

The AARC Beacon



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

Volume 2004, No. 6

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Meeting Notice

The next regular AARC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 8 at 7:30 PM** at the **Astronomy Building on the UVA grounds**. **The program will be final preparation for Field Day 2004**. It should be very interesting!

See you there!!

The President Speaks

Pete, W4PRT

Greetings!

I hope that everyone had a nice Memorial Day weekend. It was a nice break with everything that has been going on lately. Well, it's June and you all know what that means. Yep, you guessed it, the **MS 150 Bike Tour**. I bet you thought I was going to say Field Day 2004. We'll get to that in a little bit.

June 12th and 13th 2004 are the dates for the MS 150 Bike Tour. For those who don't know what this event is, it is a bike-a-thon from Charlottesville to Farmville for raising money for the MS foundation. Round trip is 150 miles.

At last month's meeting Howard (W4UF) passed around a clipboard asking people to sign up for the days that they could work, Saturday, Sunday or both days. From what I saw it looks as if he were off to a good start on getting people to help out with this event.

Don't let that stop you from helping out either. The more the merrier. This is a really fun event and if you can work both days and plan on staying down in Farmville please let Greg (N4PGS) or Howard (W4UF) know as soon as possible. I think they need to get a head count for the MS folks for the accommodations. I am sure that there will be an announcement made on the nets that we have prior to the event and questions should be able to be answered there. If not, we'll try and get them answered before the event.

We'll also try to get as much information up on the Club web page as possible prior to the event also.

Field Day 2004 - This month's meeting presentation will be the final preparation for Field Day 2004. So far we've got a site. **Field Day will be held June 27th and 28th at the Earlsville Fire Department (same place as last years Field Day).** Everything kicks off at 14:00 EDT.

I have Ben trying to get use of the tent that we used last year. We have two antennas and all the accessories to hang them (Thanks Marty (AG4DN)). I've got the Club banner and the Club tent which I will have available should the need arise.

As for the number of stations we need to decide how many we want to have. I hope that Joe (W2PVY) will let us use his station that we used last year again. Dave (K4DND) has said that he will be setting up a digital station this year (Thanks Dave). If we want to have a GOTA station Steven (KF4ZGD) has said that the VYRAA call will be available for its use. I had asked Dick (W4BZW) about the satellite station this year, but seeing that AO-40 is ill I don't know if that will take place.

I've arranged for the use of the laptop from work that I used last year along with the one that I had and Dave (K4DND) is getting us the logging software that we used last year (version 2.0).

A few of us have been talking about Field Day and trying to get a plan on the AARC Message Board. I can't thank Cayman (KG4OVD) and Ben (KG4QVP) enough for setting this up for us. I know that it has helped out with the preparation so far and hope that it will get more use as time goes on.

What we need most are batteries. I don't know how many we used in past Field Days but the more that we have the better off we'll be. Steven has offered the use of one that he has and hopefully the two that I have will hold a charge but at this writing I am not sure so I wouldn't count them in the tally of useful batteries. I know that Dave (K4DND) said that he is going to use his for the digital station. So, if you have any batteries that we might use for Field Day, please let us know.

Last Year we had a cookout. Is there any interest in doing that again? I'd like to lighten the load of Steve Clements (KD4HBX) this year and ask that if we want to do this that we all pitch in and lend a hand. I think if we all pitch in and get stuff we might need we could pull it off and not have one person doing everything.

And last but not least, **we need people to operate.** Folks, this is a great time to get reacquainted with Amateur Radio. It's a great time to try and operate a new mode or easing back into a mode that you used to operate. I'm going to try CW this year. I don't think that I'll be that fast, but I am going to try it all the same. So, if you know someone that is

interested in Amateur radio or was in Amateur Radio at one time and isn't now, ask them along. Or bring a friend or family member out and have a great time with folks that you might not have seen in some time.

So, if I forgot something please let me know ahead of time or at the Club meeting on Tuesday. If you have any ideas please bring them also.

73 - Pete

Veep Peeps

Howard, W4UF

Greetings! This month's presenter should be even more interesting than the one in May. Pete did a great song and dance job covering for our speaker, who was not in attendance (Thanks, Pete!). I believe that we **have two topics to discuss this month: The major subject will be Field Day, and the minor one will be the coming public service event, the MS 150 Bike event.**

We still need about six volunteers for each day of the MS 150, which is occurring June 12th and 13th. **Watch the AARC web site for more details in the coming days.** I'm still waiting for the final map(s) and other information from the MS folks. I'll pass it along as soon as I get it.

