesville. Those who frequent the Northern Piedmont Emergency Net may not realize that net was actually started by Morris. His devotion to the club was noticed and appreciated by many, and it is the legacy he helped create that we continue to enjoy today. So, I would just like to say thank you Morris for all your hard work, and we wish you good health and the best of luck!

As is necessitated by the retirement of a club officer, the board is searching for a replacement, and will take care of the club license transfer as soon as the new trustee is approved. We're also looking into the possibility of signing up for a space at the Albemarle County Fair. Several complications have come to light regarding that, so we'll discuss it at the next board meeting and bring it before the club at the next regular meeting for a vote.

Don't forget to make the regular AARC meeting Tuesday July 8th at the Astronomy Building. Our ARRL Section Manager, Carl Clements, W4CAC will speak to us on section topics, so I encourage everyone to come! The attendance at last month's meeting was somewhat better than it's been in a couple of months, so we need to work on that trend and keep bringing those numbers up. A good membership is vital to any club, and one thing we all can do to really assist our club is to (a) encourage more people to get licensed, and (b) get more area hams to join, while reminding former members to rejoin. The membership drive doesn't end in March, it continues throughout the year. Bob Pattison recently sent out one hundred letters to former members, inviting them to Field Day. We need to encourage those that responded to come out to club meetings, and very importantly, renew their memberships!

OK, that's all for this month. Seventy-three to all, and I hope to see all of you at the club meeting and on the air over the next month!

73 -- Steve Traylor, KF4ZGD

## Veep Peeps

Pete, W4PRT

Greetings! Field Day has come and gone and all I can say is "Wow"!

I'd like to offer my thanks for all the folks that were involved with this successful event. I'd like to thank the folks who helped plan and coordinate Field Day. I'd also like to thank the co-chairs and the station captains. The folks who came Friday night and helped set up the antennas and the shelter. The folks who came early Saturday and helped with the tables, chairs and anything else we needed prior to the event. The folks who volunteered their gear, batteries and other miscellaneous items that we needed. The folks who operated and logged during the entire event. The folks who brought food, drink and dessert so that we could have dinner. And last but not least, the family members of the folks in the club for all their support.

Again, I think that the event went very well and I look forward to next year's event and think that it too can be as successful as this one.

After the Fourth of July, I'll be able to sit down and tally up all our points and report to you what the score was for Field Day. I'll do a brief summary in the August VP column.

This month's presentation will be given by Carl Clements (W4CAC). Carl is our AARL Virginia Section Manager and will be giving a presentation about the programs, leadership, and activities of the Virginia Section.

See everyone at the meeting Tuesday!

In addition, here are the **upcoming presentations that we have at the next two Club Meetings.**

**August** is traditionally our **Picnic Meeting** and 2nd Annual Hamfest. **September** is going to be a presentation by the Albemarle Police Department about the MobileWatch Program.

73, Pete

## ARRL Becomes an Affiliate Program of Citizen Corps

ARRL Bulletin ARLB041

ARRL now is an official affiliate program of Citizen Corps, an initiative within the Department of Homeland Security to enhance public preparedness and safety. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, signed a formal Statement of Affiliation between DHS and ARRL during the ARRL 2003 National Convention June 21 in Dallas, Texas.

