



The Beacon

A monthly newsletter of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club serving Central Virginia
Celebrating our 50th Anniversary
December _____ 2013

AARC 50th Anniversary Dinner set for December 10 at 6 pm

We will celebrate our 50th Anniversary during the Annual Awards Banquet at the Elks Lodge across from Tower Park. We will gather at 6 pm for a social and cash bar. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm.

President's Remarks

By Bob Pattison – K4DU

The President Speaks - December 2013

The holidays are upon us and I would be remiss if I did not remind you to let N4UVA know of your plans to attend our Holiday Banquet on the evening of December 10th at the Elks Club. There is a much happening with repairs taking place on 146.76, the activities of the estate committee and early preparations for the Frostfest in Richmond on February 1st.

I have been attending our Saturday gatherings at Panera Bread. If you haven't taken the time to come I highly recommend it. The schedule has changed. These gatherings now take place on the second and fourth Saturdays. They start at 7 am and go until we decide to leave. The conversation is friendly and often turns into a show and tell session. I hope that you will work one of these into your weekend plans.

Do not forget that we have a VE Session coming up on December 14th at NRAO. If you are thinking about upgrading or know someone who wants to test for their first license please make certain that they attend. The exams will start at 9 am.

Elections are coming. If the nominating committee asks you to stand for office I hope you will accept. I have had the honor of serving the club as president, treasurer, trustee and director over the years. It is time for me to return to my seat in the members section. I urge you to step forward and serve in some capacity. We have a great club, but it runs on the efforts of volunteers. Help us make great things happen in Central Virginia for amateur radio.

I would like to thank Rob Schilling and Alan Swinger K9MBQ for the chance to appear on the Rob Schilling Show on WINA Radio to discuss ham radio and the recent events in the Philippines. Rob was eager to talk about how amateur radio would be used here in the case of a disaster. Alan, thanks for arranging the opportunity.

I mentioned repairs to 146.760. Our treasurer is losing sleep. Don sleeps well when the bank account increases in value overtime and loses sleep as the balance declines due to expenditures. I would urge you to consider making a donation to repeater fund in addition to your dues. We anticipate needing to spend about \$400 on repairs to 146.760. In past years we were fortunate to receive some significant donations from organizations that were engaged in public service events. This revenue has declined in the past year. Help our treasurer get a good nights rest. Make a gift to the repeater fund!

73 de K4DU

Frostfest 2014 News

Frostfest 2014 is approaching! It will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2014 at the Richmond Raceway Complex, from 8:30AM until 3:30PM.

We are looking forward to a great hamfest with manufacturers' representatives, new radio dealers, accessory dealers, and many, many tables filled with amateur radio equipment of all descriptions. There will be VE Testing, forums and meetings, and much, much more.

Our Grand Prize is \$1,000 in Frostfest Buck\$. Also, Early Bird ticket holders will be able to enter at 8AM, 30 minutes before General Admission starts!

All the details can be found at <http://www.frostfest.com>. Tickets and tables can be purchased online at <http://www.frostfest.com>.

Be sure to check out our 'Recommended Accommodations' at http://frostfest.com/wp/?page_id=154

Frostfest is sponsored by the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society

Unsubscribing from the AARC Email List

To unsubscribe from our email list, do as follows:

1. From the address with which you subscribed (your email address) to the list, send a message to sympa@virginia.edu.
2. In the subject line of your email, type in: unsubscribe aarc
3. Leave the message body blank.

To subscribe to the AARC Email List do as follows.

1. Go to the club website at: www.aarc.org
2. Go to the item Becoming A Member in the left-hand column of the front page
3. Scroll down to Item 3. And click on the link.
4. Follow the instructions appearing there.

<https://lists.virginia.edu/sympa/help/user>



John Green KX4P presented a great program during the November club meeting.



Two old friends, Ed AG4N and Harry W2HD greet.



John really captured their attention with his presentation.



Bill AD5JV speaks with Linda KI5LLB and Roland KK4EDU at the November Meeting. (Photos by Jim K4BAV)

Minutes of AARC Board of Directors Meeting – November 12, 2013

Meeting was called to order by K4DU at 1905 hours.

