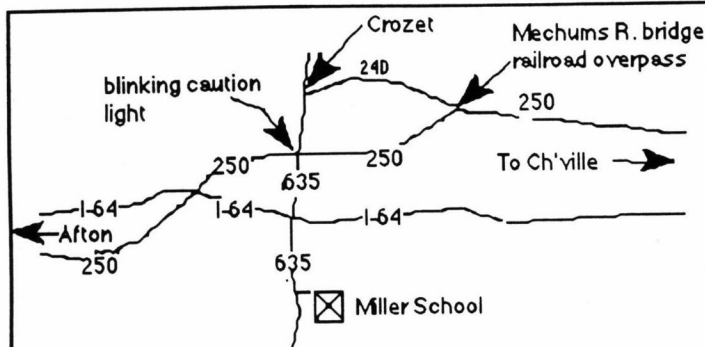


Editor: Joseph D. Fritz, KD4RWX

CHARLOTTESVILLE (Albemarle County) VIRGINIA

**DECEMBER CLUB MEETING**

Tuesday December 13, 1994 7:30 p.m.  
 PROGRAM TOPIC: Message Traffic Handling  
 PRESENTER: Brian Fox, KE4HIA

**NOTE CHANGE OF MEETING PLACE**  
**MILLER SCHOOL CHAPEL**

From Charlottesville take 250 west, at the flashing light at Miller School Road turn left and go about 3 miles. Turn left at the Miller entrance. Follow the road and always take the right fork.

**PAY ATTENTION TO THIS MESSAGE**

THE MEETING PLACE HAS BEEN CHANGED FOR THE DECEMBER MEETING. THE LOCATION WILL BE: MILLER SCHOOL. Above is a map which shows the major roads in the region around Miller School. I hope this provides some help.

91.5 Hz

91.5 Hz

91.5 Hz

91.5 Hz

GOOD BYE: 91.5 Hz — GOOD BYE:

WELCOME: 88.5 Hz WELCOME:

88.5 Hz

88.5 Hz

88.5 Hz

88.5 Hz

The new tone frequency to be used on the 146.760 Repeater beginning during early December is 88.5 Hz. Be sure to set your radio's tone to 88.5 Hz.

Listen to the voice message announcing the change via the repeater.

This change is being done to facilitate repeater access for more operators when tone has to be turned on. The intermod interference has risen its ugly head lately..

**CAUTION**

**PLEASE DO NOT READ THIS INFORMATION.**  
**DOING SO MAY COST YOU MONEY**

On the other hand ... it will provide you with an opportunity to read about how you can continue to support your local Amateur Radio Club AND permit you to continue to receive this (...a lot of self serving words deleted...) newsletter.

The answer is quite simple.

**Renew your membership in the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club.** Membership is to be renewed on or about January 1st each year. If you renew on time, you will not miss an issue of the newsletter. If you delay too long then Sharon (KO4OC) is required to send you a reminder. (That will cost the Club an extra 29 cents.) And, you will not receive the newsletter.

**For all of the Important details, please read the last page of this newsletter (cover).**

Thanks. Joe, KD4RWX, Editor and self named membership drive chairman and committee. Well, no one else sent me copy. Somebody had to do it.

Oh! Did I mention that you also receive a **Directory** as part of your membership? I need to have your information in the Directory correct. So let me know if your current Directory information needs to be modified. Those changes should be made on the RENEWAL FORM on the last page of this newsletter.

**Keep your Ham spirit alive.**  
**Renew for ninety-five.**

(Joe, you have entirely too much free time on your hands. I bet you have not renewed. So, get with the program and renew today!)