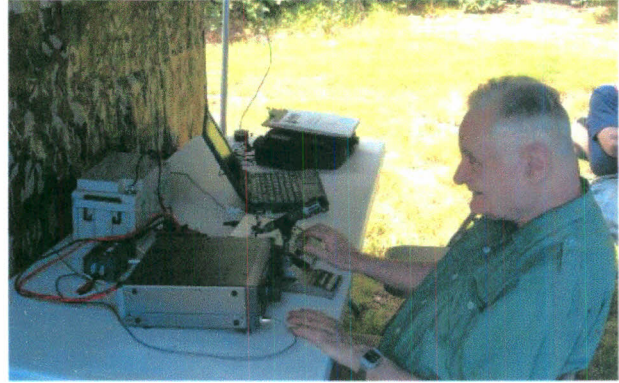
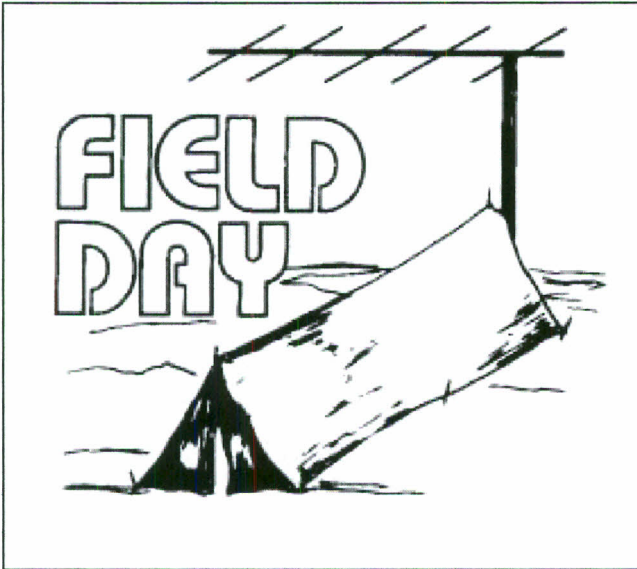
Chief Operating Officer of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate (FEMA) Ron Castleman represented DHS at the signing. Citizen Corps Liaison to the White House Liz DiGregorio called ham radio operators the "first of the first responders."

"You are there. You are part of that very, very first response when it happens locally," especially in the initial stages of an emergency or disaster, DiGregorio told the overflow audience at the signing ceremony. She urged amateurs to explore ways to expand their role in the community beyond being the last resort when other communication systems fail. "You need to show your community that you're engaged," she said. "They need to know as a community that ARRL is there."

Among other things, the affiliation statement calls on DHS and ARRL to raise public awareness of Amateur Radio as a safety resource. In addition, DHS and ARRL will cooperate in providing training and accreditation for Amateur Radio emergency communications and promote the formation of local Citizen Corps councils.

## Field Day 2003 Photo Gallery

*Photos courtesy of Rick, KO4WQ and Bob, K4DU*



**Joe W2PVY manning an SSB position**



**Strategy session before FD starts – Ernie W2EIU, Dick W4BZW and Bob K4DU**

Here is a small sampling of photos taken at Field Day this year, showing the wide diversity of operating modes we used this year. If anyone has other photos available, please send them in for the FD follow-up article next month!



**The main WA4TFZ operating complex – cool in the shade!**

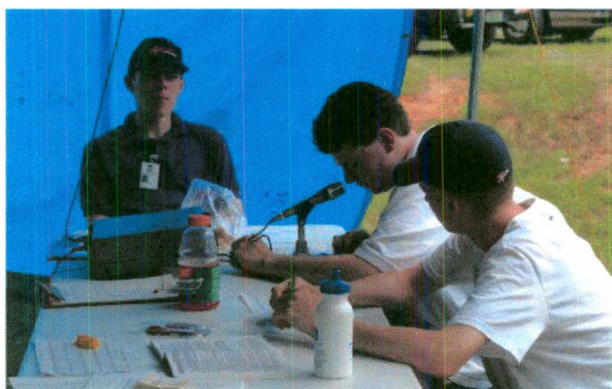


**Dick W4BZW at his satellite station**





**The satellite antennas homing in on the bird**



**Jeffrey and Steve working down the pileup on 40 meters SSB**



**W4YRA – our Youth Group station!**

## Club Business

### AARC Board Minutes June 10, 2003

Members present: Steve KF4ZGD, Pete W4PRT, Howard KG4TWQ, Will KJ4XZ, Steve KD4HBX, Bob K4DU, Marty AG4DN. Members absent: John KX4P, Ralph K4CFE.

Steve KF4ZGD opened the meeting at 6:45 PM.

The first item of business was committee reports. Steve made the financial report for Ralph. In summary the report ending 31 May 2003 show a balance of \$6047.76 with \$4886.57 in the AARC fund; \$1082.68 in the Repeater Fund; \$78.51 in the Packet Fund. Excess revenue is at \$2168.26. (A full report may be requested from the club Secretary.)

Steve KD4HBX reported next on the arrangements for the 12 August AARC Picnic and Tailgate Hamfest. The check for the shelter has been mailed and received. A confirmation has been received by the club from the park.

