

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 6833  
Charlottesville, VA 22906

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⊗ REMINDER ⊗  
1994 membership dues  
are now overdue!



Send articles for the AARC Bulletin to:  
the Editor, Melissa Lang - KDXGRM or Co-editor, Ed Lang - KC4YTLX  
DEADLINE for the March issue is February 15, 1994



**AARC Bulletin**  
Independent of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club, WA4ATZ  
**FEBRUARY 1994**



## Editor's Comment

February - Valentine's Day! A month of love and hope! Isn't it wonderful that the year starts in such a lovely way! It's great to see the energy and excitement that is being put out by those people working on the different projects the AARC Technical Committee has been doing! It's marvelous to see and hear all the new faces and voices as our numbers swell with Hams moving into the area and people becoming new Hams. To add to this grand feeling is that many of these hams are joining our Club and helping out with our Club projects! We welcome and thank you for your interest!

If you are new to our Club and have not been sure how to approach someone regarding your desire to become active in the Club, then just get in touch with any of the officers or Club members listed in the front of this Bulletin. Please feel free to express your opinion and join in the projects and committees!

Melissa - KD4GRM

### Some items from the 1985 AARC archives:

- AARC changes meeting night to Tuesday at May meeting.
- First Club Field Day contact via packet radio in June.
- First computer logging of Field Day contacts.
- KB4JNI starts Ham lunches at Bojangles in August.
- N4AOP sponsors no-smoking at meetings starting July.
- W6UZ gives talk on Voice of America at August meeting.
- AARC membership for 1985 reaches 48 in August.
- K2AOE talks about the Ultimate DX, E.T.s., in October.
- Over 100 Two meter repeaters now listed in Virginia.

Courtesy of Ron Richey, K4RKA

## February 1994 AARC Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 7:00pm AARC Techy Board Meeting	2 Grounding Day 8:00pm ARES Net	3	4	5	6 1994 Classico Radio Exchange	
7 1994 Classico Radio Exchange on 7:00pm INFO Net	8 7:00pm AARC Meeting	9 8:00pm ARES Net	10	11	12 Lizbeth's Birthday	13
14 Valentine's Day 7:00pm INFO Net	15	16 Jan Wednesday 8:00pm ARES Net	17	18	19	20
21 President's 7:00pm INFO Net		22 Washington's Birthday		23 8:00pm ARES Net		24 25 26 27 28
28 7:00pm INFO Net		SCHOOL CLUB ROUNDUP		APRIL QW DX Contest		CO WWV 160M BSB Contest

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
											January																			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
											March																			

## For Sale, Trade or Wanted

### FOR SALE:

Tandy 102 laptop computer. Contact Tom, WA4ESI, at KO4OK  
BBS or call 703-337-2720.

Logitech Scannan Hand Scanner - \$50.00. Contact Pat, N0RDK,  
804-978-4117.

Hard Drive. Contact Pat, N0RDK, 804-978-4117.

MFI Grand Master Memory Keyer - \$100.00 or make offer.  
Contact Bernard, K4PRT.

HF Linear Amp Kit (homebrew) - \$100 AARC benefit, contact  
Ron, K4RKA, at 804-973-3640.

DEC Computer. Contact Bruce, N4MKV, 804-296-1184.

AZDEN PCS7000 - \$275. Contact Steve N2LNV evenings  
804-293-7373.

XT Computer w/2 Drives, Mono Card, External 5 meg Hard Disk  
w/o Monitor - \$180 or make offer. Contact Joe, W2PVPY,  
804-589-1495

### FOR TRADE:

386 Computer w/RGB Monitor & 80meg Hard Disk to trade for  
440 Mobile Rig. Contact Sam, K14AE, 804-842-3169 or on .76.

### WANTED:

Dual Band VHF/UHF Transceiver and/or TNC. Contact John,  
KE4IBD, 804-978-4577.

VHF TNC, Ed, WA4UPI, 804-295-9875.

Heil Microphone. Contact Rick, KO4WQ, 804-823-1128.

