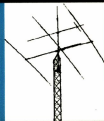


The AARC Beacon



*Serving radio enthusiasts
and communities in
Central Virginia –
The Radio Club for
Central Virginia*

Volume 2004, No. 5

May 2004

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Meeting Notice

The next regular AARC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 11 at 7:30 PM** at the **Astronomy Building on the UVA grounds**. The program will be a presentation by **Dave Metzger (W6GT)** entitled **Electrical Emergency Power and Grounding**. It should be very interesting!

See you there!!

The President Speaks

Pete, W4PRT

Greetings!

It seems as if April just flew by and I am having a hard time believing that May is already here. For those that are unaware, the department that I work for at UVA (Information Technology & Communications) had to move from the first floor of the Astronomy Building where we have our monthly Club meetings.

This move will not effect having our monthly Board and Club meetings in Astronomy. They will proceed as usual and I have scheduled the conference room through the end of the year.

I don't anticipate us having to find another location after this year either. So, it's business as usual. We're getting all settled and unpacked at our new offices. For those interested, we are now in the Dynamics Building on Ivy Road next to Cary's Camera. NRAO used to have some labs and offices there until they moved out early last fall.

I want to let everyone know that during the latter part of this month the Club filed its comments on the current restructuring proposals before the FCC. I'd like to thank everyone who participated in the survey that Bob (K4DU) handed out at last month's meeting. The survey was scored and from that information we made our comments as a Club. I want to thank Bob (K4DU), Harry (W2HD) and Bob Dorsey (W4RQ) on getting the information necessary for the filings and getting them filed to the FCC.

Field Day is right around the corner, the latter part of next month, (June 26th and 27th). The Club has purchased two antennas for this Field Day. A Carolina Windom 160 and a G5RV along with all the necessary items to get them up and on the air. What we need now if people. This is my favorite event of the year and the last two years have been a real success. Come on out and have a great time operating and seeing folks that you might not have seen in some time. I'm sure we'll have a great time.

This month's program will be by Dave Metzger (WG4T) and he'll be giving a **presentation on Electrical Emergency Power and Grounding.**

This should be quite interesting and I hope to see everyone there!

73 -- Pete

Veep Peeps

Howard, W4UF

Greetings This month's presenter should be very interesting, particularly in light of the weather "issues" we've dealt with in the last six months, or so. **Dave (WG4T) is scheduled to impart some of his wisdom concerning emergency power systems at the May club meeting.** I don't know about you, but I'm eager to hear every word he will bring to us.

I wish to thank all of the dedicated amateurs that helped make the MS Walk a success in April. I've heard it said that AARC is becoming something other than a public service organization. With all due respect to those who differ in opinion, I don't see that as the case. At the MS Walk we had at least two people more than the minimum requested by the sponsors. Each ham was put to good use, and the MS Walk was a smashing success for us and for the local MS chapter.

Furthermore, **we have a public service opportunity coming up in June to support the local MS chapter with their bike event.** Already I've had an individual approach me to volunteer—before I even put the word out formally!!! The nay-sayers can continue to say nay, but I'm impressed with the enthusiasm and dedication of our group. We have extraordinary individuals, both long term members and new, that are already making this year a success for the AARC and our customers.

Thanks to you all! I look forward to seeing you at the meeting next Tuesday.

73, Howard

The AARC Restructuring Survey Results

Bob Pattison, K4DU

At the April meeting attendees were asked to participate in a survey on issues raised in the restructuring petitions under consideration by the FCC. The survey was conducted to provide guidance for the AARC committee drafting comments to be presented to the FCC. Twenty-two people responded to the survey. Respondents included all classes of operator license except Novice. Respondents ranged in amateur license experience from less than a year to a respondent who has been licensed for 58 years. The average length of time licensed was 25.9 years.

The vast majority of respondents (86%) agree that the entry license for amateur radio should have some HF cw/data and phone/image privileges. One respondent felt that the entry licensee's should have HF cw/data privileges but not phone/image privileges.

