The AARC Beacon

Amateur Radio News For Charlottesville, VA and surrounding counties

Volume 2003, No. 11   ~~~~~~~~~~~~   November 2003

Inside this Issue

Meeting Notice

The next regular AARC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 11 at 7:30 PM** at the **UVA Astronomy Building**. The program will be **an open ended discussion about propagation**. This should be very interesting!

See you there!!

VE Exam Session – December 6

Ready to upgrade? Know someone who wants to obtain their first ham ticket? The AARC VE Team will conduct a VE exam session for all Tech, General and Extra (and Morse code, if needed) on **Saturday, December 6 at 9:00 AM** at the **UVA Astronomy Building**. Walk-ins are welcome, but it will help us to have an idea how many people will take exams so we can sufficient exam materials on hand. You may contact Harry, W2HD at (434) 974-7388 to indicate your intent to attend this session.

You will need to bring a photocopy of your current license if you are upgrading. You will also need to provide a **photo ID** of yourself. **The cost for taking exams is currently $12.00**. Please be sure to bring enough pens and pencils with you!

See you then and we hope everyone passes their exam!!

The President Speaks

Steve, KF4ZGD

It's November 2003 and the sunspot cycle is back! Well, at least for the time being it is. Several days ago the Northern lights were visible here in Central VA for two days in a row. I think that has to be some sort of record! Regardless, it sparked several major six-meter openings and has caused unusual HF conditions. A taste of life in the far-northern latitudes, I guess.

On the subject of HF, last weekend several club members put forth a concerted effort to work the CQWW contest under the WA4TFZ call sign. I'm not sure of the point totals, but it's the first time in a long time a club score has been submitted to any contest outside of Field Day. I tried to put in some operating time but was swamped by other things to do. Though I made less than ten contacts, it sounded like the bands were open and a lot of people were enjoying themselves. Our club's effort was centered on Jon K4CQY's QTH where a station was set up and quite a few club members stopped by to operate. Many thanks to Jon and others for putting this together.

On another note, recently I was monitoring the Waynesboro 147.075 repeater and several people from the Valley Amateur Radio Association were discussing an upcoming valley-area foxhunt. Specifically, they were exploring the idea of getting other area clubs in on their foxhunts. I think it would be great to at least contact them about advertising their hunts in our newsletters so that members of this club could participate if they so desired. Early this year I tried to get some interest going, but it appeared that we don't have enough people interested in T-hunting over here to warrant holding hunts. Since the Valley club has enough interest to hold hunts, perhaps we could publicize their scheduled hunts so that interested AARC members could participate. Anybody interested?

Another great cause I've been pushing recently is the disaster assessment courses being offered by the local Red Cross for ham radio operators. One of the Red Cross directors here comes from a Georgia community where the hams worked very closely with the Red Cross. They realize that in emergencies we provide something that they need -- reliable communications. We also provide them multiple sets of eyes out in the field, each of which has an ability to pass along information that they often can get no where else. A prime example of this is after a disaster. Communications are down and roads are blocked, but hams are everywhere and can easily pass along reports of structural damage, impassable roads, and many other conditions. The Red Cross assimilates these reports and then attempts to send teams out to evaluate and access the damage. Sending out teams is a major effort and is often hampered by blocked roads and a shortage of volunteers. If amateur radio operators were trained in damage assessment, then we could instantly relay accurate reports over the radio and save them countless man-hours of effort. **Monday, November 17, all local amateurs are provided an opportunity to become certified in damage assessment**. It's an evening course that lasts approximately one hour and it's FREE, so I highly encourage everyone to attend! The registration deadline has been pushed back to the weekend before the class, so there's still time to get in. Contact Ben Mills KG4QVP to get more information and to reserve your seat.

Well, now that I've talked up all these events, it's time to get back to club business. The regular meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 10. Come on out! Oh, and there are refreshments afterwards, so be sure to get the most benefit from your membership dues by attending. Many thanks to Steve Clements and Pete Thorsen for their past and present efforts to provide food at meetings.

Our annual elections were held last month, and Pete Thorsen is now President-elect. Jon Gefaell is our 2004 VP, and there are several new board members. Congratulations to all!

