

THE ALBEMARLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER May - June 1992

Editor: John Gray, W6UZ

Staff: Melissa Lang, KD4GRM

♪ NOTES FROM THE ♪ PRESIDENT'S DESK

I am pleased to report that there is a great deal of activity taking place in the AARC. There are, of course, the usual seasonal public service events. If Hein Hvatum (N4FWA) doesn't have you on his clipboard yet, it is only a matter of time.

Our classes are quite full and seem certain to yield yet another crop of soon-to-be licensed operators. W6UZ is busy preparing for yet another VE Session in May. There are folks working on a 220 Mhz Repeater and discussion about a node on the DX Cluster in Albemarle. And if that wasn't enough, it is time to begin thinking about Field Day.

What's so amazing about all this is the fact that it happens. It happens because of the dedication and commitment that AARC members bring to the task. So hats off to the volunteers that make things happen!

Speaking of volunteers, this issue of the Bulletin is the first produced by our new publications committee. Thanks to the efforts of Melissa Lang (KD4GRM), John Gray (W6UZ) and Harry Dannels (W2HD), we have a new format. If you would like to contribute an article I am certain that Melissa, John or Harry would love to hear from you..... 73
= KM4DU =

AARC MAY MEETING

Our May meeting will be held at the usual spot, the Auditorium of NRAO, Edgemont Road, UVA Grounds, at the usual 7:30 PM, Tuesday, May 12, 1992. The program will be in two parts. Harry (W2HD), will give us an update on the activities at the Dayton Hamvention and then we will start our planning for Field Day, the fourth full weekend in June. The formal program and business meeting will be followed by cold drinks and munchies, plus a large quantity of "ragchewing". Looking forward to seeing you there..... = W6UZ =

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As most of you realize, April 13, 1993, marks the 250th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson. Events such as that require commemoration and what better way does the club have for marking the date than to set up a Special Event Station. It is not too early to start thinking and planning.

The event might also be marked by a special QSL card for all the hams in the area to use during that year. Surely among us is one who can design a suitable background for a card over which each of us could have our own calls printed. Several themes come to mind -- The Rotunda, Monticello, a silhouette of Mr. Jefferson, etc.

Perhaps we could enlist the cooperation of the Foundation and arrange to operate an inconspicuous Amateur Station from Monticello on that day, and a station from the Visitor Center on Rt. 20 for a few days in advance.

I have already contacted Bill Lakatosh (AA4TJ), and he has graciously consented to the use of his call for such a purpose. Now all we need is a spark plug with good connections to get it started and firing on all cylinders.

We have only a year to go and time is flying. Lets make it a REALLY BIG SHOW !!!!
= W6UZ =

FIELD DAY ORGANIZATION MEETING

Pat Wilson (N0RDQ) and Ed Lang (KC4YLY) will head up the field day committee for this year's event. There are some exciting ideas already in the works, such as prizes, donated by Ham Radio Outlet located in Woodbridge, VA, and a covered dish picnic for Ham families. Drinks and cooking facilities have been donated by the Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Central Virginia. Also, the Earlysville Boy Scout Troup #102 will be helping with Field Day. So let's work together to make it a great experience for all! If your interest in field

day is planning, setup or operating, please contact either N0RDK or KC4YLX. If you are new to Field Day and would like to find out more, please do not hesitate to call.

Pat Wilson N0RDK 978-4117 (H)
977-3030 (W)

Ed Lang KC4YLX 295-5318 (H)
977-3030 (W)

= KC4YLX =



JOIN THE FUN!

As many of you know, for the last few years our club has been sponsoring Novice/Technician classes for those in our community who wish to become Amateur Radio Operators and join our hobby. The enrollment for these classes is growing and has been for the last several class sessions. This is due to the increased visibility our club has been able to achieve through the efforts of our PR people, the membership, and the many public service events we participate in annually.

