

Africa where we have been hearing more stations from that continent.

Dr. Bubba reports success in repairing our 224.760 repeater after its massive lightning induced failure. (As my dad says, "the operation was a success but the patient died...."). It will no doubt be back on the air by the time you read this letter.

And now I must say, as this is our last newsletter for the year, that we have had a remarkable and productive year in the club. We had a good Frostfest early on in the year. We did many public service events providing much needed communications and support for our fellow humans. We had a wonderful Field Day full of cooperation and high spirits. We have a new and updated website which will surely help all in the local amateur radio community. Last but certainly not least....we have a number of **new HAMS** in the community and it is my delight to see them becoming involved.

We still need a club house/club shack ... not for the purpose of meeting but for the purpose of operating. There are many now and the numbers will surely increase, of those who do not have the ability to work radio from their home for one reason or another. Please continue to explore the possibilities within your circle of friends and associates to try and find us a permanent home. Having a radio station to offer club members to use is paramount in keeping people involved and getting new people involved.

I hope everybody had a fantastic Thanksgiving and I would like to wish everybody a wonderful "rest of the holiday season" and a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year to come. Here's to continuing the good trend into 2007.

Cheers and ...

73, Jay K4AZV

Veep Peeps

John, KI4DJT

Dear Friends: The end of another year and it really went fast for me. I guess when you get past the halfway point each year we have left is shorter than the one the year before. My kids are fussing because the winter will be here soon; big deal it'll only be a couple of weeks I tell them. They look at me like I'm nuts. Some years ago I first moved here from California in 1980. I was putting cedar siding on a house near Dulles. The whole day I was standing on an aluminum scaffold on the north side of the house, in January, with about a foot of top frozen snow on the Earth, crystal clear sky and with a 30 to 40 MPH breeze. Needless to say I was miserable. While I was working there and old fellow, a Seventh Day Adventist I think, was digging a hole for a handrail post through the frozen ground with a digging bar. The fellow was in his late seventies and I wonder why he

was still doing this kind of work in this weather at his age. I was grumbling and he asked me, "What's wrong young blood?". I said, "Man, this sucks, what a lousy day to have to work in". He looked at me like I was nuts, and standing in the pure white snow with a shiny glazed top and gesturing toward the beautiful cloudless azure blue sky replied, "I feel sorry for you son, it's a beautiful day". I looked around, feeling small, and realized he was perfectly correct and I just had the wrong attitude. Anyway, that's why I like the weather winter and summer. It's so much easier on me to realize any day I get to live is a good one no matter what the weather.

I got my telescope finished in time and gave a good presentation at the Astronomy club. The 12.5 inch Dob is a real beauty and a joy to use. I got lucky this time and have a very nice instrument. While star testing I was able to find about half the Messier catalogue in my night of first light observing.

I do not have a speaker for the December meeting, so I can't tell you at this time what the presentation will be. This is a problem that I'm going to have my third year at VP. I've already pestered almost everyone I know to do a talk and the fishing is getting a little slow. So please help me in this by making a suggestion or by doing a presentation. Call 540-543 2037 and please leave a message and I'll call back.

The annual dinner is at Pantops Ponderosa Steak House and the time is 6 PM on Sunday, January 7, 2007.

Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year...

73 de John, KI4DJT

Club Business

AARC Board Minutes October 10, 2006

Members Present:

Jay (PRES), K4AZV; John (VEEP), KI4DJT; Marty (SECY), AG4DN; Bob (TREAS), K4DU; Stephanie, K4BMM; Bill, AD6JV; Dennis, K4THE; Tim, KG4HOT; John, N4SYH.

Members Absent: None.

With a quorum present Jay opened the meeting at 6:40 PM.

Jay raised the issue of repeaters and a lively discussion followed, thoroughly exploring the issue. Tim, Jay and the Board addressed location, replacement and purchase of new items to enhance coverage. After much discussion and with the consent of the Board, the recommendation to the membership was for the purchase of two controller kits at a cost not to exceed \$600.00.

Other changes and improvements to the club repeater system can be accomplished with existing equipment at no cost.

Jay informed the Board that a club member has a time-share condo in the Bahamas and would be willing to let the club use the condo for a DXpedition during the summer of 2007. The arrangements are not "locked in concrete", but it is something for those who might be interested to keep in mind. More will follow at a later date.

Marty informed the Board that the Fluvanna repeater (W4FCO) is operational and open for use. The frequency is 145.17 MHz (-) with a 151.4 tone. All operators are encouraged to make use of this repeater. Gordon WW4GW informed the Board that the Buckingham repeater is also open for use on 146.79 MHz (-) with a 167.9 tone. These repeaters will give club members and other operators from the Albemarle/Charlottesville general area increased coverage to the south and east

Jay informed the Board that there had been a request from Alan Swinger K9MBQ to have formal instruction conducted for the **EXTRA** Class. Jay placed the possibility of Extra Class instruction before the Board. Past experience by the AARC with Extra Class instruction has not been very productive. An alternate approach was agreed upon. Alan or others looking to up grade, should get the Extra Class License Manual, review it and then come to the club and request a tutor for those areas where additional assistance is required. Jay will inform Alan of the Board's recommendation.

With no further Board business, a motion was made to close the Board meeting at 7:10 PM, seconded and approved with no comment.

Submitted by: Marty AG4DN

Regular Meeting October 1, 2006

Jay opened the meeting at 7:40 PM. Jay called for introduction of members and guests.

