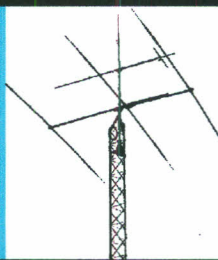


# The AARC Beacon



*Serving radio enthusiasts  
and communities in  
Central Virginia –  
The Radio Club for  
Central Virginia*

Volume 2004, No. 2



February 2004

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## Meeting Notice

The next regular AARC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 10 at 7:30 PM** at the **Astronomy Building on the UVA campus**. The program will be a presentation on **"Sound Card Digital Modes"** such as PSK and SSTV. We also think it will be interesting to have a brief discussion led by Bob Pattison K4DU on the proposed license restructuring.

See you there!!

## Dues / Application Notice 2004

**\*\*\* Dues are now due !!! \*\*\***

Members who have paid their 2004 dues and not filled out a new AARC Application form are requested to do so without delay. Applications should be sent to the club Secretary at [mandlm8@aol.com](mailto:mandlm8@aol.com) or brought to the next club meeting. Youth and Life members are requested to complete an application as well. **All membership dues should be accompanied by an AARC Application.**

We need your cooperation to up date the club data base. In the past some members have not been notified via E-mail that the Beacon is available, while others have not received hard copy through the US Mail. We hope to correct this problem for 2004. **We need your assistance to update the club database updated with accurate information (as well as your email addresses) for all club members. This will enable us to keep your info current and allow us to serve you better.**

Some members may have already paid their dues directly to Ralph, K4CFE. We request this group to also fill out the new form.

**A copy of the new form is included in this issue of the Beacon.** It may also be downloaded from the AARC website. If you have not yet filled out the new form, please print this page and complete the form.

## The President Speaks

Pete, W4PRT

Greetings!

Before I get started with this month's column, I want to thank everyone that made it out to the Ponderosa for the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club Annual Dinner. I also want to give special thanks for Jon (W4OJ) for organizing the event. Everyone had a great time and a few lucky folks walked away with some great prizes that we raffled off.

I had a chance to meet some folks that I had not met before (in person that is) and I had a chance to meet some new folks as well.

If you were not able to make the Annual Dinner, remember, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Albemarle Amateur Radio Club Swap fest and Picnic is just around the corner in August. Mark your calendars now! It is another of the great social gatherings that we have throughout the year.

In last month's column, I listed several things that were going on around the Amateur Radio World. I had thought that I had said that they were from the "ARRL Active Club Online Primer", but in looking at last month's column, I did not.

For those of you that are not aware of what the "ARRL Active Club Online Primer" is, here is how the ARRL describes it:

"The "ARRL Active Club Online Primer" is a compilation and updating of the best of ARRL favorites: *The Club President's Workbook* and the *Special Service Club Manual*. Because *ARRLWeb* contains hundreds of pages of current and frequently changing information, no static book can quite match it for information that active clubs need. This primer is loaded with helpful links and ideas galore to get your club enlivened!"

So, now that you know what it is, I'll be taking various bits and pieces of it each month to let you know what's going on. Surely, you don't think that I came up with all these ideas on my own. Do you?

There are a number of items listed this month in the "ARRL Active Club Online Primer".

### February Notes:

**Club gavel competition, International DX Contest, CW.** See the current [ARRL Contest Branch Web page](#) for dates, rules, and forms.

Announce, plan club gavel competition for next month's International DX Contest, phone. See the current [ARRL Contest Branch Web page](#) for dates, rules, and forms.

Appoint Field Day planning committee. Start plans at February meeting. Arrange site.

Plan March meeting. (Suggestion: hold seminar on good operating practice, PSK31, OSCAR, packet or other specialty-operating mode.)

### Explorer Scout demonstration meeting.

### Valentine's Day Message Center.

**School Club Roundup.** See the current [ARRL Contest Branch Web page](#) for rules, and forms.

Note of the Month: Have you submitted your club's Update to ARRL HQ yet?

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/fsd2/>

I will have to admit that the first two bullets confused me. I have no idea what a gavel competition is. I did a little digging and found some information about what they meant. It all revolves around contests. Specifically, the following contests:

January VHF Sweepstakes

(February and March) International DX Contest

September VHF QSO Party

November Sweepstakes

(December) 160-meter Contest

(December) 10-meter Contest

Within each contest, there are three categories (Unlimited, Medium, and Local). The differences in the categories are the number of entries that the Club submits. The highest scoring active affiliated Club try in each category (Unlimited, Medium, and Local) will be awarded a gavel.

