

April Test Session Planned

John Gray, W6UZ

A VE Session is planned in Charlottesville for National Exam Day, April 27, 1996. This will be shortly after the conclusion of the Spring class to be offered by AARC.

Further information will be forthcoming as the time nears, but start planning for your upgrade examination. I am looking forward to a session at which more people upgrade than take their first exams. Get out your grindstones and apply the nose to same, hi. = = = W6UZ.

February Club Meeting

Tuesday, February 13. at 7:30 pm
National Radio Astronomy Observatory
Auditorium, Edgemont Road
(UVa area)

Be brave! Be adventurous! Bundle up and come on out to February's meeting. Final details on the rescheduled Winter Dinner and a great program are on the agenda.



IT'S OFFICIAL!

The AARC Wednesday Lunch Bunch has found a new home. A vote was taken among those present for lunch on January 31 to decide among the several restaurants AARC club members have been trying out for the past several Wednesdays.

The result: Old Country Buffet is the new (and hopefully permanent) home for our weekly Wednesday gatherings. Old Country Buffet is located on 29N near Toys R Us. The lunch bunch meets from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. All area hams and their friends who'd like a chance for some good food and informal socializing are invited!

Thanks to Harry, W2HD, for arranging the past several luncheons. Without his efforts, our Wednesday lunches, like our former "home" at Bonanza, might be just a memory.



The President Speaks



As I write this column the snow is still piled high in yards and along roads all throughout our state. They are calling this storm "The Blizzard of '96," and for an area not used to getting blizzards, it had a very disruptive effect on our day to day lives. Travel was halted, people were stranded in their homes, and grocery store shelves were plucked bare; all the result of 24+ inches of powdery white precipitation. And in the middle of it all came the call for help. Kaye Hardin (KE4UKW) at the 911 HQ prevailed upon local hams to help handle the influx of calls at the emergency center. All the hams who gave their time and effort to help are to be commended, including those who manned the phones and those who risked their personal safety to transport people through the storm. The thanks of the community may go unspoken but you can be sure your assistance is appreciated.

This blizzard and the role that amateur radio operators played in dealing with it demonstrates that emergencies come in many forms and that our services are not strictly limited to radio communications. It was primarily the information handling abilities of hams that made them useful at the 911 center, not their 40 meter dipoles or TNC's. It is important that we be flexible enough to adapt to a wide range of situations if we are to be effective emergency communicators. After all, communication is the underlying need. Amateur radio is just one of the ways that we can accomplish it.

73, Pete

From the Editors



Our apologies to all of you who noticed this month's newsletter was a little late getting to you. Business took our photocopy pal, KD4NNL, out of town, and then several inches of snowfall kept him and us both stranded for those critical few days when the *AARC Bulletin* should have been winging its way to your mailbox. And we thought we moved South to get away from all the white stuff!

Remember, the deadline for the March issue is Friday, Feb. 23. (Material submitted after that time will have to wait for April's issue.) We're always looking for articles. Why not write one for us one and get your name in print?

WB9HGZ & WD9EIA

Nostalgia from K4RKA

The following is a reprint of an early AARC meeting announcement supplied from the archives of Dick Florence, W4OFR. The elected person in each category has been shown in capital letters.

November 2, 1962

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club will meet Tuesday, November 6, 1962, at 7:30 P.M., at the Peoples National Bank. On the agenda for this meeting is election of officers.

Nominated are:

President: BOB VanFOSSSEN (K4DJG), Frank Haynes (W4NUA), Reggie Hedrick (?????)

Vice President: Ben Hammann (W4UDD), Frank Haynes (W4NUA), REGGIE HEDRICK (?????)

Recording Secretary: Carter Fields (K4GPK), Gene Bossieux (W4IWW), FRANK HAYNES (W4NUA)

Corresponding Secretary: Spencer Doty (K4AVS), Stacy Norman (W4SN), CARTER FIELDS (K4GPK) (should be spelled FEILD)

Treasurer: DICK FLORENCE (W4OFR), Frank Haynes (W4NUA)

Nomination will be open from the floor preceding each election.

There has not been a very good attendance so far, and I am afraid we gave some people the impression that this was to be a VHF type club. This is not the case. We want to have a general interest Ham Club here, so come on down Tuesday and help us get the club going. We need your SUPPORT.

See you Tuesday.