None of the respondents believe that the Morse code requirement should be eliminated all together. Forty-one percent (41%) favor 5 wpm for General and 13 wpm for Extra Class, thirty-seven percent (37%) favor a 5 wpm requirement for extra class only, and twenty-two percent (22%) believe that the 5 wpm requirement for General class only should remain in place. Implementing a 13 wpm requirement for extra could present the FCC with the dilemma of how to deal with those who have earned extra class with the 5 wpm test. Should they be grand fathered or should they have to take a 13 wpm test to keep the licensed that they have earned?

Club members favor the re-farming of frequencies currently reserved for Novice, Tech Plus and Advance class. Thirty-seven percent (37%) favoring re-farming these frequencies among the three remaining classes and thirty-two percent (32%) favored a version that specified smaller phone bands for the entry-level licensee than proposed on the 80 & 40-meter bands.

Fifty-five percent (55%) of respondents disagreed with the proposal by the Radio Amateur Foundation that the entry-level licensees should be limited to the use of commercially manufactured equipment or kits. Eighty-two percent (82%) agreed that the entry-level licensee should have power limits of 100 watts below 24 MHz and 50 watts above 24 MHz.

Sixty-four percent (64%) of respondents agree with the notion that the entry-level examination should be changed to a 20-question test selected from a 200-question pool. Seventy-seven percent (77%) of respondents want the examination requirements for General and extra to remain "as-is."

The majority of those surveyed (64%) believes that the current twenty-five (25) question technician examination selected from a pool of 511 questions is too complex and out of proportion when compared to the privileges earned.

Eighty-two percent (82%) of respondents favored the Radio Amateur Foundations proposal for relaxed emission standards with bandwidths of up to 15 KHz to permit digital experimentation between 29.0 and 29.3 MHz. The RAF believes this could result in an amateur radio version of the Internet on these frequencies.

With regard to the automatic upgrades proposed in several of the petitions, eighty-two percent (82%) disagreed with technicians upgrading to General without some further examination requirement. However sixty-four percent (64%) of respondents favored the automatic upgrade of those with Technician-Plus licenses to General and sixty percent (60%) favored automatically upgrading Advance class licensees to Extra.

The majority of respondents, sixty percent (60%) agree with the proposal that candidates who fail an examination should be required to wait 10 days to re-test. This may be difficult to implement. For example, how would an ARRL VE team in Charlottesville know that a candidate failed a W5Y1 exam in Roanoke last week? The best solution may be to simply state that candidates who fail will no longer have the option to retest at the same session.

Bill Rupp, W4KSH - SK

Tnx to Vic, N3DFS

Bill Rupp became a Silent Key on Friday, April 9, 2004, at age 90.

Bill was born in German Township, OH, on September 28, 1913. He was first licensed while a senior in high school as WBAEW, first as a Class B then as a Class A. He was awarded a Second Class commercial license.

In 1942, Bill was inducted into the Army and served in England and France. For a while, he operated a 1 KW station in support of the OSS. Then, with the First Army, he installed and operated a 600 W PA on a truck for propaganda work.

After the war, he got back into amateur radio, with call sign WB4MXX, then as W4KSH. He worked for the Voice of America from 1962 to 1982.

Bill was widowed in February 1998, when his wife Hazel died. A "Bio Bits" featuring Bill was published in the February 2001 edition of the AARC Beacon.

The Ultimate Portable Radio

Joe Giovannelli, W2PVY

As a part of the December AARC club meeting I presented my conception of what could be "the ultimate portable radio." After the meeting quite a few members came to me with questions. Because this subject was apparently a popular one, I decided to write this article for THE BEACON.*



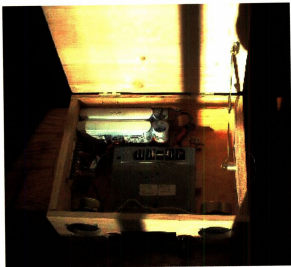
What is the ultimate portable radio? Is it a matter of its size alone? Does the ultimate portable radio have to have high fidelity audio? What about output power or sensitivity? There is no real answer to the question of what the ultimate portable radio should contain. I will explain my ideas. Yours may well be different, and that's fine with me.

