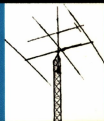


# The AARC Beacon



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

Volume 2004, No. 12

December 2004

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## Meeting Notice

The next regular AARC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 14 at 7:30 PM at the Astronomy Building on the UVA campus.** The program will be given by **David Kostelnik and Nancy Simmons of the Multiple Sclerosis Society on the activities of the Society.** We have supported MS on many occasions as public service events in the past. It should be very interesting! See you there!!

## Dues are Due for 2005 !!

It's that time again, "**2005 Dues.**" Members are reminded that dues should be paid as soon as possible for 2005. **This year as in last year all payments must be accompanied by an application.** Life and Youth members, while they are not required to pay annual dues should submit an application as well. This year all payments will go through the Secretary (Marty AG4DN). **There has been no increase in dues.** Family Membership \$25, Single Membership \$20, Life and Youth Memberships, no cost. **Payments can be given directly to Marty at the club meeting or mailed to the AARC, Post Office Box 6833, Charlottesville, VA 22906.** Applications can be downloaded from the club web site. Marty will have a limited number with him at the club meeting. Payments are requested in personal check or money order. Your cooperation is requested.

 **HAPPY**  
 **HOLIDAYS!!**

## AARC Officers for 2005

As elected at the October meeting, our club officers for 2005 are:

### Officers

<b>President</b>	<b>Jay K4AZV</b>
<b>VEEP</b>	<b>John KI4DJT</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Marty AG4DN</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Bob K4DU</b>

### Board Members

<b>Stephanie</b>	<b>K4BMM</b>
<b>Pete</b>	<b>W4PRT</b>
<b>Bill</b>	<b>AD6JV</b>
<b>Mike</b>	<b>W4XN</b>
<b>Dennis</b>	<b>K4THE</b>

## The President Speaks

*Pete, W4PRT*

Greetings!

Well, December is upon us and this year will end sooner than we think. It feels like it went by too fast. I'd like to take this time to thank each and every one of you for making this a great year. I had a fantastic time as President this year and cannot thank you enough.

We had a nice variety of Programs at the meetings this year and participation in the Public Service events seemed well attended. Some of the highlights this year were the MS Society events that we helped put on. Field Day! The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AARC Hamfest/Picnic to name a few. I might have missed a few others but those were the ones that came to mind.

I am very happy with the turnout of the Technician Classes and the passing rate of the VE Sessions that we had this year. Hopefully we'll be able to offer more classes and have a few more VE Sessions in the coming year.

This year was the year that the repeater seemed to act the way that it wanted to. We've got some ideas to try to figure out what the problem is and they will be tested in the very near future. More use of the repeater is needed so that we might track down what might be causing the problem. So dust off old gear and use the repeater.

I guess we call also call this the year of BPL. I know most folks around here have heard a fair share on the topic and

we have a team that is working with a local company to test out their BPL system. I am sure that the results will be made available after testing is done.

I'm very excited about the new officers that were elected in October and the folks that are new to the Board of Directors. I am looking forward to working with everyone in the coming year. I am sure that if you have any ideas for the Club that Jay (K4AZV) and John (KI4DJT) would welcome hearing them.

Again, I want to thank everyone for the fine job that they did this year and hope that next year will be even better.

Happy Holidays and see you at the upcoming Club Meeting.

73 -- Pete

## Veep Peeps

*Howard, W4UF*

Writing a final column is somewhat of a bittersweet event. Memories of the AARC over the years gone by are sweet; departing is bitter.

Thus, it is with sadness that I pen the last words for this Beacon. When I came to Albemarle County in December of 1996, I was not an amateur radio operator. Having just today (December 1<sup>st</sup>) accepted a job offer, I will be leaving for Northern Virginia very soon — before the December meeting — having attained an Extra Class license and VE accreditation credentials, and having been a director and VP on the club board in the most recent years. These are accomplishments I cherish as I do those special individuals among you who encouraged and, as needed, nudged me toward them.

Having been involved in some club activities, and having organized a couple of our extra-curricular events for the MS folks, I've gotten to know and work beside a good number of you. I am both gratified by the experiences and grateful for the support you've given to the community. It has been a special pleasure to know each of you.

**For the December meeting the presentation will be the long-delayed talk by the MS folks.** They will tell us about what they do for the local and national communities, the results of our combined efforts this year and how it was used, and upcoming local MS events in 2005. I know you will give them a warm reception as you gave of yourselves earlier this year working with them.

May the Lord bless you now and in the coming year that you may be able to continue to bless the local communities by your service.

73, Howard W4UF

●●● —●—

## Club Business

### AARC Board Minutes November 9, 2004

Members Present: Pete W4PRT, Marty AG4DN, Steve KD4HBX, Bob K4DU, Bill AD4JV. Members Absent: Ralph K4CFE, Ben KG4QVP, Jill KG4TFS, Howard W4UF.

Pete declared a quorum present and opened the meeting at 6:35 PM.

