

BULLETIN



ALBEMARLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

JUNE 1998

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FIELD DAY IS ON
JUNE 27 JUNE 28
EARLYSVILLE VFD
STATION GROUNDS
note error in calendar

*Next AARC Meeting:**Tuesday, June 9**7:30 PM**NRAO Auditorium**Edgemont Road**(UVa area)*

And the topic for June is--

Field Day!

Field Day coordinator Dave Damon will have lots to say about Amateur Radio's most publicized event, including how YOU can participate.

Come on out to hear what K4DND has to say, check out KE4OID's Field Day Food List, get the latest on special events from N4PGS, and sample some delicious treats!

See you there!



The View from the TOP

As Amateurs, I think we're all aware of the 5 basic principles which serves as the basis for Amateur Radio (if not, here they are in abbreviated form):

1. ...voluntary, non-commercial communication service particularly with respect to emergency communications.
2. ...continuation of the Amateur's ability to contribute to the radio art.
3. ...improvement of the Amateur Service through rules that provide for advancing skills in both communications and technical phases of the art.
4. ...expand the reservoir of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.
5. ...continue the Amateur's ability to enhance international goodwill.

As a group, I believe we cover these 5 articles rather well. I would like to point out, however, that in none of these articles (even in their fully written version) does it mention anywhere the words Club, community, local, city, town, or village. These articles are written for the advancement of amateur radio as a whole, and not just at the local levels. I mention this because I wish to chat about the 4th article - the expansion of trained operators, technicians, and radio experts. Simply put, this means getting more people to join us. This is how our hobby grows, and this is how we will get the people into our hobby that will carry it through the upcoming decades.

For the past 18 months, my primary ambition as President was to try to make our Club and our hobby much more visible...to take away the vision of us as the folks operating in dark rooms illuminated only by the glow of radio tubes, not showing themselves until an emergency arises. Believe it or not, that is how some folks think of us! Before I was elected President, we started our visibility campaign with the Club jackets. Within the past 18 months we have expanded on that. We now have a Club banner that announces our presence as well as a really nifty, slightly oversize (5-6 foot) model of an HT which announces the presence of Amateur Radio. We have been on live radio, and have participated in the Dogwood Parade which has garnered more local awareness as well as a little television coverage. These are in addition to all of the public service events that we do every year as well as the classes we teach. The really nice thing is that we are getting more notice and not just within our own community and we have been invited to participate in a couple of other events as a result - the Batesville Day

parade and the Rosena Day festival. We did participate in Rosena Day, but not in the Batesville parade.

Now I realize that, as a Club, we get nothing directly from participating in these events and they don't come under the heading of Public Service....BUT they certainly DO come under the heading of Service to Amateur Radio. The Rosena Day festival was VERY small and in reality we didn't get the kind of attention I had hoped for, BUT we did have a father and son stop by early on. They came back by later on in the afternoon to let us know that they had gone into town to Radio Shack where they purchased a copy of Now You're Talking for the son. That makes Rosena Day an unqualified success in my book, and more importantly, it keeps the faith with that principal mentioned earlier. We didn't participate in the Batesville parade (partially because it came up very fast and I didn't get the info out soon enough, and partially because we couldn't put together 4-5 people who would go). We also didn't have a spring Novice-Tech class this year because we didn't have enough students. This is the first time since I've been associated with this Club that we will not have 2 classes a year.

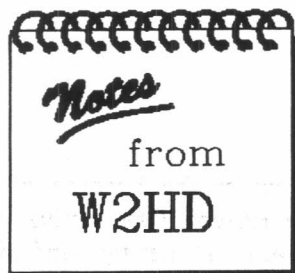
We have a really great Publications/PR team, but generating interest in our hobby to help fill classrooms is an obligation that we ALL must share. Whenever we are invited to participate in an event or to have a presence at a particular place, regardless of location, we must say yes! As a Club, we have a much, much larger responsibility than representing the Charlottesville - Albemarle County area....first and foremost we represent Amateur Radio!!