Dr. Michael announced the door prizes for the Annual Dinner have arrived and are in hand.

Don Eason noted that the 50th Anniversary Dinner will be at the Elks Lodge on Tuesday, December 10 at 6 pm. The tickets are \$25 per person and reservations must be made to him to insure a place at the table which will be sit down served dinner.

Bill N0WP reports that there is a lot of noise on the 146.760 repeater and that he will probably have to

take it off the air for about a week after next Monday.

Bob announced that the club will offer a VE session on Saturday, December 14 at the Earlysville Fire House.

Bob K4DU circulated a cup and the cost of obtaining such as a commemorative item to be distributed to the membership. The cup would be cobalt blue with the message: Albemarle Amateur Radio Club 1963 – 2013 WA4TFZ – W4DO and www.albemarleradio.org. Following a short discussion, Bill Pond moved that the cup be purchased at an expense not to exceed \$300. The motion was seconded and passed without dissent.

Minutes of November Board Meeting were approved as distributed on a motion by Dr. Michael KA4JJD. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1920 hours.

Minutes of the November AARC Meeting – November 12, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 1930 hours by K4DU.

He announced that John Green KX4P would make the presentation at this time and that the business meeting would follow.

John presented a review of his restoring a Collins Transmitter and Receiver with slides and a short movie of his operating the station. The presentation was well received and he received a hearty applause for his efforts.

Following the presentation, the president announced that he was amending the agenda to open the floor for an item of Old Business. He recognized Jim K4JEC who presented a Motion to Reconsider the motion made and approved at the October meeting that the AARC open its monthly meeting with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jim preceded his motion with the following statement:

Under Roberts Rules of Order, I would like to offer a motion.

During our last meeting a motion was offered to “Open the AARC meetings with a reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.” I voted in favor of this motion which now entitles me to make a Motion to Reconsider under Roberts Rules of Order.

I voted in favor of the original motion as a loyal citizen of the United States giving no thought to the discomfort this might represent to many of our club members. I am a conservative Christian with no reservations about reciting the “Pledge of Allegiance” at any time or in any place, however I am not in favor of this club opening its meetings with the “Pledge” when such an action creates a significant divisiveness within the membership. I have no interest in making any member uncomfortable during their participation in our club meetings. As a matter of fact, I will work long and hard to make every member, guest or prospective member welcome and comfortable in our meetings with the long-term interest being to grow the club membership. Remembering that actions speak louder than words, I live my loyalty to my country and do not need to recite the pledge where it makes another uncomfortable.

I believe a Motion to Reconsider is appropriate because the original motion was made spontaneously to our membership without sufficient notice or warning and therefore caught those present by surprise. While the original motion was made at an appropriate time on the agenda with a quorum present and passed by a majority vote, I sincerely do not believe such an important issue should be decided by less than a quarter of our total membership present and without due deliberation. I propose that the Motion to Reconsider be followed by the President appointing a committee to study the feasibility and appropriateness of such an opening exercise for the AARC.

I, therefore Move to Reconsider the motion to recite the Pledge of Allegiance during the opening of our AARC meetings made during the October Meeting which is entirely compliant with Roberts Rules of Order.

The motion was seconded by Joe W2PVY.

The motion was followed by a motion by Dr. Michael to vote on the motion by secret ballot. and receiving no discussion was passed without dissent. Ballots were distributed and returned with 32 votes in favor and 1 no vote. Thirty-three members were present and 33 ballots were returned for the count. The president announced that the Motion to Reconsider carried by a vote of 32 to 1.

Temporary Secretary Pat K4PMC reported she had one name to present for a membership vote this evening. The membership of Ed Berkowitz N3US of Earlysville was approved by unanimous consent.

Minutes of October Meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer Don Eason reported the following covering the months of August and October.:

Beginning Balance	\$7,268.81
Debits	25.64
Deposits	44.00
Ending Balance	\$7,689.49

Don N4UVA presented a discussion concerning the Awards Banquet in December. The date was confirmed as Tuesday, December 10. He announced that this would be a waiter/waitress served dinner (No Buffet) and the per person ticket price will be \$25 and that the club would cover guests, taxes and gratuity. Don asked that reservations be send to him at:
deason@comcast.net.

