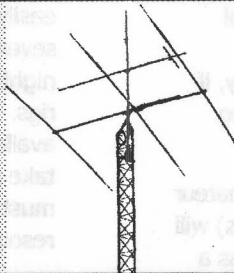


The AARC Beacon



*Amateur Radio News For
Charlottesville and
Albemarle County,
Virginia*

Volume 2002, No. 2

February 2002

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Meeting Notice

The next regular AARC meeting will be held on February 12, 2002 at 7:30 PM at the NRAO building on the UVA campus. Program for the meeting not determined at press time. Check the nets for further info. See you there!!

AARC Dues are Due for 2002

AARC Dues are due January 1, 2002.

The dues are the same as this year. \$20 per individual adult and \$25 for family (2 or more adult Hams who are Members.). Additional donations are welcomed.

Dues are payable to AARC and should be mailed to:

Ralph Traylor, K4CFE, 4535 Woods Edge Road, Troy, VA 22974 or hand delivered to him at the January Club meeting.

The President Speaks

Bob, K4DU

As I write this months' column it occurs to me that timing is everything. For the writer the AARC Banquet 2.0 is still weeks away. For the reader it is a recent event. Some of you may ask why our "Holiday Dinner" happens in January? In the 1980's the Clubs' Holiday Banquet was held in December. One year we encountered inclement weather and had to reschedule in January. This year the dinner almost made it into February. Who knows, some year our holiday dinner may end up in April.

Once again we have enjoyed a peaceful transition of AARC administrations. I would like to thank Stan and the members who served in leadership positions during 2001. The new administration is gearing up for an exciting year. We are planning on you, (yes you!) playing an active part in the many activities that the AARC and our great hobby offers.

In the days and weeks to come I will be asking several members to serve as committee chairs and in other positions. I am counting on your support. By the way, if you have a friend that hasn't been to an AARC meeting recently, please invite him/her to join us.

This year presents some interesting challenges for Amateur Radio and the AARC. I am confident that we (all of us) will be up to the task. In the coming months I will address a number of the challenges facing the club in this editorial space.

It is not unusual for net control operators to test participant's frequency agility by moving the net to another frequency from time to time. This year because NRAO will be doing the remodeling that was planned for 2001, we will be holding some of the club meetings at locations other than NRAO. Consider this your formal notice not to operate on automatic pilot on the second Tuesday of each month by heading to the NRAO auditorium. Check this newsletter each month for the meeting location.

Speaking of changes, don't use the phone number listed in the AARC 2000 Directory if you want to speak to me by telephone. The old number is attached to a fax machine. If you need to call the Pattison residence use 985-4828.

73 de K4DU

Veep Peeps

No VP column available at press time

73, Josh

To My Readers

Harry, W2HD

For all the years I have provided articles for our club newspaper, now called "The Beacon," the words have been exclusively mine except on one occasion when an article was so good that it was merely re-typed with appropriate credit to the author. This is another case, but only the attachment to the article is "borrowed." The title was, "Fancy, Schmancy – just get on the Air!" and the author is K6KSR, J. D. Harper. For those desiring to read the article, take a look at the February 2002 issue of "WORLD RADIO." The story related by K6KSR is one frequently mentioned over the years by your fellow club member in this column. So... I'll merely write a few short paragraphs about the general theme, "Get on the air!"

In today's Amateur Radio magazines, catalogs and flyers you read about the latest in Ham Radio gear. I'll not mention manufacturers or equipment by name and model... it can be

easily said that the price range is usually in the \$1,000 to several thousands of dollars class and you can lose many a night's sleep while considering all the features of these jazzy rigs. Then, of course, the question concerning the availability of those dollars always arises. It's easy to say, I'll take a loan or get the money from parents. After all, you must have the very latest... right? The answer is a resounding, "NO!"