January 1, 1994 -  
November 8, 1994ALBEMARLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
TREASURER'S REPORTTreasurer: Sharon Duvall,  
KO4OC

## 1994 - INCOME

DESCRIPTION AMOUNT SUB-TOTAL TOTALS

Income: Dues

Dues: 1994 1689.50

Dues: 1995 Renewal Prepaid 89.00

**Total Income: Dues \$1778.50**Income: Miscellaneous

Raffles 64.00

T-Shirt sales 126.00

ARRL Renewals- by members 31.00

Directories 20.00

Sale of old Books:

Now You're Talking 20.00

Name badges 4.00

**Total Income: Miscellaneous \$265.00**Income: Donations

Sale of Surplus Material 1626.21

Repeater 561.38

packet 375.00

cash 20.00

QSL card sales donation 6.00

**Total Income: Donations \$2588.59****TOTAL INCOME TO DATE \$4632.09**

## THANKS

I would like to thank Ron Richie, K4RKA, and the Recycling Committee for all of the hard work they have done selling the surplus material for the Club. The sale of donated material is the main income in support of the repeaters. Sharon, KO4OC

## 1994 - EXPENSES

DESCRIPTION AMOUNT SUB-TOTAL TOTALS

Expenses: Equipment Purchased

Repeater related 1371.50

Packet related 336.03

**Total Expenses: Equipment****\$1707.53**Expenses: Miscellaneous

Postage and Pub. costs 644.48

Telephone 563.79

Equipment Insurance 136.62

Meeting Refreshments 146.00

Picnic Shelter 50.00

Va. State Corporation Fee 25.00

SERA Membership 20.00

**Total Expenses: Miscellaneous \$1585.89**Expenses: Special Projects

T-Shirts for resale 199.23

WA4UPI Library Project 120.00

**Total Expenses: Special Projects \$319.23****TOTAL EXPENSES TO DATE \$3612.65****1994 GAIN OR LOSS TO DATE \$1019.44****1993 Balance Brought Forward (1-1-94) \$2071.18****CURRENT BALANCE \$3090.62**

## DECEMBER 1994

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

• HAPPY HOLIDAYS •

• 'tis HE SEASON TO BE JOLLY •

4 END  
ARRL 160 Meters  
Contest

5 INFO-NET 7:00 pm

6 Board Meeting & Technical  
Session 7:00 PM7 Lunch Bonanza 11-1  
Pearl Harbor Day

8 ARES NET 8:00 PM

9 BEGIN  
ARRL 160 Meters  
Contest

10

W4OTF  
VE SESSION  
9:00 A.M.  
(See Page 7)11 ARRL 10 METER  
CONTEST12 INFO-NET 7:00 pm  
KC4ZZP  
KD4AXV13 AARC MEETING  
7:30 p.m. NRAO

14 Lunch Bonanza 11-1

15 ARES NET 8:00 PM  
NORDQ (50?)

16

17

18 T-HUNT  
1:30 PM19 INFO-NET 7:00 pm  
KM4DU


20

21 Lunch Bonanza 11-1  
First Day of Winter

22 ARES NET 8:00 PM

23 WA3KDR

24

  
Christmas Day
26 INFO-NET 7:00 pm  
KD4IGY

27

28 Lunch Bonanza 11-1

29

30

31 WG4T  
KD4LEF  
WB3DZC  
STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY.**

## THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

December already. Almost the end of the year. For me, it's gone pretty quickly. Maybe that's the onset of old age, I'm not sure - but it does seem that time is beginning to speed up a bit and those events that I thought happened "yesterday" actually happened "yesteryear." My kids delight in reminding me of this.

It has been a year full of interesting events, though, with many of those events related to Amateur Radio and AARC Club activities. Plenty of public service activities - some exciting ones and some quiet ones. We've had opportunities to see everything from bicycles to horses up close, and even help with some real emergencies. There's been VE sessions, courses, tables at hamfests, transmitter hunts, informational seminars and more. We've seen the continuing upgrade of the Club's installation on Carter's Mountain, including repeater enhancements and new features installed, like APRS digipeaters and the like. So many things happened...

So many things STILL happening, too. It's a sign of the interest brought to the hobby by the most important resource of all - the people that make up the Club and the ranks of Amateur Radio. The chance to work with the people that do all these things has been my greatest reward in Amateur Radio. Sure, it's fun to design new gadgets or build kits or hunt for a "fox." But the real thrill comes from working with people who share the same interest (obsession?) in Amateur Radio.