Let's start by considering the inexpensive portables which are readily available. If we obtain one of these, we will try it and note that it picks up the local stations reasonably well. If you turn up the volume fully and tune around, you may hear a few stations coming from as far as Richmond.

This is day-time reception. Turn on this same radio at night, especially during the winter when the broadcast band is often loaded with S9+ signals, this inexpensive radio will be capable of "hearing" signals perhaps as far away as Chicago, or perhaps Havana.

This sounds like a winner, right? Nope! If you tune to one of these distant stations and listen long enough, most of the time it will fade, perhaps down several S units. The only way you can track the station is to raise its volume. There will likely come a time when, even at its highest volume setting, the radio will no longer provide any audio from that

distant station. So the inexpensive radio is my idea of the ultimate portable radio.



How about a radio which could receive many stations during the day, maybe even as far as 300 miles away? How would it be if those signals were received at the same audio level as a strong, local signal? We are getting close to much of what I require from "the ultimate portable radio."

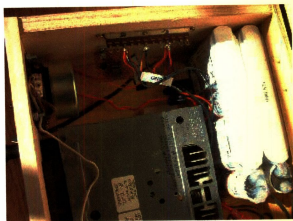
There are a couple of portables out there which do a nice job, but not to the degree that I want. Knowing this, and knowing that I do not have the ability to work with printed circuits, I knew that unless I could come up with something off-the-shelf, at least as a starting point, I'd never own my dream radio.

I called a brilliant electronics genius who lives on the West Coast and posed the problem. I asked if he could help me put together at least a part of the circuitry I thought might have merit. He asked me about the size of my ultimate portable radio. I told him that if I could carry it, that would not matter. His comment was startling. Why not start with an auto radio. These are designed to withstand tremendous signals as the car which contained it drove near a strong transmitter. On the other hand, because of power lines and many other obstructions, such radios often would hold a signal even when its strength dropped markedly.

I knew he was right because, well, I had been in cars with really "hot" radios. Moreover, I recalled that Delco radios seemed the most sensitive of them all.

The local junk yard wanted a mint for any radio it had on hand. While discussing this project with my old gang on 40 meters, a breaking station came in to tell me that he had a 1980 Delco and he'd send it to me. He thought it was "hot."

If I liked it, I could pay him for it. If not, he'd take it back. He sent it; I paid him.



This was not the hottest Delco I've seen. Contrary to the usual way things go, the newer digital Delco's were really hot.

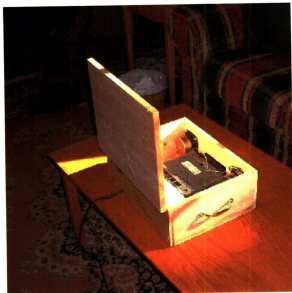
OK, now I had my "hot" radio. A six-foot length of wire made the radio a good performer. That length fell easily within the range of the trimmer which is found on just about all auto radios.

It is important for you to know that the antenna is on the high side of the input tuned circuit, which feeds a stage of RF. Usually very low capacitance coax is used between the antenna proper and the radio in order to minimize the capacitance. If this was not done, there would be too much capacitance and the tuner would be below the desired input frequency as it is tuned across the band, and serious attenuation of signals would be inevitable. Please keep this in mind.

At an earlier meeting, perhaps a year prior to the December meeting, I presented a simple, two-transistor set and a crystal diode detector, which fed into a high-gain audio amplifier. The input of the radio was fed by what the C. Crane Company calls the Justice Twin Coil Antenna. This is an active antenna, which means that, in addition to the signal picked up by it, that signal is amplified and then fed to whatever device the user had in mind. It was intended to "soup up" the garden variety AM section of home stereo receivers. Such radios continue to have very poor performance on AM, but this active, loop antenna made them appear like real winners.

My plan was to couple this same antenna into the input of the Delco. Not thinking, I tried connecting its output directly into the input of the radio. The output impedance of this device is 35 ohms. I heard no stations whatsoever. I should have known that this low impedance would completely shunt the input tuned circuit, rendering it useless. I tried to raise

the impedance by winding a toroid. The results were a bit better, but the unaided piece of wire did a far better job than my super duper active antenna.