Pete W4PRT reported that guest speakers for the October, November and December meetings are still pending. He now reported on arrangements for Field Day 28-29 June. He has equipment for five stations. The station Captains were noted in the May AARC club minutes. Pete indicated he would take the Captains out for a tour and check on the proximity of trees that can be used to hang antennas. A poll of individuals present indicated that there were adequate tents available for Field Day requirements.

Bob K4DU distributed a draft letter to the Board inviting members who have become inactive to participate. The letter was approved without changes. He also indicated that there would be follow-up telephone calls made to remind these individuals of the date and time of the event. (Copy of letter is available on request to club Secretary)

Steve KD4HBX speaking for the refreshments arrangements indicated he had sufficient grills and other equipment for the cook out planned during Field Day.

Ernie W2EIU was handling the public information arrangements for Field Day and would be asked to report during the General Meeting to follow.

Steve KD4ZGD now turned to the development of a new club logo. A number of alternatives were discussed. No recommendations were acted upon. Pete W4PRT indicated he was still exploring sources for club jackets.

Pete reminded the Board that Bob Dorsey would run a VE Session on 21 June from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM. The location would be our normal meeting room at UVA.

As a closing item Bob K4DU recommended that Pete contact Johnny Johnson W3BE and request he be a guest speaker for one of the meeting dates that were still open. His expertise is in FCC Regulations. Other recommendations were made to Pete for follow up.

With no further business the Board meeting closed at 7:10 PM.

*Submitted by Marty AG4DN, Secy.*

### Regular Meeting June 10, 2003

The meeting was opened by Steve KF4ZGD with the introduction of members and guests.

Steve introduced the guest speakers for the evening -- Buddy Nighswonger AD4CG and John Berry AF4CY. The presentation covered the set up, equipment, location and coverage of the two Madison Repeaters 145.41 MHz and 53.91 MHz a 6 meter repeater. The program proved interesting and upon completion generated many questions. The membership was very impressed with the coverage of these repeaters. Considering the elevation and location of 145.41 was well above 1000 feet this was understandable. Located on the East slope of the Blue Ridge its limited range to the West was also pointed out during the presentation. The membership thanked Buddy and John for their interesting and informative presentation.

Steve KF4ZGD called for the approval of the May 2003 AARC minutes. A motion was made second and approved without change or comment.

Steve now turned to old business. He indicated he had no update from Dave K4DND on the repair of the "76" repeater. Some of the remaining membership cards for 2003 were distributed.

Rick KO4WQ indicated he had received a response from the Albemarle County Fair Committee concerning the requirements associated with having a club table at the Fair this year. He pointed out that there was a requirement for a \$1 million liability certificate naming the Fair as an additional insuree. Steve informed Rick that the issue would be discussed at the next Board meeting and brought before the membership being that there was sufficient time prior to the suspense date for applications.

Pete W4PRT reported on the arrangements for Field Day. He then passed around a sign up sheet for manning the five stations. Members were encouraged to sign up at this time to assist in planning. Ernie W2EIU then reported on the public information efforts for Field Day. He indicated that many of the VIP's from the state had declined but the Governor will issue a proclamation recognizing Field Day and the contribution of the Amateur Radio community. Also a number of local VIP's would attend. Steve KF4ZGD made an appeal to the membership for heavy duty batteries that were needed to support five stations. He also indicated that sufficient tents were now committed for the event.

Steve KF4ZGD reminded the membership of the VE session on 21 June.

A raffle was held for items contributed by Charles K4TY. Bob K4DU and Joe W2PVY won the electronic equipment and ARRL coffee mug. Proceeds from the raffle go to the club.

With no further business Steve called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made second and approved without comment.

The meeting closed at 8:50 PM.

*Submitted by Marty Mait AG4DN, Secy.*

## New 60-Meter Band Becomes Available July 3

*ARRL Bulletin ARLB038*

The new five-channel 60-meter domestic secondary amateur allocation becomes available to US Amateur Radio operators at midnight local time on July 3. The FCC Report and Order granting the allocation was published June 3 in the Federal Register. Federal government users are primary in the 5 MHz band.

The FCC has granted amateurs use of five 2.8 kHz-wide channels with center frequencies of 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373 and 5405 kHz. The channels will be available to General and higher class licensees.

The only permitted mode will be upper-sideband USB phone, and 50 W ERP is the maximum power allowed.