The Albemarle Amateur Radio Club has grown over the years from a small close-knit group of active amateurs to a large weave of active amateurs. It has happened because people have cared enough to work to make the hobby and the Club grow. People who have been willing to put up with the good and the not-so-good in an effort to make it better for us all. Willing to sit long hours in a remote location to watch an occasional bike ride by. Willing to take the time to explain to a bunch of school kids the difference between CB and REAL radio. Willing to put a Mobile Watch sticker on that brand new car. Willing to sit up all night in a tent in the rain to operate a CW station. Willing to be a Club officer. It's a long list.

The new officers and Board members are ready (and willing) to take their places. They are a very good group of hams ready to add their effort to the Club. My transmitter hunting partner, LeRoy, is looking forward to an exciting year in 95. Work with him as you have with me, and 1995 will be better than ever for the AARC.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with the Club and help it grow. As President, I've also enjoyed the chance to work with many of you in the various aspects of the Club's activities. But now, it's time to move on. Not leave. Not quit. Simply change jobs. I will continue to work with and for the Club, keeping the BBS up and running, helping at public service activities, looking for the "fox", putting up digipeaters, etc. No, it's too

much fun to quit.

To everyone that I've worked with, and who has pitched in and worked for the Club, thank you.

73 Greg N4PGS

## Veep's Corner

It's hard to believe that we are coming up to Thanksgiving already. The year is passing so quickly. It seems like yesterday that it was summer and as I look out the window today there is frost on the ground and the trees are bare.

So, I guess it's time to start thinking about the AARC annual dinner in January. At the November meeting we took a poll and the people there indicated a desire return to the Boars Head Sports Club for the dinner. See Box below.

### THE JANUARY DINNER MEETING

will be Sunday, January 8th, 1995. To assist the Boars Head Sports Club's kitchen personnel with their planning, I will need to get the sign ups for the dinner fairly soon. Be prepared to state your preference as to a beef, chicken or fish entree. There will also be a Veggie entree available as well as a children's menu. The cost of the dinner, including tax and tip, will be around \$13.50 for adults and about \$8.00 for a children's meals. You can sign up with me on the packet BBS or call me at home at 823-1128. **Rick, KO4WQ**

On November 10th, the AARC presented the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library, at the Northside branch in Albemarle Square, with a set of 24 books related to Ham Radio. They were donated in the name of Ed Bernet, WA4UPI, as our remembrance to Ed. It was a nice presentation with Ms. Williams from the library, Mr. and Mrs. John Gray, Nancy Richey, Mrs. Ed Bernet, Harry Dannals and yours truly. Janet Bernet was very appreciative of our doing this in the name of her husband and the library was very grateful. The books were purchased from the ARRL.

The library's representative was so impressed with the presentation that she asked if the AARC would consider doing a demonstration related to ham radio and radio equipment for some of their younger people. That is something that the Club could do for the library.

We are going to have Pat, N0RDQ, give us a talk on traffic handling at the December meeting. The ability to handle traffic via ham radio is an important skill and can come in very handy in times of emergency. I hope we get a good turnout for this talk. It should be very interesting.

That's about it for this month. A Happy Thanksgiving to all.  
73..Rick..KO4WQ

dah dah dit dah    dit dit dit    dah  
Announcing The



## AARC Homebrew/QRP Project



Once upon a time, maybe not so long ago, building one's own equipment, or homebrewing, was commonplace among Amateur Radio Operators. These were the golden days of companies like Heathkit, Knight and EICO who offered dozens of amateur radio products in kit form accompanied by complete step-by-step assembly instructions. Why did so many Hams choose to "roll their own" when they could have purchased ready-built equipment? Because they knew that homebrewing offered a thrill that's hard to beat. Few experiences in amateur radio compare to the sense of pride and accomplishment associated with constructing your own equipment and getting it on the air. Heathkit, Knight and EICO are now just a part of Ham Radio history and up until recently, amateurs were hard pressed to find any quality gear in kit form.

Within the last two or three years, high quality kit manufacturers are beginning to reemerge. These small, usually family operated companies, generally offer a line of inexpensive QRP (low power) transceiver kits and other QRP station accessories. QRP transceivers make excellent kit projects due to their simple straight forward design.

