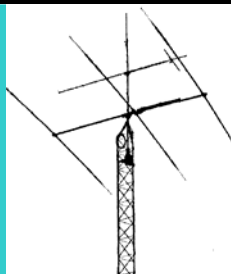


The AARC Beacon



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

Volume 2005, No. 2



February 2005

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Meeting Notice

The next regular AARC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 9 at 7:30 PM** at **the Astronomy Building on the UVA campus**. The program will be simply to chow down, have fun and have pleasant eyeball QSO's with your fellow club members. 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

The President's Letter

Jay, K4AZV

Hello and welcome to another edition of the Beacon. Thanks to everyone who attended the annual dinner. It was a great success. I hope everyone enjoyed the evening's presentations as much as I did. I plan to use the historical content and some photographs from the presentation to create public presentation materials. I'll have more to say on that in a bit.

Regarding propagation during the past month, we heard fairly decent signals through the 15-meter band. Of particular interest were contacts made with operators in McMurdo Sound Antarctica, Swaziland, Sao Tome, Easter Island, Guantanamo Bay, Belgrade, Kuwait and Namibia. There was a fat 6-meter opening on December 29th. I also got the chance to congratulate a stroke AE on the air. The fourth weekend in January brought the ARRL VHF Sweepstakes contest. Conditions for E skip were poor. We did make a few 6-meter contacts but didn't hear much activity. It was good to hear some of our fellow club members working the contest. On Sunday January 16th, the sun spewed its guts which drastically affected our ability to communicate mobile on the way back from California.

I feel the need to clear up a misconception that I may have initiated. There has been some concern expressed to me about our plan to downplay the importance of attracting the public to our club's Field Day. Let me explain.

Historically, Field Day was created as an emergency drill, not to get new members into the hobby. From what I have seen in my relatively short involvement with the club, if generating public interest and attracting new hams has been the goal, then that goal has not been met. In fact from that perspective, in recent years it has failed miserably. I do not want to downplay the enormous amount of work that it has taken to publicize Field Day. It is my hope that club members will continue to utilize Field Day as a time for displaying all of the diversity that the hobby and the club should be known for.

My plan is to have Field Day at different locations, to test these locations as actual emergency operating sites. Contesting as a group, I feel is one of the great rewards of our hobby and an excellent way to train at radio utilizing teamwork. This does not mean that the public would be excluded from Field Day, quite the contrary. There will be lots of new presentation materials created specifically with the intent to bring awareness to and attract new people to our hobby/service. These presentation materials will be geared towards two different age groups, namely upper elementary / middle school / scout aged youth and the other set for adults. Field Day will again be publicized well, if not even better than before. Keeping Field Day mobile, having many new presentation materials and more media exposure will inevitably heighten the public's awareness of Field Day.

It would be wise to conduct at least one public awareness event per year, not including events that

we are already involved in. This event would take place in a public location and would be specifically designed for the sole purpose of raising awareness of amateur radio in the public eye and attracting new members. If you have any materials to share that you feel would be of benefit to a presentation package, please bring it/them to the February meeting or get in touch with me by phone.

The club needs a few new liaisons to work with chair people already in place. We need one person who will have the role of appealing to younger age people that we are trying to attract. This person will be working with Tom Rae. The other liaison will work with Ernie Sardi to seek out new media organizations for increased exposure. There will be more about this in March.

On our latest trip to California, we came across the ham shack belonging to a small radio club in the high desert. There were eight towers standing proud. The amount of aluminum in the air and the sight of this radio shack were overwhelming to me. When I went to knock on the door, I found a very large bright red doormat with a big fat W6BA in black letters. Unfortunately there was no one "at home". Do you see a little frothing saliva at the corner of my mouth? I thought so. Remember, the only constant thing in this world is change.

See you next month!

73 -- Jay

Veep Peeps

John, K14DJT

Dear Friends, I'm a new ham, struggling to pass the code requirement, just beginning my electronic experiments, trying very hard not to burn the barn down and having a ball. I failed to have an article ready for the January Beacon not realizing it was one of my responsibilities but I'll try not to let it happen in the future. As you can see I have a lot to learn about our club as well as our hobby. The only thing I can say is if anyone of the brilliant electronic engineers, teachers or other just plain good managers in the club would have volunteered to be the VP you guys wouldn't be stuck with me for 2005.