I'll see you all at the November club meeting...until then 73!

Veep Peeps

Pete, W4PRT

Greetings!

Wow! Where did the month of October disappear to? It went pretty fast. Well, it seemed that way to me. There was a lot that occurred this month and I'd like to acknowledge those that participated in the events that took place.

First, I'd like to thank Jon (K4CQY) and Jay (KI4AZV) for activating Farrar Island on October 19th for the USI award program. Way to go guys!

I'd also like to thank all those involved with getting together for the CQ WW SSB Contest on October 25th – 26th. I know that I had a great time operating my first contest and hope to get a few more under my belt before the end of the year. In an e-mail that I received from Jon, he gave the following statistics:

"I have calculated the score for the Club Station. The score was 211,596". I just sent in my logs to Jon, but I doubt that it will make this score that much higher. I managed to log a few stations Sunday afternoon to help out with the club effort."

"We logged contacts from 25, Oct 0001Z through 26, Oct 2359Z with two sleep breaks. We had 351 QSO's, 82 DXCC Entities, 5 Continents (somehow we missed Oceania), 19 Unique CQ Zones, 51 CQ Band Zones, 195 WPX, 19 IOTA. Band Analysis shows 20M and 15M were about equal in contacts, 10M about half as much and we made a token effort on 80M."

"Notably Bob Dorsey W4RQ earned ~335,000 Points! This brings our score to at least 545,000. Bob is an experienced contester and Extra class licensee, way to go Bob!"

"Thanks again for your participation, it was a lot of fun and I hope we will come together often for these (and similar events)."

Again, many thanks to all those that participated in these events and if you weren't able to participate hopefully you will be able to in the near future. We had a lot of fun.

Perhaps the other big thing to happen this month was all the solar activity that we had happen and its effects on propagation. I'll have to admit, I am a bit perplexed by propagation and how it affects the different bands. **For this month's program, if you will, I'd like to have an open ended discussion about propagation**. What do you know about it? What don't you know about it? What would you like to know about it? What software do you use to help predict propagation? Let's see if we can't get a better grasp on what it is and how you can use it to your advantage when using your radio.

So, bring your questions and your answers and read up on what it is and how it works for the upcoming meeting.

73, Pete

Bob, K4DU

What's in a name? A name says a lot. It is a rallying point, for members and a description to all about the organization. To some a name can be a filter or gate that says "this is for me" or "this is not for me". For quite some time our club has been known as the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club. It is a name that has served the club fairly well for a number of years.

I submit that the time has come to change the clubs' name. The AARC serves the amateur radio community of the Piedmont region. We have members from Fluvanna, Louisa, Orange, Nelson, Buckingham and Greene counties as well as Albemarle and Charlottesville. We have former members in Augusta and Rockingham counties. Did you ever try to explain to a Louisa County Sheriff why members of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club through ARES/RACES are ready to help in time of distress?

For those not familiar with the nuances of the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia it might be interesting to note that the City of Charlottesville is not considered to be part of Albemarle County. The AARC meets on the grounds of the University of Virginia which is considered part of the Commonwealth but not part of the County. The club name should unite us.

Several years ago the AARC attained the status of a Special Services Club. This designation meant that the American Radio Relay League considered the AARC as a full service club for the amateurs within the region. I assert that the name of the club should help us in the course of that mission.

Simply put, I believe that the AARC should change its name. I suggest that it become the **Central Virginia Radio Club (CVRC)**. This expands our view and says to all within the region that if you have interest in the hobby and live in Central Virginia, this is where you belong.

I believe that the name change should take place before the new officers take over in January. This will allow them to focus on their new duties and not be distracted by any discussion or debate on the question. My suggestion may stir up some emotions. I encourage everyone to discuss what I have proposed. I ask that as you consider the issue, keep in mind that my purpose is to change to a name that better describes the area that we serve and the clubs purpose. It is my fervent wish that the change be one that unifies and expands our field of vision.

73 de K4DU

From The Editor's Desk...