We are entering a critical time in Amateur Radio with regard to our radio spectrum and our ability to use it successfully. We have had to defend ourselves against the little LEO's, fight for our rights for fair, statewide antenna/tower height legislation, and now we are in a struggle with the Land Mobile Service who want our 440 band. As time goes on, and unless legislation is passed that grants us exclusive and permanent, irrevocable rights to our frequencies, the assaults on our spectrum, especially the higher bands, will continue. Just like any other battle, we need manpower - voices - to wage and win. Increasing the number of amateurs is not only an obligation that we all must share....it may also be our best bet to maintain our spectrum in the future.

TALK UP AMATEUR RADIO and the next time you're needed for an event - just say YES!

Till next month

KC4TQF



WHAT - A CHALLENGE ALREADY?

It was only three months ago when a program was presented to our club with the title, "Amateur Radio - The Challenges it Faces Today." During the presentation it was mentioned that our HF bands were reasonably secure and might even expand. That remark was based on the fact that the HF Spectrum is frequently unstable due to factors beyond our control and that situation is a difficult problem for those who depend upon reliability of a transmit path.

At the same time, remarks were made about our VHF, UHF and higher frequency bands indicating that they were prime targets for those interested in modern communication techniques. The "Little LEOs" were mentioned as well as some other satellite systems. However, I failed miserably by not mentioning the potential problems which are present right here on "terra firma."

Well, just a few days ago the Federal Communications Commission received a petition from the Land Mobile Communications Council seeking immediate reallocation of the 420 to 430 and 440 to 450 MHz range from the federal government to the Private Mobile Radio Service. This is a direct attack on our 420 to 450 MHz band where we are secondary to the government use. We have co-existed with military radars and other systems using this part of the spectrum for many years. It was only recently when some of our Canadian border stations had to clear operation in a portion of the band so that certain Canadian non-Amateur use could continue.

It's interesting to note that the LMCC left untouched the ten MHz between their two requested segments of "450." Perhaps they have recognized that there are international implications due to the use of 432 for weak signal, including moon-bounce, and 435 for our satellite systems (OSCAR, Phase 3D, and other systems.)

At any rate, 20 MHz of our band is under attack. This 20 MHz is used for many Amateur Radio applications. There are television repeaters in this range... it is the

lowest frequency band where the wider bandwidths required for fast-scan TV can be contained. There are hundred of 450 repeaters including our own 444.250 and others within reach of Charlottesville. There are many control links which use this band, too. While we do not have any direct Packet activity here, there is a 450 Packet "backbone" which is used to bring Packet traffic into the area.

While the FCC filing dates have a short fuse... June 1 for any comments to RM-9267, the number assigned this proceeding, there are several formal steps which will provide further opportunity for Amateur Radio to be heard. However, I have requested that we file at this time so that we are on record. Please stay tuned.

Listen to the Monday Night Info Net to see how you may be able to assist directly. We're back in the trenches!

73...

/s/ Harry Dannals, W2HD

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How Lucky?

Pat Wilson, K4OW

Do you know how lucky you are? You live in an area which has an Amateur Radio Club that actually does things for and with the community. Of course, if you haven't been in other areas and clubs, it is not special. Having been a member of AARC first and then moving away and joining other clubs to try and find a home, you will find it isn't the same everywhere, although you think it should be. Not every club takes a heightened view of Field Day. Not every club emphasizes Public Service Events. Not every club has a membership that wants to be involved and attends meetings.

Be aware that your club is one of those that truly deserve the title Special Service Club. It doesn't start at the top, but comes from the foundation....that's you, the membership. Enjoy your club....Enjoy your luck at being a member of the Albermarle Amateur Radio Club. I know I did and do.

—Pat, K4OW

Build Your Own Tower

Grayson Dowell, KF4FYI

May is almost over and hot weather is upon us. This is an ideal time to think about installing a tower for all those antennas you've got hanging all over your house. Buy a new tower? Hah, have you seen the price?