(signed) Bob Van Fossen (K4DJG)

K4RKA notes that Dick is still active in the club, Carter is still in the area, Bob is in the Valley, Frank is in northern Virginia, and Ben, Gene and Stacy are silent keys. Does anyone know where the others are located? Please let K4RKA or one of the editors know -- we'd like to send them a complementary copy of the newsletter so they can share the nostalgia and see how the club has grown to the 150-member size.

CAVEAT EMPTOR

Harry Dannals

From my high school Latin classes many, many years ago, the words "Caveat Emptor" bring back interesting memories today. Today's translation, as it was then, is "Let the buyer beware!" Why do these words come up in my memory bank at this time? Well, simply stated, the Spring hamfests (we'll pass the Frostfest which has already been held in Richmond) are right around the corner. Here in Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina, there will be many hamfests during the coming months. The big one in Dayton will debut in May this year (hopefully good weather) instead of the showers and cold winds of many past Aprils.

The flea markets are often the most interesting attraction at all these events. There's one man's junk which is another man's new treasure. There are those bits 'n pieces which help to make all of the home-brew projects possible. However, there are the major items... the nearly-new, perfectly kept, never used by a smoker, low mileage, in the original carton pieces of equipment... which are the subject of the writer's comments this month.

It is wise not to be carried away too quickly by the shiny gear displayed before you with the low price tag (and sometimes not too low at that!) One thing you should question is



very simply, "Why does the seller want to part with such a tremendous rig for such a low price?" Is he so wealthy that a 50% reduction in price means nothing? Does he have two of them and this piece of gear is surplus to his needs?

Is this gear for sale because he wants to upgrade his station?

Answers to the above questions are important. Probably the most important question of all is simply, does the equipment function? Frequently, it is impossible to have an on-the-air demonstration. However, at the Dayton Hamvention there used to be a facility for checking gear before purchase. A simple A.C. power source or a 12-volt D.C. supply, a dummy load and wattmeter are the necessary items for the most simple testing. A frequency meter and scope along with a wire antenna would add to the testing arrangement.

If it is impossible to perform any testing at the flea market, it is suggested that some

arrangements be made with the seller for return or, at a minimum, a further reduction in selling price. It isn't easy to make such a deal because the seller could respond that once the gear is gone from his hands, he has no further responsibility. Fair enough... but, make sure the price is right!

More than 99.99% of the Hams I have known are absolutely the best folks ever! They are honest, helpful, considerate and all of the many other superlative words. Chances are you will come away on the plus side with some ham gear which will serve you well at a price which doesn't mortgage the house and family. BUT, please remember those Latin words, "CAVEAT EMPTOR!"

73...

Harry, W2HD

Upcoming Hamfests

February 16-18 Florida State Convention, Orlando, FL
John Lenkerd, W4DNU 1046 Turner Rd., Winter Park, FL 32789, 407-645-2026 (*for those of you tired of the snow--hi!*)

February 18 Briarpatch, Foothills ARCs, Elkin, NC,
Dave Nicholson, N4VMB, PO Box 162, Cana, VA 24317-0317, 703-755-4669

February 25 Vienna Wireless Society, Vienna, VA
Paul Wilkins, AB4CY 208 Chichester Ln., Fairfax, VA 22031-2734, 703-560-2779

March 9-10 Mecklenburg ARS, Charlotte, NC
Mary Hunt, KA4EXP 3213 Bridgemere Terrace, Matthews, NC 28105, 704-841-HAMS

March 30-31 Maryland State Convention/Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest, Timonium, MD
William Dobson, WA3ZER 12315 Boncrest Dr., Reisterstown, MD 21136, 410-HAM-FEST

Area Amateur Radio Test Dates

02/09/96 (ARRL) Galax, David Roberts, 540-773-2446

02/10/96 (ARRL) Richmond, Rick Cook, 804-798-5048

02/17/96 (ARRL) Portsmouth, Arthur A Thiemens, 804-484-2857

02/18/96 (ARRL) Roanoke, Terrance V Vluc, 540-890-6782

02/24/96 (W5YT) Gloucester, Harry Kepley N4THN, 804-642-3517

03/02/96 (ARRL) Yorktown, Ed Brummer, W4RTZ, 804-898-8031

03/08/96 (ARRL) Galax, David Roberts, 540-773-2446

03/17/96 (ARRL) Roanoke, Terrance V Vluc, 540-890-6782

03/18/96 (ARRL) Coeburn, Clinton W Hawkins, Jr, 703-395-6595

03/23/96 (W5YT) Gloucester, Harry Kepley N4THN, 804-642-3517

If you are interested in attending any of these test sessions, please contact the person listed before the test to pre-register if necessary and to check on the test site. Some, but not all, VE sessions allow walk-in registrations. You will need two forms of identification, your original and a copy of your amateur radio license, the original and a copy of any certificates of completion, and the test fee, currently \$6.05.