Bob W4RQ

Several new features are coming in the Beacon. We are pleased to announce a new regular column entitled **Radiosport: DX and Contesting** to be written by Jon Gefaell, K4CQY. We also plan to have another column called the **Guest Editorial** which will appear on a semi-regular basis; This column is intended to have an article from different club members about areas of their particular expertise and knowledge or to share their opinions on a topical subject. We hope you will think about making a contribution of your own. You may submit your ideas for such articles directly to the editor or to any club officer. We hope you will enjoy these columns!

Do you have an idea of your own for a column of interest to the club membership? Let me know --- I'm always looking for ways to make the Beacon more interesting and useful to everyone!

Club Business

AARC Board Minutes   October 14, 2003
Board members present: Steve KF4ZGD, Pete W4PRT, Marty AG4DN, Steve KD4HBX, Will KJ4XZ, Howard KG4TWQ, Bob K4DU. Members absent: Ralph K4CFE, John KX4P.

Steve opened the Board Meeting at 6:35 P.M.

Committee Reports:
Finance: Steve KF4ZGD reported for Ralph K4CFE. As of 30 September the income statement for the club shows total revenues of $2,804.51; total expenses of $1,483.84; excess revenues if $1,320.67; balances indicate AARC Fund $4,038.98, Repeater Fund $1,082.68 and Packet Radio Fund

$78.51, Total balances $5,200.17. (Full report is available upon request). Steve inquired of Marty if he had gotten information as to why the club insurance cost had been raised. Marty indicated he had contacted the insurer and was told that policies are issued for a three year period. The new policy started in July 2003 and the rate shown will hold steady for a three year period. Then the cost may again rise or fall depending on experience.

Training: No report. Tom W4RAE had not indicated any changes. The "Fall" classes had been canceled. No students showed for class. Pete indicated he would research the problems and take corrective action for the next sessions.

Refreshments: Steve KD4HBX stated there would be no refreshments for the General Membership Meeting to follow, but he would insure that refreshment would be available for November and December's meetings. Pete indicated he would look in to the possibility of getting a coffee pot for the meetings.

General Items: Steve KF4ZGD inquired if the Daily Progress, Community Bulletin Board, had corrected the location of the club meeting. Marty indicated he would contact the newspaper and make necessary changes. Pete indicated that club jackets and logo were still a work in progress. Steve KD4HBX presented the paper work for registration of the club repeater. One copy was for club records (available for inspection on request) the other was for Dave K4DND and would be turned over to him at the General Membership Meeting. Howard inquired if there was a club policy regarding release of the grid coordinates for club repeaters when request by an outside source. By mutual agreed that when such a request is made that only the general location would be released.

With no further business the Board Meeting closed at 7:05 P.M.

Submitted by Marty AG4DN, Secy.

Regular Meeting   September 9, 2003
Steve KF4ZGD opened the meeting at 7:30 P.M. Members and visitors were introduced.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Steve in the absence of Ralph made the financial report. (See Board Minutes 14 October 2003.)

Programs: Pete indicated that the programs for November and December were pending.

Training: There was no report, as Tom W4RAE was not present.

Technical: Dave K4DND indicated that although the tone board for the 76 repeater was in hand he had not has time to install the board. As for the 220 repeater no change: still not operable. Buckmaster has batteries at $50.00. Dave

volunteered to give those interested the telephone and address.

Publications: Ben KG4QVP noted that the Beacon was getting out to those that desired hard copy via the mail. Bob W4RQ noted that he does get bounces from time to time on E-mail addresses when sending out notification that the Beacon is ready for download. The membership was notified that if anyone has a change of Email address or postal, please notify Bob at W4RQ@yahoo.com or otherwise.

Club Business: A motion was made for approval of the September 2003 club minutes. The motion was seconded and approved without comment. A motion was made for the admission of Gary L. Beasley AB4G as a member of the club. The motion was seconded and approved without comment.

Pete inquired if the membership was still interested in purchasing power poles. It was noted that a sufficient number were interested to warrant obtaining additional items for sale at club meetings. He also noted that new club jackets and logo were in the works.

New Items: Steve KF4ZGD turned to Tech and General training sessions for the near future. Pete and Bob W4RQ will be working on the mechanics of setting up the classes.