So, there you have it, a bit of history about the gavel competition. Something to think about if we ever get enough interest to do one of the contests listed above.

**The third bullet is very important.** "Appoint Field Day planning committee". I would like to ask for volunteers to serve on this committee. Seeing the great success that we had the last two years, I welcome anyone with an interest, new ideas, and suggestions on how to make this years Field Day better than ever.

The fourth bullet, "plan for the March meeting", and lists several different modes. That sounds like a good idea. Should we try to plan for the next months meeting at the current meeting? It would give us some idea as to what folks want and might drum up some new ideas for programs. What do you think?

The next bullet is one that we have talked about before also. What do you think about putting on a demonstration of Amateur Radio for the local group of Boy Scouts or Explorer Scouts? Does anyone know who we might contact to see if the Scouts might be interested in us giving them such a presentation?

The Valentines Day Message Center bullet is not one that I am not familiar with. I would imagine that it would be the sending of Radiograms like those that we did at the Albemarle County Fair. If I have completely missed the point of this and anyone out there knows what this really is, please let me know.

I had no idea what the last bullet was either. But I dug a little bit again and found out the following information about the "School Club Roundup":

"School Club Roundup (SCR) is sponsored by the Council for the Advancement of Amateur Radio in the New York City Schools (CAAR/NYCS), the ARRL, and its Hudson Division Education Task Force to foster contacts with and among school radio clubs.

The SCR is a great way to get young operators on the air. Very often, a new operator will be intimidated by the fear of not knowing what to say to the stranger on the other side of the radio. The exchange info helps to overcome this fear in a low-pressure contest format. Operators are encouraged to take some time to chat beyond the contest exchange.

Award certificates will be issued for separate Elementary, Middle/Intermediate/Junior High School, High School, and College/University levels for USA and DX entries."

In reference to the "Note of the Month", we have submitted our Club's update to ARRL HQ and are in the process of getting the Club's "Special Service Club" certification renewed.

So, there you have it. In addition to those items, there are also a fair number of contests out there for the month of February. For detailed information on these contests, please refer to the following URL:

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/cpw/>

### **January 31<sup>st</sup> – February 9<sup>th</sup>**

6-Meter Mileage Marathon

North American Sprint (CW)

Spartan Sprint (CW)

### **February 7<sup>th</sup> – February 10<sup>th</sup>**

School Club Roundup

Minnesota QSO Party

Freeze Your Butt Off (FYBO) Winter QRP Field Day – CW

Ten-Ten International Winter Phone QSO Party

Vermont QSO Party

North American Sprint – SSB

XE International RTTY Contest

Delaware QSO Party

Classic Exchange (CW and Phone)

QRP ARCI Winter Fireside SSB Sprint

### **February 14<sup>th</sup> – February 15<sup>th</sup>**

CQ World Wide RTTY WPX Contest

RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest - CW

Asia-Pacific Sprint - CW

FISTS CW Winter Sprint - CW

Dutch PACC Contest - (CW and SSB)

OMISS QSO Party – SSB

### **February 21<sup>st</sup> – February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

ARRL International DX Contest - CW

YL International QSO Party - CW

CQC Winter QSO Party - (CW and SSB)

REF French Contest – SSB

### **February 28<sup>th</sup> – March 1<sup>st</sup>**

CQ WW 160-meter SSB Contest

UBA Contest - CW

North Carolina QSO Party - (CW and SSB)

Mississippi QSO Party - (CW and SSB)

Seeing that there are a number of state QSO parties on the list, don't forget that the Virginia State QSO party is March 20<sup>th</sup> – March 22<sup>nd</sup> (CW and SSB). Let's all try and participate in this contest this year.

There is an abundance of things happening during the winter months. Get out there and try something new!

On a local note, Ben (KG4QVP) has asked me to remind you to fill out your Membership Renewal form if you have not done so already. He said that he would have a new stack of forms available at the February Club Meeting for folks that haven't had a chance to download and fill out yet.

Ben also wanted me to pass along the following information as well:

Of the members registering for 2004, we have 11 that are showing up in my database as non-ARRL members. ARRL is offering a program to Clubs who recruit new ARRL members. We, the Club, will receive a \$15 commission for every new member to ARRL or person who is reregistering with them after 2 years. This means that right now, with the 11 non-ARRL members. We can make up to \$165 for the Club. This could be something that we take care of at the regular meeting in Feb. Let me know if you would like me to pursue it.

