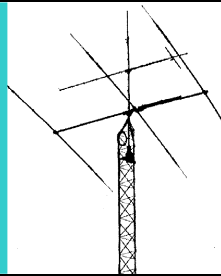


The AARC Beacon



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

Volume 2010, No. 6



June 2010

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The President's Letter

Dave, K4DND

K4DND is out of the country and unavailable for a column this month.

Veep Peeps

Jim, K4JEC

The shouting over the success of the Cruise-In is over and now it is time to turn our attention to another major activity for all of ham radio across the country. Field day is just around the corner with just enough time to plan and execute another whopping success for our club. The Field Day Committee has met under the leadership of Jim Owens, K4CGY and Bill Pond, N0WP and they have hammered out the details taking into consideration our successes from last year and things we know we can improve on this year.

Now it is time for all the rest of us to jump behind them and offer the kind of support we have demonstrated we can offer at show time.

Just a reminder that we will have our green vests and patches for sale at the club meeting along with a supply of member directories for those who have not had an opportunity to pick one up.

One last thought: Field Day is a great opportunity for you to invite your friends, neighbors, relatives and business associates to drop by and find out what hams do for fun and fellowship.

Also this is an absolute great place to whet the appetite of someone who has a mild interest in ham radio.

You could even ask your children to invite their classmates or their whole school to drop by and see ham radio in action. This whole operation is pretty impressive to the young mind.

Field Day is our time to rise and shine before man and god!

I am pleased to report our May VE Session produced one new technician class ham. Shannon Tevendale successfully passed the exam and is awaiting her callsign from the FCC.

Meeting Notice

The next AARC meeting will be held on **June 8 at 7:30 PM at the NRAO Building on the UVA Grounds. The program will be a review and briefing on Field Day!** This is a major club activity shared by hams across the country. Our level of participation by the individual member will determine our level of success!

Be sure to attend! At lease come eat with us.

March 2010

Whitney Richardson, KJ4VCY obtained her technician class license at Dayton and Mike Richardson, KJ4MFN upgraded to general.



The Woodgrill Buffet Lunch Bunch. Area hams meet for lunch every Wednesday between 11 a.m. and noon. The faces change from week to week based on who is available but generally Harry, W2HD presides.

Club Business

Patsy, K4PMC

AARC Minutes of May 11, 2010

Board Meeting

K4DND called the board meeting to order at 7 p.m. Board members present were K4DND, K4JEC, K4PMC, KI5LLB, N4UVA, K4CGY, N4PGS, K4BAV and K4DU. K4PMC, Secretary advised that the \$200 gift certificate awarded at the cruise in had been returned either for use by a new member or club use. K4JEC advised that he had no report for the board but would have one for the general membership meeting. Don, N4UVA advised that he would give his report at the general membership meeting. He had nothing for board. Greg, N4PGS, advised that he was still awaiting volunteers for upcoming events. Linda –no committee report. Board meeting adjourned at 7:07.

General Membership Meeting

Membership meeting called to order by President Dave, K4DND at 7:30 p.m.

Introductions made around the room. Visitors attending were: Marie and Roy Larimer and Whitney Richardson. K4DND then introduced Andres Oliver, KG4ZWE. Andrea gave her presentation on "Sound Transference Through Lasers".

K4PMC reported on two applications received-Gregg Korbon MD (NO1V) and Stefan Tinsley (KJ4TKG). Bob, K4DU made the motion to accept, and Joe, W2PVT seconded it. Unanimously approved.

K4DND next asked that we approve the minutes as printed in the "The Beacon. Motion made by Joe, K4BXG and seconded by Charles, K4TY. Unanimously approved.

A motion was then made by Mike, KA4JJD) to congratulate Jim Crosby (K4JEC) on a job well done on the cruise-in.

Seconded by Don, N4UVA. Unanimously approved.

K4JEC advised the members that he was extremely pleased with the support given the cruise-in by club members and that it was a success in many eyes. He then read two emails he had received since in support and appreciation.

K4DND then asked for the treasurer's report. Don, K4UVA advised that the balance as of 3/31/2010 was \$5,647.23 minus debits of \$705.93 and credits in the amount of \$216.00. The ending balance is \$5,157.30. Cruise in expenses were reported and the overall loss was \$115.37.

K4DND gave his President's report. Membership now stands at 115. AARC VE session

Scheduled for May 15 at NRAO. He reported that we finally have it listed by AARL on its web site. Field Day is scheduled for June 26-27. This is also on the AARL web site look for WA4TFZ.

Committee reports were then given:

N4PGS advised volunteers still needed for the Tour de Greene. He then asked that anyone interested in helping to please contact him.

Bob, K4DU advised that the raffle would be back next month.