Personal Preparedness For Emergency Responders

By Jerry Boyd, KG6LF

Chief of Police/Director Of Emergency Preparedness

City of Martinez, California

The following article is reprinted from FIELD FORUM, Volume 12, Number 1, January 1996 Edition, ARRL. Thanks to Hein Hvatum, N4FWA for passing it along to the AARC Bulletin.

Natural and human caused calamities which require an Amateur Radio response continue to occur on a frequent basis across the nation and around the world. Several (wildfires in the west and hurricanes along the Gulf and Atlantic seaboard) are unfolding even as this article is being written. The proliferation of cellular telephones, and, increasing sophistication of public safety communication systems notwithstanding, it is clear Amateur Radio will have roles to play in emergency communications for years to come.

No one incident in recent history supports that contention more than the tragic bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, in early 1995. Though public safety resources responded in great numbers from throughout the United States, accompanied by large quantities of sophisticated communications equipment, Amateur Radio operators were still relied upon for a period of several weeks to provide overall communications support. It is, doubtless, our flexibility in terms of frequencies and modes of communications which speaks against our obsolescence as an emergency communications resource. Our use of such new technology as the Automated Packet Reporting System (APRS) linked by many users to the Global Positioning Satellite System (GPS) makes us an attractive support communications entity.

Much has been written over the years about the need for and desirability of amateurs serving as emergency communications. Even more has been written concerning the various approaches to establishing agreements and good working relationships with our clients, the types of training we need to ensure success, and how we ought to attire and comport ourselves when responding. Personal experience, along with the input of many other amateurs who have been front-line responders indicate, however, that we do not always perform well in terms of preparing ourselves to overcome the rigors of the events we respond to. The purpose of

this article is to address that deficiency, discussing a personal preparedness system that will see us through our response, minimize the wear-and-tear on us as human beings, contribute to a better overall operation, and hasten our full recovery from the effects of a tragic incident.

Personal Preparedness

Certainly, none of us can predict exactly where or when the next calamity will occur, what type it will be, whether we will be called to serve, and if so, for how long and under what conditions. How then do we prepare personally to meet the unknown challenges which lie ahead. Public safety professionals are taught that certain "lifestyle approaches" will significantly benefit them in terms of alertness, stamina and tolerance for less than ideal working conditions, regardless of the type. I believe we can learn from them. Consistent proper diet, regular aerobic exercise such as walking or bicycling, and an adequate amount of sleep on a daily basis, are important steps we can all take to prepare for those hours or even days when normality is interrupted by catastrophe.

It is becoming very common for amateurs to respond to major calamities far from their residences and normal base of operations.

In addition to physical preparation, the need exists to prepare psychologically for what we may one day face. Participating in realistic training exercises which utilize actual video footage of the carnage one may expect to see in real life is one means of thus preparing. Talking about one's reactions to what is seen with a post-traumatic stress counselor in a small group setting with other responders is good "pre-event therapy," and, by the way, participating in post-event counseling following a response to a real time incident makes very good sense as well. Realizing that your reactions to terrible, unsettling, and often violent events are "normal" is very helpful both in preparing for and dealing with tragedies at the time and after the fact.

Response Kits

It is becoming very common for amateurs to respond

CLUB BUSINESS

AARC Board Meeting, January 2, 1996

This was the first meeting of the newly elected AARC Board.

Members present: Pete (AD4TU), Greg (N4PGS), Sharon (KO4OC), Joe (KD4RWX), Hein (N4FWA), Mike (AC4ZQ), Jessie (KE4OID), Ron (K4RKA), Rick (KO4WQ)

A brief discussion was held concerning continuing concerns about the cost of the 911 phone line. Additional efforts will be made to get more of the cost reduced.

The dinner is on target. (Secretary's Note: The dinner had to be postponed due to the "Blizzard of '96." It will be rescheduled.)

The FrostFest tables were mentioned. A brief discussion about the progress of the SERA Re-coordination for the 146.925 repeater provided a status report. Forms are nearly complete.

Mike and Sharon are to seek bids and order the antenna analyzers approved at the December meeting.

Greg Needs a power supply for the PBBS computer. Some possible solutions were discussed.



Reprinted courtesy February, 1953 QST.

Greg needs an item for the Club's PBBS equipment which costs \$40. The President approved the purchase.