## February 2004

Please visit this site on ARRL:

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/club-commission-program.html> for more information.

So, if you miss getting that copy of QST in your mailbox and want to be in the "know" about the happenings within Amateur Radio, talk to Ben about becoming an ARRL member.

And last but not least, **Frostfest** is just around the corner. This year it is February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Show Place in Midlothian. If you have a chance, you should try and attend. It is usually a great time. The URL with all the pertinent information is as follows: <http://www.frostfest.org/>

I hope to see everyone at the February Meeting. Remember, if you know of an Amateur that is new to the area, or just hasn't been active in a while, bring them with you. I always welcome the chance to meet folks new and old alike.

73 -- Pete

## As I See It...

Jon, W4OJ, VP

It is with great regret and sorrow that I must resign my position as Vice President of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club effective the close of business of the February meeting. Due to personal reasons involving pursuit of my livelihood I have elected to move once again from Charlottesville, VA to Sunnyvale, CA. I enjoyed very much this year I have spent back home in Central Virginia and the company of so many excellent neighbors as yourselves.

I had discussed this possible eventuality with members of the nominating committee and others that spoke with me before the election. We all felt that for whatever time period was available it would be good to involve me further with the clubs operations. I intend to keep up to the minute with the dealings of the club and will remain a full member during my absence. I hope to contribute material to the Beacon. It might be interesting to hear of my experiences at my West Coast QTH.

I was first licensed in an AARC sponsored VE session at NRAO in early 1991 and received my license with the callsign KD4CQY some 7 weeks later. I left town in 1995 and moved to Sunnyvale to pursue my trade in information systems engineering during the boom years. When I returned to Charlottesville around this time last year to wait out the aftermath of the "boom" and consider the future I found myself with a lot of time on my hands and the need to put my energy into something. I found the AARC as I left it -- dynamic, thriving and evolving while maintaining a solid legacy. I felt right back at home.

I checked into a few nets and was welcomed by friends both old and new. A strong Interest arose among my very closest friends about Amateur Radio and I soon found myself upgraded to a General class license and my friends were new hams as well! I changed my call to K4CQY and enjoyed Field Day and several contests and operating events. I worked All States, All Continents and 133 DXCC entities with that call.

I recently upgraded to Amateur Extra at the AARC sponsored VE session on December 6th. To celebrate I changed my call to W4OJ. My upgrade coincided with the healing of the sun's acne and a need to go to the lower bands to keep working those "new ones". I learned a lot more about propagation and worldwide band allocations.

I'm sorry to be leaving; however I look forward to keeping in contact with my home club and my friends. Radio has been a very important part of my life during the last year and it has been comforting, challenging and rewarding. Most importantly it has kept me focused on friendship, achievement and the fun of learning.

Around the middle of February my call will be changed to K6OJ. I really got lucky to find the west coast analog of my current call. Under the Vanity callsign rules my W4OJ call will be reserved for my use for 2 years. I hope to return and reclaim that call and once again share, learn and grow with this great group of people! Please look for me on the bands. I'd very much enjoy a schedule with folks here. I'd be very interested in being able to use Echolink to participate in the InfoNet and the NPEN.

I will be packing a 20' rental truck on Friday and Saturday, February 20 and 21. If you can lend me your strong back and a few hours it would be **GREATLY** appreciated! Following the successful loading of the truck I plan to attend Frostfest in Richmond with other club members and then leave town on Monday morning! It would be great to see you!

73 es trx de Jon, W4OJ

## Frostfest!!

Bob Pattison, K4DU

Mark your calendars! **Frostfest 2004** is February 22, 2004! The show starts at 8:30 AM and ends at 3:00 PM.

I must admit I am addicted to hamfests. For those of you who have never been to one, a hamfest is part flea market, part commercial exhibits and often part forum or seminar. The Richmond **Frostfest** is all of those and sometimes more. Held each year in the January-February time frame, it is the first hamfest of the year in the area. It is also the closest one for those of us who live in or near Charlottesville. A short hour and 20 minute drive away the show is located at **The Showplace at 3000 Mechanicsville Turnpike,**

**which is just off the Mechanicsville exit of I-64.** The Richmond Amateur Transmitting Society generally has a talk-in station for those who need directions. Talk-in is usually on 146.88 (- offset, no tone).

