



## July 2007

dipole performed quite well. The loop, after being sorted out seemed incredible as contacts on 80 meters were abundant. Teardown went smoothly although with the extensive nature of the VHF/UHF set up it took a little extra time. There were a number of passersby who saw our Field Day signs (a couple of them were HAMS and some who were not) investigating what Field Day was all about. Thanks to those of you who brought telescopes to Field Day allowing people to do a little stargazing. Thanks to all who participated in our events this past month thereby making them possible.

Here's what we worked this during the past month. First and foremost---thank you 6 meters! There were some nice openings in June. On the 13th through the 18th we saw much activity and again on the 24th through the 30th. We worked many new grid squares in the U.S. and Canada. We also worked many Caribbean stations and earned a few new DX entities in the process including: Antigua, Aruba, Bonaire, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Anguilla, French Guyana and Steph worked her first African entity. HF was less active but we did work some cool stuff such as Algeria, Bahrain, Norfolk Island, Panama, New Zealand, Guam, St. Brandon, Greece and Australia.

73 and have a great July! See you next month ...

*Jay K4AZV*

## Veep Peeps

*John, KI4DJT*

Veep Peeps is not available this month ...

*73 de John, KI4DJT*

## Club Business

### AARC Board Minutes June 12, 2007

Board Members Present: Jay, K4AZV (Prez); Bob, K4DU (Treas.); Marty, AG4DN (Sec'y); Bill, AD6JV, Gordon WW4GW; Josh, KG4NGV. Members Absent: John, KI4DJT (Veep); Steph, K4BMM ; Kevin, K4BDR.

Jay opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Tim KG4HOT, chairman of the Tech Committee, reported that the club had received no word from SERA on the coordination of the 925 repeater. He requested a check for \$210 to reimburse him for the funds he had spent for the 220 repeater. This was previously approved by the membership. Bob wrote the check.

Elmer Scott KF4UCI offered to trade 440 cans for a controller that was surplus to the club. This trade was approved by the Board and will be presented to the membership at the General Meeting to follow.

Bob presented his draft AARC Statement of Goals and Objectives for the AARC repeater System, May 9 2007 to the Board. The Board accepted the draft with approving comments. A copy will be placed in the next issue of the Beacon for membership information and for approval by the membership at the next regular meeting 10 July 2007.

Gordon made a key point about the behavior of club members when they are operating in and about the Martha Jefferson Hospital. We must remember that we and our repeater are guests in this institution. They have been quite generous and accommodating to amateur radio over many years. As such it is every ones obligation to be courteous when working around hospital staff and not to disturb their operations. A thank you letter was proposed to the hospital staff from the club. Jay approved and will take appropriate action.

With no further business, Jay called for a motion to close the meeting at 7:20 PM. A motion was made, second and approved with no comment.

*Submitted by: Marty AG4DN, Secretary*

### Regular Meeting June 12, 2007

Jay opened the meeting at 7:30 PM. The introduction of members and guests followed.

The May AARC Board and General Member Meeting minutes were approved by the membership with no changes or exceptions.

Two new members were voted into the club: John Ginatowsky KG4FJC of Dillwyn and Philip Stenger (call pending) of Charlottesville.

Jay noted that he and a number of club officers have decided not to run for re-election for next year. He urged the membership to give thought to capable and talented members as replacements for these positions.

Tim discussed the preparations for **Field Day 23-24 June**. He requested volunteers for set up on Friday 22 June as well as volunteers for any Field Day activity. He intends to use a sign up roster for time periods of operation on Saturday and Sunday. John will be managing the food arrangements, but was not present to comment.

There was a general discussion among the membership as to the purpose and the intent of Field Day. How should field Day interact with ARES emergency operations training? In general it was agreed that Field Day is a time for field operations that parallels an ARES emergency drill or reality. It provides ARES members a great opportunity to practice and hone their skills. The fact that there is a contest atmosphere associated with the event does not distract from the training opportunities. When examining the roster of Field Day participants we find a great number are members of ARES. The discussion closed at this point. Jay went on to report on field Day publicity. He reported that the publicity is ready to be shipped to the media. All important local

outlets will be given notice of the event, time and location for dissemination to the public.

Jay noted the need for a permanent storage facility for club equipment. Presently, the equipment is stored on property of club members. Jay reported that rental of storage space for club needs would run \$100 monthly. An amount the club cannot afford. This is a nagging problem that the club will have to resolve in the future.

Bob reported that the balance in the club checking account as of 12 June is \$5045.35

Jay informed the membership that coordination for the 925 repeater is expected about the 15 or 16 of June.

The membership was informed of the proposed trade with Elmer Scott KF4UCI (see Board Minutes). A motion to approve the action was made, second and approved with no comment.