Pete led the discussion regarding the 2005 payment of club dues and submission of renewal and new application forms. It was agreed that the point of contact for all applications and payments would be the club secretary. In 2004 there was an unusual amount of confusion as to who had paid their dues, who had received the payments and to whom the applications were submitted. There were many questions as to who was a club member. It was hoped that with a single point of submission club rosters would be complete as to members in good standing.

It was pointed out to observers at the Board meeting that a number were having private conversations at a sound level that was disturbing the meeting. They were assured by the Board they were welcome to be present, however if they had to conduct conversations with others in the room, to take it outside!!

Pete received a letter from Dave K4DND nominating three individuals as the AARC Ham of the Year Award. Pete presented the letter to the Board. The letter recommended Steve Clements KDHBX, Bob Dorsey W4RQ and Ed Deasy KF4UTD. Each in his own right and area of responsibility has contributed and continue to enhance the operation of the AARC. Dave recommended all three equally with the hope that the Board would approve all three. Bob moved the three individuals noted be recognized as AARC Ham of the Year for 2004. The motion was second and unanimously and enthusiastically approved by the Board. A copy of Dave's letter is available for review and is attached to these minutes for the record.

Bob reported on the BPL tests being conducted in Nelson County by the AARC and the Central Virginia Cooperative. The indications are that the Cooperative desires to do further testing. The CEO of the Coop has been out of town and apparently no conclusive comments will be forthcoming until he returns. Bob will keep the AARC informed.

**The AARC Annual Banquet will be held on Sunday, January 9, 2005 at the Ponderosa Steak House at PanTops. More information will be forth coming.**

There will be no regular second Tuesday meeting in January.

**The presentation for the February club meeting has been set. Dave WG4T will make a presentation on generators.**

Dave K4DND stated that the problems with the 76 repeater continue. Jay K4AZV (President Elect) indicated he desired that the 76 repeater be taken off the mountain and a thorough analysis be completed to attempt to find the root of the problem. He would like to complete this effort within the month. Finding an individual to climb the tower does present some problems. This will be followed up.

John KI4DJT (VEEP Elect) asked why on the recent public service event at Montpelier a 440 repeater was used. Dave K4DND explained that it was good training to set up of the portable repeater and to check out its components.

With no further business a motion was made, second and approved to close the Board meeting at 7:35 PM

*Submitted by Marty Malt AG4DN, Secy.*

### Regular Meeting November 9, 2004

Pete opened the meeting at 7:40 PM. After the introduction of members and guests Pete indicated that the first item for this evening would be a presentation by Jay K4AZV, his third of three, covering his experience with 6 meters.

Jay gave a brief history of how the Amateur community got to 6 meters in 1945. He indicated how easy it was to set up an antenna, his experience with propagation under various conditions, low wattage requirements when the band is open, that most operators on the band were quite friendly and the months when most contacts could be made. A question and answer period followed. Again, Jay caught the interest of the membership and interested a number of members to try this band.

Pete now turned to the business portion of the meeting.

Since there was a finance report last month, there would be none at this meeting.

**The presentation for the month of December will be presented by the MS folks on the activities of the Society.**

Tom W4RAE indicated that the last class of the current Tech session was to take place on November 11. The VE session is scheduled for November 20, Saturday. Notices to the media have been sent out.

Dave K4DND addressed the 76-repeater problem for the general membership. Since the problems are not constant and difficult to isolate, he urged greater use of the repeater.

The membership thanked Steve KD4HBX for providing refreshments for each meeting and club special events.

John as VEEP Elect informed the membership that the club banquet would be at the Ponderosa Steak House on January 9, 2005 beginning at 5:00 PM.

Pete noted that Field Day preparations must start now considering that the Earlysville Fire/Rescue grounds will not

## December 2004

be available in 2005. He will make appropriate contacts for committee members.

The Secretary called for approval of the October minutes. It was pointed out that there was an error in the minutes. See Page 2 of November Beacon, Regular Meeting October 12, 2004, third paragraph from bottom, column two. UVA and Martha Jefferson Hospitals are not members of the Central Virginia Hospital Group. The minutes were so amended and approved without further comment.

The Secretary read a letter of thanks received from The Charlottesville Racing Club and the Hospice of the Piedmont for the support given to their event, The Blue Ridge Extreme on August 29, 2004. The funds raised by this race go to the Hospice. They indicated that the radio communications support contributed greatly to the safety and success of the event. They also noted they will call upon the club for support in 2005. Copy of this letter is available for examination upon request and is attached to these minutes for the record.

Ernie W2EUI noted that a technical error took place at the October Board election. The Secretary should have cast one vote for the slate of Officers for 2005. The error was corrected making the election final.

The motion was made to invite the original founders of the AARC to the January Banquet. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the membership.

It was noted that the public service support by the club for the Montpelier Races was very effective this year.

With no further business a motion was made, second and approved to close the meeting at 8:32 PM.