Submitted by Joe Fritz (KD4RWX), Secretary AARC

Due to the postponement of the Winter Dinner, no regular club minutes for January are available.

CLASSIFIED COLUMN



To list an item in this section that is NOT on the WA4TFZ packet bulletin board, contact Paul, WB9HGZ or Eileen, WD9EIA.

Wanted: A Zenith Transoceanic radio receiver (tube or transistor). 1/31/96 Call - Carter Elliott (WD4AYS) at 804 979-7383. ☐

For Sale: HF5B Butternut mini beam, \$100.00. 1/31/96 Call Carter Elliott (WD4AYS) at 804-979-7383.

FOR SALE: High Sierra HF mobile antenna. 12/21/95 Dick, W4OFR, has for sale a High Sierra mobile, remote tuning antenna with top whip. Like new, covers 80-10 meters. \$200. Call him at 804-974-9852.

WANTED: COMMODORE DISK DRIVE 12/28/95 KE4WPF, Tim, is looking for a disk drive for Commodore 64 computer. Contact KE4SSD, Terry, on the air or call Tim at 540-943-0668.

FOR SALE: 385SX16 COMPUTER 1/4/96 Sam, N4WJQ has for sale a 386SX16 computer with 4 meg memory, 40Meg hard drive, SVGA card, keyboard, two com ports, game port, mouse. Windows 3.1 installed. VGA monitor but not a very good one. Asking \$250. Call Sam at 804-973-6384 if you are interested.

FOR SALE: 80286 COMPUTER 1/4/96 For AARC benefit - a 80286 computer with EGA monitor, 20 meg hard card and a wide carriage printer for \$200. If interested call Ron, K4RKA, at 804 973-3640.

FOR SALE: 8088 COMPUTER 1/4/96 For AARC benefit - a 8088 computer with Sperry Hi-Res monitor (EGA resolution). Two 360k floppy drives (no hard drive). \$50. Printer available for \$35 extra. If interested call Ron, K4RKA, at 804 973-3640.

WANTED: TNC AND HF TRANSCEIVER 1/18/96 Jim, WD4HMW, wants a tnc for VHF. He also is looking for an HF xcvr and is open for anything, including an older tube rig. Call him at 804-823-2277.

FOR SALE: Ned, AB6FI, is selling off several pieces of unneeded equipment. Items include: an Alpha 87A, a Yaesu FT1000D, an FT2400, US Tower parts TX472, a Cushcraft A3WS with A103, 13B2 and ARX2B, a KLM KT34A, some Heil microphones, a Create Rotator RC5A3, and Rohn 25G tower parts. Call Ned Hamilton at 977-8750 and make an offer for any or all! ☐

(☐ denotes advertisement sent directly to newsletter)

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS
 Contact Hein (N4FWA) to sign up for events.

- BKR1 Sunday 10 March 1996, 1330 EST**
James Madison Stage Race, Orange. Two races, two laps and one lap, on a 40 mile course.
- BKR2 Saturday 30 March 1996, 0700-1200 EST**
UVa Criterium. Short loop on UVa grounds (same course as 1995).
- BKR6 Sunday 31 March 1996, 1330 EST**
Road race. Start from Walton Middle School. Course is the "Kluge Loop."
- MSW1 Sunday 14 April 1996, 1400 EDT**
MS Walk in Charlottesville. Start and finish at the Omni Hotel.
- BKR3 Friday 31 May 1996 (may be rescheduled to Saturday morning.)** Hill Climb -Rt. 33 west of Stanardsville to Swift Run Gap on Skyline Dr.

- BKR4 Saturday 1 June 1996**
Road race in Orange/Madison (same course as BKR1)
- BKR5 Sunday 2 June 1996, 1300-1900 EDT**
Criterium Race, downtown Orange.
- MSB1 Saturday 8 June 1996**
MS 150 mile bike tour, first day. Start location unknown (possibly Walton Middle School). Overnight in Farmville.
- MSB2 Sunday 9 June 1996**
MS 150 mile Bike Tour, second day. Start from Farmville and finish at the Stonewall Vineyard in Concord.
- DRL1 Thursday 19 September 1996, 1800 EDT**
A Combined Charlottesville/Albemarle/UVa/Airport disaster exercise with earthquakes, plane crashes, etc.
- MSB3 October 1996**
- MSB4 MS two-day bike tour from Winchester to Harrisonburg (1st day) and then on to an undecided destination in the Valley (2nd day).**

DEADLINE for the March issue of AARC Bulletin is February 23.