I posed this to Dick, W4BZW. He suggested that I couple the antenna into the radio via a small capacitor. Well, I found a 3-30 uWf trimmer. When I connected this in series with the "hot" lead of the Justice, and grounded the low side of the Justice to the radio, the world came alive.

The unaided radio did well but even so, when stations faded, I had to do at least some fiddling with the volume control in order to maintain audio level. The active antenna made this unnecessary. I was pretty sure that if I had the "hotter" Delco, even this small problem would be overcome.

Well, at this point I discovered that there was no program scheduled for the December meeting. I suggested to the VP, W4PRT, that I would be willing to present my thoughts about my dream radio as the program. He went for it, but all I had was the radio chassis, and the antenna, all held together with paper clips and string. It would make a terrible presentation.

Again W4BZW came to the rescue and volunteered to enclose the radio if I sent him wiring instructions. I sent him the instructions. The radio and the active antenna were delivered to Dick just a few days before the meeting. He quickly assembled the radio into a rather large cabinet with a top which opened. This was quite necessary because car radios will not run very long on AA cells. Such sets typically draw around an amp, perhaps a bit less. When you add in the 9-volt regulator needed to run the active antenna, we probably run just about an amp.

Most of you have seen the 12-volt banks of cells capable of providing 4.5 ampere hours between charges. We decided to use two sets of such banks so that I could get around 8 hours of use between charges.

Along with the rest of the equipment, I gave Dick two, 4-inch loudspeakers used in some of the better computer sound systems. These have very high compliance. Such speakers usually work best in smaller enclosures; still, the audio results were quite good.

Dick took more than 20 photos of the radio and the active antenna. We are reproducing enough of these in this article such that you can see the complete unit, plus inside views. Power poles were used so that the radio can be disconnected from its battery supply, and the batteries plugged into a charger.

At the meeting I demonstrated that a station from Canada was received with nearly equal audio volume to that of WINA, which is, of course, very close to our meeting place. I climaxed the demonstration by tuning to a station in the British West Indies and everyone in the room heard this signal with remarkable clarity.

All of this is well and good, but

Because the antenna is "active," it means there is an amplifier involved. All amplifiers add noise. The hope is that the noise they generate is less than that of the first RF stage into which it feeds. Unfortunately, this is not quite true. I found that some rather weak stations can be received with a bit less background noise with my original piece of wire than with the antenna. Overall, however, the increased signal strength provided by this antenna holds the AGC very well, so differences in signal strength produce minimal audio level changes. Further, this is a loop antenna. This means that, rather than the omni-directional antenna used on an automobile, this antenna can significantly reduce the effects of co-channel interference.

Well, I just found the Delco I really wanted. It needs a special connector, which I should have in the next few days. These newer radios have more complex wiring than my present radio. In addition to the standard power leads and speaker, we have both front and rear speaker wires, wires which raise the car antenna when the set is turned on, and then reverse the direction of the motor so that, when the radio is turned off, the antenna retracts. Then there's the "memory wire, which must be on the battery side of the on/off switch. If this is not done, every time the radio is turned off, all the preset station memories will be lost.

Thinking about this possibility ahead of time, I asked Dick not to glue the front panel, but merely screw it to the sides. This means that, within size limits, another radio can be installed by merely cutting out a new panel. I mention all of these things because I know some of those attending expressed interest in producing the same kind of radio as I demonstrated. You must first find a suitable radio, and then

obtain the Justice Twin Coil Antenna from the C Crane Company. The phone number is: 1-800-522-8863.

I hope some of you will build a radio like this. You may be able to find an active antenna with a quieter set of electronics than in the Justice. You might find a mono-directional antenna designed for AM broadcasting. This will greatly reduce co-channel interference.

I am more than willing to offer advice to anyone seriously interested in a project like this one. You'll sometimes hear me on the air, but you can E-Mail me at joegio1@earthlink.net or phone me at 1-434-589-1495

Earlsville Volunteer Fire Dept. Spring BBQ

The Spring BBQ sponsored by the Earlsville Volunteer Fire Department will be held on **Saturday, May 8 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM** at the **Earlsville VFD station on Reas Ford Road**. The station is our usual Field Day site, so it should be easy to find!