The AARC homebrew project will allow you to experience the thrill of kit building while enjoying the support and guidance of your fellow homebrew project participants. Oak Hills Research is a family run, Michigan based, QRP kit manufacturer that markets an almost Heathkit quality line of products (but make no mistake, nothing matches the quality of a Heathkit). I believe their Sprint II QRP transceiver kit would make an excellent project for a beginning kit builder. The rig measures only 2-1/2" X 5" X 5" and weighs about 18 ounces. It operates in CW mode only, produces 1.5 watts of RF power (Believe me, that's plenty!) and can easily be powered by dry cells or a small gel cell battery. The Sprint II is a single band radio and can be ordered in 30, 40 or 80 meter versions. The unit does not drive a speaker and requires the use of headphones. An iambic keyer kit can be added to the transceiver for an additional few dollars if the builder desires. This modification requires the builder to drill a few holes in the chassis and to add a switch or two. Now for the best part - the Oak Hills Sprint II lists for \$79.95 and the optional keyer kit lists for \$39.95. After discussing our project with Oak Hills, they are willing to offer AARC a 20% discount on our order. After throwing in \$1.00 for shipping, the Oak Hills Sprint II can be yours for:

**\$64.96 without the internal iambic keyer, or for  
\$96.92 with the keyer included.**

I'll be collecting checks made out to: **OAK HILLS RESEARCH** anytime up to and including the December club meeting on December 13th. I plan to place our order on December 14. Be sure to indicate on your check the band you would like your kit to work on and whether or not you would like the iambic keyer kit included. Checks may be mailed to the address below. When sending checks through the mail be sure to allow 2 or 3 days mail delivery time. I should receive mailed checks by December 12th.

Once the kits arrive, an initial meeting of the AARC homebrew group will be scheduled where the kits will be distributed and a presentation on how to get started with your kit will be offered. If desired by those attending our meeting, a subsequent meeting may be scheduled or perhaps a 2 meter net for the homebrewers can be established. Be assured that you won't be alone in this endeavor and as long as you didn't build your kit with a 150 watt soldering gun and a steak knife we'll get it running.

Once all the transceivers are operating, an HF code practice group could be established (Oh no... There's that dirty word CODE again). What a great way to increase your code speed by getting your homebrew kit on the air! Since 80 meters is probably the best band for local HF communications, I suggest that any builder who wishes to participate in code practice order the 80 meter version of the kit.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have.

**Bob Ross, WA2MFI**

1621 Mulberry Avenue, Charlottesville, VA 22903

Phone: 804 977-4682

(p.s. I have no affiliation with Oak Hills Research (Hi Hi))



**BITS AND PIECES****T-SHIRTS T-SHIRTS T-SHIRTS**

The AARC has purchased some very nice, heavyweight, white, cotton, T-shirts with the following printing:  
[front pocket]

AARC & the *Special Service Club* LOGO

[back]

**RACES & Albemarle Amateur Radio Club  
COMMUNICATIONS**

These can be obtained from Joe (KD4RWX). They will be at the next club meeting. These are very handy for identification purposes at public service activities. The price is \$9.00. Checks made payable to A.A.R.C. Medium and Large sizes remain.

\*\*\*\*\*

**PUBLIC EVENTS 1994**

**THANKS** to all who have participated in the Public Service Events this year. A very good job done by all.

A Special Disaster Drill for Martha Jefferson Hospital is scheduled for "approximately" December 8th. So get your batteries charged and your new Emergency Vest ready.

**PRELIMINARY DATES THE 1995 SCHEDULE**

**BKR1** Sunday Feb. 26, 1995 Bike Race

**BKR2** Sunday March 26, 1995 Bike Race

**BKR3** Sunday June 4, 1995 Bike Race

**BKR4** Sunday June 11, 1995 Bike Race

**MSB1** Saturday June 10, 1995 MS Bike Tour

**MSB2** Sunday June 11, 1995 MS Bike Tour

\*\*\*\*\*

**- IT IS WORTH REPEATING -**

[NOTE: Repeater users: The new controller has the following codes. An \* is required at the end of all codes.