Ben KG4QVP announced that there will be **a damage assessment class at 7:00 P.M. on 17 November**. Registration will be open 1 November for those interested. Interested parties are encouraged to contact Ben for more details.

Bob presented Ben and Doug certificates for their work at the Albemarle County Fair on the evening of the "big wind" and tent blow down.

Elections of officers for 2004: Steve made the presentation of the nominees. A nominating committee of Rick KO4WQ, Ernie W2EIU, Marty AG4DN, Bob K4DU and Pete W4PRT made the following recommendations to the general membership:

President	Pete W4PRT
Vice-President	Jon K4CQY
Treasurer	Ralph K4CFE
Secretary	Marty AG4DN
Director	Bob K4DU
Director	Steve KD4HBX
Director	Ben KG4QVP
Director	Jill KG4TFS
Director	Howard KG4TWQ

There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made requesting that the Secretary cast one ballot for the recommended slate of officers. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous vote of the membership.

4

The presentation for the evening was made by Jon K4CQY covering **"The DX Lab Suite."** The program had special interest for those involved in DX, but was very enlightening for all present. This software program designed for tracking and recording DX efforts was received very well by the membership. Jon then distributed a CD of the software for those interested. He further covered several contesting opportunities and requested those interested to contact him for events that will take place shortly. He strongly urged those with no experience but a desire to learn contact him as well for training and participation in this aspect of amateur radio.

The evening closed with a raffle of two power supplies and a CD paddle, netting for the club $22.00.

A motion was made to close the meeting, seconded and approved without comment at 8:30 P.M.

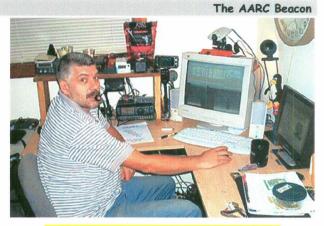*Submitted by Marty Mait AG4DN, Secy.*

Radiosport: DX and Contesting

WA4TFZ Contest Team Scores Big Success in CQWW SSB Test

Jon, K4CQY

The CQ Worldwide SSB contest is over and is now history. Solar conditions were a major problem for this contest and the bands closed more than once due to solar flares resulting from two very large (Jupiter sized) and unstable sunspots. At least this was an even handicap for all players.

Seven Amateurs operated at the "WA4TFZ Club Station" (at K4CQY's house). Everyone did really well and had a great time!

W4PRT, Pete and KG4QVP, Ben did exceptional jobs at the mike and really worked the DX! W4/T95LWG, Mario was a real team player as usual and he stayed on site through the evening and late into the morning both nights working contacts and as control operator so we could do our best with his Extra class privileges! K4DU, Bob Pattison operated and left behind his Heil Headset which was very useful, especially with VOX. We also had the audio on the external speakers so observers and control ops could monitor the action. N4OQK, Mark came by to provide some moral support and also put a few in the log for us. Finally, W4RQ, Bob is having lots of pain due to medical problems, but he dropped by to put a couple in the log and also put in an outstanding effort for the WA4TFZ Club submission operating at his own QTH!

Mario, W4/T95LWG knocking out QSO's !!

This was a very successful inaugural event for the WA4TFZ Contest Team. We plan more events in the future and hope more of our members will join us. No experience necessary, just fun and good times.

Framed certificates will be presented to all participants at next months WA4TFZ club meeting. These will be treasured "wallpaper" for your shacks. Collect them ALL!

I have calculated the score for the Club Station. The final score for the club station was 211,596.

Contest statistics:

Station Equipment: FT900CAT, 100W with auto-tuner. Computer controlled by the DXLab Suite. The antenna was a Radio Works 80M Carolina Windom at about 40'.

We logged contacts from 25 Oct 0001Z through 26 Oct 2359Z! We had 351 QSO's, 82 DXCC Entities, 5 Continents (somehow we missed Oceania), 19 Unique CQ Zones, 51 CQ Band Zones, 195 WPX and 19 IOTA locations.

