



The Beacon

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

Celebrating our 51st Year

November

2014

Our November Meeting is set for November 11 at 7 p.m. Ron Richey – K4RKA will tackle discussing the history of the AARC along with Bob VanFossen, a former officer.

Three:

The Amateur is Progressive ... He keeps his station abreast of science. It is well built and efficient. His operating practice is above reproach.

Four:

The Amateur is Friendly ... Slow and patient sending when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interest of others; these are marks of the amateur spirit.

Five:

The Amateur is Balanced ... Radio is his hobby. He never allows it to interfere with any of the duties he owes to his home, his job, his school or his community.

Six:

The Amateur is Patriotic ... His knowledge and his station is always ready for the service of his country and his community.

Paul M. Segal

This code was written many years ago but is as true now as then. Just listen to a DX station calling and you will hear several of these broken. Now I know that you must call the DX station along with others and these sounds like possible QRM, however this is necessary not deliberate. What is deliberate is someone sending dits with a keyer on top of the DX station because they are on HIS frequency or he doesn't like DXpeditions. Then there are stations that tune up on the DX frequency and when asked to move slightly, pretend not to hear. Don't be one of these.

Then there is the person or groups that disagree with almost anything that others say, other than those in the group, and do so with vile ugly language that debases the views of others be they religious, political or anything else. You can disagree with anyone but do it in a gentle, kind way. Try to motivate the other to see it your way or understand your position with persuasion not vile ugly language. I use a quote by Col. Oliver North that no matter what you think of his politics is completely correct. The quote "you do not have to be disagreeable to disagree." In all that we do in life, in our club, in our churches, politics, social clubs, on the air or in email responses we should remember this quote and before stating our position say to ones self, did I address this correctly and courteously.

Also in reviewing #2 we should be willing to help our club out by becoming officers or directors when possible. The nominating committee is looking for a few good

President's Corner

By Jim Owen – K4CGY



Rotten QRM, foul language, improper comments, deliberate QRM on DX stations and nets. How many times have you heard some of these? This type of operation gives Amateur Radio a black eye so must be avoided. Do you remember the Amateur's Code? Maybe it's time to be sure everyone reviews it.

One:

The Amateur is considerate...He never knowingly uses the air in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

Two:

The Amateur is LoyalHe offers his loyalty, encouragement and support to his fellow radio amateurs, his local club and to the American radio Relay League, through which amateur radio is represented.

Men/Women to fill the positions for the coming year so if you're able please add your name to the list of possible candidates.

73 Jim K4CGY

Club Officers Needed

By Jim Crosby – K4JEC

Our president has asked me to serve as chair of the Nominating Committee along with Jim Wilson, K4BAV and Bob Pattison, K4DU. The committee has been contacting club members over the last few weeks to determine who might be a candidate for elected office.

The slate as it now stands:

President = No candidate as of this time.

Vice President = Ed Berkowitz – N3US

Secretary = Larry Eicher – K4JZQ

Treasurer = Don Eason, Jr. – N4UVA

Estate Director = Marty Wangberg – W4MBW

Techni8cal Director = Bill Pond – N0WP

Public Service Director = Andrew Wiley – KK4SHO

The office of president is the only one we do not have a candidate for at this time. This is not to say, we would not welcome additional candidates for any office to leave the selection elected to the membership at the January Annual Meeting.

Please consider serving the club as an elected officer by contacting a member of the nominating committee to express your own desire to run or maybe suggest a potential candidate.

Nostalgia Night

Come hear possibly four 20th century AARC presidents wax nostalgic over the early days of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club supported by pictures from the k4rka archives. First officers, field day, other club activities, public service events, awards, people, and a smattering of early repeater activity. There may be a prize for anyone who can stay awake the whole time.



Albemarle Amateur Radio Club Minutes for October 14, 2014

Board Meeting

The meeting was brought to order at 1900 hours by Jim Owen, K4CGY.