We then moved on to Dr. Rein's program on ticks. K4JEC followed with a slide show of pictures from the Cruise-In.

K4DND adjourned the meeting at 9:05.

Patsy Crosby, Secretary

Field Day Organization

From Jim, K4CGY and Bill, NOWP – Co Chairs

Field Day 2010 is scheduled for June 26 & 27 from 1400 hours Saturday till 1400 hours Sunday. The plan is to begin set up of tents, tables, chairs and antennas around 1400 hours Friday – everything except actual operating equipment – to return around 9 a.m. Saturday morning to finish, have a relaxing break for lunch and get ready to go on the air at 1400.

The committee agreed to operate a class 3A plus a free VHF station.

The committee agreed to have a mess tent to keep cold drinks, coffee and snack food available throughout. The mess tent will serve three meals to include dinner at 6 p.m.

Saturday evening, a bagel breakfast as needed on Sunday morning and lunch at noon on Sunday. For dinner Saturday evening everyone is invited to bring a dish to share of vegetables, salads or a dessert.

This is a major opportunity to show off what ham radio is all about so we want the membership to spread the word and invite government and public service agencies, as well as, elected leaders at all levels. If you have a contact, please issue them an invitation on behalf of the club.

For Sale and Wanted...

Ron, K4RKA

Most recent listings

FOR SALE: Icom IC2720H Dual Band, remotable, dual receive, 2m-440 mobile transceiver. Though 6 years old this unit has never been used except to load memories with all 2m and 440 frequencies and a three day check out by me. Includes the transceiver, Icon CS-2720 cloning software and connecting cable. \$425.00 Jim Owen K4CGY k4cgy@yahoo.com 434-296-3044

FOR SALE: MFJ-280 compact speaker, used in good condition \$10.00 Jim Owen K4CGY k4cgy@yahoo.com 434-296-3044

For older listings please see the AARC website at:

www.albemarleradio.org

To list items for sale, trade or wanted, please send an email to:

k4rka@juno.com

ARRL Propagation de K7RA

Cook, K7RA, reports: Sunspots returned this week in the form of group 1072; the average daily sunspot number for May 20-26 was 16.3, and the average daily solar flux rose nearly three points to 72.1. This was a very quiet week for geomagnetic indicators, with the mid-latitude A index at 0 on Sunday and Monday (May 23-24). The high latitude Alaska college A index was 0; the K index was also 0 over all of both days, actually extending from 1500 on May 22 through 0000 on May 25, a total of 57 hours. The quiet will probably end, due to a coronal mass ejection thrusting particles toward Earth. Australia's IPS Radio and Space Services issued a warning of a minor geomagnetic storm at 2346 on May 26. The prediction from NOAA/USAF calls for a planetary A index of 15, 22, 20, 22 and 12 from May 27 through the end of the month. In addition to sunspot group 1072 -- which is currently fading and a few days away from our Sun's western horizon -- a new spot appears to be forming just above the center of the solar disk. You can see it on the continuously updated (every few minutes) image from the

[STEREO spacecrafts](#). On Wednesday evening, it was right on the center 0 degree meridian, north of the solar equator. By this Friday night, the STEREO image should cover about 89.5 percent of the Sun's body. Look for more information on the ARRL Web site on Friday, May 28. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the [ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page](#). This week's "Tad Cookism" brought to you by William Shakespeare's [Hamlet \(Act III, Scene 2\)](#).

We've mentioned in the past that propagation prediction programs such as *W6ELprop* are modeled on using the predicted smoothed sunspot number as the data to drive propagation analysis, but that another alternative was to use the average of several days of sunspot numbers for a more up-to-date forecast. Jim feels that the best results are obtained by averaging the latest seven days of the 10.7 cm solar flux, from [here](#) or [here](#) for more detailed and timely data directly from the Penticton Observatory. The local noon reading (2000 UTC) is the official daily number, and the numbers you want are from the fluxobsflux column. This is the same solar flux data presented in this propagation bulletin.

Jim is not an Amateur Radio operator, but has done considerable research on solar indices and propagation for the federal government and military. His opinion on using solar flux data instead of sunspots is not shared by most of the Amateur Radio operators who I consider most knowledgeable about propagation. Jim says his studies show that recent solar flux numbers give a more realistic view of actual HF propagation when used with the propagation prediction programs.