It was very nice to be at the Club dinner and eat with friends and meet some of the founding fathers of the club. It is also very good to have the support of so many of the friends offering to give presentations for the meetings just in case we get in a bind.

We have such a great club with many so members giving lots of their time and energy to support the Emergency Net, public events, the repeater, emergencies in the community and just being Elmers. I'm honored to be a part of AARC and will try to be a good VP and all around menace.

I'm still trying to get a confirmation from WG4T for the February presentation for a discussion on generators and we'll be having our own K4BDR in March for a presentation and demonstration on slow scan; both should be fun and interesting. If anyone would like to make a presentation at one of the meetings this year please let me know and we'll get it scheduled.

Thanks and take care.

73, John, KI4DJT

Club Business

AARC Board Minutes January 9, 2005

No board meeting was held in January, as this was the AARC Winter dinner.

Submitted by Marty Mait AG4DN, Secy.

Regular Meeting December 14, 2004

The meeting for January was the AARC Winter dinner.

Submitted by Marty Mait AG4DN, Secy.

Contest Highlights - Upcoming

Bob, W4RQ

ARRL-Sponsored Contests

Feb 14-19 **School Club Roundup**

Feb 19-20 **[ARRL International DX Contest \(CW\)](#)**

Mar 5-6 **[ARRL International DX Contest \(SSB\)](#)**

Complete info, rules and log forms for these events can be found online at the [ARRL Contest Calendar 2004](#) webpage.

Other Contests of Interest

Feb 12-14 **TLRL YL-OM Contest**

Feb 12-13 **RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest**

Feb 26-27 **CQWW 160-Meter 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

The 2005 AARC Winter Dinner

Tnx to Marty, AG4DN

The AARC Annual Dinner was held at the Ponderosa Steak House at Pantops on January 9, 2005. This event brings together Amateurs, their families and friends. This year the event was very well attended with over fifty participants.

The theme of this year's dinner was recognition of the original founders of the club. In attendance were the first club President Bob Van Fossen, K4DGJ and his lovely wife Laura W4OFR, first Secretary Dick Florence K4VY and his lovely wife Anna and the first Treasurer Frank Haynes W4NUA.

After dinner each was introduced and asked to relay "tales" of the club in years gone by. Needless to say the experiences they relayed were amusing, interesting and informative. The "tales" indicated the equipment in use in the 1960's and the various but amusing trials these club "founding fathers" experienced as they got the club off the ground. The membership appreciates meeting these gentlemen and listened very intently to what was said. The AARC thanks them and their wives for the time and effort in coming to this event.

Our President for 2005 Jay K4AZV introduced himself to those in attendance that had not met him prior to the dinner. He outlined his broad objectives for the AARC for the current year. He indicated a busy and enjoyable year's activities.

Dave K4DND presented recognition awards to those participating in the Northern Piedmont Emergency Net for the year 2004. There were numerous club members that had a participation rate near 90%. This net is a weekly event. The numbers of individuals with high participation records indicate a strong support for this club activity.

Dave then presented Virginia RACES Certificates of Appreciation to a number of club members. These were presented from the State Emergency Radio Officer for the support they provided Local Emergency Management Agencies throughout the Hurricane Isabel Level I Activation, September 18-27, 2003.

The club wants to express its thanks to our new VEEP John KI4DJT for arranging this very successful event.

This brought the evening's event to a close. The next club meeting will be on February 8, 2005.

Marty Mait AG4DN, Secretary

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 Delta	DX-SWL	40	sloper ant.
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 (nxn's)
Icom	IC-R7100	500	vhf/uhf rcvr
			(900 used at AEA)
Icom/NAV	IC-A20	200	airband xcvr (new \$400)
Kenwood	ac pwr 440	pkg	
Kenwood	TS-440	400	package w/kenwood
			PS / desk mike
Kenwood		100	w/TS-440 xcvr
MAX System		15	air-440 gnd pln antenna
MFJ	1702	10	2 pos sw
MFJ	cwf-2	5	cw audio filter
Millen	90652	75	grid dip
RF Concepts	RFC 2-417	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
Yaesu	FT-23R	35	2 xcvs, no tone

FARS Scholarships for 2005

Tnx to Marty, AG4DN

The **FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC.**, a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer fifty-five (55) scholarships for the academic year 2005 - 2006 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds three of these scholarships. Ten are funded with the income from grants. The remaining forty-two (42) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in **Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin**, are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their World Wide Web home pages.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 2005 from:

FAR Scholarships
 Post Office Box 831
 Riverdale, MD 20738

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

Northern Piedmont Emergency Net Year-End Report for 2004

Dave, K4DND

Thanks to all stations for participating in the Northern Piedmont Emergency Net this past year.