Gordon reported on the very successful VE session on 9 June. Four individuals passed the Amateur Extra exam and he recruited two new members for the club.

This completed the business side of the meeting.

The guest speaker for the evening was Ken Kellerman of NRAO. The subject of his presentation was "Grote Reber the father of radio astronomy."

Both Ken and Hein Hvatum N4FWA (AARC Life Member) knew him from personal contact. Grote was a very interesting individual. He was multi-faceted. He had a scientific curiosity not only in the field of radio astronomy, but in all aspects of his life. Needless to say he was eccentric, frugal and yet generous at the same time. His work on radio astronomy has had a great impact on the field for the past 50 years and will in all probability continue into the future. For those interested in his scientific work, I recommend contacting Ken for the appropriate references.

Josh volunteered to bring refreshments for the July meeting.

There being no further business, Jay called for a motion to close the meeting at 8:45 PM. A motion was made, seconded and approved with no comment.

*Submitted by: Marty Mait AG4DN, Secretary*

## AARC Repeater System Goals and Objectives

Bob K4DU

### Albemarle Amateur Radio Club

#### Statement of Goals and Objectives for the AARC Repeater System

#### Initial Draft for Comment

May 14, 2007

#### AARC repeater system goals:

- To facilitate communications between amateurs within the Central Virginia region loosely defined as Charlottesville, Albemarle, Greene, Madison, Fluvanna, Louisa, Orange, Nelson and Buckingham Counties.
- To provide opportunities for amateurs who have interest to learn by working with repeaters, packet systems, and Echo-link technology and new technologies as they come on line.
- To serve our communities in the event of a disaster or emergency by providing a reliable communications system for use until normal services are restored.

#### Frequency Objectives:

- The AARC System will offer multiple repeaters on 144 MHz, and at least one machine (each) on 222 MHz and 440 MHz.
  - 144 MHz systems exist because this is the primary VHF FM band used by amateurs
  - 440 MHz systems are designed as an alternative to 144 MHz when they are being heavily used and to offer experience in the UHF frequency range.
  - 222 MHz systems are in place to encourage 222 MHz use and as a statement by the club in support of efforts to protect that frequency allocation to amateurs.
- The club is encouraged to also offer remote base or additional systems for 28 MHz, 50 MHz, 900 MHz and 1270 MHz as interest, opportunity and funding is available.
- **Coverage Objectives:**
- For the **144 MHz** repeaters: Travelers on **I-64** and **US 250** should be able to access one of the

club's 144 MHz repeaters and carry out communications from Gum Springs to the top of Afton Mountain. Additional coverage in the valley is desirable in support of the new Red Cross district plan, but should be designed to supplement the existing Valley systems. Travelers on **US 29** should be able to use one of the club's 144 MHz repeaters from entry into Madison County from Culpeper until they exit Nelson County. Travelers on **US 15 and US 20** should be able to rely on communications from entry into Orange County until they reach the northern edge of Farmville in Prince Edward County. Travelers on **US 33** should be able to use one of the club's 144 MHz repeaters from entry into Greene County until exiting Louisa County.

- For the **222 MHz and 440 MHz** repeaters: Reliable communications should be available throughout the majority of Albemarle, Greene, Fluvanna and Louisa. Coverage is desirable for portions of Nelson, Orange, Madison adjacent to Albemarle
- The Technical committee is encouraged to be creative in meeting these objectives through the use of linking, alternate simplex inputs, voting receivers and other available technologies.
- The AARC shall communicate with local EC's in the counties of coverage to further define communications needs. Specifically each EC is requested to submit a list of locations of shelters, EOC's, and other critical sites in their areas of responsibilities where coverage is required. (E.g. Lake Anna Nuclear power plant, Sugar Hallow Dam etc.)

#### Alternate Power Sources

- Due to the nature of the communications supplied, and because we expect to be able to provide reliable systems when all else fails, the AARC repeater systems should use the best available backup power systems in order to provide reliable communications in the absence of commercial power. To the extent that it is possible to use solar and battery systems as backup power, this should be available and integrated into each of our sites.

#### Evaluation Process

- Beginning in 2008 the Board of Directors with assistance from the technical committee and interested members will establish a testing procedure to determine how the current AARC repeater system matches against the goals established by this document.

- The results of this test along with a plan to bring the system in line with its goals will be presented to the AARC Board and to the membership.
- Each year a test will be performed to determine the state of the repeater system. The results of these tests will be presented to the AARC Board and to the membership.

#### Funding for Improvements

- Each year and from time to time as needed, the Technical Committee will present proposals to the AARC Board and to the membership designed to improve the system and bring it in line with the stated objectives. The club will vote on funding for these projects.