This influx of new hams is great. However, we now need to offer separate General and Advanced upgrade classes. Many of you know that we started that program last fall with some difficulty. If we wish to be able to offer this degree of service in teaching our hobby to those who are interested, and if we wish to be able to aid those who want to upgrade, we need your help. In the past, many of you have made time to spend a couple of hours talking about your particular specialty to the classes and for that we thank you. We hope we can count on you to continue to pass on your knowledge and aid us in training well-rounded Hams.

WANTED:

Additional Instructors

The small group of instructors we have is not enough to meet the demands of our club and our community. It's really a great deal of fun. You need only be (or have recently been) licensed, and have a little time. No age limit, no height restrictions, no weight restrictions, no regard for sex, national origin, creed, type of car you drive, or true? There's more! You will apprentice with

experienced instructors to aid you with any questions or problems you may have. "How could I possibly live with such Bliss?" you say? Well, we each have our own burdens.

Seriously, though, I thought my greatest thrill as a Ham was when my first ticket came in the mailbox or when I made my first contact. I was wrong! My greatest thrill is when someone who has attended my class gets his or her ticket in the mail. No matter how many times it happens, the thrill is just as great. We have an awful lot of talent and enthusiasm in the club and we should be able to instill that in the new friends who have joined us and who will join us in the future. This is one situation where one person can make all the difference in the world.

Please contact Harry Darnals -W2HD, Bob Pattison -KM4DU, Bob Ross -WA2MFI, or myself (Bill Bearden) -KC4TQF for further details. It's fun, it's free, it's good for you, and you will get back so much more. Thanks and 73

= KC4TQF =



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS 1992

Here is a list of 1992 public events known so far (April 13):

SPRINT TRIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS -

Sunday, May 10, Lake Monticello.

The sprint triathlon consists of a 0.25 km swim, a 12 mile bike race, and a 6 km run. The complete event takes place within the Lake Monticello development. Need 15 stations.

BATESVILLE DAYS 10 km RUN, Batesville.

Last time (March 25) I talked to the 10 k run organizer, he didn't know the date. However, it will be on a weekend in May. He said he would call me as soon as he found out, but I haven't heard anything yet (April 13). Number of stations unknown, but probably less than 8.

DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS BIKE RACE,

Saturday, May 23 and Sunday, May 24, Boonesville.

Same arrangement as last year. This is a big event which lasts most of Saturday and half of Sunday. We needed 13 stations each day last year.

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS BIKE TOUR, Saturday, June 13 and Sunday, June 14.

THIS IS THE BIG ONE. The Saturday route is the same as last year's (Charlottesville - 4H camp near Appomattox), but Sunday's route will be different. The tour will end at the Sweet Briar College in Amherst. Last year we manned 30 stations each day. However, they expect the tour to be bigger this year (early registrations run far ahead of last year's), and might need more stations. As before, the Lynchburg group will be responsible for the second day, but any hard core ham from Charlottesville who wants to participate both days is certainly welcome.

BIATHLON, Saturday, August 8, Free Union.

A combination run and bike race. Last time we provided 8 stations.

LAKE MONTICELLO TRIATHLON, Sunday, September-27, Lake Monticello

Same as last year. We provided 17 stations.

OTHER.

The Horse Trials might appear again in the fall. No date yet, but I have talked to the organizers and they want us back. I was also told that next year (1993) there will be a giant Horse Trial at Montpelier. "Olympic level operation", they say. Oh well, that's next year.

I guess the First Night Virginia will also be held again on New Years Eve.

= N4FWA =

NEW DIRECTORY

Within a few weeks we will be finalizing a new directory of area amateurs. In order that we can be as accurate as possible please advise me of the following:

- A. Any change in your address since the last directory
- B. Any change in your license class in that period
- C. Any change in your call sign since the last directory
- D. Any change in your home or work phone numbers
- E. Your home and work telephone numbers if not already listed
- F. Any change in your name or changes you wish in the way you are presently listed

Advise me by packet message, postcard, by telephone or in person.