For 2004 we have records from 52 net sessions. There were a total of 98 call signs represented (up 10 from 2003), with an average number of 19.0 check-ins for each session (down from last year's 20.2). It is interesting that the number of individual call signs is up, but shame on us for the drop in the average number of stations checking in per session.

The following table lists the 98 stations, in order of frequency both by the number of checkins and the percentage that number represents of the total sessions. The table has been divided into five categories on an entirely arbitrary basis.

Thanks also to the following stations who acted as NCS during the year: W2PVY, KF4ZGD and K4UL.

NAME	CALL SIGN	# OF CHECK-INS	CHECK-IN PERCENTAGE
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CONGRATULATIONS

Joe	W2PVY	50	98
Dave	K4DND	48	92
Harry	W2HD	46	88
Ron	K4RKA	44	85
Stan	K2SSB	41	79
Vic	N3DFS	39	75

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK

John	KI4DJT	37	71
Lee	K4ISW	35	67
Alan	KF4NOR	31	60
Steve	KD4HBX	26	50
Cayman	KG4OVD	26	50
Pete	W4PRT	25	48
Stephen	KF4ZGD	24	46
Kevin	K4BDR	23	44
Bob	K4DU	23	44
Richard	K8EV	23	44
Bill	KD4TOR	23	44
Howard	W4UF	23	44
Dick	K4EBL	21	40
Brian	K4UL	21	40

SEE YOU MORE OFTEN IN 2005?

Dick	W4BZW	20	38
Tim	KG4HOT	20	38
Bill	AD6JV	20	38
Jerome	KI4DLA	19	37
Dennis	K4THE	18	35
Mike	KA4JJD	16	31
Jay	K4AZV	14	27
Jim	K4JEC	11	21
Jeffrey	N4LFJ	11	21
Emily	KG4OXY	11	21
Josh	KI4BBO	10	19
Sean	KI4CMW	10	19

OCCASIONALS

Chuck	KS4NW	9	17
John	W4/K6OJ	9	17
Don	KE4DDR	8	15
Garland	KG4MPR	8	15
Ben	KG4QVP	8	15
Bob	W4RQ	7	13
Dennis	KG4SYS	7	13
Ed	KF4UTD	7	13
Bob	KE4AQD	6	12
Brad	N7IVV	6	12
Jamie	KA3NXN	6	12
Rick	KO4WQ	6	12
Tom	W4RAE	5	10
Charles	KI4GCU	4	8
John	WA4IUN	4	8

Jay	KE4OMD	4	8
Peter	KA2TPK	4	8
Elmer	KF4UCI	4	8
Mike	W4XN	4	8
Jimmy	K4JMY	3	6
Trevor	KE4WLL	3	6

LOST AND CONFUSED, VISITORS, RARE DX, NEWLY LICENSED, PASSING THROUGH TOWN

Stephanie	K4BMM	2	4
Ernie	W2EIU	2	4
Gordon	WA4FJC	2	4
Donna	KG4FOL	2	4
John	N3GLZ	2	4
Bob	N4HRV	2	4
Bud	KB4JNI	2	4
Albie	AD4KZ	2	4
Clay	W4LNT	2	4
Morris	NM4R	2	4
Al	KF4AGT	1	2
George	W4AVO	1	2
Rick	K4BKT	1	2
Phil	KD4BMQ	1	2
Dennis	KA3BVJ	1	2
Dick	WA1CEH	1	2
Simon	KE4CKF	1	2
Dan	N6DJS	1	2
Marty	AG4DN	1	2
Tom	AK4E	1	2
Carlos	KI4ECY	1	2
Chuck	K4ERZ	1	2
Betty	KG4FQW	1	2
George	W4GCE	1	2
Eddie	KG4HOD	1	2
Kip	K5KIP	1	2
Steve	KD4KNR	1	2
Jim	W4LVT	1	2
Pete	K4MW	1	2
George	KU4ND	1	2
Robert	KS4NN	1	2
Brian	KF4NZR	1	2
John	KD4OUZ	1	2
Greg	N4PGS	1	2
Walt	KG4QIA	1	2
Mark	NM4S	1	2
Danny	WA4SDE	1	2
Mike	KD4SZR	1	2
Stan	K4TJS	1	2
James	KD5UJN	1	2
Boyd	KO4WK	1	2
Sam	KD4WTB	1	2
Joe	N8XCT	1	2
David	KC4YYX	1	2