**10\*** Time;

**325\*** temporary tone override ON;

**326\*** temporary tone override OFF..note change

**911\*** EMERGENCY 911 CENTER

**918\*** State Police 800 number

**919\*** may be used to practice/test autopatch access.

This is a second phone line at Sam's house so use with care.

**0\*** is used to bring down the patch and get an acknowledgement. The # will still bring down the patch but without an acknowledgement.]

**NEW HAM**

Karen Taylor, KE4SSE, T

**UPGRADES**

Chuck, WB4QKT has upgraded to Extra Class.

Chuck, KC4VIX has upgraded to General Class

**NEW MEMBERS:**

Brian Scott, KE4OIB, U.S. Navy ⚓

**Time-valued information. Please read carefully.**

**EQUIPMENT DONATED TO AARC****AMATEUR RADIO ESTATE OF KA2KBX**

AARC member Al Randall (KA2KBX), who recently became a Silent Key, was well-known by club members who are active on 2-meters. Al could be found frequently on 146.76 and was always ready to have a chat. Ruth Randall (KD4IGU) has donated all of Al's Amateur Radio estate to the Club.

The Executive Board has decided that the high value items shall be put on open bid and the remainder of the items shall be used for raffle items at regular meetings. Therefore, a sealed-bid system shall be used for the following three items:

**Kenwood TM-742A, Tri-band FM Transceiver** covering 2, 220 and 440 MHz with Astron RS-12A D.C. supply (also includes Tone Decode TSU-7 module.)

**MINIMUM BID \$650.00**

**Radio Shack PRO-2004 Scanner** (it covers the 220 band) in excellent condition, but lacks the collapsible antenna, available from Radio Shack.

**MINIMUM BID \$170.00**

**Radio Shack HTX-404 Hand-held** for 440 MHz (missing Nicad battery pack and wall charger) including Radio Shack 2-1/2 Amp D.C. supply

**MINIMUM BID \$150.00**

Your sealed bid shall be mailed to the:

**AARC...BID**

c/o Secretary- KD4RWX

P.O. Box 6833

Charlottesville, VA 22906

**Bids must be received by Monday, December 12th, 1994, to be valid.**

The Executive Board shall open the bids at the club meeting on Tuesday, December 13th.

**NOTE:** The remaining items ranging from a Welz Power/SWR Meter, microphones, MFJ Model MFJ-931 Artificial Ground through a coax switch and a couple of KW Low-pass filters shall be raffled off at regular club meetings over the coming months in 1995.

**ADDRESS CHANGES**

**Ted Mauro, KD4CAR**

28 Redwood Drive, Eatontown, NJ 07724

**Ernie Sardi, W2EIU**

Route 2 Box 127-G, Ruckersville, VA 22986

### REPEATER CLUB OR CLUB REPEATER

Several weeks ago there was a comment that our club had become so repeater-oriented that nothing else but repeaters was being discussed. There is little doubt that the AARC has a decided interest in repeaters. After all, we have two on two meters, one on 220 and another on 440... not counting the packet system and the APRS system. Obviously, there is considerable cost involved in the support of these systems (or "machines" as they are sometimes called.) That word "machine" really shakes things a little. Where is the "machinery" in a completely solid state repeater system?

However, this commentary has nothing to do with the "machinery" or whatever you wish to call our repeater systems. It does have to do with the importance of a repeater to a club such as AARC. Years ago... long before we had repeaters and even before there were Technician Class licensees... clubs depended on nets on two meters, six or even ten. Some clubs met on 75 meter phone when they were able to communicate through the interference. It was often very difficult to hear all of the stations in the service area of the club. (Some of you may recall the difficulty we encountered trying to communicate on 10 meters several years ago!)

With the advent of repeaters, clubs began to have a "solid" line of communications among members. Almost every class of licensee was able to communicate on the club repeater... many with only a few watts and modest expenditure. Club communications was now a going business and literally hundreds, maybe thousands, of clubs had their own repeaters. As special interests developed, some clubs set up additional repeaters to satisfy the members' desires to have an auto patch, DX cluster or technical discussion groups featuring "experts" in the many technical subjects we enjoy.