Director Reports

Education (K4JEC): Working with two candidates from CERT class to get Technician license

Estate Committee (AA4DH): No report, not present

Finance Committee (N4UVA): \$1,098.74 Disbursements, \$520.66 Deposits, \$4,267.31 Ending Balance

Fundraising Committee: K4DU subbing for KE4AJM (AJ). Up for raffle were Voltmeter, Headphones, Cable and a 440 maxtrac radio recently donated by KF4UCI. Nothing else to report.

Public Relations (K4BAV): No Report

-Issue was raised about how do we get out name out for club?

-Books in libraries? Make sure the books are current.

Discussion followed. K4DND will look in to ARRL publications.

-Does high school want publications? (NOT JMRL, look into public and private schools) Discussion followed.

Public Service (KK4SHO): Gran Fondo race went well with minimal staffing due to late club notification. Interesting race with few incidents reported. KK4SHO told about one of them and how we always need to keep an eye out on the course for unexpected events to take place that we may need to call 911 for. Thanked all volunteers for coming out and helping and reported that thanks to help from K4JEC, we now have a full supply of traffic safety club vests to wear at the next club event. Also reported that after the clubs purchase of additional whip antennas for Maxtrac radios, we are set to go for the next public service events. Reported that season looks like it has come to a close.



Bill Pond, N0WP. presented a detailed report on the club repeaters during the meeting in October. (K4BAV photos)

Technical Committee N0WP: Stated that work has been done on the repeaters to improve come recent problems and thanked those that went up to the repeater site and helped clear brush, etc. Asked for clubs permission to purchase two items (unsure what they were) for \$125. Motion was made (not sure by who), 2nd by N4UVA to go ahead and purchase. Motion carried.

K4DND asked for permission to have the floor. K4CGY granted. K4DND discussed recent controversy with Carl Clements and lack of leadership since being re-elected. He explained that he has letter asking for him to step up in leadership or to resign. Discussion was had and letter was passed around to be signed by those who agreed.

Vice President (W2PVY): Nothing to report.

Motion was made to adjourn (not sure first or second).

Board Meeting Adjourned.

Regular Membership Meeting

K4CGY Brought meeting to order.

N0WP gave presentation on WinLink 2000(WL2K) and how it can work with ARES. Discussion followed.

Locally WinLink works on 145.730 use if you have capability.

Two new membership applications were brought to the floor. AI4IN: Gary Strong and KJ4ZIH: Richard Shannon. Motion was made and carried to vote them in. Additional business:

Nominating committee brought up that it still needs additional nominations for club posts. It needs President, Vice President, and Secretary. Election will be in January. K4DU is now on the nominating committee.

K4DU brought up that for anyone interested in how W2HD is doing, he is making progress, would love to have guests, and he should be released in 10-21 days. Discussion followed.

N0WP made another presentation how the WA4TFZ repeaters work. Discussion followed.

AI4IN took the floor to discuss an upcoming MARS event. Discussion was had about how MARS integrates with Amateur Radio.

Fundraising committee held the raffle. Items were won. No further business. Motion was made to end the meeting and 2nd was made.

Meeting adjourned.

In the absence of the club secretary, Mike Elliott these minutes have been submitted to the best of my knowledge.

Respectfully,

Andrew Wiley kk4sho

The following members were present:

Jim Owen, K4CGY

Ron Richey, K4RKA

Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY

Dennis M, K4THE

Jim Wilson, K4BAV

Stan Hazen, K2SSB

Don Eason, Jr. N4UVA

Patsy Crosby, K4PMC

Jim Crosby, K4JEC

Bill Pond, N0WP

Larry Eicher, K4JZQ

Bob Pattison, K4DU

Dave Damon, K4DND

George Grotz, AA4D

Andrew Wiley, KK4SHO

Ed Berkowitz, N3US

John Underwood, K4EBS

Rick Shannon, KJ4ZIH

James Rexter, KM4EMG

Rick Oliver, W3KDR

Connie Pond, XYL

Jeff Heavlin, K4OLW

Gary Strong, AI4IN

A Rare DX

By Alan Swinger - K9MBQ

From: The KP1-5 Project

Re: Navassa (KP1) DXpedition

Dated: 22 October 2014

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has notified the KP1-5 Project that they will be the team to activate Navassa Island (KP1) in January 2015. The DXpedition will be a maximum of fourteen days. The exact dates in January will be determined by USFWS mission requirements and weather windows.