FROSTFEST 2005

Central Virginia's Largest Indoor Electronic Flea Market

AMATEUR RADIO & COMPUTER SHOW
NATIONAL & LOCAL VENDORS

Sunday February 20, 2005

The Showplace in Richmond, VA 8:30am- 3:30pm

ARRL VIRGINIA SECTION CONVENTION

ORDER TICKETS ONLINE NOW
GET SPECIAL VIP TREATMENT

- **NO STANDING IN LINE FOR TICKETS**
- **EARLY ADMISSION BEFORE SHOW**
- **SEPARATE VIP ENTRANCE**
- **EXTRA SPECIAL SURPRISES**

www.frostfest.com
VIP TICKET SALES END 1/31/05

FORUMS * HOURLY SURPRISES * FREE PARKING

www.frostfest.com

(804) 545-0566 (opt. 4) Talk In 146.88 Repeater (PL: 74.4 Hz)

Sponsored by the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society

[Editor's Note]: I have received other flyers for FrostFest 2005 as well as registration forms in PDF format. If you would like any or all of them, please email me at w4rq@yahoo.com and I will email them to you.

AARC Public Service Schedule

None reported

Area Hamfests

FrostFest 2005	Virginia Section Convention (Frostfest 2005)
Richmond	Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society http://www.Frostfest.com Talk-In: 146.88 - 74.4
	Contact: Phil Davis, KD4BMQ 29 Little Falls Lane Rockville, VA 23146 Phone: 804-334-0051 Fax: 208-730-9313 Email: phil@teledyme.com

FCC Database Updates

New Calls

None reported

Upgrades

None reported

VE Session Schedule - 2004

Feb 12 Richmond (ARRL VEC)	Sponsor: RICHMOND ARC/RAVE Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: PATRICK WILSON (804) 932-9424 Email: W4PW@ARRL.NET Location: J Sargeant Reynolds Comm College 1651 E PARHAM RD-BLDG B Richmond VA WWW.W4PW.ORG (TO REGISTER) PRE-REGISTRATION URGED!
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

Offered by Dick, K4VY. Contact Ron Richey, K4RKA at 434-973-3640 evenings and weekends	Alpha Delta 4 way coax switch with ARC plug. \$ 40 Kenwood TM231A (2 Meter) Transceiver w. manual \$ 125. Optronics Mini Freq. Counter 3300 (1 meg to 2.8 Gig.) \$ 50 Autek Research RF Analyst RF1 \$ 85 Timewave DSP 599ZX \$ 275 Icom PCR 1000 Receiver \$ 250 Yaesu G800 Antenna Rotator \$ 325
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AARC Club Officers

President	Jay Rostow	K4AZV	k4azv@turing.org 434-263-5795
Vice President	John Turchi	KI4DJT	m51John@juno.com 540-543-2037
Secretary	Marty Mait	AG4DN	ag4dn@earthlink.net 434-589-2825
Treasurer	Bob Pattison	K4DU	rep4@aol.com 434-960-3344
Director	Pete Thorsen	W4PRT	w4prt@arrl.net 434-982-4690
Director	Mike DiGirolamo	W4XN	mjdandgyppy@adelphia.net 434 977-6377
Director	Stephanie Rostow	K4BMM	434-263-5795
Director	Bill Phillips	AD6JV	billp1048@earthlink.net 434 872-0686
Director	Dennis Mennerich	K4THE	k4the@arrl.net 434 973-5407

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 2005 No. 2
February 2005



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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 : February 8 - 5:00 PM Astronomy Bldg - 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

<u>INPUT/OUTPUT</u>	<u>Tone Access (If needed)</u>
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
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.wa4tfz.org/2004_ap_form.pdf