Thanks

John Gray - W6UZ, 110 Carrsbrook Ct.

Charlottesville 22901 . Telephone 804/973-1094...
= W6UZ =



PACKET RACKET

PBBS DEVELOPMENTS

Both the WA4TFZ (CHO) and the KB4YQC PBBS's now have the SAM Callbook database in operation. It is now very simple to use the PBBS to look up any U.S. call. Once you log on and get the PBBS prompt (e.g., WA4TFZ>), give the command, CB or Callbook, followed by the call letters of the station you wish to locate, e.g., CB KM4DU. In response, you will receive the following:

KM4DU A

ROBERT E. PATTISON

POB 6996

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22906

Operation complete

You may look up a series of calls at the same time. Just make sure that each call is separated by a space; e.g.,

CB KM4DU W6UZ W2HD K4RKA

The callbook database is dated November 1991. It is expected that the database will be updated every six months with the next update due in June.

VIRGINIA PACKET RADIO ASSOCIATION

The Virginia Packet Radio Association (VPRA) has been revived! Newer packeteers (since 1990) are probably unaware that such an organization existed. VPRA was organized in 1986 and was very active until 1989. Since 1989 the packet situation in Virginia has fallen into disarray. There is no coordination of packet frequencies, PBBS forwarding protocol, etc. throughout the state. Prior to 1989 VPRA was very active in achieving node sysops. The organization also supported

needed nodes in various areas. In addition, a regular newsletter kept members informed of packet activities.

Temporary officers and directors of VPRA have been selected to serve on an interim basis until a general election can be held, probably this fall. The next meeting of VPRA is scheduled for the Virginia Beach Hamfest on Saturday, September 19, 1992. In the meantime, newsletters are expected to be issued to those who were members when the organization died and to those who become new members. The original articles of incorporation are still in effect. Packeteers in Virginia are invited to renew their membership or to join if not already a member. Those joining in 1992 will be considered charter members.

VPRA dues for 1992 are \$15. Please send your check to the interim treasurer:

Tom Foster, N4DDL
1936 Kings Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060
= W4OTF =



AARC TREASURER'S REPORT

As of April 15, 1992:

A new schedule of annual membership dues was voted in at the February '92 meeting. Individual dues were increased to \$15/yr, family membership was set at \$20/yr, and younger licensed hams, 16 yrs of age and under, gratis.

With this increase in membership dues structure, our bank balance has increased. As of March 17, 1992, our deposits in the Club Fund were \$1235.78; in the Repeater Fund \$1591.88; and \$304.37 in the Link Fund, for a total of \$3,132.03. The surplus in the Link Fund is ear-marked for additional equipment in the 900 MHz range.

Since the first of this year, contributions to the Repeater Fund have been \$95.00, and to the Packet Fund

\$25.00. Additional contributions to the Repeater Fund from Hamfests have amounted to \$236.35. Major expenses from the Club Fund so far this year have been: Meeting announcements, newsletter and postage - \$218.14; Training materials \$161.04; refreshments at meetings - \$28.74; plus incidentals (SERA membership, State Corporation fee, memorial flowers) - \$67.65.

At the present time there are a total of 124 paid-up members, 34 of which are family members, and 2 are under 16 years of age. Our total paid-up membership last year reached 137 in mid-October.

= WA4UPI=



HAMFEST CALENDAR

- May 16 - Thirty-first RVARC Hamfest, May '92, Roanoke, VA
- May 23 - *Durhamfest*, Durham, NC
- May 24 - MD FM Assn. Hamfest (Howard County Fairgrounds) West Friendship, MD
- June 7 - Ole Virginia Hams - Hamfest, Manassas, VA
- June 13 - Hamfest, Winston-Salem, NC
- June 21 - Hamfest, Frederick, MD
- July 25 - WCARS Hamfest (Haywood City Fairgrounds) Asheville, NC
- July 26 - BRATS Hamfest & Computer Fest, Timonium, MD

[Above information taken from *Autocall* and the *SERA Journal*]



WEDDING BELLS!!