There being no further business, the president adjourned the meeting at 2050 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Patsy Crosby K4PMC
Temporary Secretary

VE Session at NRAO Saturday. December 14

Mark Gorlinski WA1A advises that the FCC License Exams will be offered in the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, 520 Edgemont Road in Charlottesville on the University Grounds.

The session will begin at 9 am and exams will be offered for all Amateur Radio Class Licenses. Spread the word and bring an interested friend. The exam fee is \$15.

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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Jim Crosby K4JEC – Editor
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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 11/27/2013 =====

FOR SALE - W4RAE estate sale items.
Contact Bob Pattison, K4DU at rep4@aol.com

Yaesu FRDX-400 Receiver (w/6m & 2m converters) works noisy pots \$100.00

Bird 611 vhf/uhf dummy load & watt meter (60/15w scales) works 15w scale reads high \$50.00

Conar model 211 VTVM works \$25.00

Heath Decade Resistor Box EUW30 ok \$5.00

Heath Decade Resistor Box EUW3 ok \$5.00

Weller TC-202 Soldering Stationworks \$20.00

FOR SALE - W4RAE estate sale items

contact Jim Owen, K4CGY at k4cgy@yahoo.com

Heathkit Harmonic Distortion Analyzer works
needs cleaning \$20.00

KLM 70CM SSB/CW Transceiver 432/435 only
works 6w/3w on CW \$20.00

=====

FOR SALE - W4RAE estate sale items

Syntest Freq. Synthesizer .1-16Mhz Si-102/015
works square wave output \$20.00

contact Ron Richey, K4RKA at
wb4rbw@embarqmail.com

Eico 1100 Resistor Decade Box ok \$5.00

Clough-Brengle 282A sweep audio generator
works \$30.00

HP Oscillator Model 200CD works \$25.00

Please Note -- Go to:
www.albemarleradio.org/swapfest
for additional listings

Heathkit AC Power Supply HWA-202-1
works w/manual \$10.00

B&K Model 606 tube tester works w/chart
\$50.00

Industrial Instruments Model 1A resistor decade
box works accurate \$7.00

More Pages Left To View

Multiband Maypole HF Antenna

The Maypole Antenna By N4UJW

(My, K4JEC, comments are in red, otherwise all of the copy and art comes from N4UJW)

The multiband HF Maypole antenna is a spin-off of the fan dipole that was "invented" many years ago by an unknown ham radio operator who wanted a multiband dipole antenna "system" to cover more than one ham band and fed with a single length of coaxial cable.

So rather than have several dipoles suspended under each other that sometimes were very difficult to tune for lowest swr, due to interaction between them, the idea came about to spread out the dipoles in many directions from a single support mast.

In the multiband HF Maypole antenna, each operating band is chosen such as the 80, 40, 20 and 10 meter bands as separate dipole antennas all connected to one single coax feed line at the highest point on the support mast. In other words, the dipoles are in parallel with each other at the feed point at the top of the mast and then arranged in a more or less circular pattern spreading out in many directions on the compass – like fan blades.

Construction of the Maypole antenna:

It looks complicated but not really! It's just a few dipoles all connected together at one common feed point. **The only important thing is that you must have the horizontal room for the longest dipole which would be the lowest frequency band of operation so plan in advance. (Mine takes a plot of 120 feet by 64 feet) All my runs are straight but you can bend them at the ends to shorten the real estate required. Mine is constructed on a 1-acre home site with a lot of very tall trees. Mine could fit on a 1/2-acre site very easily. Hung in the trees, it is invisible from the street unless you know it is there and look hard to find the lines.**

Each dipole is designed for the band of your choice using the standard formula for half wave dipoles. Then the other dipoles for other bands that you design are connected to the same feed point, all dipoles in parallel with the others. All of the separate dipoles are arranged in an inverted V fashion much like the real Maypole and the angle is not critical.

At the central coax feed point at the top of the support mast **or suspended from a tall tree**, one half of each dipole is connected to the coax shield and the other half of each dipole is connected to the center conductor. This makes them parallel with each other. Since there are many methods to make these connections, use your ham engineering here.

Refer to the drawings below!