Marty notified Jay that there were applications on hand requesting membership. A family request was on hand from the Beard family, Linda KI4RIW, Roland and Alicia. A motion was made for approval, second and approved with no objections. Next an application was on hand from Douglas Webbink WD4KWY. A motion was made for approval, second and approved with no objections. The new members were given a round of applause by the membership.

Jay called for a motion to approve the October Meeting Minutes as they appeared in the November 2006 issue of the Beacon. A motion was made, seconded and approved by the membership with no comments.

Jay informed the membership that the Board recommended approval of a sum not to exceed \$600 for the purchase of

two controller kits. The kits once assembled and operational will give the repeaters greater flexibility and linkage to other repeaters in the general area. There was additional discussion covering the movement of the 440 repeater to Martha Jefferson Hospital, maintaining the 911 phone patch at the hospital and placing the .925, 2 meter repeater with the .76. Following the discussion Jay called for a motion to approve the purchase of the two controller kits. A motion was made, second and approved with no objections.

Gordon WW4GW announced Marty as an addition to the club VE team. He also announced **the next testing session will be on 9 December, 9:00 AM in the NROA Building**. Please note that the session will "NOT" be at the Astronomy Building.

The Fire chief of the East Rivanna Volunteer Fire Department has offered the use of his auditorium to the club. This is a gracious gesture by the Chief.

Jay informed the membership of the time-share offer in the Bahamas for a summer DXpedition. (See Board minutes)

Bob reported no significant changes in the club's financial status.

Bill informed the club that there was no emergency radio drills planned for the near future. The next Albemarle / Charlottesville drill will be in May 2007. He noted that there will be a practice nuclear drill on 5 December in Louisa County/Lake Anna. Volunteers are needed to assist Louisa ARES during the drill. Contact Bill if interested.

Dennis opened a discussion from the floor concerning Field Day. Tim entered the discussion as did others. After much discussion it was decided that the location of the club site would be changed from Walton Park to the Observatory on Fan Mountain. Tim announced that he anticipated holding a planning meeting early in 2007 or late December. He emphasized that all are encouraged to participate regardless of how much or little time they could contribute or the level of their skills.

Stephanie presented a collection of her QSL cards. They were from all parts of the world and many cards showed a great deal of creativity. Jay informed the membership about DXing on 2 and 6 meters and the challenge involved. He encouraged the membership to participate in the program.

John announced that **the club holiday dinner was scheduled for 7 January, 6:00 PM at the Ponderosa Steak House, Pantops Shopping Center**, Route 250. All members, family, friends and neighbors are encouraged to participate.

Jay called for any additional business or comments from the floor. There being none he called for a motion to close the meeting. The motion was made, second and approved with no objections.

Submitted by: Marty Mait AG4DN, SECY



Contest Highlights - Upcoming

Bob, W4RQ

ARRL-Sponsored Contests

Dec 9-10 **ARRL 10 Meter Contest**

Dec 31 **Straight Key Night**

Complete info, rules and log forms for these events can be found online at the [ARRL Contest Calendar 2006](#) webpage.

Other Contests of Interest

Dec 26 **DARC (Germany) Christmas Contest**

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

73, Bob W4RQ



AARC Public Service Schedule

None Reported

Area Hamfests

None reported

FCC Database Updates

New Calls

None Reported

Upgrades

None Reported

Vanity Calls

None Reported

VE Session Schedule - 2006

Date
Location

(ARRL VEC)

For other exam sessions in Virginia outside the AARC area, check the [ARRL Exam Session Search](#) web page.

For Sale Items

Triband Yagi, rotator and coax switch

Cushcraft A3S 10/15/20 Meters Triband Yagi, with coax, etc. Asking \$175. Yaesu antenna rotator with control unit. Model G-450 XL, with box, coax, etc. Asking \$200.00. Delta-4 Lightning surge protector. 4-position RF Coax switch.. Asking \$32. All items include original manual. Contact Jimmy at (Home) 434 973-5589 or (Cell) 434 981-8451 or via Email K4JMY@aol.com.

AARC Club Officers

President	Jay Rostow	K4AZV	k4azv@turing.org 434-263-5795
Vice President	John Turchi	KI4DJT	m51John@juno.com 540-543-2037
Secretary	Marty Mait	AG4DN	ag4dn@earthlink.net 434-589-2825
Treasurer	Bob Pattison	K4DU	rep4@aol.com 434-960-3344
Director	John	N4SYH	
Director	Tim	KG4HOT	
Director	Stephanie Rostow	K4BMM	434-263-5795
Director	Bill Phillips	AD6JV	billp1048@earthlink.net 434 872-0686
Director	Dennis Mennerich	K4THE	k4the@arrl.net 434 973-5407

Contest Calendars

ARRL Contest Calendar 2004	ARRL sponsored contests
SM3CER Contest Service - Calendar 2004	Contests all over the world! Also has links to online rules for most contests
Contesting Online	Just about everything contests!

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. Box 6833
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<http://www.wa4tfz.org/index.htm>



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ISSUE DEADLINE - 23rd of each month

Contact Information
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Next Club Meeting : Dec. 12 - 7:30 PM NRAO Building - 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 NRAO building on Edgemont 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**
- 145.17 (-) 151.4 Hz Tone -- **W4FCO (Fluvanna)**
- 146.79 (-) 167.9 Hz Tone -- (Buckingham)

AARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
December 12	Regular Club Meeting
January 7	Annual Club Winter Dinner – Ponderosa - Pantops
February 13	Regular Club Meeting
March 13	Regular Club Meeting
April 10	Regular Club Meeting
May 8	Regular Club Meeting

AARC - PUBLIC SERVICE SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT

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.wa4tfz.org/images/AARCrenewalform2006.pdf>