Come on out and support this event!! They support us every year in our Field Day effort, so we should support them. Those who have attended in the past can attest to the quality of the cuisine. See you there!!

Club Business

AARC Board Minutes April 13, 2004

Board Members Present: Pete W4PRT; Marty AG4DN; Steve KD4HBX; Howard W4UF; Bob K4DU; Ben KG4QVP. Members Absent: Ralph K4CFE; Jill KG4TFS.

Pete opened the Board Meeting at 6:45 PM

Open discussion followed on the need to raise "Amateur" concerns with local power companies regarding plans to install DPL. The Power Coop has announced plans for taking action shortly. The issue will be raised again.

Pete announced the **programs for the May and June Club meetings:**

May: Emergency Power

June: Field Day

From the floor, Harry W2HD raised the issue of the club's Education Committee. The By-Laws call for an Education Committee, a Chair and members. There is a need to appoint committee members. We have members who want to upgrade but are waiting. We must come to closure on a

committee and get classes off the ground. Plans must be made for the "fall" as well. Decisions must be made on how many VE sessions we will have a year; should we combine with Madison in planning our VE sessions or have VE sessions without classes; space for all this to take place. The Board will address these issues shortly.

Pete noted that the club could be listed on "World Radio." It was noted that west coast clubs use this listing primarily. Considering it is a free listing and publicity for the club, Pete will follow this up.

Ben reported on the "youth group's" plans for this summer to run a Tech class. After discussion among Board members as to why no one showed up for the last class sessions, it was pointed out that there was confusion as to responsibilities of the various phases of putting on a set of classes. Bob raised the possibility of having an 8 hour condensed, high intensity session covering all the material for one amateur class with in that period, either on a Saturday or Sunday. It was pointed out that students must be well prepared prior to the class for the instruction to be effective.

Pete informed the Board that there was a need to appoint a coordinator to handle public service events. The previous database used to record individual participation in events is lost and could not be reconstituted. A new database will be established and participants will receive due recognition for their efforts as in the past.

Pete announced that Marty purchased the antennas and other items needed by the club for Field Day. The equipment is on hand. Reimbursement will be taken care of by Ralph. The Earlsville Fire Department will have a BBQ on May 8. As a sign of appreciation for the Department allowing the club to set up at their location, it was recommended that as many club members as possible attend and support the Department's BBQ fund raising event.

Bob and Ben are assembling an area directory of the 1500 licensed Amateur Operators in Central Virginia. The publication will list all area clubs, repeaters and individuals. Bob will report to the membership on this project at the next meeting.

Pete reminded the Board that the project to develop a new logo and purchase jackets for the club is still moving forward. Pete will move on with ordering pins and shirts for Field Day.

There being no further business, the Board Meeting closed at 7:20 PM.

Submitted by Marty Mait AG4DN, Secy.

Regular Meeting April 13, 2004

Pete W4PRT opened the meeting at 7:35 PM, followed by the introduction of members and guests.

The presentation for the evening was Amateur Radio Restructuring. Bob K4DU was the principal speaker. He noted the FCC had received as number of proposals. He would only address 4 major proposals. There is an underlying assumption that the current system is broken as to bands, exams and that entry-level licenses are not indicative of amateur experience. Bob has copies of these proposals; they can be down loaded from the Internet and all submissions to the FCC are available as well. An article written by Bob is also available in the April Beacon. At the conclusion of his presentation, Bob distributed a survey to the membership to determine reaction to some of the major proposals. He will consolidate the data and report back to the membership on the results.

The meeting now turned to club business. Pete reminded the membership that with Jon's (K4CQY) departure, Howard W4UF had been appointed as acting VEEP. He called for any floor nominations for the VEEP position. Hearing none, he called for a vote confirming Howard as VEEP. Howard was named VEEP by acclamation.

To fill Howard's vacancy as a Board Member Bill Phillips AD6JV was confirmed by acclamation.