Have you ever thought of building your own tower at a minimum of cost? Well, it's really not that hard to do. Just a few tools and materials that can be bought locally will do the job. With the proper materials and a few instructions you can build a good solid tower that will hold any antenna you decide to use. You should give it a try, and be surprised at the outcome.

I have built a 32-ft tower using conduit and sheetmetal as braces. It has withstood some pretty strong winds and is highly stable. I have not made any instructions yet, but it shouldn't be very long. If there is any interest in such projects, I will build a short section to demonstrate at the club meeting.

If anyone is interested ahead of time, you can contact me on the 76 repeater, or call me at home at 804-293-4885 after 8:00 PM.

--Grayson, KF4FYI

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Fall Class Schedule Set

Ann Condrey, W0ANN

I know that summer isn't quite official and the club has a great deal of activity planned for the coming months. However, it's not too early to start thinking about the fall Novice-Technician class session. As usual, classes will be held at CATEC on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 9:00 PM, starting September 9th, for ten weeks.

Please pass the word to anyone who has expressed an interest in studying for his or her ham radio license. For further information please contact Ann Condrey (804-589-8143 or condrey@esinet.net) or Harry Dannals (804-974-7388 or w2hd@juno.com).

I hope we can make this a great class and introduce lots of new folks to our hobby!

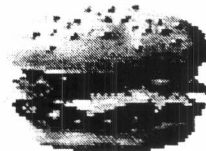
--Ann, W0ANN

Field Day Food Sign-Up

Jessie Preston, KE4OID

This is your culinary opportunity! Field Day is the weekend of June 27 & 28. We expect to have a real good turnout. I passed my "clipboard" during the May meeting. The things we need are:

- Plates: (I expect we should have at least 100 people visit us - this will include yourself of course)
- Utensils
- Napkins
- Rolls for Burgers & Hot Dogs
- Condiments: (i.e. Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo, Relish, Onions, Tomatoes, etc.)
- as well as our usual extras such as cucumbers, salads (all sorts) beans, desserts and any thing else you feel you would like to add to this list to make our weekend enjoyable.



Some of you have signed up on Tuesday, and I appreciate your participation. I wouldn't want any one person to feel responsible for supplying enough for everyone, so I would like more than one person to volunteer on the different items needed.

You can call me at work: 971- 8010, home: 589-1904, fax: 979-4475, or e-mail at: MSSocVA@aol.com. I will tabulate who has offered to cover what and let you each know what is necessary. Just remember the club only purchases the Burgers, Hot Dogs and soda. SOOOO, if there is anything else you may want to eat, well you know the drill I put you all through. I have no worry, you guys are always generous and all our new members can join in the fun we have.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting on June 9 and of course Field Day June 27, 28. Thanks!

-- Jessie KE4OID



Checked out the AARC webpage lately?
Look in: members.aol.com/wa4tfz/aarc/

CLUB BUSINESS



AARC Board Meeting Date: May 5, 1998

All Board members were present.

Bill (KC4TQF), Dave (K4DND), Joe (KD4RWX) and Nancy (KF4MEF) will attend the Rosena community event (May 16) to display Amateur Radio. Jessie (KE4OID) will provide a presence at the community parade at Batesville of May 16th.

Discussion of the upcoming Field Day and its emphasis during the June meeting. Plans are for a UVA Hospital Drill during this month.

Bill will request Crutchfield to loan some equipment for Field Day in exchange for the presence of their banner at the Field Day site.

AARC Regular Meeting Minutes Date: May 12, 1998

April Minutes were approved.

New Members: Dan Martin (WB6VUP) was approved for membership.

Greg (N4PGS) discussed the upcoming MS-150 Bike Tour. This 2-day event is one of the most popular events. Those who wish to participate need to contact Greg for signing up. Ernie (W2EIU) thanked all who participated in the Dogwood Festival activities. The special event stations made 61 contacts. Several QSL cards were submitted for exchange.

Jessie (KE4OID) mentioned her plans for the Batesville community event.