## 1994 AARC Officers, Board Members and Chairpeople

President - Greg Faust, N4PGS

Vice-President - Rick Berman, KO4WQ

Treasurer - Sharon Duvall, KO4OC

Secretary - Melissa Lang, KD4GRM

Committees: Director is listed first, and then Chairperson  
Fund-Raising - Bob Pattison, KM4DU; Bill Harin, N4ZZB  
Technical - Hein Hvatun, N4FWA; Sam Gentry, N4WJQ  
Publications - Harry Dannels, W2HD; Ed Lang, KC4YTX  
Education - Mike Duvall, AC4ZQ; Bob Ross, WA2MFI  
Activities - Sam Gentry, N4WJQ; Hein Hvatun, N4FWA

Committees Chairpersons for:  
Digital - Roy Lane, W4OTF  
Recycling - Ron Ritchey, K4RKA  
Awards - Joe Fritz, KC4RWX

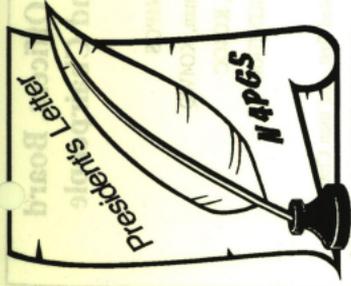
Other positions:

ARRL Liaison - Pat Wilson, N0RDK

ARES/RACES Coordinator - Hein Hvatun, N4FWA

ARRL/VE Coordinator - John Gray, W6UZ

Trustee - Morris Jones, NM4R



1994 seems to be starting out as an interesting year - it has been COLD! I left the midwest ten years ago to get away from this type of weather, the seemingly endless snow shovelling, wondering if the cars would start, and on and on. Not that there's been a lot of snow (by Midwest standards, anyway) but this cold weather is really something. On the morning of the Frost-fest it was 3 degrees above at my house, and I suspect that was warmer than some other QTH's around the county. Now I know why the bears pack it in the winter.

One good thing about this weather, though - it let's us play ore at radio. And we do have a lot of different types of 'radio' play.

Recently a lot of activity has revolved around packet radio. After a long history of excellent service, the Club BBS is moving to a new location, and the packeteers in the Club will need to readjust beams and figure out if they can hit CHO directly or whether they need to go through MACHO. The Digital group (hard-core packeteers) have been working with a relatively new aspect of packet radio called TCP/IP.

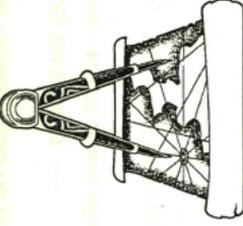
Transmitter hunts, repeater renovation, public service event scheduling, planning for Field Day, hamfests and contests are some of the many other things going on while we're hibernating during the cold weather.

So stay tuned, there's a lot of Club activities inside even though it's too cold to play outside.

Greg, N4PGS

So, when you pick up the mike, remember that ...am Radio deals with COMMUNICATION, not putting your brain in neutral and letting your voice run on. The repeater is a place for friendly conversations and exchange of necessary information. This is best achieved with using real words that everyone knows and not talking just to be talking.

Ed, KC4YX and Melissa, KD4GRM



## T-HUNT

The February Transmitter Hunt is being scheduled for February 13, 1994. Starting time for this T-hunt will be 1:30 pm. We are trying to conduct one each month and will be keeping a record of participants and scoring the hunt. Look for certificates to be awarded at the end of the year.

Points will be awarded as follows: 4 points- first finder(s); 3 points- second finder(s); 2 points- third (or successive) finder(s); and 1 point- for each non-finder participant.

## REMINDER:

The Board and Technical Committees meet the first Tuesday of each month at NRAO and are open to everyone.



Now that 1994 is underway, we have noticed a lot of new voices on the repeater and have had the opportunity to talk to new hams on the HF bands. This has prompted us to take a closer look at our operating habits and to listen to others. Unfortunately, what we've heard is people using redundant words and less than optimal operating practices.

We are not singling out anyone nor excluding ourselves with regard to these observations. One example is the use of "Q" signals on the repeater. "Q" signals were formed to make the exchange of information in CW and HF Phone faster and easier. It appears that "Q" signals are used on the repeater to make the user seem to have been operating CW for years and thus have a lot of experience with Ham Radio.

We also find it very amusing every time we hear someone say "this is KC4YLX for ID." Why else would someone give their call sign? Another habit that gets a wince is the use of non-words like "destinated" or "arrivated". For example: "Ok, Fred, I have destinated at my work QTH and will QRT". Why not just tell Fred that you have arrived at work and need to go? It sounds a lot more professional and takes up less time to boot! Then consider how it sounds when someone says, "This is kilo-charlie-four-yankee-lima-xray mobile monitoring." when all they want is to see if anyone wants to talk!

There is one practice that we have heard only a few Hams do, and want to heartily commend those people. That practice is to take a conversation to Simplex or to a lesser-used repeater when possible. It is really a waste of resources to have conversations going on between people who are practically in sight of one another.