In some other cases, "splinter groups" spun off from the main systems when the club members could not agree on the construction of yet another repeater. Frictions sometimes developed in these cases because one ham's tolerance of another ham's interest was lacking. However, those groups which... like AARC... are often present, might be better off by adapting their needs to existing repeaters supported by the club. There is absolutely no reason why our repeaters could not support DXers, traffic-handlers, QRPers, moon bouncers, code practicers, or whatever. For those who may think we have become a Repeater Club, let them come forth with other useful applications for the repeaters. It is certain that the technical committee would derive great satisfaction in knowing that the repeaters which they keep on the air by their efforts are serving so many different club interests rather than remaining "deathly silent" for hours and hours a day.

Perhaps the discussions at meetings, while still talking about repeaters, would now center about their use and value to members as a communications medium with very little feeling

of annoyance when that occurs. Let us be a club blessed by the availability of our repeater systems... not cursed by their existence. **Harry, W2HD**

### OVER THE HILL

Well, the leaves are about gone, Indian Summer has decided to go to Rio for the winter, Old Man Autumn is reestablishing control on the weather (as for certain rumors that with the end of the elections comes an end to the hot air causing our mild weather, I have no comment) and Dame Winter is around the corner preparing to paint the landscape in a beautiful, jeweled, white blanket of soft silence. Once again a young mans fancy turns to thoughts of the Valley Amateur Radio Association and.....SOME MORE OF THE STORY.

(Apologies to Paul Harvey) Well I reported in the last newsletter that Mike Dillon had been appointed as Emergency Coordinator for Augusta County. Along with that news, Mike has selected 3 Asst. EC's. They are Jeff Rinehart- WB4PJW, Joe Meek-KD4FKT, and yours truly Bill Bearden-KC4TQF. The AEC's will cover specific county areas. Also, Jeff will handle most of the Skywarn duties (which he already does, now its official) and Joe and I will act as liaisons between the Valley ARES group and the ARES groups of other counties. I will be working as liaison to the Albemarle and Fluvanna EC's. (I told Hein of this today at the luncheon at Bonanza. He could hardly contain himself. He said he had butterflies of joy at the thought of a closer working relationship with me. At least I think that is what he MEANT. All I heard was something about an upset stomach and losing his lunch as he walked away.)

In other news, elections were held at this months meeting. Our 1995 Elected Officials will be Ken Harris-KE4GKD-President, Jeff Rinehart-WB4PJW-Vice President, Bob Ralston-KE4GKF-Secretary, and Christy Osterloh-KC4PKK- Treasurer. If you should happen to hear them on the air, you might want to say hi and wish them well.

The VARA T-Hunt will be held on Sunday, November 20 at 1330 local. Starting frequency will be 147.360 moving to simplex after start-up. (Editor..too late for timely notice in December issue) I realize that this is the same weekend as the AARC T-Hunt, but due to scheduling difficulties, I could not set it up for the 27th. I apologize for this and hope to be back to our normal 4th-Sunday-Every-Month rotation in January (the 4th Sunday in December is Christmas Day).

Please remember that even though the Fall Novice-Tech Class hasn't quite finished, the Spring Class will be ready to begin in mid-late January or early February. If you know of anyone who has an interest in the AARC-sponsored class, please contact either myself or Bob Ross (WA2MFI). From all of us "Over the Hill" to all of you on the "Wrong side of the Hill", we wish you a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday and send any left-over pies (pumpkin or pecan) to me....**Bill, KC4TQF**

