



The Beacon

A monthly newsletter of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club serving Central Virginia

Celebrating our 50th Anniversary

October _____ 2013

AARC Meeting will be back at the NRAO on October 8 at 7:30 pm

John Green KX4P will be giving the program at the October 8 AARC meeting. The topic will be "Restoration of some Old Collins Radio Classics." The program includes photos of his restoring a 75A1 receiver and a 32V3 transmitter. These are genuine "boat anchors!" Included in the program are some movie clips made by Matt (formerly KD4COA) and Jim (K4BAV) Wilson of the station operating CW and AM Phone. As an added incentive of interest, you can see the same units being displayed in "K2TQN's Mobile Museum" in the current October QST, page 99. The program should be of interest to old timers, collectors, those interested in restoring old treasures, and everyone interested in our great amateur radio heritage.



President's Remarks

By Bob Pattison – K4DU

It is fall! The leaves are beginning to turn and the pace of things is quickening. By the time you read this, our second foxhunt will be completed and soon the Apple Harvest Camporee of Scouts will be history. Some big contests are

coming which of course will provide an opportunity to work those wanted to work DX, states, counties, grid squares or islands – don't miss out!

The Bylaws require that I select a nominating committee soon. The presidency and some other positions will be available. I have had the honor of serving the club over the years in several offices: president, director, treasurer and trustee to name a few. It has been a lot of fun. Upon reflection, I believe that of the thirty years that I have lived in Albemarle, I have been an officer or director for at least a third of those years. And that is true for many others that I served with. There is value in the notion that what you get out of something is directly related to what you put into it. So, when someone from the nominating committee comes to you and asks you to perform a service for the club by standing for election (think of the Godfather here), please resist the automatic "no" response and consider how you might serve. To paraphrase the late John F. Kennedy, ask not what the AARC can do for you. Ask what you can do for the AARC.

As a reminder the original intent of associating directors with committees was to provide the committees with a liaison to the board. It was not to have the director do the work in that area or necessarily serve as head of that committee. The idea was also that committee chairs would be in place and they would move or retire from that chair to take the directors' position as part of a smooth transition. Over time the directors' seem to have become the committee chairs and chief volunteers. From where I sit I believe it would be helpful to work toward our original model.

The AARC is an exceptional club! In the course of the past year I have had discussions with a number of former AARC members who have moved away and joined clubs in their new cities. Their comments are enlightening and instructive. They are amazed at the differences they see. We also receive suggestions from new members who have come to the area and offer comments and suggestions about how we can be even better.

One of the things we need to do more of is to do more to welcome our new members. One way is to learn about the interests and background of their fellow club members. This can seem a daunting task considering that we are more than 125 strong. Those of us who have been here for centuries know who's who, where the bodies are buried (just kidding) and who does what. Seriously, there is a lot of talent and

expertise inside this club. And, there is help available for one who wants to try something new, but new members need to know who to go to. To aid in that effort in the coming months I may ask each of you during introductions at meetings to provide some additional information like the year you were first licensed, what your favorite operating mode or facet of the hobby is or what you would like to learn more about in ham radio.

I am constantly amazed at the vitality of our club. There are many people working to promote amateur radio and to ensure that things work, that folks get needed training and ensuring the availability of license examinations. Events like field day and fox hunts come off like clockwork and volunteers show up for maker fairs, public service events and to judge science projects. All of this happens because each of you cares about the hobby, the club and our community. For this I thank you. It is an honor to serve as your president.

A word of caution before closing, Wayne Woodrow "Woody" Hayes the legendary former Ohio State University football coach, once said of football teams, "You are either getting better or getting worse, there is no staying the same." I think that is true for each of us in life, it certainly applies to radio clubs. With your guidance and commitment let us continue to make the AARC the best radio club in the land.

73 de K4DU

DX SSB Contest

The CQ World Wide DX SSB contest is the last weekend in October. Anyone with a limited station and antenna can spend an hour or two in this contest and make a bunch of DX contacts. Call a few of those big strong signals you hear, they want to work you!

Try a band you don't use much. Call one of the weak ones, they might be running less power than you are. Use an online logging service or whatever logging system you use now. See the website <http://www.cqww.com/> for full details.
73 de George AA4D

Documentation of recent visit to MJH by Ron, Sam & Larry

By Ron Richey K4RKA

Said trip can best be summed up as "operation successful but patient died".

The 2m part works fine now but the 450 receiver has a problem, possibly generated by me in putting the cabinet back against the wall (best guess anyhow). Not having external person to access the machine after buttoning up is a fault we have solved many times in the past but keep forgetting. k4du was on freq to test out the 2m part but is too far away for the 450 - - or at least it didn't work and we have no experience of him being able to work the 450 repeater in the past, so that was not considered a problem at the time. Harry would have normally been a good test person but he was still visiting Kay at that time. We'll just have to go back with Bill and his fancy new toy for further analysis. Also had sort of a request to check out the hospital station which would

be a good thing to do IN CASE we ever have another exercise or real need.



This picture by Ron K4RKA shows Sam N4WJQ and Larry KB4EPK with the 450 repeater & 2m remote base.