#### Updating this Document

- Once adopted this document will be seen as a broad outline of direction for the system. As technologies and communications needs change this document will need to be revisited, revised and eventually replaced.
- Amendments or changes to this document after it has been accepted must be approved by the AARC Board of Directors and the membership. Changes will also need to be approved by the WA4TFZ station license trustee who serves at the discretion of the president and the Board of Directors.

## Field Day 2007 in Pictures

*Photos tnx to Bill Arnold, K4IB*

This year the AARC participated in Field Day at the UVA Observatories atop Fan Mountain. It is a great spot high enough up to put out a good signal! Activity was high on 80 and 40 meters, and many contacts were also made on 6 meters! Hopefully we'll have more FD details in the Beacon next month. Here is a sampling of photos from this QTH.



**Our Field Day 2007 QTH at the UVA Observatories on Fan Mountain**



**And with a location and view like this, we should be putting out super signals!!**



**One end of the 80 meter loop**



**Josh, KG4NGV and Linda, KI5LLB working a bunch of contacts on 6 meters!!**



**Jim, K4BAV, giving out CW QSO's from one of the HF stations**



Our super chef and VP John. K14DJT starts getting dinner ready for our hard-working (...and very hungry!!...) crew of operators



We also had several deer visit us quite often to see what Field Day is all about ...



El Prez Jay, K4AZV is wondering how this new keyer (the Chicken Special) is supposed to work...

## Contest Highlights - Upcoming

Bob, W4RQ

### ARRL-Sponsored Contests

July 13-16	IARU HF World SSB/CW
June 23-24	ARRL Field Day

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

### Other Contests of Interest

July 7-8	Original QRP Contest
July 28-29	RSBG Islands on the Air 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	
<b>August 5 Berryville</b>	57th Annual Berryville Hamfest The Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club Location: Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds - Business Route 7 <a href="http://www.svarc.us/hamfest">http://www.svarc.us/hamfest</a> <b>Talk-In:</b> 146.820 - <b>Contact:</b> Laura Stewart, N4LLS HC 61 Box 159T Capon Bridge, WV 26711 Phone: 540-533-2626 Fax: 540-869-7067 Email: <a href="mailto:n4lls@starband.net">n4lls@starband.net</a>
<b>September 15-16 Virginia Beach</b>	Roanoke Division Convention Tidewater Radio Conventions Location: Virginia Wesleyan College <a href="http://www.vahamfest.com">1584 Wesleyan Drive</a> <a href="http://www.vahamfest.com">http://www.vahamfest.com</a> <b>Talk-In:</b> 146.97 <b>Contact:</b> Lynn Lilla, W9DJQ 848 Stacey Place Virginia Beach, VA 23464 Phone: 757-479-1597 Fax: 757-673-7426 Email: <a href="mailto:hamfest@exis.net">hamfest@exis.net</a>

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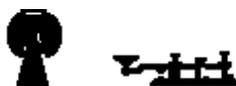
Contest Calendars	
<a href="#">ARRL Contest Calendar 2007</a>	ARRL sponsored contests
<a href="#">SM3CER Contest Service - Calendar 2007</a>	Contests all over the world! Also has links to online rules for most contests
<a href="#">Contesting Online</a>	Just about everything contests!

FCC Database Updates	
<b>New Calls</b>	
None Reported	
<b>Upgrades</b>	
None Reported	
<b>Vanity Calls</b>	
None Reported	

VE Session Schedule - 2007	
<b>Date</b> <b>Location</b> (ARRL VEC)	For other exam sessions in Virginia outside the AARC area, check the <a href="#">ARRL Exam Session Search</a> web page.

For Sale Items	
None reported	

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club  
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**ISSUE DEADLINE - 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month**

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**Next Club Meeting : July 10 - 7:30 PM NRAO - UVA Campus**

**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  
**Northern Piedmont Emergency Net / Swap Net / Technical Session:** Each Thursday at 8:00 PM  
**All Nets are held on the 146.760 repeater**

**AREA REPEATERS**

**WA4TFZ**

<b>INPUT/OUTPUT</b>	<b>Tone Access (If needed)</b>
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

**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 - **WW4GW (Buckingham)**
- 145.450 (-) 151.4 Hz Tone **K4DND (Martha Jefferson Hospital)**

**AARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
July 10	Regular Club Meeting
<b>August 14</b>	<b>Annual Club Picnic and Hamfest</b>
September 11	Regular Club Meeting

**AARC - PUBLIC SERVICE SCHEDULE**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
June 9 – 10	MS 150 Race

Bill, AD6JV is the primary contact for Public Service events and Emergency Communications. Contact Bill for info on particular events.

Membership application available in PDF format at <http://www.wa4tfz.org/images/AARCrenewalform2006.pdf>