I wish to thank all of the dedicated amateurs who have already volunteered to support the MS 150. I'm looking forward to a couple of fun, hard-working days together at this event. You guys (no ladies have volunteered yet) are keeping the flame of public service alive in the AARC. I salute you.

We have a tentative commitment from Steve, KF4ZGD, to speak to us in July about EchoLink, and the picnic is in August. Anyone who would like to present a topic in September (or later) at one of the monthly AARC meetings is solicited to contact me via my call at arrl.net. Among other excellent suggestions is that we have a "boat anchor" night. Any takers to lead???

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

73 de W4UF (Howard)

Club Business

AARC Board Minutes May 11, 2004

Board Members Present: Pete W4PRT; Bill AD6JV; Marty AG4DN; Bob K4DU; Ben KG4QVP; Steve KD4HBX; Howard W4UF. Members Absent: Jill KG4TFS; Ralph K4CFE.

Pete opened the meeting at 6:37 PM.

Bob noted that Field Day arrangements with the Earlsyville Fire Department are on track. However, there is a possibility that next year the fire department may be undergoing construction and we must anticipate the need for a new location. He went on to say that after the construction is completed there may be a possibility of permanently having antennas installed on the sight. With the addition of the Ridge Street Fire Department antenna recently, Bob also remarked that there was a need to expand the emergency antenna network to additional locations in Albemarle County. Harry W2HD stated from the floor that if there are location problems for a Field Day site, a Field Day set up in a shopping center might be an alternate approach.

Pete turned to a new location site for the 76 repeater. He is currently discussing a new site with the Thomas Jefferson Foundation for a location on their property.

Ben requested a \$17.00 reimbursement for expenses he incurred for the recent testing of emergency antennas in the three county areas of Albemarle, Fluvanna and Louisa as well as Charlottesville City. The expenses were approved.

Bob addressed the on going problem of repeater location. While we seem to be in a good position at present and in the near future, we are always at the mercy of the landowner when we are on private property. He raised the possibility of purchasing our own property for a permanent site. The Board discussed the difficulties involved in this approach.

Ralph, although not present forwarded a financial report for the status of AARC finances ending April 30, 2004. Total revenues: \$1238; Total expenses: \$456.12; Excess revenues: \$781.12. Balances: AARC Fund: \$4545.65; Repeater Fund: \$1082.68; Packet Radio Fund: \$78.51; Total: \$5706.84.

A complete copy of the income statement is available upon request and is made part of the official record.

Howard discussed up coming programs. He indicated the program for tonight was set. At the June meeting final arrangements for Field Day would be addressed. Discussion of future programs followed.

Harry noted from the floor that if it is difficult to find a new repeated location there is always the possibility of having two repeaters in the same location. Any interference can be handled with filters.

Ben noted for the Membership Committee that there are approximately 60 paid up members in AARC.

Marty indicated that there was discrepancy between the paid up membership lists held by Ben, himself, Ralph and Bob W4RQ. There is a need to reconcile these and come up with a correct master list. It was suggested and approved that a list of paid up members from all sources be published in the Beacon and individuals that have paid their dues or who are

not required to pay dues, that are not on the list should contact Marty.

The meeting turned to the need for Tech classes. Howard indicated that groups that desired Tech classes had contacted him. Others also noted that they too had been approached. Pete formed an ad hoc committee of Howard, Ben and Harry to coordinate all groups and individuals that have contacted club members for classes and move forward with making all necessary arrangements.

Bob indicated the need to reactivate the Widows Assistance Committee. Mike W4XN was selected as Chair. The purpose of this committee would be to assist widows' of silent keys dispose of radio equipment and other assistance as needed.

Pete made a final remark that Field Day arrangements were on track.

With no further business the Board Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Submitted by Marty Malt AG4DN, Secy.

Regular Meeting May 11, 2004

Pete opened the meeting at 7:30 PM. Introduction of members and guests followed.

Harry W2HD requested the floor for a special presentation on the effects of BPL noise and the current "political" situation as regards FCC approval. He played a recording that Joe W2PVY had made of the noise for the membership. Copies of this recording are available for members that desire to meet with local power company executives and present the problems involved. A general discussion followed on BPL implications for amateur radio, military and public safety communications.