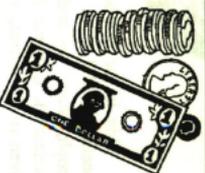
Renew your ARRL membership through the AARC. Its fast, easy and your club will get \$2.00. So 'kill two birds with one stone' support ARRL and

AARC!!

### Treasurer's Report

As of 1/10/94:

Club Fund	\$1427.13
Repeater Fund	995.89
Packet	25.00
Total in Account	\$2448.02



### AARC AWARDS

The following persons were issued the indicated AARC Awards since the last report.

Gerald, KN4EM - A, B, C (50 worked), D  
 John, KC4RRY - A, B, C, (50 worked), D  
 Sharon, KO4OC - A, B, C, (50 worked), D  
 Ted, KO4MZ - A, B, C, (50 worked), D

- A = BIG TEN worked all call areas
- B = Worked All Border States
- C = Worked Lotsa States (# worked)
- D = All-American

**Congratulations to these Hamall**

## COLUMN



This is the day after the Annual Club Dinner, the January meeting, and I think a good time was had by all. We had 70 people show up and the company was good and the food wonderful. Lifetime Achievement Awards and Certificates were given to Ed Bernet, WA4UPI and Roy Lane, W4OTF, for their many years of contributions to the AARC. Deservedly so.

Bob Segrest, of Culpeper, will be our guest at the February meeting, to give us a talk on TCP/IP. This will be a talk primarily as an overview, for beginners and up on the aspects of TCP/IP as it relates to Amateur Radio for those Hams with computers and an interest in a more sophisticated means of communication than the regular BBS.

I hope that we have a good turnout for this meeting as I think Bob will have some very interesting things to share with us.

That's about all for now. Happy Hamming!

Rick - KO4WQ

Let's take a quick look at a few of the projects planned for the new year:

The 146.925 repeater will benefit from the replacement of the 146.76 machine. Some equipment from the .76 repeater will be used to improve .925. Hein Hvatum, N4FWA, has built a new duplexer for .925 and Franco Venturi, KE4IBB, and Alan Porter, KD4DNU, have volunteered to completely rebuild .925. They have all the equipment needed to do this job, but would like to have some help. If you would like to see .925 improved give one of them (or me) a call. The machines on the mountain need to have a backup power overhaul. The battery will not operate the equipment for more than a few hours. We plan to increase the size of the battery, the capacity of the power supply, and the distribution of the power (bus bars). The WA4TFZ packet bulletin board is moving. Actually by the time you read this, it will probably already be moved. Roy Lane, W4OTF, has given up the job of SYSOP and Ed Lang, KC4YLX, has volunteered to take over. Roy has made this board a reliable, friendly place to get and send packet mail and bulletins for many years. In case you didn't know, this PBBS is the oldest, continuously operating PBBS in Virginia. If this winter weather keeps us from making this mode on schedule, then think about joining us on the new date.

OK... enough of the program, now for a small commercial. The Technical Committee needs your help. All this work has been done by volunteers. All of the projects that are planned will be done by volunteers. We need your help! Periodically, we have work parties go up on the mountain to make repairs or improvements. We would like to have you join us. If you don't want to ride up the mountain then we have projects at a lower altitude. Give me a call if you want to work on any technical project or if you would like to suggest a project.

Sam N4WJQ

The AARC Monthly Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 8 at 7:30 pm in the NRAO Auditorium on the University Grounds. Everyone is welcome.



Since this is my first report to you on technical operators, I thought that we should spend a few lines looking at some things we did last year, before we look ahead.

One change made during the year was the new repeater on 146.76. This new machine replaced the older repeater with a full featured repeater complete with 911 autopatch. The new repeater has a lot of features that we will be testing and using in the coming months. Another big step for the club was the purchase of a 220 repeater. This machine is on 224.76 and is located on Carter's Mountain

along with our other repeaters. If you have not seen the repeater site on Carter's Mountain in the last 6 months, then you would not know it. The building was painted and repaired, the door fixed, and new steps put in. The inside of the building was cleaned and all the equipment is off the floor on a new (nugged) table.

#### To Access 911

- Hold down push-to-talk button and press 911
- Release push-to-talk button
- The Repeater will announce that it is making a call to 911
- When the 911 Operator answers, state you are an Amateur Radio Operator and report the emergency
- Hold down the push-to-talk button and press the pound (#) sign to hang up

#### To Access 919

- Same procedure as 911.
- 919 is a practice number which will call Sam Gentry, N4WJQ, and allow for an actual test of the 911 procedure. If you would like to try it out, please contact Sam on the Repeater or at home to make arrangements.