When I was a teenager and starting college studies, there were no dollars just waiting to be picked off the money tree! However, I was lucky; my Dad was a Ham and had a pretty good "junk box" of parts. He also had a fine receiver and there weren't transceivers in those days. All I had to do was put together some of those parts and make a simple CW transmitter and "ON THE AIR" I went! The power supply was only sufficient to power the transmitter to about 30 watts, but did it ever sound like a kilowatt in the receiver! However, I was rock bound using a crystal or two I found in my Dad's gear. Then, saving a few dollars... about six, I believe... a trip was made to Radio Row in New York City and a bright, brand new World War II transmitter was purchased. After just a little conversion, it became my variable frequency transmitter. FUN??? You bet it was and the satisfaction of doing it myself was just great.

It wasn't until years later that a few extra dollars helped me to buy a commercial, brand new three-band rig and it was indeed appreciated. Let's take this story into the year 2002 and you have just obtained your new license. A Ham friend has a used rig to give you. It has been sitting on a shelf gathering dust for many years, but it still works and a little polishing and it will look as good as new. Nah, you say, thanks but I'm still saving for that "Blooperdyne 1000!" You may still be years away from the purchase price, but you have to have that power and all of the fancy features. Smart? Not really, you could be having fun with that old rig and you would appreciate the "B-1000" someday.

You don't need a KW or 100 watts to have fun. A few watts and some smarts and you can be on the air competing with the rest of the gang. Let's talk about this someday when you have time. OK?

73 to all. /s/ Harry, W2HD

A Ham Operator's Credo

Tnx to Harry, W2HD

I Will Learn to Listen – and Listen to Learn

I must remember that hearing is a gift, while listening is learned.

I will always rank listening as paramount in all I do in Amateur Radio.

I will always abide by the "TLS" rule: Think, listen, speak.

I will develop and depend on my natural listening abilities.

I will listen in order to learn correct procedure and protocol.

I will always remember: the bands are never dead for the expert listener.

I Will Master Protocol and Procedure

Mastering on-the-air protocol will take precedent over equipment operation.

Prosigns, Q signals, phonetics and abbreviations will be my second language.

I will learn the basics of traffic handling, net operations, and emergencies.

I Will Respect Mother Nature's Role

I will study the pivotal roles the ionosphere and propagation play in radio.

I will learn how weather, time of day, location, time of year affects radio signals.

I will learn the meaning of bandwidth and beamwidth, ground effect, aurora, scatter, ducting, skip. MUF, solar flux, E-layers.

I Will Appreciate My Ability to Compromise

I hold that compromise and resourcefulness are Ham traditions.

I will remember that "making-do" can often be the best route to operating.

I will always remember that being on the air is the true spirit of Hamming.

I Will Share What I Learn

I will commit to self-study of Amateur Radio – from technology to protocol.

I will openly share the knowledge I gain with anyone who is interested.

These things I hold to be true for all Radio Amateurs – now and in the future.

/s/ A Grateful Operator

(This Credo is taken from an attachment to K6KSR's article.)

AARC Membership Drive

The Board unanimously desires that every member bring in a new member to the club. If that is not possible we urge you to bring ex-members back into the fold. Attached you will find an application for membership. Let's all do our part and bring our membership back up.

For the Board, Secretary Marty Mait, AG4DN

Northern Piedmont Emergency Net Year-End Report - 2001

Dave, K4DND

Thanks to everyone for your participation in the Northern Piedmont Emergency Net this past year. Special thanks go out to the following individuals for taking NCS duties and for their timely and complete net reports: W2HD, KG4NGV, KO4WQ, KF4ZGD, K4JMY and W4RAE. We always need additional experienced NCS stations, so don't hesitate to let me know if you are interested in taking a turn. And don't be shy about taking a turn as NCS; it's a great way to develop new operating skills, and a great way to get to know the local amateurs by call sign and by name. To get ready to take the net, copy along each session to get the names and call signs firmly in hand.

In 2001 we had 51 net sessions - no regular net session was held on Thanksgiving Day. There were a total of 71 call signs represented, with an average number of 17 check-ins for each session.