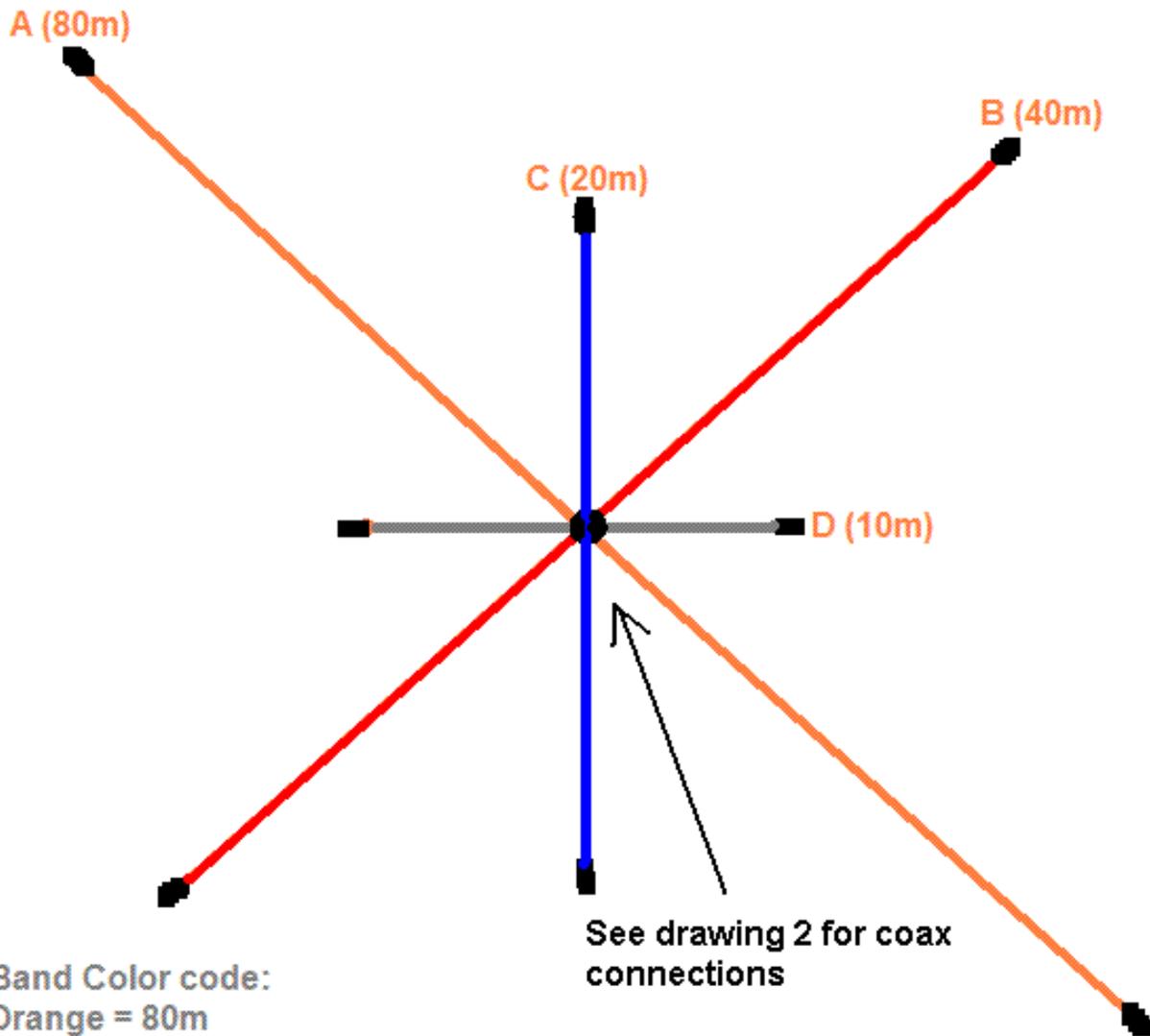
By arranging the dipoles in many different directions from the center support, this helps to prevent any interaction between them which may make swr tuning more tedious if you used the "fan dipole arrangement". **(If you have at the least a 45 degree angle between bands, interaction between them is eliminated. My system is not truly a Maypole because the ends do not drop very far below the center support which is very acceptable.)**

After the Maypole antenna arrangement is in the air, you can check the swr on each band for low swr. An acceptable swr would be at or near a 1:5 to 1 ratio or at least no higher than about 2:1.