Band Analysis shows 20M and 15M were about equal in contacts; 10M was about half as much and we made a token effort on 80M. 40M isn't such a good band for USA stations in this event.

Some team members operated their own stations as well. Notably W4RQ, Bob Dorsey earned ~335,000 Points! This brings our score to at least 545,000. Bob is an experienced contester and Extra class licensee -- way to go Bob!

We all had a lot of fun and we plan to come together often for these (and similar events).

Additional notes from Bob, W4RQ:

The CQ WW SSB contest was fun this year, even if we were having weird conditions due to recent sunspot activity. At about 12:30 PM Sunday afternoon, a coronal mass ejection from a very large solar flare hit the earth and essentially wiped out the HF bands for an hour. We were merrily rolling

along working stations and then the bands just totally dropped out.

I also thank everyone who participated to help us obtain a respectable score for the club. Please remember that you must submit your own logs to the CQWW folks and specify that your score is to be applied to the club score for the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club.

73 de Jon K4CQY

Contest Highlights This Month

Bob, K4UVT

ARRL-Sponsored Contests

Nov. 1-3	**ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)**
Nov. 1-3	**ARRL International EME Competition**
Nov. 15-17	**ARRL November Sweepstakes (SSB)**

Complete info, rules and log forms for these events can be obtained online at the ARRL Contest Calendar - 2003 webpage.

Other Contests of Interest

Nov 1-3	**NA Collegiate ARC Champions**
Nov 8-9	**Worked All Europe Contest - RTTY**
Nov 29-30	**CQ Worldwide DX Contest - CW**

The CQ WW DX contest (CW) will the big contest for November. The DX stations will come out of the woodwork for this one and there will be lots of interesting countries to work!! Let's hope HF conditions will be good that weekend!

The **ARRL November Sweepstakes (SSB)** is the third full weekend of November. The ARRL Sweepstakes and Field Day are two contests that really promote building operating efficiency and emergency preparedness, because they use "reports" that are complex and cannot be predicted in advance. It's not a simple "59 Virginia" contest. The report is lengthy, and must be copied properly, despite propagation and interference. Those who excel at SS are the same hams who can truly be of service in an emergency. So please join us for this event! Send mail to K4CQY@ARRL.NET for details and to be added to the AARC Contest Team mailing list.

The SM3CER Contest Service - Contest Calendars has info and rules for just about every contest that exists.

73, Bob W4RQ

Montpelier Horse Races Event

Photos courtesy of Rick KO4WQ

The Montpelier Horse Races in early November is an annual event in which AARC provides communications support as a public service function. Your editor hopes to provide more extensive coverage of this event in next month's Beacon. In the meantime, here are some photos from the races provided by Rick KO4WQ.

One of the fine racing steeds...

The main tower... a great comms location...

of your system when you need it the most in your amateur work.

With alarming frequency you hear of new threats to your computer. Most often these threats come from The Internet. Either from Virus and Worm programs or direct attacks using TCP/IP against your computer. An industry sprang up in the late 1980's around this increasing phenomenon. Symantec and McAfee among others actively market Virus scanners and "personal firewalls".

I've been extremely active in the online community now for over 20 years. I operated historical online systems which were used by thousands of users. During my years online I've downloaded literally thousands and thousands of programs and documents. In all that time I've never, not even once had a single such attack succeed in reaching my system.

You might think I went to enormous amounts of effort to achieve that result. In fact exactly the opposite is true, I really don't do anything, and I never give it a thought. I actively and strongly recommend AGAINST the use of these scandalous virus and "Security" programs. Let me tell you why.

In 1987 I met the namesake and creator of a major "anti virus" program in Atlanta at the Comdex trade show. I credit this individual with commercializing and actively promoting the increase of these attacks. Why? Because he offered, through his firm a "bounty" on these malicious programs. The "community" of deranged persons who craft these attacks grew by leaps and bounds, funded by the virus industry and encouraged by the infamy and notoriety. The virus scanners depend on this traffic in new attacks though they are usually just easily modified replications of previous viruses.