The following table lists the 71 stations in order of frequency, both by the number of checkins and the percentage that number represents of the total of 51 sessions. Data have been rounded to the nearest whole number in all cases. Stations who object to this treatment are encouraged to keep track of their own fractional representation. Furthermore, the table has been divided into five categories on an entirely arbitrary basis.

Name	CallSign	# of Checkins	% of Checkins
CONGRATULATIONS			
RON	K4RKA	48	94
RICK	KO4WQ	45	88
STEPHEN	KF4ZGD	45	88
DAVE	K4DND	44	86
VIC	N3DFS	41	80
HARRY	W2HD	41	80
ERNIE	W2EIU	38	75
JIMMY	K4JMY	38	75
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK			
STAN	K2SSB	36	71
RALPH	K4CFE	33	65
TOM	W4RAE	31	61

JOSH	KG4NGV	28	55
BILL	KD4TOR	28	55
MARTY	AG4DN	27	53
DON	KE4DDR	26	51
MIKE	KA4JJD	26	51
SEE YOU MORE OFTEN IN 2002?			
JOE	KA0JG	24	47
HEIN	N4FWA	22	43
ELMER	KF4UCI	21	41
RICHARD	K8EV	20	39
BRAD	N7IVV	16	31
ALAN	KF4NOR	16	31
DICK	K4EBL	15	29
EMILY	KG4OXY	15	29
TOMMY	WB5BNT	14	27
BRUCE	AA4CN	14	27
DARRYL	KF4RJO	13	25
DONNA	KG4FOL	11	22
HOWARD	KG4FYF	11	22
FRANK	KF4NOO	9	18
ED	KF4UTD	9	18
JIM	WD4HMMW	8	16
JOHN	WA4IUN	7	14
JOE	W2PVY	7	14
OCCASIONALS			
MATT	KR4BG	4	8
FI	AF4DU	4	8
DICK	W4BZW	3	6
JERRY	WD4CEN	3	6
MIKE	N4HRO	2	4
BOB	N4HRV	2	4
CHUCK	KG4IJB	2	4
RICK	KG4NFW	2	4
FRANK	AE4OW	2	4
GREG	N4PGS	2	4
BOB	K4UVT	2	4
LOST & CONFUSED, VISITORS, RARE DX, NEWLY LICENSED, PASSING THROUGH			
AL	KF4AGT	1	2
ANNIE	W0ANN	1	2
BOB	KE4AQD	1	2
JASON	N4DSL	1	2

BOB	K4DU	1	2
BRIAN	W1FOX	1	2
BOB	W4/G8GJM	1	2
TIM	KG4HOT	1	2
ALLEN	N4IYV	1	2
PETE	KG4JLL	1	2
CHRIS	KE4MBN	1	2
WALT	N4MX	1	2
JERRY	KE4NHP	1	2
AL	KD4NRE	1	2
JAMIE	KA3NXN	1	2
CHUCK	WB6QKB	1	2
BEN	KG4QVP	1	2
JOE	KO4RK	1	2
AL	KA7RMS	1	2
MATT	KF4TKJ	1	2
BOB	KE4VJW	1	2
KEVIN	KD4WKQ	1	2
CURTIS	KF4WQH	1	2
JOHN	KE4WZJ	1	2
GAYLE	KU4XN	1	2
JOHN	AB4XT	1	2

Casey, K4MTX - Silent Key

Obie, WA4DOX and others

Casimir Edward Norrisey of Charlottesville died Monday, Jan. 14, 2002, at Martha Jefferson Hospital, 17 days shy of his 79th birthday.

He was born and attended parochial and public schools in Nanticoke, Pa. After studying for his radio telegraph operator's license in Pittsburgh, he joined the USCG Merchant Marines. From 1941 through 1942, he served as a radio operator with Pan American Airways Africa Ltd., which provided wartime support to Allied forces in Africa, the Middle East, and East Asia. For nine years he was a Pan Am Flight Crew member, serving as radio operator on their runs from Miami and New York to South America, Europe, and the Far East.