*Submitted by Marty Malt AG4DN, Secy.*

## Contest Highlights - Upcoming

Bob, W4RQ

### ARRL-Sponsored Contests

**Dec 3-5** ARRL 160 Meter Contest

**Dec 4-5** ARRL International EME Competition

**Dec 11-12** ARRL 10 Meter Contest

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

**Dec 26** DARC Xmas Contest - CW & SSB

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

73, Bob W4RQ

## Estate Sale Items

*Tnx Ron, K4RKA*

The following items are offered for sale from the estate of Bob, WB2MVA. If interested, please contact K4RKA, Ron Richey at 434-973-3640 evenings and weekends.

Mfr	Model	Asking	Comment
Alpha	DX-SWL	40	sloper ant.
Astron	RS12A	30	12V/12A/no meter
			70 used at AEA)
Astron	RS35A	60	12V/35A/no meter
			(135 used at AEA)
Daiwa	CN-620	50	pwr/swr
Daiwa	CNA-1001A	150	auto tuner
Daiwa	CS-401	60	4 pos switch
			(120 used at AEA)
Daton	FL3	80	audio filter
ERC	SL-56	25	notch filter
GAP	EAGLE	100	hf vertical (non's)
Icom	IC-3210A	100	2m/440
Icom	IC-32AT	75	mods?
Icom	IC-R7100	500	vht/uhf rcvr
			(900 used at AEA)
Icom/NAV	IC-A20	200	airband xcvr (new \$400)
	ac pwr 440		
Kenwood		pkg	
Kenwood	TS-440	400	package w/kenwood
			PS / desk mike
Kenwood		100	w/TS-440 xcvr
MAX			
System		15	air-440 gnd pin antenna
MFJ	1702	10	2 pos sw
MFJ	cw-2	5	cw audio filter
Millen	90652	75	grid dip
RF	RFC 2-		
Concepts	417	160	2m amp/pre amp
Ten-Tec	KR-50	30	2x keyer
UniRadio	M-7000	150	digital decoder
Van			
Gorden	D-10	15	10M ant w/balun
Yaesu	FT-727R	35	2 band/2 bat/no tone



## AARC Public Service Schedule

None reported

## Area Hamfests

None Reported

## FCC Database Updates

### New Calls

KI4HWH	Pamela J. Burke
KI4HWG	Jens W. Clark - Tech
KI4HWE	Charles M. Winkler - Tech
KI4HWF	Brett M. Grimm - Tech

### Upgrades

K4AZV	Jay Rostow - to Extra!!
K4BMM	Stephanie K. Rostow - to Extra!!
KG4ZWD	John Oliver - to Tech+
KG4ZWE	Andrea - to Tech+

## VE Session Schedule - 2004

December 11 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
Date Location (ARRL VEC)	For other exam sessions in Virginia outside the AARC area, check the <a href="#">ARRL Exam Session Search</a> web page.

## For Sale Items

None at this time

## AARC Club Officers

President	Pete Thorsen	W4PRT	<a href="mailto:w4prt@arrl.net">w4prt@arrl.net</a> 434-842-1014
Vice President	Howard Gay	W4UF	<a href="mailto:w4uf@arrl.net">w4uf@arrl.net</a> 540-456-6445
Secretary	Marty Mail	AG4DN	<a href="mailto:ag4dn@earthlink.net">ag4dn@earthlink.net</a> 434-589-2825
Treasurer	Ralph Traylor	K4CFE	<a href="mailto:rw6t@virginia.edu">rw6t@virginia.edu</a> 434-296-7418
Director	Bob Pattison	K4DU	<a href="mailto:rep4@aol.com">rep4@aol.com</a> 434-985-4828
Director	Ben Mills	KG4QVP	<a href="mailto:blmills@mindspring.com">blmills@mindspring.com</a> 434-953-8106
Director	Jill Anderson	KG4TFS	<a href="mailto:jrandersn@yahoo.com">jrandersn@yahoo.com</a> 591-1004
Director	Bill Phillips	AD6JV	<a href="mailto:bill1048@directway.com">bill1048@directway.com</a> 434-872-0686
Director	Steve Clements	KD4HBX	

## Contest Calendars

<a href="#">ARRL Contest Calendar 2004</a>	ARRL sponsored contests
<a href="#">SM3CER Contest Service - Calendar 2004</a>	Contests all over the world! Also has links to online rules for most contests
<a href="#">Contesting Online</a>	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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Beacon.

ISSUE DEADLINE - 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month

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

Next Club Meeting :

November 9 - 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
December 14	Regular Club Meeting
January 9	Regular Club Meeting
February 8	Regular Club Meeting
March 8	Regular Club Meeting
April 12	Regular Club Meeting
May 10	Regular Club Meeting
June 14	Regular Club Meeting

#### AARC - PUBLIC SERVICE SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT
2005 - 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](http://www.people.virginia.edu/~ejd4e/aarc/images/AARC_Application.pdf)**