This years' show is also the **ARRL Virginia State Convention** which means that there will be a Virginia Section Forum and most likely an ARES/Races Meeting held during the hamfest. In past years there have also been presentations by the ARRL Roanoke Division leaders and occasionally FCC forums. Last year Riley Hollingsworth made an appearance and answered questions. All of these activities afford you and opportunity to meet people face to face.

Most hamfests have commercial exhibits and while these have been declining in number in the past few years the **Frostfest** is sure to have some commercial booths where you can get new equipment. Radio Works almost always has a booth so if a new antenna is on your list you can buy one there and take it home with you. You can also be certain that there will be a fair amount of computer related items available at the show.

The flea market offers an opportunity to see gear from years gone by and make deals on equipment at bargain prices. Don't forget to haggle in the flea market. Making a deal at the right price is all part of the game. Make certain that you place your ticket stub in the barrel for one of the door prizes. On more than one occasion members of the AARC have walked away with one of the top three prizes.

**Once again the AARC will have a table at Frostfest.** If you have gear to sell feel free to bring it an offer it for sale at the table. The club charges a 10% commission on sales however; we are more than willing to waive the commission if you are willing to spend at least two hours working in the booth. We need volunteers to set up, staff and tear down. If you would like to work the booth call me at 434-960-3344 or send me an email at [k4du@arrl.net](mailto:k4du@arrl.net). Folks in the booth will be listening on 146.925 simplex. See you there!

## Club Business

### AARC Board Minutes January 11, 2004

Board Members Present: Pete W4PRT (PRES), Jon W4OJ (VEEP), Marty AG4DN (SECY), Ben KG4QVP, Jill KG4TFS, Steve KD4HBX, Bob K4DU, Steve KF4ZGD for Ralph K4CFE (TREAS). Members absent: Howard, KG4TWQ.

Pete W4PRT opened the Board meeting at 5:35 PM. The sole purpose of the meeting was to discuss and decide whether to accept the new AARC Application form as developed by Ben KG4QVP. The form was accepted by the Board with the stipulation that old as well as new members will execute the form. The purpose of this action is to assure

that the data base for AARC members is up to date and accurate. The two most critical items are up-to-date E-mail addresses and if a member desires to have a hard copy of the Beacon mailed rather than down loading a copy from the club web site.

With this concluded, Steve KF4ZGD acting for Ralph, Treas. presented the end of year budget report. The report indicated that Total Revenues as of December 31, 2003, were \$2,868.51; Total Expenses were \$1822.29; Excess Revenues were \$1046.22; Balances were AARC Fund \$3764.53, Repeater Fund \$1082.68, Packet Radio Fund \$78.51 and Total Revenue \$4925.72. (Complete report available from club Secy., upon request.)

With no further business the Board closed at 6:00 PM.

*Submitted by Marty Mait AG4DN, Secy.*

### Regular Meeting January 11, 2004

As is the custom for AARC there is no formal membership meeting in January. In January each year the AARC has its Annual Dinner and Awards presentation. This year the dinner was held at the Ponderosa Steak House at the base of Pantops Mountain. The dinner was well attended by members, their families and friends. It was estimated that about 50 attended. This was Pete's first act as President of the AARC. He thanked all for coming and showing their support for the club. He went on to thank those that participated in Field Day, making it the grand success it was in 2003. He presented Certificates of Appreciation to all participants. He indicated that in 2004 we would do even better.

A raffle was held for a number of door prizes donated to the club. The attendees had a fine time eating, meeting and greeting their fellow amateurs and friends and are looking forward to another successful club year.

*Submitted by Marty Mait AG4DN, Secy.*

## ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License - Code-Free with HF Access

*ARLB003 from ARRL*

The ARRL will ask the FCC to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license that would include HF phone privileges without requiring a Morse code test. The League also will propose consolidating all current licensees into three classes, retaining the Element 1 Morse requirement--now 5 WPM-only for the highest class. The ARRL Board of Directors overwhelmingly approved the plan January 16 during its

Annual Meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. The proposals -- developed by the ARRL Executive Committee following a Board instruction last July--are in response to changes made in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). They would continue a process of streamlining the amateur licensing structure that the FCC began more than five years ago but left unfinished in the Amateur Service license restructuring Report and Order (WT 98-143) that went into effect April 15, 2000.