He joined the Sperry Gyroscope Field Service Engineering group in 1950, working in Denver, Fort Worth, Oklahoma City, Columbus, and New York City, and was transferred to Sperry's Marine Systems Division in Charlottesville in September 1956. He worked in their first operation on Tenth Street and later their plant on 29 North. He worked in Sperry's purchasing department from 1962 until his retirement in the mid-1980s.

Casimir, known as Cas or Casey, served the Catholic community of Charlottesville in many capacities; he was a teacher in the youth religious education program for many years. He served as a board member of the Charlottesville Housing Foundation, and was a volunteer with Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic. He was an active amateur radio operator with the call letters K4MTX, and a member of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, the American Radio Relay League, and the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club. He loved music, gardening, trout fishing, and his dog, Shannon.

Casey was an active traffic handler known by many folks along the eastern seaboard as well as far inland. He was a regular Net Control Station on the Virginia Nets, always willing to pick up a net when he could. He helped all of us Virginia Section traffic handlers more than just about anyone else has. He will be missed by a great many traffic handlers, especially those of us in the Virginia Section.

Cards, memorials and remembrances may be sent to:

The Norrisey Family, 1319 Kenwood Lane, Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

May he rest in peace. Best 73 to K4MTX.

Club Business

AARC Board Minutes January 2, 2002

Board Opened at 7:00 PM. Members Present: Bob K4DU, Josh KG4NGV, Marty AG4DN, Ralph K4CFE, Pete KG4JLL, Will KJ4XZ. Members Absent: Steve KF4ZGD, Steve KD4HBX, John KX4P

Bob opened the meeting. He then distributed the club By-Laws and notes left by the previous President. Bob asked those present to give a brief bio of their background and interest area in Amateur Radio.

The next item for discussion was "Setting Objectives for 2002." The discussion covered such items as: Field Day revitalization; recruiting new members; how to influence ex-members to rejoin the club; development of an "Elmering" structure; the use of a survey to gauge what club members want the club to accomplish in 2002. Board members listed what they believed were vital area of interest not already noted above, such as public service, "house projects" (kit building), establishment of long tone zero kit building class, establishment of local CW practice net, holding a minimum of two Tech and one General class this year, Extra class to be handled through an "Elmers" network, use of public service announcements to entice new members, including an application form on the internet and preparation of a "Facts Sheet" about the club for new or prospective members.

Tasks were assigned to Board members. Josh was assigned to produce a Club Facts Sheet. Marty was to obtain an application form for the Internet, etc.

Bob indicated that he desired a change in the format for Board meetings. He desires written reports from each committee chair. He then may review and distributed them to Board members prior to each Board meeting. The reports will serve as a format for discussion at the meeting.

Ralph presented a club Comparative Income Statement for FY 2000 and FY 2001. See attachment. Discussion followed. Since relatively one half of the funds are earmarked for the Repeater Fund or Packet Radio, the general fund of the club is not as healthy as it might seem. Fund raising options were discussed such as a raffle at each regular club meeting or at special events.

Bob now turned to Committee Chairs and member assignments. Bob will make contact with club members individually and request they accept assignment to various committee openings. At the next regular club meeting the general membership will be asked to join committees of their choice.

Discussion of programs was addressed. Various areas of interest were noted for presentations. Among items noted were packet radio, kit building, Civil Air Patrol, Coast Guard Aux and the FCC. Josh was given the assignment to follow up and develop the program.

There being no old business or other new business the Board meeting closed at 8:50 PM.