Pete raised the need for a Public Service Event Coordinator. Among the duties of the position are to form a committee, maintain liaison with RACES, maintain a data base of club members that participate in events and insure recognition for participation is given, as in the past. No volunteers were forthcoming. Pete indicated he would be making private contact with certain club members to fill the position. The MS Walk was noted and Bob indicated 5 or 6 operators are needed. Howard made reference to an E-mail he had sent the membership, requesting volunteers. He was certain the club would be able to cover the event. (It did on 18 April).

Howard indicated that next month's presentation would be "Emergency Power."

Bob noted that he was reconstituting the amateur database for the Central Virginia. The publication would cover all area amateurs, clubs and repeaters.

Harry W2HD noted Bill Rupp W4KSH of Green County had become a silent key. Often Bill would attend club meetings and he will be missed.

Pete noted that the antennas and accessory equipment for Field Day had been purchased for the club and was on hand.

Ben thanked those who had assisted in the RACES drill requirement for Eagle Scout on 27 March. The drill encompassed Albemarle/Charlottesville, Fluvanna and Louisa Counties. Emergency antennas and their effectiveness were assessed, noted and records coordinated for future use.

Pete noted that there was a need to publish club committee lists and committee duties.

Pete made a motion to accept the March AARC Board and General Membership Meetings minutes as they appeared in the April 2004 issue of the Beacon. One correction was noted in the Board Minutes. Howard's call sign corrected from W4DU to W4UF. (See second paragraph from end of Board minutes.)

Ben noted that there was a new web site and E-mail availability for the club, www.WA4TFZ.org and WA4TFZ.org. Check with Ben for more detailed information.

Pete noted that www.openoffice.org has Word, Power Point, etc., in the public domain and available for download at no cost.

Bob informed the membership of the Earlsville Fire Department BBQ on May 8. There is a need to show support for this fund raiser as recognition for the Department's supporting the club each year by allowing use of its grounds for Field Day.

With no further business a motion was made to adjourn. Motion seconded, approved with no discussion. The meeting closed at 8:45 PM.

Submitted by Marty Malt AG4DN, Secy.

NTIA Study Documents Radio Interference from BPL

From the ARRL Letter, April 30, 2004

The first phase of a long-awaited broadband over power line (BPL) study the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) released this week suggests it's possible to accommodate BPL technology while managing the interference risk. In a cover letter to FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell, Acting NTIA Administrator Michael D. Gallagher pledged that the NTIA would "work with the Commission to establish a firm technical foundation for responsible deployment of BPL to protect critical federal communications systems." But, Gallagher added, "Technical rules governing their deployment must address potential harmful interference to critical systems." Released April 27, NTIA Report 04-413 <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/fccfilings/2004/bpl/index.html> analyzes 10 million BPL system measurements.

"Most studies have been oriented to determine whether interference will occur at the variously proposed limits," NTIA says in describing its study's approach. "In contrast, NTIA has oriented its study to find a solution that accommodates BPL systems while appropriately managing the risk of interference to radio systems." The NTIA acknowledges that BPL signals "unintentionally radiate" from power lines. But, the agency said, "There is substantial disagreement as to the

strength of the emissions and their potential for causing interference to licensed radio systems."

The NTIA also said current FCC Part 15 measurement techniques may "significantly underestimate" peak BPL field strength.

The hefty, two-volume NTIA Phase 1 study looks at BPL systems using the HF and low-VHF spectrum from 1.7 to 80 MHz and "defines risks of interference from BPL systems to local radio reception" while assuming the systems comply with existing Part 15 rules. That spectrum, NTIA said, is home to some 59,000 federal frequency assignments. The study proposes protecting 41 frequencies of the "most sensitive and likely most severely affected federal systems."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the NTIA study clearly demonstrates that BPL systems pollute the radio spectrum. "How can any responsible public official encourage the deployment of such systems," he asked, "and how can any investor seriously consider pouring money into such an obviously flawed technology?"

Among interference mitigation techniques, the NTIA study recommends reducing BPL device output power—which it called "the single most effective method" of reducing interference potential—and "shifting or notching" BPL frequencies. Others included differential-mode signal injection, absorbing filters, adopting a "one active device per frequency and area" rule and using a single point of control for each BPL service area.