## VE EXAMS

### VIRGINIA VE TESTING INFORMATION

for

OCTOBER 29, 1994 - APRIL 16, 1995

10/29/94 A Middletown 703-636-1176 Thomas Blicharz  
 10/29/94 A **Orange County** 703-891-5581 Kelly Shaw  
 11/02/94 A Warrenton 703-364-3861 Neil Spokes  
 11/05/94 A Portsmouth 804-484-2857 Arthur A Thiemens  
 11/05/94 A Sterling 703-450-2304 Michael Weber  
 11/11/94 A Galax 703-766-3121 Joseph A Kolb  
 11/12/94 L Alexandria 703-455-1510 Frank Mackey  
 11/12/94 A **Culpeper** 703-547-3089 Bill Brown  
 11/21/94 A Coeburn 703-395-6595 Clinton W Hawkins Jr  
 12/03/94 A **Charlottesville** 804-973-1094 John Gray  
 12/03/94 W Roanoke 703-366-6266 Fred L Horton  
 12/03/94 A Virginia Beach 804-468-9166 Judy Rogers  
 12/09/94 A Galax 703-766-3121 Joseph A Kolb  
 12/10/94 L Alexandria 703-455-1510 Frank Mackey  
 12/10/94 A **Harrisonburg** 703-856-8012 Marshall Cooper  
 12/10/94 A **Richmond** 804-798-5048 Rick Cook  
 12/29/94 S Gloucester 804-484-2857 Fran Sterling  
 01/15/95 A Salem 703-389-3339 Joe A Cline  
 04/16/95 A Salem 703-389-3339 Joe A Cline

A = ARRL S = W5YI L = Laurel

### LOST - MISSING - WALKED AWAY - DISSOLVED HEY MYSTERY BUFFS!!

Does anyone have any information as to the whereabouts of the Club's Hammerlund HQ150 receiver. It was at Millers School but seems to have disappeared from there some time ago. It may be simply sitting in someone's closet like the Tentec was but I have asked around and don't seem to be able to find out whose... thanks, Ron (K4RKA)

### THANKS

I would like to thank Ron Richie, K4RKA, and the Recycling Committee for all of the hard work they have done selling the surplus material for the Club. The sale of donated material is the main income in support of the repeaters.

Thanks again, Sharon, KO4OC.

A mail train carrying all of the renewals to Charlottesville.

oooooooooooooooooooo



## AARC VE SESSION

Please read carefully.

Important information must be followed.

The AARC VE team will conduct an ARRL Examining Session on Saturday, December 3, 1994, at 9:00 AM. The location will be the usual one, the Auditorium of NRAO, Edgemont Road, UVA grounds, Charlottesville, VA. Advance registration is required.

To register send the following items to:

AARC VE Session

P.O. Box 6805

Charlottesville, VA 22906

1. A completed FCC Form 610 dated November 1993 or later
2. A list of examination elements you desire to take
3. A check for \$ 5.75 made out to: AARC VE Session
4. Photocopies of your current license and relevant CSCE's, if presently held.

Registration materials should reach the VE team on or prior to Dec. 1, 1994.

You should bring to the examination session the following items:

1. Your CURRENT ORIGINAL Amateur Radio License
2. Original of CSCE's for element credit you wish to claim
3. At least one pencil (#2 lead) and suitable eraser
4. An ink pen
5. Two additional forms of positive identification (in addition to your original license) from this list
  - A photo ID plus one (1) of the following, OR two (2) of the following:
  - non-photo drivers license or other ID card [school or employer];
  - Birth certificate with appropriate seal
  - Passport
  - any business or personal correspondence addressed to you.

For a Form 610 send a Stamped Self Addressed Envelope to the above address. Any questions contact John - W6UZ at 973 1094 or Pat - N0RDQ at 978 4117. - 73 - de W6UZ

### THANKS

I would like to thank Wil (KJ4XZ), Ernie (W2EIU), and Harry (W2HD) for their assistance in removing the masts and antennas from Al Randle's (KA2KBX) estate on Saturday November 12, 1994. LeRoy (WA4MHP)



## Real T-Hunt

As a preamble to this story let it be said that in many, and perhaps most, of the cases an interfering signal on the repeater is caused by an Amateur Radio operator's transmit switch being inadvertently pressed. Perhaps due to the mic just being pressed between people or things in a car seat. So a word of caution. Please check your radio for a transmission condition even when you are not "using it." Some of your conversations may be going out to an unintended audience.

