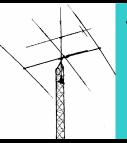
The AARC Beacon



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

Volume 2010, No. 10

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November 2010

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# Meeting Notice

The next AARC meeting will be held on November 9 at NRAO. The AARC Board meets at 7PM and the general meeting convenes at 7:30PM. Kenneth KJ4KIH will walk us through the new AARC website.

Be sure to attend!

# The President's Letter

Dave, K4DND

Hello everyone, grab you hat and coat because away we go into November. You know what that means? It is ARRL Sweepstakes time again. Check you calendar and reserve some time on the weekend of November 6-7 for the CW contest and then again on the weekend of November 20-21 for the Phone contest. Both contests run for a total of 30 hours (only 24 of which you can work) from 2100 UTC Saturday through 0259 UTC Monday. More information can be found on the ARRL website at: <a href="http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes">http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes</a>.

Get yourself organized, get on the air and submit your score (regardless of how long you work the contest). When you submit, you can additionally credit your club, so make sure you indicate you are also submitting as an AARC station, three or more entries will get the AARC listed in the results. If you are interested in a software logging program that can be used for both contests, and one that will automatically generate the Cabrillo-file format for electronic submission, I recommend the November Sweepstakes logging program from Scott Davis N3FJP that can be downloaded from his website at: www.n3fjp.com. It only costs \$6 to register, can be used for both Sweepstakes, and can be used by you in every subsequent Sweepstakes. If you have operated or logged during AARC Field Day anytime in the past several years, you are already familiar with using his contest logging software. If anyone has other software to recommend, please let others know on the Monday Night Information Net or the Northern Piedmont Emergency Net, or send an email to the AARC mail-list at: aarc@virginia.edu.

Speaking of the AARC mail-list, we currently have about 160 email addresses, and most of those are going to actual email accounts. Whether the email is ever picked up or not, I can't say, but addresses that bounce are eliminated from the list. I just received an automated notice that the following addresses are scheduled for deletion: chuckbarn@aol.com, dj23093@gamil.com, patsycrosby@comast.net, vicham60@hotmail.com. The second and third entries in the list were mistyped during the subscription which accounts for their being undeliverable. The first and fourth appear to be valid addresses, so they must point to accounts that are no longer active. If you know the owner any of these

addresses, other than Patsy, you might let them know that they need to re-subscribe with a valid address.

I was certainly pleased with the slate of officers that will lead the AARC in the coming year. I look forward to working with Jim K4JEC as the new AARC president, and just hope that I can keep up with his energy and enthusiasm. Congratulations to you Jim, and to the rest of the leadership who have volunteered to "re-up" for another year. This provides the continuity essential to keep our organization strong and help it grow. One doesn't usually think about "growing" an organization but just as in any other aspect of life, things have to grow to survive as well as adapt to a changing landscape. Whether this is because of the continual recruitment of new ideas, skills and talents or just due to increasing numbers alone, we prevent stagnation and continuation of the status quo by our growth. It has additional unintended consequences as well. One such consequence for example, is that Greg N4PGS and I have both observed that in the current climate of greater number of members, organizing the AARC public service events has been a real pleasure, rather than the drudgery it used to be, due to the number of club members volunteering as each public service event comes up. I am sure Jim K4JEC would agree the same holds true for organizing the AARC meeting presentations.

To give you a real sense of the AARC growth in the past few years. I don't have the actual numbers immediately at hand, but my recollection of the AARC membership through most of the early part of this decade is somewhere in the range of 60-70 members. In 2008, through a concerted effort of "harassment" we were able to get the AARC to 103. Then in 2009, building on the recruitment of the preceding year, the membership stood at 117. Taking what worked as the template for 2010, the AARC currently has a membership of 129. As Jim points out in his remarks this month, "can't we find one more that will put us at 130?" Of course, that does not take into account the attrition in the membership roles by the unfortunate but inevitable status of SK.

In 2008, perhaps our worst year on record, we lost a total of 10 amateurs in the local area. Not all were active club members, but among those who were, we lost Richard Dale K8EV, Al Green KD4NRE, Hein Hvatum N4FWA, and Jimmy Walker K4JMY. That was a tough year indeed; they were all great friends and active AARC members. 2009 was a better year in terms of numbers, we only lost 2 amateurs in the local area, neither of whom was a club member. So far in 2010, we have lost 3, and two of those were long time and important members of the AARC, Bob Dorsey W4RQ and Marty Mait AD4GN. Whew, enough of that. It would please me no end if there was no update of the SK list for a long time to come.

As we spin up into the end of 2010, I want to tell each and everyone of our current membership of 129, what a pleasure it is to be associated with you in this diverse collection of talented and interesting people, even though there are hardly any two of us who share the exact same profile of interests or abilities. But isn't that what makes this hobby so much fun, that we all have so much in common and in fact,

so little in common at the same time. I am baffled at the prospect of trying to identify another organization for which the same could be said.

# Veep Peeps

Jim, K4JEC

Wow! What a year. Coming down to the end of our year, our roster stands at 129 members. We still have time to round it out at 130 if someone brings in a new member in next couple of months.