"Change in the Amateur Radio Service in the US, especially license requirements and even more so when Morse is involved, has always been emotional," said ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, in presenting the Executive Committee's recommendations. "In fact, without a doubt, Morse is Amateur Radio's 'religious debate.'"

The entry-level license class -- being called "Novice" for now -- would require a 25-question written exam. It would offer limited HF CW/data and phone/image privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters as well as VHF and UHF privileges on 6 and 2 meters and on 222-225 and 430-450 MHz. Power output would be restricted to 100 W on 80, 40, and 15 meters and to 50 W on 10 meters and up.

"The Board sought to achieve balance in giving new Novice licensees the opportunity to sample a wider range of Amateur Radio activity than is available to current Technicians while retaining a motivation to upgrade," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. Under the ARRL plan, current Novice licensees--now the smallest and least active group of radio amateurs--would be grandfathered to the new entry-level class without further testing.

The middle group of licensees -- Technician, Tech Plus (Technician with Element 1 credit) and General I- -would be merged into a new General license that also would not require a Morse examination. Current Technician and Tech Plus license holders automatically would gain current General class privileges without additional testing. The current Element 3 General examination would remain in place for new applicants.

The Board indicated that it saw no compelling reason to change the Amateur Extra class license requirements. The ARRL plan calls on the FCC to combine the current Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees into Amateur Extra, because the technical level of the exams passed by these licensees is very similar. New applicants for Extra would have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code examination, but the written exam would stay the same. Sumner said the Board felt that the highest level of accomplishment should include basic Morse capability. Current Novice, Tech Plus and General licensees would receive lifetime 5 WPM Morse credit.

"This structure provides a true entry-level license with HF privileges to promote growth in the Amateur Service," Harrison said.

Among other advantages, Sumner said the plan would allow new Novices to participate in HF SSB emergency nets on 75 and 40 meters as well as on the top 100 kHz of 15 meters. The new license also could get another name, Sumner said. "We're trying to recapture the magic of the old Novice license, but in a manner that's appropriate for the 21st century."

The overall proposed ARRL license restructuring plan would more smoothly integrate HF spectrum privileges across the three license classes and would incorporate the "Novice reforming" plan the League put forth nearly two years ago in a Petition for Rule Making (RM-10413). The FCC has not yet acted on the ARRL plan, which would alter current HF sub bands.

The ARRL license restructuring design calls for no changes in privileges for Extra and General class licensees on 160, 60, 30, 20, 17 or 12 meters. Novice licensees would have no access to those bands.

See "ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access" on the ARRL Web site at the URL <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/01/19/1/> for the specific sub-band allocations ARRL is proposing for each class.

## Contest Highlights - Upcoming

*Bob, W4RQ*

### ARRL-Sponsored Contests

**Feb 9-13** [School Club Round-Up](#)

**Feb 21-22** [ARRL International DX Contest \(CW\)](#)

Complete info, rules and log forms for these events can be found online at the [ARRL Contest Calendar 2004](#) webpage.

### Other Contests of Interest

**Jan 10-11** [Hunting LIONS on the Air](#)

**Jan 10-11** [North American QSO Party CW](#)

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

*73, Bob W4RQ*

**Do you have  
any  
interesting  
ham stories,  
tips on  
operating,  
equipment  
old and new  
or of general  
interest ???**

**This space  
is available  
for your  
article !!!**





## AARC Public Service Schedule

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>March 26</b>     | 911 Drill at about 6:00 PM                |
| <b>March 28</b>     | Bike Race                                 |
| <b>June 12 - 13</b> | MS Bike Tour                              |
| <b>September</b>    | Mountain mama Bike Race – Highland County |
| <b>November</b>     | Montpelier Horse Races                    |

## Area Hamfests

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>February 24</b>                           | Sponsor: Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society<br><a href="http://www.frostfest.com">http://www.frostfest.com</a><br>Contact: Pat Wilson, W4PW<br>PO Box 14828<br>Richmond, VA 23221-0828<br>Phone: 804-932-9424 or 804-330-3165<br>Email: <a href="mailto:w4pw@frostfest.com">w4pw@frostfest.com</a> |
| <b>Virginia State Convention (FrostFest)</b> |   |
| <b>Richmond</b>                              |   |
| <b>February 29</b>                           | Sponsor: Vienna Wireless Society<br><a href="http://www.viennawireless.org">http://www.viennawireless.org</a><br>Contact: Jim Parsons, W4JTP<br>11011 Moxleys Ford Lane<br>Bristow, VA 20136<br>Phone: 703-392-0150<br>Email: <a href="mailto:W4JTP@aol.com">W4JTP@aol.com</a>                              |
| <b>Annandale</b>                             |   |