QST of June, 2010

TYPICAL 4 BAND MAYPOLE ANTENNA



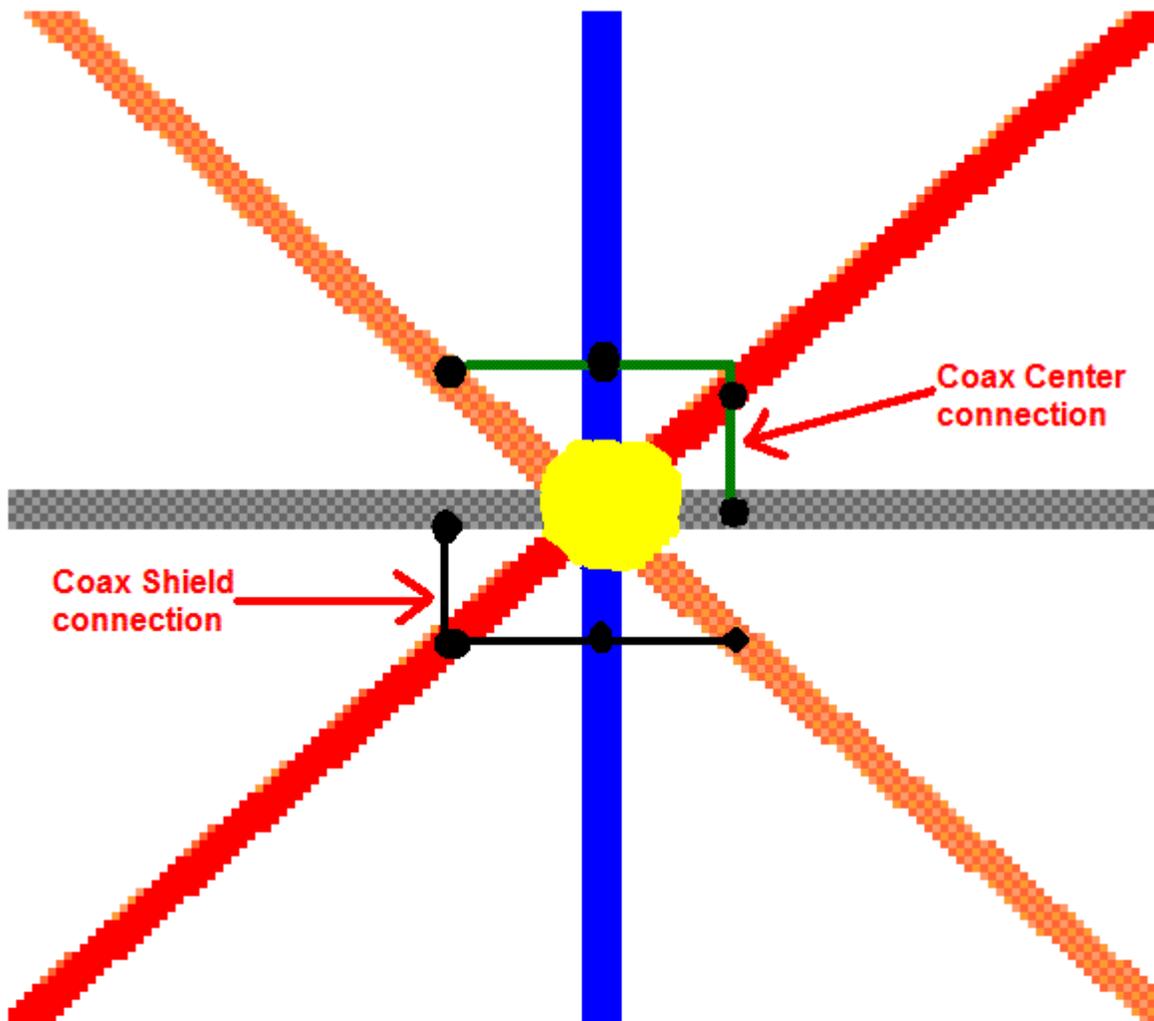
Band Color code:
Orange = 80m
Red = 40m
Blue = 20m
Gray = 10m

See drawing 2 for coax connections

View from above

N4UJW

Birds Eye View



Connect coax shield to one half of each dipole.
Connect coax center to other half of each dipole.