Users of the 60-meter channels should set their carrier frequency 1.5 kHz lower than the channel center frequency. ARRL suggests restricting transmitted audio bandwidth to 200 Hz on the low end and 2800 Hz on the high end for a total bandwidth of 2.6 kHz. ARRL recommends that amateurs considering modifying existing amateur equipment for operation on 60 meters contact the equipment manufacturer for advice.

## 60-Meter Band Update

*ARRL Bulletin ARLB040*

When the five new 60-meter channels become available to US Amateur Radio operators at midnight (12 AM) local time on July 3, the rules will impose a new record-keeping requirement for hams. The requirement applies only to those using something other than a simple half-wave dipole on the 5 MHz allocation.

According to Part 97.303(s), a half-wave dipole on the 5 MHz allocation will be presumed to have a gain of 0 dBd. "Licensees using other antennas must maintain in their station records either manufacturer data on the antenna gain

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or calculations of the antenna gain," states the newest addition to the FCC's Amateur Service rules.

Because the new rules also require hams to run no more than 50 W effective radiated power (ERP) on the new channels, the choice of antenna becomes an important compliance factor. The FCC rules stipulate, "For the purpose of computing ERP, the transmitter PEP will be multiplied (by) the antenna gain relative to a dipole or the equivalent calculation in decibels."

ARRL has posted a list of frequently asked questions (FAQ) concerning 5 MHz operation on the ARRL Web site at <http://www.arrl.org/fandes/field/regulations/faq.html#sixty>.

## Contest Highlights This Month

*Bob, K4UVT*

### ARRL-Sponsored Contests

**July 12-13** [IARU HF World Championship](#)

Complete info, rules and log forms for these events can be obtained online at the [ARRL Contest Calendar - 2003](#) webpage.

### Other Contests of Interest

**July 5-6** [DL – DX RTTY Contest](#)

**July 19** [Colombia Independence Day Contest](#)

**July 19-20** [CQ Worldwide VHF Contest](#)

The [SM3CER Contest Service - Contest Calendars](#) has info and rules for just about every contest that exists.

*73, Bob K4UVT*

Field Day  
results will  
be reported  
in the  
August issue



Have a Happy  
And safe  
4<sup>th</sup> of July!

## AARC Member Profile – Bob Pattison, K4DU

*[Editor's Note]:* This column is an excellent way to get to know your fellow AARC'ers as more than the voice on the other end of the radio link. I think it would be a great idea to profile a different club member on a regular basis. Please send me a good photo and pertinent information about yourself. You may use the biographical format used in this profile or one of your own choosing.



**Originally Licensed in:** 1962 at the age of 13 in Ardmore, Pennsylvania (Haverford Township). Ham radio helped me learn that I could accomplish any goal I wanted to as long as I was willing to invest the time and energy required to succeed. My original interest in the hobby came from a desire to travel to far away places at an early age.

**Previous Call Signs:** KN3SZD, K3SZD, WB8JNL, KA8DOX, N4ROD, KM4DU

**Memberships:** AARC, ARRL, QCWA

**Awards and Recognitions:** WAC, WAS, DXCC, RCC, AARC Presidential Service Recognition

**Most Memorable Ham Radio Moments:** There are four and all of them have to do with Public Service. 1. The day that N4FWA asked me to ride with Sergeant Martin of the Albemarle County Police force. Do you have any idea how hard it is to ride in a police car with binoculars looking backwards trying to read the numbers from bicyclists at 45 MPH on the twisting back roads of Albemarle? 2. Floating down the James providing communications during the Bateaux Festival. 3. Being the embedded communicator in the midst of a civil war re-enactors camp in Louisa. 4. Being the on site operator serving as the link with 911, the evacuation center and the site of a convalescent center here in Charlottesville that had been damaged by fire.

**Favorite Activities:** Hamfests, contests, trying new antennas, working as a VE and teaching ham radio licensing classes.

**You can normally find me:** In the flea market at hamfests with W4PR, monitoring 14.336 (County Hunters), on 17 Meters and 146.76 or on the way to the Dayton Hamvention on 146.52 simplex.

**I get my kicks out of:** Busting pile-ups on the first or second call with no more than 100 watts, seeing successful candidates at VE sessions, working new countries or counties and getting them confirmed.