Another picture from Ron K4RKA, this is Robert P VanFossen, K4DJG at one of the AARC Field Day exercises, probably the one in IVY.

A Note from the Netherlands

By Chris van Gorp PA7RHM

I created some parts for a mast with a 3D printer. I met up with a fellow HAM last Sunday and noticed that he attached a box containing a balloon with ty-wraps to the top mast section.

When breaking up, the ty-wraps were cut to disassemble the mast.

I had been working with a 3D printer for a few weeks and figured that a bracket should be easy to design and print.

I used OpenSCAD software to design the bracket and a Velleman K8200 3D printer to print it out. The design is uploaded to <http://www.thingiverse.com/thing:154976>

A field test will follow later this week to see if all works 'as designed'.

73 / Kind regards / Met vriendelijke groet

A Note From Public Service

My sincere and heartfelt thanks to all those who made communications for the bike run a success. Mike, KQ9P was at the helm as Net Control, and kept us all under his watchful ear all day. Jon, KJ4RPW was mobile and kept an eye out for stragglers along the route. He was joined by David, KK4SHJ about 11 A.M. Andrew, KK4SHO was busy plugging personnel holes as they appeared around the course. Mark, AK4OL was spot on with his coverage calculations and took care of Earlysville with Don, N4UVA. Jim, K4JEC and Patsy, K4PMC started off the White Hall rest stop at 0730 and were replaced by Teri, KT4UO and Ken, KD4VPE at mid-day. Stan, K2SSB and Larry, KB4EPK rounded out the network by staffing the Greenwood rest stop. And, of course, we wouldn't have had it nearly as easy without the use of Dave's (K4DND) '73 machine at the top of Albemarle County.

Again, my thanks to you all for a great job doing what we do best.

73, Joe W4BXG



Joe Flamini W4BXG and Ken Anderson KD4VPE caught at the White Hall Rest Stop during the Boys and Girls Club Bike Tour.

Cooking, Eating and Swapping Stories and Gear

The September club picnic and silent auction was deemed a great success with more than fifty present.



Ed Hinline AG4N, Joe Flamini W4BXG, and George Grotz AA4D check out the silent auction items.



Some members said the eating part was the most fun however, those who obtained exciting new items for the shack might disagree.



The cooks were the real heros. Mike Gilmore K8RVA and A.J. Miller KE4AJM sucked up the smoke and produced the burgers and dogs.

The Beacon

The Beacon is the official newsletter of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club, Inc. It will strive to communicate with, enlighten, and entertain the members of the club in strict compliance with the official word of the club as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. The newsletter shall be published monthly on or before the 1st day of the month of issue. The deadline for submissions shall be the 25th of the month preceding the month of publication. The primary role of the publication shall be to promote upcoming activities, report past activities and accomplishments of the club and its members, carry the minutes of the preceding month's meetings, as well as, become a recorded history of the club by the archival of all past issues.

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Following items in not as good condition. As-Is - Caveat emptor. if you don't like the price asked, make an offer for consideration.

Alinco VHF DJ-C1 "credit card" VHF transceiver with charger pack, but needs wall wart to operate charger pack. Works when plugged in but battery apparently shot. I can demo on air upon request. With manual. \$15

MFJ TNC-2 model 1270. Looks OK, I can't test it. no wall wart, no manual \$10

1997 ARRL Handbook, good condition. \$5

send email to ron at wb4rbw@embarqmail.com
Contact Ron, K4RKA, on air or at 973-3640 with questions.

Classified Item Listing

To place an item in the Classified Listings just send an email to k4rka@juno.com

NEW ITEMS & MOST RECENT LISTINGS as of 9/21/2013

ESTATE SALE - Pick up, cash only - Items in good condition & work fine. Listed 9/20/2013

Viewstar VS300A (aka B&W) antenna tuner. \$50
MFJ 864 SWR/wattmeter. \$50

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FOR SALE posted
9/21/2013

Icom micro 2AT transceiver w/tone, box, charger, 2 DEAD battery packs, 12 VDC power module. works well on 12VDC supply. 2 meters only. \$25
contact ron, k4rka at WB4RBW@EMBARQMAIL.COM

Swap Meet listings are always available on the Club Website: www.albemarleadio.org

Elected Leadership 2013

Bob Pattison – K4DU	President	rep4@aol.com
Carter Elliott – WD4AYS	Vice President	celliot14@aol.com
Teri Henderson – KT4UO	Secretary	kt4uo@earthlink.net
Don Eason, Jr. – N4UVA	Treasurer	deason@comcast.net
Joe Flamini – W4BXG	2-year Director of Public Services	oeflamini@gmail.com
Dayton Haugh – AA4DH	2-year Director of Estate Services	dayton@compuserve.com
Bill Pond – N0WP	2-year Director – Technical	wdpond@mac.com
Bill Phillips – AD6JV	1-year Director – Education	billp1048@earthlink.net
Michael Rein – KA4JJD	1-year Director – Fundraising	mfr6t@virginia.edu
Jim Wilson – K4BAV	1-year Director – Public Relations	jwilsonphoto@earthlink.net

Submit your input and/or ideas for the newsletter to:

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