Dave (K4DND)

- + called for additional registration for ARES.
- + asked meeting audience to mark their home location on a map he will provide.
- + Next Field Day Committee meeting will be on May 19th at Harry's (W2HD) at 7 p.m.
- + Magnetic signs are going to be ordered. See Dave (K4DND). \$25 plus \$6 S&H.
- + UVA Hospital Drill this month.

Manassas Hamfest is on June 7th. Greenbank trip is now scheduled for May 30th.

Red Cross letters of appreciation were announced for the AARC, Dave (K4DND) and Ann (W0ANN).

Mike (AC4ZQ) discussed the concerns for the repeater site modifications. He indicated that the hardline was going to be obtained free of charge. Following a discussion of general concerns a motion was made to set aside funds to purchase an antenna and hardline connectors if any of these items are required.

Ernie (W2EIU) moved and several seconded a motion that \$300 be approved for antenna and \$125 for connectors if the items are required. The motion passed without dissension.

Additional discussion concerning the repeater site and related technical details. No additional motions were forthcoming.

Meeting Presentation

Bill (KC4TQF) presented a talk about T-Hunts and working special event stations. He has established a contest for those who contact the most Special Event stations. This has been described in a previous newsletter.

Joe (KD4RWX) reminded the meeting attendees that the 146.760 repeater site was in need of mowing and that maintaining the repeater site in this regard is one of the stipulations of our permission to maintain a presence on the Carters Mountain site. After some discussion Grayson (KF4FYI) announced that he would take care of the problem this year. However, Club members and repeater users should let Grayson know in what ways you can assist him. While one person could do the work... we are a club. Bow (K4QKH) has volunteered a mower to use.

The meeting was adjourned and the attendees enjoyed some refreshments.

Submitted by Joseph D. Fritz, KD4RWX, Secretary, AARC



DEADLINE for the July issue of AARC Bulletin is June 25!

Send your articles to Paul (WB9HGZ) or Eileen (WD9EIA) at: 4300 Sylvan Lane, Charlottesville, 22911 (U.S. mail), or at wd9eia@newsguy.com (email). Packet operators, send via KE4UKX at the club bulletin board and he'll pass it along to us.

AREA HAMFESTS

June 7 Ole Virginia Hams ARC, Manassas, VA
Contact: Mary Lu Blasdel, KB4EFP, 9727 Loudon Ave., Manassas, VA 20109; 703-369-2877

July 26 Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society, Timonium, MD.
Contact Bob Koblish, N3HAT, PO Box 5915, Baltimore, MD 21282-5915; 410-467-4634 (voice or fax); E-mail: n3hat@erols.com or brats@smart.net
webpage: www.smart.net/~brats

MAY 2 TEST SESSION—A REPORT

It was a very small session. Only four -- count em -- four were served. They took 11 elements of which they passed 8, for a fair percentage. One Advanced Class was earned and one Tech Plus (from a cold start). We had more VE's than examinees actually. Participating were W2HD, KO4WQ, N5PW, KC4TQF and W6UZ.

73 = John Gray, W6UZ

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM DATES FOR VIRGINIA

(sites within 100 miles of Charlottesville)

06/01/98 (W5YI) Chester. 7:30 pm. Tony Amato, 804/717-5237. Pre-registration only.

06/06/98 (W5YI) Chester. 9:00 am. Tony Amato, 804/717-5237. Walk-ins accepted.

06/13/98 (ARRL) Richmond. 9:00 am. Pat Wilson, 804/560-3828. Walk-ins allowed.

06/13/98 (ARRL) Manassas. 9:00 am. Harry Vorhauer, W4PVA, 703-368-6050. Walk-ins allowed.

06/14/98 (ARRL) Bedford. 2:00 pm. Judy Friel, AC4RG, 540-297-5351. Walk-ins allowed

06/14/98 (ARRL) Middletown. 2:00 pm. Gregory Wlanham, KU4AN, 540-722-4792. Walk-ins allowed.

06/20/98 (ARRL) Harrisonburg. 10:00 am. Donnie Mowbray, 540-289-5580. Walk-ins allowed.

Planning to take a test? CALL AHEAD for directions and information on what you need to bring.