**If I could send a message to my fellow hams it would be:**

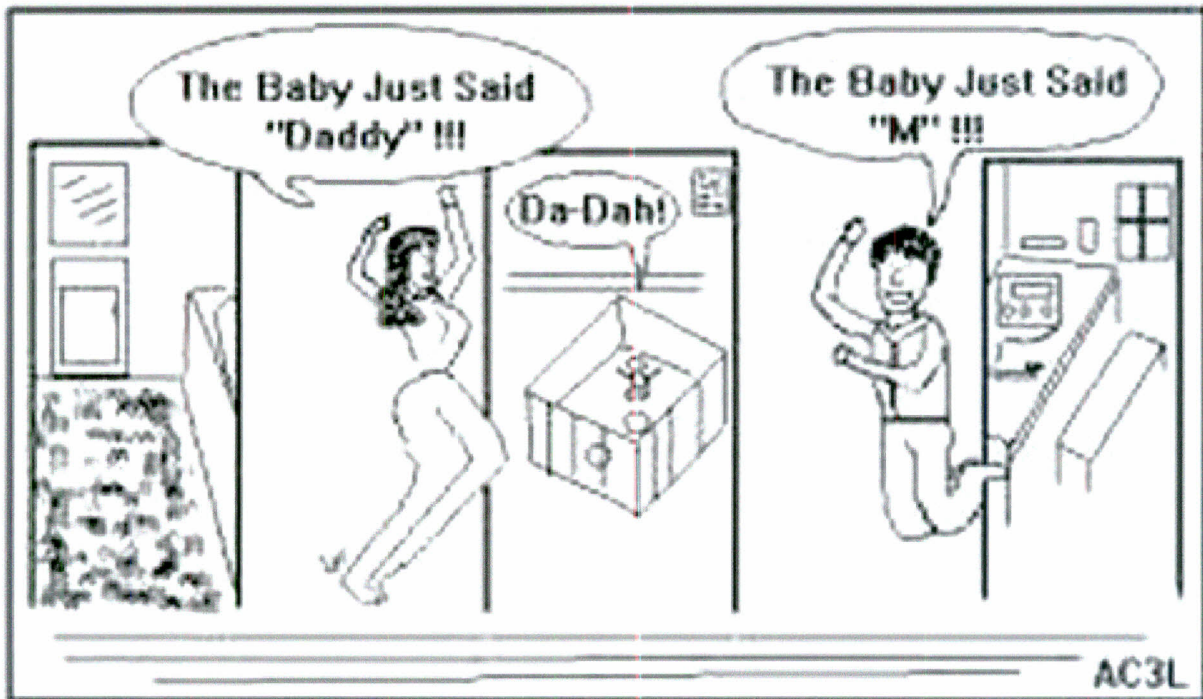
- Share our hobby with others, especially young people.
- Get on the air, try something new. A new band, a new mode. Expand your horizons.
- Go to the Dayton Hamvention. (Every year if possible)
- Enjoy!

**Current Projects:** Building a 220 MHz Kit from Ten Tec, new antennas for 50, 144 & 440.

**Professional Pursuits:** I am currently working on the launch of a new business.

**Editor's Notes:** Bob served seven terms as AARC President. He lives in the Advance Mills area with his wife Virginia and two of their three sons Jason and Brian. Their older son Shawn (KD4WXY) is on active duty with the Coast Guard. Virginia is a CPA in private practice, Jason a Junior at Christopher Newport University and Brian a Senior at Albemarle High School. Bob is also active at Ivy Creek United Methodist Church having served as lay leader and President of the Administrative Board.

**P.S. --- If we had a contest for the cleanest / neatest shack, this one would be hard to beat!!**





## AARC Public Service Schedule

|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday August 2</b>   | Mountain Mama Bike Tour, Monterey VA.<br>A heavy-duty bike tour through mountains of Virginia and West Virginia. About 100 miles with more than 10,000 feet of climbing. All in one day. |
| <b>August ??</b>           | Triathlon, Walnut Creek Park                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Saturday Sept. 20</b>   | 911 Drill                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Saturday November 1</b> | Montpelier Horse Races                                                                                                                                                                   |