Red Haines, WO0W (that third character in his call sign is a zero), sent along some thoughts and recent observations on April 7: "Following a couple days of low critical frequencies, during which the Boulder f0F2 never reached 4.0 MHz, the f0F2 reached 8.9 MHz at 2000 today. A quick scan of my records shows that is a high for the year for Boulder. A more detailed scan will probably show that is a high for a long time, possibly a couple years. Six of the 15 meter and 3 of the 10 meter DX beacons recorded on BeaconSee between 2130 and 2200, compared to none yesterday. The major difference in solar activity appears in the hard X-ray flux detected by GOES 14. It increased by an order of magnitude, from around 2×10^{-9} W per square meter for a few days to 2×10^{-8} W per square meter. Other solar activity indicators show little change. Soft X-ray remains unchanged at about 4×10^{-8} for most of that time and the sunspot number, April 4-7 was 40, 41, 41 and 41. The number for today is not yet available, but the MDI Magnetogram image shown on the SOHO site shows the same groups, moved slightly. Geomagnetic activity is decreasing, from G2 to G1 in that period".

The foF2 data that Red mentioned is available from, and for [Boulder Colorado](#), [Wallops Island, Virginia](#) and [Millstone Hill in Westford, Massachusetts](#). Note there is data going back a bit further [here](#). For Millstone Hill, from this list you can go [here](#) for February data, and you can change the 201002 in the URL to 201003 for March or 201004 for April.

Contest Highlights - Upcoming

ARRL-Sponsored Contests

June 26-27	ARRL Field Day
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Complete info, rules and log forms for these events can be found online at the ARRL Contest Calendar webpage.

AARC Public Service Schedule	
June 12-13	MS-150 Bike Tour

Area Hamfests	
Date June 13, 2010 Location Manassas	Manassas Hamfest www.w4ovh.net/hamfest.htm

FCC Database Updates	
New Calls	
none	
Upgrades	
none	
Vanity Calls	
none	

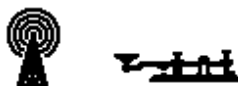
VE Session Schedule - 2010	
Date Location (ARRL VEC)	Next date to be announced. NRAO Building 520 Edgemont Rd Charlottesville, VA Walk-ins Welcome

AARC Club Officers			
President	Dave Damon	K4DND	k4dnd@arrl.net (434) 973-5866
Vice President	Jim Crosby	K4JEC	jecrosby@comcast.net (434) 987-2006
Secretary	Patsy Crosby	K4PMC	patsycrosby@comcast.net (434) 989-2362

Treasurer	Don Eason Jr.	N4UVA	deason@comcast.net (434) 973-9119
Director	Jim Wilson	K4BAV	jwilsonphoto@earthlink.net (434) 245-7041
Director	Linda Beard	KI5LLB	lindaskyone@embarqmail.com (434) 823-2107
Director	Greg Faust	N4PGS	n4pgs@arrl.net (434) 978-1962
Director	Bill Phillips	AD6JV	billp1048@earthlink.net (434) 872-0686
Director	Bob Pattison	K4DU	k4du@arrl.net (434) 985-4828
Director	Jim Owen	K4CGY	k4cgy@yahoo.com 434-296-3044

Contest Calendars	
ARRL Contest Calendar 2010	ARRL sponsored contests
SM3CER Contest Service - Calendar 2010	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
Charlottesville, VA 22906
<http://www.albemarleradio.org/>



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ISSUE DEADLINE - 25th of each month

Contact Information
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Barboursville, VA 22923
434-973-5866
k4dnd@arri.net

Next Club Meeting : June 8 - 7:30 PM NRAO Bldg - UVA Grounds

CLUB MEETINGS and NETS

REGULAR Meeting: Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM
BOD Meetings: Prior to regular meeting at 7:00 PM
Meetings are held at the NRAO building on Edgemont Road.
LUNCH BUNCH: 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: Each Thursday at 8:00 PM
All Nets are held on the 146.760 repeater

AREA REPEATERS

146.760 (-) 151.4 Hz Tone **WA4TFZ**
146.925 (-) 151.4 Hz Tone **WA4TFZ**
146.895 (-) 151.4 Hz Tone **WA4TFZ**
224.760 (-) No Tone **WA4TFZ**
444.000(+) 151.4 Hz Tone **WA4TFZ**
444.250 (+) 151.4 Hz Tone **WA4TFZ**
Other Area Repeaters
444.775 (+) 151.4 Hz Tone **KF4UCI**
442.075 (+) 151.4 Hz Tone **KF4UCI**
443.000 (+) 151.4 Hz Tone **W4UVA**
145.17 (-) 151.4 Hz Tone **W4FCO** (Fluvanna)
146.79 (-) 110.9 Hz Tone **WW4GW** (Buckingham)
145.450 (-) 151.4 Hz Tone **K4DND** (MJ Hospital)
IRLP Node # 4703
224.600 (-) 151.4 Hz Tone **KG4HOT**

Membership application available in PDF format at http://www.albemarleradio.org/members/AARC_member_application.pdf