Our experienced team of fifteen is complete and is ready for the challenge. The weeks ahead will be extremely busy as the team has less than 90 days before the DXpedition comes on the air. January is the month of minimum bird nesting activity and this is the primary reason USFWS is asking that the operation be completed during that month. However, the weather is unpredictable in January and because Navassa is surrounded by cliffs, this may preclude a safe landing by boat. For safety reasons and in order to maximize our time on the Island and on the air, a helicopter operation is planned.

Navassa is over 100 miles (160 km) from the nearest helicopter staging point and as many as ten round trips will be required at the beginning and end of the operation. Obviously, this means that there will be a significant cost for activating this #1 ranked DXCC entity.

In the next few weeks, we be working with USFWS and as details firm up, we will issue periodic press releases. Check our webpage, <http://www.kp1-5.com> for more details of the operation and how you may financially support this DXpedition.

The KP1-5 Project team has committed to fund 50% of the total costs.

Public Service Committee Report

By Andrew Wiley, KK4SHO

After a successful and interesting Gran Fondo bike race, I believe that the 2014 Public Service season has come to a successful close. During the Gran Fondo race, we had two interesting situations come up. One, I wanted to tell an interesting story about why it is always a good idea to keep an open mind and eyes (literally) out on the bike race course.

As the second sag, I went out on the Medio Fondo route also assisting KF4UCI on the Gran Fondo route. As I drove down, Green Creek Rd (on the bike race route) at the Albemarle/Nelson County line, I quite literally came up on a domestic assault and battery incident that was happening in the middle of the street between a young adult and an older male (it looked to possibly be a son (who was shirtless) and his father (possibly??) fighting). The younger male had the older male by his collar, and was dragging him through the street around the corner of a Ford Pick-up truck all while pounding him with his fist. I thought "what have I gotten myself involved in here?!" and quickly drove past the incident and while looking in my rear-view mirror at what was going on, dialed 911. I got the Nelson County Sheriff's office briefly before my call dropped. I put the vehicle in reverse and backed up to an address 500 feet before where the incident was. I called 911 again and this time got Albemarle County 911. I told them what was going on (the fight had now continued in the front yard of this residence) and who I was and that I was involved with a bike race and that I was not going to stay around, but if they needed to talk to me, here was my phone number. I then drove off, and quickly radioed to SAG 1 (KF4UCI) to warn up about what was happening. I believe that he in turn temporarily shut down that leg of the race. I never heard any more about it, so I will hope that the situation was resolved.

But lesson learned, ALWAYS be aware of your surroundings out on the course and be prepared to call or radio for help if you get into a dangerous situation. Two, a few of our riders out on the course got flat tires, and others reported being chased by dogs. All of these incidents were reported to race organization.

So, in conclusion, many thanks to all who helped with all of the races, especially those volunteering from outside the club, including Elmer Scott (KF4UCI, SAG Support). This season could not have been successful without all of your support. Thanks to ordering help from Jim (K4JEC), we now have gone from 3 traffic vests to 15 vests for use in future public service events. Thanks also to Elmer (KF4UCI) for trading out 2 old JAUNT radios for two 2-Meter radios. One for KK4SHJ and one for use as a club event radio. This now brings the total to 3 Maxtrac radios for use in public service events. The club also purchased additional 2-meter whip rare earth ground magnet mount antennas and adapters to work on these radios. So we should be fully set for our next public service event!