N4UJW

Drawing 2 Coax connections

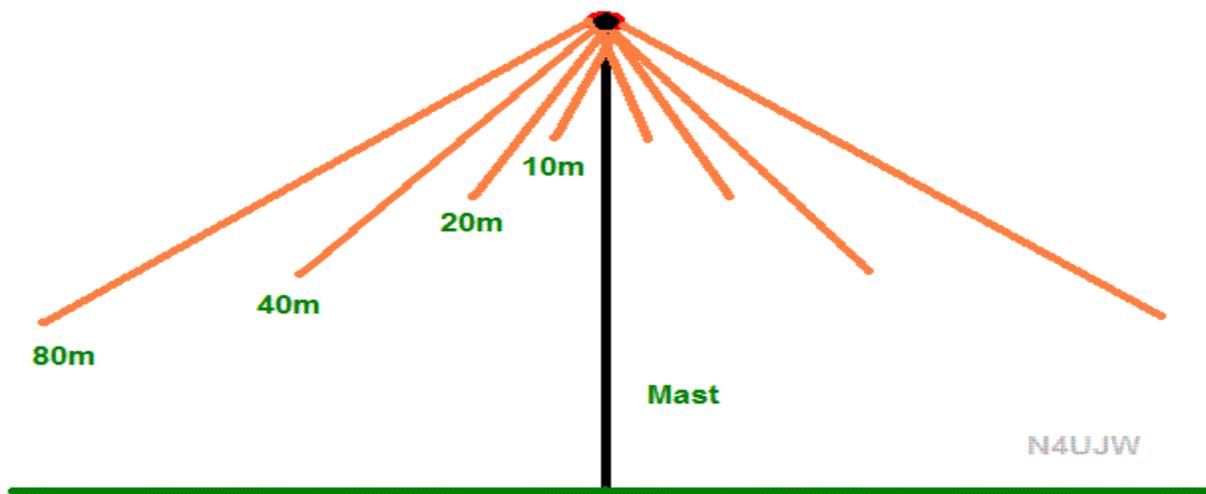
Center Feed Point Enlarged! Yellow area in drawing is center insulator.
Coax not shown and not to scale.

Important!

Added notes:

1. Seal all of your connections from Mother Nature, especially the end of the coax at the feed point.
2. Each end of the dipole must have an insulator of your choosing and then tied off to the end supports. Each dipole then becomes its own guying system.
3. A 1:1 choke/center insulator is recommended to help prevent feed line radiation.

TYPICAL 4 BAND MAYPOLE ANTENNA (SIDE VIEW)



Notes: Guy ropes, coax feed line and end insulators not shown. Not to scale.



Photo by Jim Crosby K4JEC

My Maypole Antenna with the 75-meter and 20-meter antennas attached. The antenna connections are made to the balun leads via a bronze split nut wire connector (Lowe's) so I can add the additional bands as time permits. Each band lead is first connected to the eye bolt for strain relief and then to the split nut connector with a loop for rain drip to keep water out of the balun housing. I used 14# solid copper with a pvc insulator in a gray color to help it disappear as it weathers a bit obtained from Lowe's in a 500 foot spool for \$35. It is stiff but strong and with the insulation it doesn't connect with wet leaves or branches. I used the MFJ Center Insulator with a 1:1 balun which cost \$24.95. It is suspended from a tree branch for easy raising or lowering as I work on the project. Once the 40-meter and 10-meter antennas are attached, I will seal the coax connector as a final step. The 75-meter, 40-meter and 20-meter antennas are tuned to a 1:1 SWR in the middle of the bands. These are my most used bands so that is why I set them up first. I will be adding the 10-meter antenna shortly.

Another great resource for antenna construction: www.k7mem.com

Elected Leadership 2013

Bob Pattison – K4DU	President	rep4@aol.com
Carter Elliott – WD4AYS	Vice President	celliott14@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:

jecrosby@comcast.net

434-823-2277

The End

That's all I have
for this month.