Congratulations to Bud Beazell (KB4JNI) and Phyllis Alred Curt, married April 25, 1992 at Columbia Baptist Church in Falls Church. We wish you all the best!!

VOLUNTEER EXAM SCHEDULE (Virginia Locations Only)

- May 20 - Hampton Roads Radio Association
(Hampton) (W5YI VEC)
Contact: Bill Runyon, N4BDH
(804) 468-0866
- May 26 - Danville Community College, Hill Building (W5YI VEC)
Contact: Richard Marshall, WB4CCT
(804) 793-0772
- June 6 - Virginia Beach ARC (Virginia Beach) (ARRL VEC)
Contact: Ed Robison, WD4GOY
(804) 468-0866
- June 13 - Mount Vernon ARC (Alexandria) (Laurel VEC)
Contact: Frank Mackey, N4GUS
(703) 455-1510
- June 13 - Massanutten ARA (Harrisonburg) (ARRL VEC)
Contact: Marshal Cooper, N4ZKH
(703) 856-8012 (6-9pm)
- June 13 - Ole Virginia Hams ARC (Manassas) (ARRL VEC)
Contact: Harry Vorhauer, W4VPA
(703) 368-6050
- July 11 - Chesapeake DX Association (Chesapeake) (ARRL VEC)
Contact: Bill Verebely, KC4YX
(804) 424-4764

[Above information taken from *Autocall* and the *SERA Journal*].

AARC VOLUNTEER EXAMINING SESSION

The club is holding a VE session at 9:30 AM, Saturday, May 9, 1992, in the Auditorium of NRAO, Edgemont Road, UVA grounds. We are offering tests for all classes of license from Novice through Extra. We request **Advance Registration** -- walk-ins cannot be accommodated. To register, send the following items:

1. A completed FCC Form 610
2. Copies of your current license & CSCE's
3. Examination you plan to take
4. A check for \$5.40 made out to AARC VE Session

Mail should go to John Gray - W6UZ, ARRL VE Liaison, PO Box 6833, Charlottesville, VA, 22906. Deadline for registration is May 2, 1992. Questions ?? Telephone 804/973-1094.
= W6UZ =



In future AARC Bulletins, your staff hopes to provide features which will include such items as: AARC Member in Print, contest calendars, and "Elmer" list which will highlight members whose expertise in certain Amateur Radio fields makes him/her an expert and many other items of interest to all members... old-timers and newcomers alike. Your suggestions would be welcome and your input appreciated. Perhaps you would enjoy preparing an article on a subject in Amateur Radio which would enlighten others.

AARC OFFICERS FOR 1992

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| President | - Robert A. Pattison, KM4DU |
| Vice-President | - Harry L. (Bud) Beazell, KB4JNI |
| Treasurer | - Edwin J. Bernet, N4AUI |
| Record. Sec'y | - Greg Faust, N4PGS |
| Corresp. Sec'y | - John D. Gray, W6UZ |
| Director | - Eugene V. Bossieux, W4IWW |
| Director | - Hein B. Hvatum, N4FWA |

AARC
PO BOX 6833
CHARLOTTESVILLE VA 22906



Michael F. Rein, MD KA4JJJ 92
109 Sturbridge Rd.
Charlottesville VA 22901

[NOTE: LAST ISSUE IF NUMBER ON ADDRESS LABEL IS NOT 92]



ANNOUNCEMENT

The Club is looking for a logo to put on the front of the newsletter. There will be a prize (1 year free membership) to the person whose logo idea is chosen.

So.....GO FOR IT!!!!

Get your creative ideas on paper and help the club find a new image!

Any ideas should be sent to any club officer or newsletter staff member.

Hope to see your offering soon!!