AARC - Comparative Income Statement

	FY 2000	FYE Dec. 31, 2001
Revenues		
Dues	\$1,655.00	\$1,762.00
Donations	\$572.50	\$67.00
Fundraising	\$124.00	
	\$2,351.50	\$1,829.00
Expenses		
Publications	\$1,217.51	\$650.86
Activities	\$59.44	\$212.21
Meetings	\$231.08	\$122.65
Office	\$101.00	\$26.29
Fees	\$25.00	\$45.00
Repairs	\$242.90	\$308.47
Electricity	\$152.35	
Insurance		\$316.00
Total Expenses	\$2,029.28	\$1,681.48
Excess	\$322.22	\$147.52

Revenues		
Balances		
AARC Fund		\$990.45
Repeater Fund		\$1,052.68
Packet Radio		\$78.51
		\$2,121.64

Regular Meeting January 6, 2002
Meeting cancelled.

Submitted by Marty Mait, AG4DN

Marketing Amateur Radio

Bob Pattison, K4DU

Last year Brian and I saw the movie **Pay it Forward**. The story is about a young boy who takes on a challenge from his middle school teacher to come up with an idea that would have a positive impact on the world. The boy's idea is to do something significant for three people. In return, rather than paying him back for his good deed, they each have to "pay it forward" by doing something significant for three other people. The project spawns a movement. His deeds and the resulting deeds of others spreading across the country form the basis of this story.

We have been given a wonderful gift. Each of us shares the experience of Amateur Radio. Yes, I know we worked to earn our licenses and the privileges each license conveys. The experience of amateur radio is truly a gift. Like other special gifts, this one comes with some responsibilities. I am talking about the responsibility of replenishing the resource by bringing others to our great hobby. Think for a moment about how you encountered amateur radio. Think about the contribution that amateur radio has made in your life.

I must of have been eleven or twelve years old when I first became aware of amateur radio. For me it was the lights and dials and voices from far away that appealed at first. It didn't take long before I was reading everything I could get my hands on about amateur radio. I knew I wanted to get my ticket. Somehow I knew from the start that this was the hobby for me!

That magic still exists when I sit down in the shack and fire up the rig. I enjoy sharing my hobby with others hoping that the bug will bite them too. The "infection" has struck my family although not as completely as I would like. My son Shawn has his license (KD4WXY). My sister-in-law Sherie and her husband Jerry are licensed too.

Amateur radio is at crossroad. We are one of a small number of hobbies strongly impacted by federal regulations. We occupy valuable real estate (frequency spectrum) that others covet. As new wireless applications come to market, more pressure will be exerted on our spectrum. There are three areas that we must focus on to enable amateur radio to effectively beat back this competition:

- ☐ a significant growth in numbers
- ☐ a long-term marketing effort to bring our hobby to the attention of John Q. Public
- ☐ continued efforts in the area of Public Service

I've been in marketing and sales most of my life. I can tell you from experience that the most effective marketing of all is "word of mouth". Friends telling other friends about what worked, what they liked and why.

That's where you come in. I am a ham today because some of my neighbors, who were hams, took the time to invite me into their shacks. They answered my questions, encouraged my interest and helped me along the way by providing magazines and books to read (an excellent way to recycle old issues of QST and CQ). They helped me put together my first station.

I am asking you to make an investment in the future of our great hobby. Commit yourself to recruiting and developing at least one new amateur radio operator a year for the next five years.

This may seem hard at first, but when you think about it, it is easy. All you have to do is think about the people you know and talk with them about the hobby. Invite them into your shack or bring them to a club meeting. Tell them what you like about amateur radio. Share the enthusiasm you have for what we do. Loan them a copy of QST and a book that was helpful when you got started. When they respond with interest let them know about the club and when classes are scheduled. Be available to answer questions.

My friends the future of our great hobby is in your hands. Ham radio is the greatest hobby in the world. Share amateur radio with others. **Pay it forward!**

AARC Classified Ads

All items must be related to amateur radio and must be surplus to the owners operation (i.e. no dealers or for profit). Price may be listed if desired. **Note:** Check also the WA4TFZ/AARC web page at <http://www.people.virginia.edu/~ejd4e/aarc/>. Please note that all small letters must be used for this address. New Ads may be placed directly to the Editor: 434 990-2659 or via E-mail to the Editor at k4uvt@yahoo.com Please **let K4RKA know when items can be deleted from this file.** Updated 9/20/01.