JUNE 1998						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 INFONET 7PM 220 Net 8:00 PM YOUTHNET 8:30PM YL Net 8:30	2 Board & Technical Meeting 7:30 PM	3 Lunch (11-1) Old Country Buffet ☺N4PGS ☺KD4CTZ	4 ARES Net 8:00PM	5	6 ☺WA4GHY ☺N1BIE Bike Tour
7 Bike Tour	8 INFO-NET 7 PM 220 Net 8:00 PM YOUTHNET 8:30PM YL NET 8:30	9 AARC Meeting 7:30 PM	10 Lunch (11-1) Old Country Buffet ☺KD4WFX	11 ARES Net 8:00PM ☺KE4UKW	12 ☺WA4ZZB ☺W4SM	13 ☺N4YEQ
14	15 INFONET 7PM 220 Net 8:00 PM YOUTHNET 8:30PM YL Net 8:30	16 Board & Technical Meeting 7:30 PM	17 Lunch (11-1) Old Country Buffet ☺WD9EIA ☺WB9HGZ	18 ARES Net 8:00PM	19	20 ☺KD4ATH Field Day 
21 Father's Day Field Day	22 INFONET 7PM 220 Net 8:00 PM YOUTHNET 8:30PM YL Net 8:30	23 ☺K4VY	24 Lunch (11-1) Old Country Buffet	25 ARES Net 8:00PM	26	27
28	29 INFONET 7PM 220 Net 8:00 PM YOUTHNET 8:30PM YL Net 8:30 ☺KF4RKR	30 ☺WB3DZC	☺ Congratulations to the June Birthday Hams!			

1998 ALBEMARLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS**

President	Bill Bearden	KC4TQF
Vice-President	Stacey Mills	W4SM
Treasurer	Sharon Duvall	KO4OC
Secretary	Joe Fritz	KD4RWX
Directors:	Dave Damon	K4DND
	Greg Faust	N4PGS
	Hein Hvatum	N4FWA
	Jessie Preston	KE4OID
	Ernie Sardi	W2EIU

COMMITTEE LEADERS

<u>Committee Chairman</u>	<u>Director</u>
---------------------------	-----------------

Education	Ann Condrey, W0ANN	Bill Beardon KC4TQF
Fundraising	E.J. Bearden KD4IGX	Sharon Duvall KO4OC
Publications	Joe Fritz KD4RWX	Joe Fritz KD4RWX
Technical	Mike Duvall AC4ZQ	Hein Hvatum N4FWA
Youth	Brian Meadowcroft KF4FRP	Jessie Preston KE4OID

OTHER POSITIONS

ARRL Liaison	Bob Pattison	K4DU
ARES/RACES Coord.	Dave Damon	K4DND
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 REPEATERSINPUT/OUTPUTTONE ACCESS

146.160/146.760	88.5 (if enabled, DTMF 325* will produce temporary Tone off and 326* will turn Tone back on)
Door alarm OFF.....	DTMF 100*
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

Northern Piedmont**Information Net****Emergency Net**

146.76 repeater

146.76 repeater Thursday 8:00 p.m.

Monday 7:00 p.m.

Plus Swap/Trade & Technical Sessions

Newsline program & general new

Net Control: Dave, K4DND

Net Control: Harry, W2HD

Youth Net**YL Net**

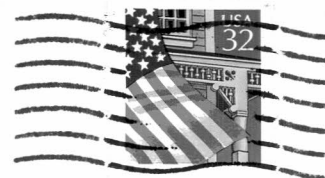
147.075 repeater Mondays 8:30 pm

146.76 repeater Mondays 8:30 pm

Net Control: Rotating

Net Control: Rotating

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



AARC BULLETIN JUNE 1998

TO CORRECT LABEL INFORMATION CALL PHONE 973-1738: Your License expires.. Oct 31, 2004 D Y A
 KA4JJD G 1998

CURRENT MEMBER

Mike Rein
 109 Sturbridge Rd.
 Charlottesville VA 22901

22901X2113