On November 6th, about 3-3:15 pm, many Charlottesville residents were watching football or enjoying an afternoon with the family. LeRoy (WA4MHP) was at his work place writing and preparing for his presentation at Tuesday's Club meeting. The topic he was preparing for concerned Radio Direction Finding. LeRoy heard a strong signal on the input to the Club's repeater (146.760). It was S-9 in his area. The signal was just a carrier and it caused the repeater to time-out. Sam (N4WJQ), Hein (N4FWA), and Harry (W2HD) all became involved with the concern. The tone was turned on. That permitted the repeater to remain unaffected by the unknown source's signal. However, the repeater's function was reduced due to the signal. This was especially true for weak input signals. Sam and Harry contributed signal strengths. Others also chimed in with reports of their own. LeRoy finally decided to return home to pick up his DF equipment. He checked with his wife, Jan (KE4NNT), about their plans and she decided to join him. The equipment was loaded and the Sutter family headed back to the Charlottesville area.

Joe (KD4RWX), having already given a signal report, decided to go mobile and do some signal strength readings. He traveled south on 29 toward the University area. He reported a strong signal in the University area. It was about dark at this time. Others began to make some directional signal reports and Sam began to place them into his APRS system.

The signals which were contributed by both fixed stations (Harry, Hein, Brian (KJ4LM), and perhaps others) and the mobile/DF stations (Greg and LeRoy) seemed to indicate that the unknown signal was in the Michie Tavern-Blue Ridge Hospital -Piedmont Virginia Community College area. Joe found a very strong signal at the west end of Piedmont Virginia Community College, but the DF equipment from a nearby location pointed towards Blue Ridge Hospital. The three of us (actually 5 - Jan and son, Jonathan, were still in the Sutter truck reading and listening to a ghost story) returned to Blue Ridge Hospital to take a closer look. However, Joe kept saying that he had never gotten a strong signal in his several drives through the Blue Ridge Hospital property. LeRoy and Greg located a security officer and received permission to do some walkabout on the grounds. After a little while the signal direction from that location was found to point away from Blue Ridge Hospital. Jan and Jonathan returned home and Joe, Greg and LeRoy went back to Piedmont Virginia Community College

and took a reading from the West end parking lot. From that location they determined the direction to be back toward the UVA Hospital.

It was getting late so the group decided that a good night's sleep was in order. On his way home, Joe returned to the UVA Hospital area and found the signal to be very strong. So, like a fool who likes to ride up and down parking garages rather than elevators, he toured both of the Hospital's parking garages. There is no charge on the weekend. There was a strong signal, but there was no helpful clue as to the location of the unknown signal. Joe goes home and he assumes the others did as well.

At about 11:30 p.m., Harry noticed that the signal started to move. Until that time we had detected no movement at all. The signal seemed to be moving north on Route 29. Joe also was listening. When the signal once again became stationary, Joe got into his car and drove north to try to locate the signal. Using a wild idea, he went to a community where the signal was very strong. Without directional gear and not wishing to be moving about homes at night, Joe called it quits for the night.

The next morning Joe returned to where the strong signal had been found and drove around trying to make more readings. Then, along came Sam, N4WJQ. After a brief check in the community, Sam decided that the signal was just not strong enough and proceeded farther north. About 8:30 Sam reported that he had located the source of the signal. He had Harry to call the individual. The person came out of the house, checked his car radio and the signal disappeared.

LeRoy, Joe, and Sam talked briefly with the individual and then they went about their regular business. It turns out that the original location of the signal was off Cherry Avenue near Rock Creek. So an interfering signal was made to go away and the repeater was returned to normal use. Interesting enough, that same day two other carrier-on situations occurred. No hunt took place, but we were prepared to move.

This author would like to express thanks to all who were involved in this real T-Hunt. Especially the night hunters. That was a new experience. And, for Sam, all that I can say is that you did an outstanding job-and only using a handheld transceiver to boot. Joe, KD4RWX

**The November 20th T-Hunt** had only one hunter. Boris, KC4ZKA, wanted to try his hand at transmitter hunting. Joe, KD4RWX, hid the transmitter and worked with him on the procedures. Boris had an outstanding effort. He located the transmitter in good time using only a handheld transceiver. A very good performance for a first-time hunt. Afterwards, Joe went home to work on the newsletter and it's renewal format.

**The next T-hunt will be held on December 18th.**