Buy + Sale + Swap

Estate of William "Socky" Bond - K4GWL (SK)

Contact: Denny/W3DRY at w3dry@arrl.net Page 1 of 5

ALL proceeds will go to Socky's widow, Alice Bond.

Items are very favorably priced at 50% (or less) of MSRP.

Contact Denny Avers, W3DRY, if you wish to make purchase.

7 Lakeview Circle

Palmyra, VA 22963

w3dry@arrl.net (434) 589-7977 (home) or (434) 989-9273 (mobile)

Yaesu FT-450 (w/internal auto antenna tuner)

HF + 6 meter Transceiver, with hand mic, power cable, manual, original box and packing

Like new condx.

MSRP \$1000.00

Price \$500.00

Ameritron AL-811

HF Amplifier, 600 watts

3-811A tubes

Condition

MSRP \$849.00

Price \$400

ICOM IC-Q7A

Ultra compact 2 meter/440 MHz

dual band handheld with full feature scanner.

2xAA batteries or ext. power

source. Includes adapter cable.

Excellent Condx.

(Discontinued - MSRP \$229)

Price \$50.00

Estate of William "Socky" Bond - K4GWL (SK)

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Heathkit 2060A

1.8-30 MHz 2KW Antenna Tuner

Great tuner - rated 4.9/5 on eHam

Excellent condx.

Price \$300

MFJ 948

Deluxe Versa Tuner II

Antenna Tuner, 300W, 1.8-30

MHz w/Peak Reading Cross

Meter

Tunes coax and balanced loads

Excellent condx.

(MSRP \$169.95)

Price \$75.00 (great deal)

Daiwa CN-520

1.8-50 MHz SWR-Power Meter

200w/2kw power ranges

Excellent condx.

Price \$50.00 (below E-Bay price)

Vibroplex "Original"

SN: 391047 (1979)

833 Broadway

In production since 1905)

Excellent condx.

(MSRP \$199.95)

Price \$100.00 (great buy)

Estate of William "Socky" Bond - K4GWL (SK)

Contact: Denny/W3DRY at w3dry@arrl.net Page 3 of 5

Vibroplex Brass Triangle Racer

Iambic Paddle Key

Fair condx.; lacquered brass is heavily tarnished, will take some effort to clean/polish

MSRP \$149.95

Price \$40.00

Heathkit SOA-5010

uMatic Keyer

Good condx. cosmetically, unknown operational condx.

(Discontinued - MSRP \$119)

Price \$20.00

Vibroplex Triangle Brass Racer

Astatic D-104

Classic microphone w/PTT stem and base

Mic & PTT stem in excellent condx

Base in poor condx.

Price \$40.00

Gap HEAR IT Speaker

(newest Mk 3 version)

Digital noise filter

(MSRP \$169)

Price \$70.00

Estate of William "Socky" Bond - K4GWL (SK)

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MFJ-260C

300 watts dry dummy load

1-600 MHz

Excellent condx.

(MSRP \$39.95)

Price \$20.00

MFJ 1251

Universal Microphone Converter

Excellent condx.

MSRP \$29.95

Price \$15.00

West Mtn. Radio RIGbaster plus

Highly flexible radio-to-sound

card interface for many, many

digital modes (incl. cables, etc.)

Excellent condx.

MSRP \$139.95

Price \$50.00

Ameritron ARB-704

Amplifier-to-Transceiver

Interface

Excellent condx.

MSRP \$59.95

Price \$25.00

Estate of William "Socky" Bond - K4GWL (SK)

Contact: Denny/W3DRY at w3dry@arrl.net Page 5 of 5

Tektronics 422

Portable dual-trace oscilloscope

Probes incl. (not illustrated)

Clean, working condx.

Price \$100.00 (a steal)

Micronta 22-204A

Range Doubler Volt-Ohm Meter

Excellent condx.

Price \$10.00

Sperry SP-152A

Volt-Ohm Meter

Excellent condx.

MSRP \$29.50

Price \$7.00

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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The End