So, why do I recommend against the Virus scanners? Mostly because they "break" other programs due to their intrusion and assumptions. Constant interruptions by pop up windows with cryptic messages about access to this and that file interrupt the work flow and consume absolutely massive amounts of system bandwidth from the processor to the memory and the disk. Updating the program and its virus definitions takes time, space and more money. Last, but not least consider this, if you constantly have to clean out and deal with viruses how effective is it all anywise?

Another major player in this scenario of dangerous attacks against your system is the Operating System vendor. I receive several mailing lists which provide the earliest alerts regarding new compromises and attacks. The overwhelming majority of these vulnerabilities apply to the Microsoft family of Operating Environments. The reasons for this could be argued for several lifetimes but in my "humble" opinion and that of many other experienced professionals in the field is that these products are "inbred" beyond repair and the failures of their evolution can be traced to commercial and

Preparing the steeplechase course...

Even the dogs get their own racing action...

Guest Editorial: Computer Viruses, Worms and other things that go "bump" in the night...

Jon, K4CQY

[Editor's Note]: This article is not strictly ham-radio related. However, many hams are increasingly using computers to aid in their amateur operations, such as DX, Contesting, rig control, APRS, public service, etc. The digital modes are very popular and require a computer to use them properly. The information presented here may help to prevent failure

not technical imperatives. New programming interfaces are added without regard for their safety to thwart competition. They are rushed and poorly designed and tested.

Yet, I admit it. I run Microsoft Windows XP. I've run every release of their operating systems since MS-DOS 1.0 in fact. I've run OS/2, W2K, NT4, Windows 1.03, 2.11(286 & 386) 3.0, 3.1, 95, 98, ME, and so forth. Why? Well we all know why. The OS has a "stranglehold" on the personal computing industry. Until recently you couldn't purchase a computer without purchasing MS-DOS with it. Most of the most useful desktop software is built for the M$ Windows.

I also run Mac OS/X 10.3 (Panther) and do not fear for virus attacks. This platform is much less susceptible to attacks to the underlying operating system, however the methods described here will effectively ensure your safety as well.

I have never had a single virus, worm, Trojan horse or other mystical creature invade my computer system. Let me tell you what I do.

* Upgrade to the most current OS version/release as soon as possible. This rule is pretty much true with Linux as well, or any operating system but is especially true with Windows. Each release works better and is significantly more reliable.

* Install the latest patches on your desktop system without fail as soon as they become available. The rules for servers are a bit different but beyond the scope of this article.

* Use a "NAT router" This is a device which connects to your ISP (Dial-up, DSL, Cable, Satellite, whatever) and makes use of one Internet address to provide service to an arbitrary number of computers on your home network. By doing this your home computers are shielded from the net almost completely and you can share on low cost, high speed connection with all your household computers!

* As regards the above, when sharing your connection you need to take extra steps for your safety if you're using a wireless LAN. Simply put, it can be a nightmare. A wireless LAN MUST be treated as a hostile public network. This can be complicated.

* Only download and use files from verifiable sources. That is, from a well known Amateur, or a person who has taken the trouble to create a company with an address. Someone who can be traced and sued or worse if they set out to create harm. Don't download and use stuff from "Haxor512" which you find on a pirate wares board. Likewise don't run that "Free Screen saver" you found in your mailbox.

* This one is CRITICAL, trust me. DO NOT USE MICROSOFT EMAIL PRODUCTS. Without a doubt, this is perhaps the most important of these rules. If you like, do an analysis of the exploits over the last years and you will find that this is a critical vector for infection.

* DO NOT OPEN attachments which you are not expecting and from people you do not know. Kind of like taking candy from a stranger this is a bad bad, bad idea. Even more troubling is that like other "Social diseases" your safety depends on the practices of those you "trust". If your friends don't play safe then you can't trust your friends.

* Therefore do not use Microsoft Office Suite products. A better alternative is to use the highly functional Open Office Suite. The poorly executed and designed interoperation mechanisms provided by these products and their un-natural dependence on OS embedded extensions is exemplary of the problems caused by over inbreeding of already substandard "genetics"

If you follow these simple rules I expect your results to be much like mine. I never worry about it. I download like a crazy person. I'm always looking for more data, new programs and such. So, enjoy the Internet and stop letting the vandals get your goat.