Interference calculations by the NTIA engineers indicated that a BPL transmitter operating within Part 15 limits would significantly increase the noise floor for land-mobile receivers on frequencies below 30 MHz.

The agency said it could be inferred from its calculations that "a vehicle-mounted HF receiver" operating in a residential neighborhood next to a BPL-energized line "may experience harmful interference" depending on the frequency, distance along the line from the BPL transmitter, the BPL transmitter's duty cycle and the number of BPL devices on the power line.

The NTIA study calculated that interference "is likely" to mobile stations in areas extending to 30 meters and to fixed stations in areas extending to 55 meters from a single BPL device and the power lines to which it's connected. With "low to moderate desired signal levels," the NTIA study continued, interference is likely at these receivers within areas extending to 75 meters for mobiles and 460 meters for fixed stations.

The NTIA says its Phase 2 study will "evaluate the effectiveness" of its Phase 1 recommendations and address potential interference via ionospheric propagation of BPL "from mature, large-scale" deployed BPL networks.

Contest Highlights - Upcoming

Bob, W4RQ

ARRL-Sponsored Contests

June 12-14 **ARRL June VHF QSO Party**

June 19 **Kids Day**

June 26-27 **ARRL Field Day**

Complete info, rules and log forms for these events can be found online at the [ARRL Contest Calendar 2004](http://www.arrl.org/ContestCalendar2004) webpage.

Other Contests of Interest

May 1-2 **Indiana QSO Party**

May 1-2 **New England QSO Party**

May 8-9 **CQ-M International DX Contest**

May 29-30 **CQ WW WPX Contest - CW**

The [SM3CER Contest Service - Contest Calendars](http://www.sm3cer.com) has info and rules for these contests and just about every contest that exists.

73, Bob W4RQ

AARC Public Service Schedule

June 12 - 13	MS Bike Tour
September	Mountain mama Bike Race - Highland County
November	Montpelier Horse Races

Area Hamfests

None Reported

FCC Database Updates

New Calls

None Reported

Upgrades

None Reported

VE Session Schedule - 2004

Date
Location
(ARRL VEC)

For other exam sessions in Virginia outside the AARC area, check the [ARRL Exam Session Search](#) web page.

For Sale Items

None at this time

AARC Club Officers

President	Pete Thorsen	W4PRT	w4prt@arrl.net 434-842-1014
Vice President	Howard Gay	W4UF	w4uf@arrl.net 540-456-6445
Secretary	Marty Malt	AG4DN	mandm8@aol.com 434-589-2825
Treasurer	Ralph Traylor	K4CFE	rw6t@virginia.edu 434-296-7418
Director	Bob Pattison	K4DU	rep4@aol.com 434-985-4828
Director	Ben Mills	KG4QVP	bmills@mindspring.com 434-953-8108
Director	Jill Anderson	KG4TFS	janderson@yahoo.com 581-1004
Director	Bill Phillips	AD6JV	bill1048@diracway.com 434 872-0686
Director	Steve Clements	KD4HBX	

Contest Calendars

ARRL Contest Calendar 2004	ARRL sponsored contests
SM3CER Contest Service - Calendar 2004	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 2004 No. 5
 May 2004



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ISSUE DEADLINE - 23rd of each month

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 (434) 990-2659

Next Club Meeting :

May 11 - 7:30 PM

Astronomy Bldg. at UVA

CLUB MEETINGS and NETS

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

BOARD & TECHNICAL Meetings: Prior to regular meeting at 6:30 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

146.160/146.760
 146.325/146.925

223.160/224.760
 449.250/444.250
 145.030
 145.030

Tone Access (if needed)

151.4 Hz
 151.4 Hz

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
May 11	Regular Club Meeting
June 8	Regular Club Meeting
July 13	Regular Club Meeting
August 10	AARC Picnic

AARC - PUBLIC SERVICE SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT
2004 - TBA	TBA

Please sign up at meetings as the SIGN UP CLIPBOARD is passed around. Contact Greg N4PGS indicating your interest in working particular events.