Send comments and articles to Paul (WB9HGZ) or Eileen (WD9EIA) at: 4300 Sylvan Lane, Charlottesville, 22911 (U.S. mail), or at 74146.446@COMPUSERVE.COM (email). To reach us through the club bulletin board, send your articles to Mike, KE4UKX, our resident packet operator, who will pass them along. Let us hear from you!

FEBRUARY 1996						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 ARES NET 8:00 pm	2	3
4 ☉KK4HJ	5 INFO-NET 7:00 pm 220 NET 8:00 pm ☉W4OUD	6 Board Meeting & Technical Session 7:00 pm ☉W3OF	7 Lunch-Old Country Buffet 11-1	8 ARES NET 8:00 pm	9 ☉KF4FRN ☉AC4XV	10
11 ☉KE4NHP	12 INFO-NET 7:00 pm 220 NET 8:00 pm	13 AARC Meeting 7:30 pm	14 Lunch-Old Country Buffet 11-1	15 ARES NET 8:00 pm	16	17
18	19 INFO-NET 7:00 220 NET 8:00 pm ☉K4PRT ☉KC4MYI	20 ☉KO4WQ ☉KB4TMB	21 Lunch-Old Country Buffet 11-1	22 ARES NET 8:00 pm	23	24
25	26 INFO-NET 7:00 pm 220 NET 8:00 pm	27	28 Lunch-Old Country Buffet 11-1 ☉KO4OC	29 Leap Day!	☉ - Happy Birthday to this month's birthday hams.	

1996 ALBEMARLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President	Pete Wildman	AD4TU
Vice-President	Greg Faust	N4PGS
Treasurer	Sharon Duvall	KO4OC
Secretary	Joe Fritz	KD4RWX
Directors:	Rick Berman	KO4WQ
	Mike Duvall	AC4ZQ
	Hein Hvatum	N4FWA
	Jessie Preston	KE4OID
	Ron Richey	K4RKA

COMMITTEE LEADERS

	<u>Committee Chairman</u>	<u>Director</u>
Technical	Mike Duvall AC4ZQ	Hein Hvatum N4FWA
Education	Harry Dannals W2HD	Rick Berman KO4WQ
Fundraising	Bob Pattison KM4DU	Sharon Duvall KO4OC
Activities	Hein Hvatum N4FWA	Rick Berman KO4WQ
Awards	Joe Fritz KD4RWX	n/a
Recycling	Mike Duvall AC4ZQ	Ron Richey K4RKA
Digital	Greg Faust N4PGS	Mike Duvall AC4ZQ
Publication	Joe Fritz KD4RWX	

OTHER POSITIONS

ARRL Liaison	Brian Fox	KE4HIA
ARES/RACES Coordinator	Hein Hvatum	N4FWA
ARRL VE Coordinator	John Gray	W6UZ
Trustee (WA4TFZ)	Morris Jones	NM4R
Newsletter Editors	Paul Dean	WB9HGZ
	Eileen Dean	WD9EIA

CLUB MEETINGS

Regular Meeting: Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM

Board & Technical Meetings: First Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM

Meetings are held at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) building, Edgemont Road (UVa area)

WA4TFZ REPEATERS

<u>INPUT/OUTPUT</u>	<u>TONE ACCESS</u>
146.160/146.760	88.5 (if enabled, DTMF 325* will produce temporary Tone off and 326* will turn Tone back on)
Emergency Autopatch to access 911 Center.....	DTMF 911*
Emergency Autopatch to access VA State Police.....	DTMF 918*
Autopatch exit.....	DTMF 0*
Time.....	DTMF 10*
Tone status of repeater.....	DTMF 700*
146.325/146.925	88.5 Hz (if enabled) 223.160/224.760 no tone
449.250/444.250	151.4 Hz (if enabled) 145.030 MACHO node
145.030 CHO	WA4TFZ Packet Bulletin Board

NETS

Northern Piedmont Emergency Net

146.76 repeater Thursday 8:00 p.m.

Plus Swap/Trade & Technical Sessions

Net Control: Morris, NM4R

Information Net

146.76 repeater Monday 7:00 p.m.

Newsline program and general news

Net Control: Mark, N4TZE

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 6833
Charlottesville, VA 22906

**AARC BULLETIN
FEBRUARY 1996**

CORRECTION OF LABEL INFORMATION REQUESTED ---TO CORRECT CALL PHONE 973-1738 Y D
KA4JJD N 1996 CURRENT MEMBER

Michael F. Rein
109 Sturbridge Rd.
Charlottesville VA 22901