## Area Hamfests

None reported

## FCC Database Updates

### New Calls

|                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| KI4BFM          | Dennis Mennerich        |
| <b>Upgrades</b> |                         |
| KG4OFX          | Sarah – to General      |
| AI4AC           | Greg Dresden – to Extra |
| KI4AZY          | Mike Lowry – to General |

## VE Session Schedule - 2003

|                                                  |                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Date</b><br><b>Location</b><br><br>(ARRL VEC) | For other exam sessions in Virginia outside the AARC area, check the <a href="#">ARRL Exam Session Search</a> web page. |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## AARC Club Officers

|                |                |        |                                                                                |
|----------------|----------------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President      | Steven Traylor | KF4ZGD | <a href="mailto:kf4zgd@juno.com">kf4zgd@juno.com</a><br>434-296-7418           |
| Vice President | Pete Thorsen   | W4PRT  | <a href="mailto:w4prt@arrl.net">w4prt@arrl.net</a><br>434-842-1014             |
| Secretary      | Marty Mait     | AG4DN  | <a href="mailto:mandlm8@aol.com">mandlm8@aol.com</a><br>434-589-2825           |
| Treasurer      | Ralph Traylor  | K4CFE  | <a href="mailto:rw6t@virginia.edu">rw6t@virginia.edu</a><br>434-296-7418       |
| Director       | Bob Pattison   | K4DU   | <a href="mailto:rep4@aol.com">rep4@aol.com</a><br>434-985-4828                 |
| Director       | Will Seay      | KJ4XZ  | 434-823-5665                                                                   |
| Director       | John Green     | KX4P   | <a href="mailto:jgreen@comdial.com">jgreen@comdial.com</a><br>434-975-4493     |
| Director       | Howard Gay     | KG4TWQ | <a href="mailto:kq4fyf@earthlink.net">kq4fyf@earthlink.net</a><br>540-456-6445 |
| Director       | Steve Clements | KD4HBX |                                                                                |

## Contest Calendars

|                                                        |                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">ARRL Contest Calendar 2003</a>             | ARRL sponsored contests                                                       |
| <a href="#">SM3CER Contest Service - Calendar 2003</a> | Contests all over the world! Also has links to online rules for most contests |
| <a href="#">Contesting Online</a>                      | Just about everything contests!                                               |

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

<http://www.people.virginia.edu/~ejd4e/aarc/index.htm>



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ISSUE DEADLINE - 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month

Contact Information

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 PO Box 530  
 Ruckersville, VA 22968-0530  
 (434) 990-2659  
[K4uvt@arrl.net](mailto:K4uvt@arrl.net)

Next Club Meeting :

July 8 - 7:30 PM

UVA - Astronomy Building

CLUB MEETINGS and NETS

**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 UVA Astronomy building at 530 McCormick Road.

**LUNCHEON:** Wednesdays -- Area hams gather at the **Wood Grill Buffet** on Rte 29 North from 11 AM – 1 PM

**Monday Night Information Net** – Each Monday at 7:00 PM

**Youth Net:** Each Wednesday at 7:30 PM on 147.075

**Northern Piedmont Emergency Net / Swap Net / Technical Session:**  
 Each Thursday at 8:00 PM

**All Nets are held on the 146.760 repeater (except for the Youth Net)**

AREA REPEATERS

WA4TFZ

INPUT/OUTPUT

Tone Access (If needed)

146.160/146.760  
 146.325/146.925

151.4 Hz  
 151.4 Hz

223.160/224.760  
 449.250/444.250  
 145.030  
 145.030

No Tone  
 151.4 Hz (If enabled)  
 MACHO Node  
 CHO Packet Bulletin Board

Other Area Repeaters

145.410 (-) 100 Hz Tone (if enabled) -- AF4CY (Madison)  
 442.075 (+) 151.4 Hz Tone -- KF4UCI

AARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| DATE        | EVENT                     |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| July 8      | Regular Club Meeting      |
| August 12   | <b>Annual Club Picnic</b> |
| September 9 | Regular Club Meeting      |
| October 14  | Regular Club Meeting      |
| November 11 | Regular Club Meeting      |
| December 9  | Regular Club Meeting      |

AARC - PUBLIC SERVICE SCHEDULE

| DATE       | EVENT                             |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| August 2   | Mountain Mama Bike Tour, Monterey |
| November 1 | 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.