Ben thanked those that had participated in his Eagle Scout project involving Albemarle, Fluvanna and Louisa Counties and Charlottesville City emergency antenna activation.

Pete reviewed the Financial Report. (See Board Minutes.)

Howard noted that our guest speaker had not as yet arrived. He went on to note the up coming public service events. The MS 150 will be coming up on the 2nd weekend in June. Approximately 17 volunteers will be needed for the two days. The clipboard was passed around for sign up. The event is noted in the Beacon and should be aired on all club nets each week as the event draws closer.

Bob indicated that the Membership Committee had nothing new to report.

Pete informed the membership of the committee that had been formed to coordinate the various groups that desired Tech classes. (See Board Minutes.)

Dave K4DND reported for the Technical Committee on the problems with the 76 repeater. The bottom line after all examination and analysis is that problems are external to the repeater and extremely difficult to isolate. They have been there from the on set of using this site. Dave asked for volunteers to do chain saw work and clean up of the repeater area.

Pete thanked Steve for arranging for refreshments at the monthly meetings. He was given a round of applause by the membership.

Pete indicated that Field Day arrangements, equipment, etc., were on track.

Ben indicated that the Beacon had not been mailed out as yet and apologized for the delay. But, he would make every effort to send them out without delay.

Pete called for the approval of the Minutes for April 2004 Board and General Membership Meetings. The Minutes were approved without comment or changes.

Ron K4RKA indicated a need for volunteers to set up tables at Hamfests and sell the surplus club equipment the club now possesses. Ron agreed to publish a list of the equipment for club members to review for their possible purchase.

Pete displayed the club jacket and discussed as well as a warmer version to be made available for purchase by the membership. He indicated the regular jacket would sell for \$20 and the warmer jacket would sell for \$40. He indicated he would have more information next month.

The guest speaker did not show up.

Pete called for the meeting to close. Motion was made, second and approved with no discussion. The meeting closed at 8:25 PM.

Submitted by Marty Malt AG4DN, Secy.

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](#) webpage.

Other Contests of Interest

Jun 19-20 [All Asian DX Contest - CW](#)

May 26-27 [King of Spain Contest - SSB](#)

The [SM3CER Contest Service - Contest Calendars](#) 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

June 6 Manassas Hamfest	Sponsor: Ole Virginia Hams ARC http://www.w4ovh.net Contact: David Lane, KG4GIY 9327 Camphor Court Manassas, VA 20110-6669 Phone: 703-361-3042 Email: KG4GIY@arrl.net
September 18-19 Roanoke Division Convention Virginia Beach, VA	Sponsor: Tidewater Radio Conventions http://www.vahamfest.com Contact: Mr. Lynn Lilla, W9DJQ 848 Stacey Place Virginia Beach, VA 23464 Phone: 757-479-1597 Email: hamfest@exis.net

FCC Database Updates

	New Calls
None Reported	
	Upgrades
None Reported	

VE Session Schedule - 2004

June 19 Madison (ARRL VEC)	Sponsor: Madison VE Team Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: John Berry (540)543-2580 Email: AF4CY@ARRL.NET Location: Madison War Memorial Bldg. MAIN ST. MADISON, VA 22727
June 12 Richmond (ARRL VEC)	Sponsor: Richmond ARC/RAVE Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: PATRICK WILSON (804) 932-9424 Email: W4PWV@ARRL.NET Location: J Sargeant Reynolds Comm College 1651 E Parham RD-BLDG B WWW.W4PWV.NET (TO REGISTER) PRE-REGISTRATION URGED! Richmond, VA 23228
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 Mait	AG4DN	ag4dn@earthlink.net 434-589-2825
Treasurer	Ralph Traylor	K4CFE	rwf@virginia.edu 434-296-7418
Director	Bob Pattison	K4DU	rep4@aol.com 434-985-4828
Director	Ben Mills	KG4QVP	bmills@mindspring.com 434-953-8106
Director	Jill Anderson	KG4TFS	jrandersn@yahoo.com 591-1004
Director	Bill Phillips	AD6JV	bill1048@direcway.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>



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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 :

June 8 - 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
June 8	Regular Club Meeting
July 13	Regular Club Meeting
August 10	AARC Picnic

AARC - PUBLIC SERVICE SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT
2004 - TBA	TBA

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.

Membership application available in PDF format at http://www.people.virginia.edu/~ejd4e/aarc/images/AARC_Application.pdf