## FCC Database Updates

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>New Calls</b> |  |
| None Reported    |  |
| <b>Upgrades</b>  |  |
| None Reported    |  |

## VE Session Schedule - 2003

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>February 15</b> | Sponsor: AB4M<br>Time: 1:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)<br>Contact: CHARLES L BEARD<br>(434)832-7651<br>Location: Central Virginia Comm. College<br>ROOM 2504 - AMHERST BLDG<br>3506 WARDS RD<br>LYNCHBURG, VA 24502 |
| <b>Lynchburg</b>   |  |
| <b>(ARRL VEC)</b>  |  |
| <b>Date</b>        | For other exam sessions in Virginia outside the AARC area, check the <a href="#">ARRL Exam Session Search</a> web page.  |
| <b>Location</b>    |  |
| <b>(ARRL VEC)</b>  |  |

## For Sale Items

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Offered by</b><br><b>Rick, KO4WQ</b><br><b>Contact Rick at</b><br><b>(434) 245-1128</b> | 1 - Astron 12M Regulated Power Supply with manual and original carton with 12v distribution strip<br>1 - Portable Power Station with 6, 9 and 12v outputs in original Carton. |
|--|---|

## AARC Club Officers

|                |                |        |  |
|----------------|----------------|--------|--|
| President      | Pete Thorsen   | W4PRT  | <a href="mailto:w4prt@arrl.net">w4prt@arrl.net</a><br>434-842-1014                 |
| Vice President | Jon Gefaell    | W4OJ   | <a href="mailto:jon@turing.org">jon@turing.org</a><br>434-996-9628                 |
| 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       | Ben Mills      | KG4QVP | <a href="mailto:blmills@mindspring.com">blmills@mindspring.com</a><br>434-953-8106 |
| Director       | Jill Anderson  | KG4TFS | <a href="mailto:jrandersn@yahoo.com">jrandersn@yahoo.com</a><br>434-               |
| Director       | Howard Gay     | KG4TWQ | <a href="mailto:kq4fyf@earthlink.net">kq4fyf@earthlink.net</a><br>540-456-6445     |
| Director       | Steve Clements | KD4HBX |  |

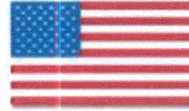
## Contest Calendars

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <a href="#">ARRL Contest Calendar 2004</a>             | ARRL sponsored contests   |
| <a href="#">SM3CER Contest Service - Calendar 2004</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>



**THE AARC BEACON**  
**Vol 2004 No. 2**  
**February 2004**



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

**Contact Information**  
**Daniel R. (Bob) Dorsey, Jr. W4RQ**  
**PO Box 530**  
**Ruckersville, VA 22968-0530**  
**(434) 990-2659**  
[W4RQ@yahoo.com](mailto:W4RQ@yahoo.com)

**Next Club Meeting : February 10 - 7:30 PM Astronomy Bldg. at UVA**

**CLUB MEETINGS and NETS**

**REGULAR Meeting:** Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM  
**BOARD & TECHNICAL Meetings:** Prior to regular meeting at 6:30 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**

| <u>INPUT/OUTPUT</u> | <u>Tone Access (If needed)</u> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 146.160/146.760     | 151.4 Hz                       |
| 146.325/146.925     | 151.4 Hz                       |
| 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      |

**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                |
|-------------|----------------------|
| February 10 | Regular Club Meeting |
| March 9     | Regular Club Meeting |
| April 13    | Regular Club Meeting |
| May 11      | Regular Club Meeting |
| June 8      | Regular Club Meeting |
| July 13     | Regular Club Meeting |
| August 10   | AARC Picnic          |

**AARC - PUBLIC SERVICE SCHEDULE**

| DATE       | EVENT |
|------------|-------|
| 2004 - TBA | TBA   |

Please sign up at meetings as the SIGN UP CLIPBOARD is passed around. Contact Greg N4PGS indicating your interest in working particular events.

**Membership application available in PDF format at [http://www.people.virginia.edu/~ejd4e/aarc/images/AARC\\_Application.pdf](http://www.people.virginia.edu/~ejd4e/aarc/images/AARC_Application.pdf)**