9/20/01 FOR SALE: Icom 228H 2M Mobile	Bob, K4UVT, has an Icom 228H 2M Mobile rig with mobile mounting bracket and DTMF microphone. Also still have the manual! This rig still works FB – it just doesn't fit anywhere in the new automobile! Call 434 990-2659.
11/29/01 FOR SALE: Tower/Beam/Rotor	Ben, W4SXH, offers for sale a Rohn Tower, 3 x 10 foot sections plus top section w/rotor plate. (will throw in beam if wanted). 10-15-20 Meter beam (probably a TA33Jr), needs work (\$25). Also HAM II control box with water damage rotor thrown in (\$75). Call him at 804 973-3703 or see at 110 Kerry Lane
12/13/01 WANTED: Microphone	Millard, KG4JAO, is looking for a microphone suitable for use with a Swan 350 transceiver. If you have one, contact Ron, K4RKA on the air or at 973-3640.
12/13/01 FOR SALE: Dual Band Base Antenna	Rick, KO4WQ, has a dual band Ringo Ranger. Covers 2m & 440 MHz. Call him at new number (434) 245-1128 (after January 15) if a \$40 price interests you.

FCC Database Updates

New Calls	
None reported	
Upgrades	
None reported	

VE Session Schedule - 2002

February 2 Dayton	Gerald E. Nauman (540) 434-0859 Email: kn4fm@arrl.net 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Woodmen of the World Bldg State Route 42 Dayton, VA 22821
(ARRL/VEC) VARA & MARA	

Area Hamfests

FrostFest February 10 Richmond	***Virginia State Convention*** Sponsor: Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society Web site at http://www.frostfest.com Contact: Pat Wilson, W4PW, 4416 New Kent Highway, Quinton, VA 23141. Phone: 804-932-9424 Email: w4pw@arrl.net
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Birthdays This Month

Feb 6	N2MUL	William
Feb 9	KF4FRN	Rosemary
Feb 19	K4PRT	Bernard
Feb 20	KO4WQ	Richard
Feb 21	KG4NGV	Joshua
Feb 18	KO4OC	Sharon

February 2002

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 6833

Charlottesville, VA 22906

<http://www.people.virginia.edu/~ejd4e/aarc/index.htm>



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ISSUE DEADLINE - 23rd of each month

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K4uvr@yahoo.com

KA4JJD G 2002

CURRENT MEMBER: 2002

Michael F. Rein

109 Sturbridge Rd.

Charlottesville VA 22901

*** Next Club Meeting *** 2250 February 12 | 7:30 PM | UVA H. NRAO |

CLUB MEETINGS and NETS

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 on Edgemont Road (UVA)

LUNCHEON: Wednesdays -- Area hams gather at the **Wood Grill Buffet** on Rte 29 North from 11 AM -- 1 PM

Monday Night Information Net -- Each Monday at 7:00 PM

YL Net: First Monday of each month at 8:30 PM

Northern Piedmont Emergency Net / Swap Net / Technical Session: Each Thursday at 8:00 PM

All Nets are held on the 146.760 repeater

AREA REPEATERS

WA4TFZ

INPUT/OUTPUT

146.160/146.760

146.325/146.925

223.160/224.760

449.250/444.250

145.030

145.030

Tone Access (If needed)

88.5 Hz

88.5 Hz (if enabled)

No Tone

151.4 Hz (if enabled)

MACHO Node

CHO Packet Bulletin Board

Other Area Repeaters

145.410 (-) 100 Hz Tone (if enabled) -- **AF4CY (Madison)**

442.075 (+) 151.4 Hz Tone -- **KF4UCI**

AARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
February 12	Regular Club Meeting
March 12	Regular Club Meeting
April 9	Regular Club Meeting

AARC - PUBLIC SERVICE SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT
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Please sign up at meetings when the SIGN UP CLIPBOARD is passed around. You can also send an email to Greg (N4PGS) indicating your interest in working particular events.