## PUBLIC EVENTS 1994

The Public Event season is starting soon. It looks like it is going to be a busy year. Many of the events are old acquaintances, but some are new for the season. The Bike Virginia Tour is a new event that looks interesting.

Here is a list of known (so far) Public Events for 1994:

**BKR1 Jefferson Cup Bike Race**, part 1. Sunday 06 March 1994, 1330 EST. Location of this event is not finalized yet. It probably will be in the Boonesville area with start and finish at the Broadus Wood Elementary School near Earlysville.

**BKR2 Jefferson Cup Bike Race**, part 2. Sunday 27 March 1994, 1330 EST. Location of this event not decided yet. It probably will be around Keene with start and finish at the Walnut Creek Park.

**MSW1 Multiple Sclerosis Walk**, Sunday 10 April 1994, 1300 (7) EDT. Walk in Charlottesville, start and finish at the Omni Hotel.

**DM1 March of Dimes**, Sunday 24 April 1994, 1400 EDT. Walk in Charlottesville, almost the same route as MSW1. Start and finish at the Omni Hotel.

**MSB1 and MSB2 Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tour**, Saturday 11 June and Sunday 12 June 1994. The annual two day bike tour. Same route as last year. Start at the Piedmont Community College, overnight in Farmville, and finish at the Stonewall Vineyards in Concord.

**BKV1, BKV2 and BKV3 Bike Virginia Bike Tour**, Monday 27 June 1994, Tuesday 28 June 1994, and Wednesday 28 June 1994.

This is a new one for us. The tour actually lasts for more than a week, but spends only three days in the Charlottesville area. The tour moves from place to place and spends one, two, or three days at each. During their three days in Charlottesville, they will ride in different parts of Albemarle county each day, probably

with 100, 300 and 25 mile loops. They expect 1500+ riders which makes this event more than twice the size of the MS 150 bike tour. It might be difficult to find enough hams to support this tour both because it happens on weekdays, and because it lasts for three days. Fortunately, they want only 10-12 hams. (There should be enough retired hams around with nothing else (or more useful things) to do?) It seems to be an extremely well organized group. More later.

**BKR3** and **BKR4** Virginia State Championship Bike Race. Saturday 09 July 1994 and Sunday 10 July 1994. Location not decided yet. Possibly near Heards, just west of route 29 south. This is a state championship event and could be held anywhere in Virginia. The local bike groups organize the race this year, and Albemarle County is a prime candidate for the location.

**MSB3** Multiple Sclerosis Harvest Tour. Time not known, but will be sometime in September.

The route will probably be the same as last year. Start and finish at the Meriwether Lewis Elementary School.

**HRT1** American Heart Association Walk. Sunday 02 October 1994, 1400 EDT. Last year this walk started and finished at the Barracks Road Shopping Center. Probably the same route in 1994.

That's what I have so far. Additional events that seem to happen annually are a triathlon, a biathlon, a diabetes walk, and one or two emergency exercises.

So be prepared, keep your batteries charged, and stay tuned. My clipboard is active 24 hours a day seven days a week.

Hein - N4FWA

**Club dues were due by January 1, 1994.**

**See Sharon Duvall, KO4OC, Treasurer.**

## BEHIND THE CALL

### QRA - KD4CUB, Suzanne Zito Slezak

I was born in Charlottesville on September 9, 1981, at Martha Jefferson Hospital. My family and I live on a small farm near Free Union. We raise a few cows and chickens.

I have two brothers who are 9 and 15. Until I was 11, all three of us were taught at home by my father. In 1992 we tried out school for the first time. My older brother continued school, but Joel and I have resumed home-schooling.

Some people may not know what home-schooling is like. We like it because we have the freedom to go places. I have been to Europe three times. We can go on business trips with my mother to see other parts of America.

I became interested in Ham Radio when some people from the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club came to my dad and brother's Boy Scout troop. They came once a week for many weeks, and taught theory and code. Some girls from the community also joined the course. I passed the Novice test with code in June of 1991. Then I got my Technician Plus in December of that year.

I did some speaking on 10 meters when the band was suitable. Now I sometimes talk on 2 meters. I am not as interested in Ham Radio as I was. I wish, as always, there were more girls my age in Ham Radio.

de Suzanne, KD4CUB

NOTE: I asked Suzanne to submit her Profile because when I first started listening on 2 meters I heard her several times. She always demonstrated excellent operating practices. She impressed me so much that I thought she should let us all know her a little better. So the next time you hear KD4CUB on the air-say hello to Suzanne

de Joe, KD4RWX