73 de K4CQY

Central VA 6-meter Repeaters

Marc N4TZE

Hello to all. Some of you know me and some of you do not. My name is Marc Rowley, N4TZE. My QTH now is Lynchburg, VA and is good at QRZ.com.

The reason for this message is to inform you and your members of the 6 meter repeater system that is accessible from Charlottesville. The 53.070 (KB4MIC) repeater in Gumspring, Va. with a tone of 203.5, is connected to the Fredericksburg, Va. 51.860 (W1ZFB) repeater, as well as to the 53.770 (N4TZE) repeater in Lynchburg, Va. with a 103.5 tone. The coverage is basically from Chatham/Roanoke to Richmond/Charlottesville to Fredericksburg up to just south of Washington, DC.

The 53.770 Lynchburg repeater also has a UHF repeater connected to this system as well. The N4TZE uhf repeater has an input at 444.000 MHz and the output is 449.000 MHz. The input has a 103.5 tone. So if you are in the Lynchburg area, and you do not have 6 meters, you could always get into the system using the 444/449 repeater.

If you have questions, please feel free contact me. 73!

Happy Thanksgiving !!!

AARC Public Service Schedule

Saturday November 1	Montpelier Horse Races

Area Hamfests

None Reported	

FCC Database Updates

New Calls	
None Reported	
Upgrades	
None Reported	

VE Session Schedule - 2003

December 6 Charlottesville (ARRL/VEC)	Sponsor: Albemarle ARC VE Team Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: Harry Dannals, W2HD (434) 974-7388 Email: W2HD@ARRL.NET Location: Astronomy Building at UVA 530 McCormick Road Charlottesville, VA
Date Location (ARRL VEC)	For other exam sessions in Virginia outside the AARC area, check the ARRL Exam Session Search web page.

AARC Club Officers

President	Steven Traylor	KF4ZGD	kf4zgd@arrl.net 434-296-7418
Vice President	Pete Thorsen	W4PRT	w4prt@arrl.net 434-842-1014
Secretary	Marty Mait	AG4DN	mandlm8@aol.com 434-589-2825
Treasurer	Ralph Traylor	K4CFE	rwt6t@virginia.edu 434-296-7418
Director	Bob Pattison	K4DU	rep4@aol.com 434-985-4828
Director	Will Seay	KJ4XZ	434-823-5665
Director	John Green	KX4P	jgreen@comdial.com 434-975-4493
Director	Howard Gay	KG4TWQ	kg4fyf@earthlink.net 540-456-6445
Director	Steve Clements	KD4HBX	

Contest Calendars

ARRL Contest Calendar 2003	ARRL sponsored contests
SM3CER Contest Service - Calendar 2003	Contests all over the world! Also has links to online rules for most contests
Contesting Online	Just about everything contests!

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 6833
Charlottesville, VA   22906
http://www.people.virginia.edu/~ejd4e/aarc/index.htm

THE AARC BEACON
Vol 2003   No. 11
November 2003

ISSUE DEADLINE - 23rd of each month

Contact Information
Daniel R. (Bob) Dorsey, Jr.   W4RQ
PO Box 530
Ruckersville, VA 22968-0530
(434) 990-2659
W4RQ@yahoo.com

Next Club Meeting :   **Nov. 11 - 7:30 PM**   **UVA - Astronomy Bldg.**

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 UVA Astronomy building at 530 McCormick Road.

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

Youth Net: Each Wednesday at 7:30 PM on 147.075

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

All Nets are held on the 146.760 repeater (except for the Youth Net)

AREA REPEATERS

WA4TFZ

INPUT/OUTPUT	Tone Access (If needed)
146.160/146.760	151.4 Hz
146.325/146.925	151.4 Hz
223.160/224.760	No Tone
449.250/444.250	151.4 Hz (If enabled)
145.030	MACHO Node
145.030	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
November 11	Regular Club Meeting
December 9	Regular Club Meeting

AARC - PUBLIC SERVICE SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT
November 1	Montpelier Horse Races
November 17	Damage Assessment Class – Red Cross

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.