I am very excited at the prospect of working with those you elected to serve the next year. I am particularly excited at the prospect of working with Greg - N4PGS as vice president because of the wealth of experience he brings to the office, having previously served in almost all of the elected offices. Don - N4UVA and Patsy - K4PMC are both previous office holders returning to serve the club 
The board represents a balance between returning office holders such as Jim -K4CGY, Jim - K4BAV, Bill - AD6JV, and Linda - K15LLB, as well as new directors Michael - KA4JJD and Dave - K4DND both of whom will be great assets to the club. I am sure glad the club did not allow Dave - K4DND to just walk away with all the knowledge and experience he has accumulated during his past three years as your president. I have relied heavily on him during my two-terms as vice president and will beg his tolerance as I continue to seek his counsel in the future.

During the past year, our Youth Membership has grown and we are proud of that because the future of our hobby lies with the young hams joining our ranks.

Has anyone checked out our new website? While the web address is the same, everything else is changing under the able hands of our Webmaster, Kenneth Kang – KJ4KIH. Kenneth has brought us into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century with such fantastic features like: 1.) Applying for or renewing your membership entirely on line using PayPal to pay your dues; 2.) Registering for the 2011 Virginia Ham Radio Cruise-In entirely on line; 3.) Posting news and features is much easier and available to a larger group of leaders; and 4.) Communicating with officers, directors and members is offered on a fill-in the blanks format.

Kenneth is providing a program for our November meeting in which he will explore and explain our new website and its many new features. This is a must see program for all of our active members.

Tickets for the Annual Awards Dinner in January have been printed and will be available for purchase at the November meeting. The dinner will find us back at the Elks Lodge on January 11 where we have enjoyed several previous ones. We will start with a cash bar at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will follow at 7 p.m. Tickets will be \$16 each this year as they were last year. This dinner is the social highlight of the

club's year as it recognizes outstanding member participation with many hard-earned awards during the past year and kicks-off the new one with a joyful noise.

May I be so bold as to be permitted to repeat the following from last month's column?

As to our future, I would like to issue all of us a challenge. We really need to raise public awareness of our hobby and its ability to serve our fellow man during times of emergencies. We have developed an excellent brochure backed by some very impressive folders supplied by the ARRL and we need to put them to work for us. We need to go out into the community and set up demonstration stations to draw the public to us so they have the opportunity to pick up our reading materials and become aware of our activities. We really need to do this for two reasons: 1.) We need public support to realize our full potential in public service activities; and 2.) We must grow the membership of amateur radio hobbyists with new members and particularly younger members because that is where the future of the hobby lies.

Who among you are up to helping reach that challenge? I would like to hear from you with your ideas.

# Club Business

Patsy, K4PMC

### **Board Meeting**

<u>Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by the President, K4DND at 7 p.m. with board members K4JEC, K4PMC, K4CGY, N4PGS, K4BAV, K15LLB and K4DND present.</u>

# Secretary's Board Report

K4PMC noted that she had two new applications for membership for the general membership meeting. The new members are David Woodring of New Canton (Buckingham County) KJ4WXC, and John Gentry of Charlottesville with no call yet.

<u>Treasurer's Report-Dave</u> will give report at general membership meeting. Nothing special for the board.

# Vice President's Report

K4JEC advised that he has 1000 Cruise-In Flyers on hand to be distributed between now and April to promote the event. He requested that anyone going to any ham meeting, convention, or hamfest, please take and distribute some of these flyers.

President's Report - Nothing for the board.

Committee Reports for the board.

Technical Committee –K4CGY advised that he has e-mailed the secretary his annual report.

Fund Raising Committee – Bob, K4DU, -not present at board meeting.

Estate Committee – Linda, KI4LLB, no written report yet.

Public Service Committee –Greg, N4PGS, report was submitted by e-mail to secretary.

Education Committee – Bill, AD6JV, -no written report at current time.

Public Relations Committee –Jim, K4BAV, advised that his annual report had been e-mailed as requested. Good year, copy attached.

Old Business -- none

New Business -- none

Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 7:03

### **General Membership Meeting**

<u>Call to Order</u> -- The meeting was called to order by President, K4DND at 7:30 p.m. All were invited to state their name and call. There were 35 members present. Sign-in sheet attached.

## Secretary's Report

General Meeting Minutes for September were approved as printed in The Beacon on a motion by Dayton, AA4DH, that was seconded by K04WQ, Rick, and passed unanimously.

New applications were received from David Woodring of New Canton (Buckingham County) Call KJ4WXC, John Gentry of Charlottesville; no call yet, Joseph Burch, no call yet of Charlottesville, William Hrachovina Jr, KI4LGE of Charlottesville, Alex Olihovik of Charlottesville-no call yet, and Mark Colombo KJ4IEA. Hrachovina, Olihovik and Colombo are youth memberships from UVA students who also belong to the W4UVA club. Harry, W2HD made the motion that all be approved. It was seconded by Joe, W2PVY. This motion passed unanimously.

# Treasurer's Report -

Given by Dave, K4DND for Don, K4UVA who was absent.

Opening balance \$4,915.10

Deposits including \$400 donation \$1,842.00

Expenses \$57.34
Closing balance \$6,699.76
Annual Report attached as a supplement.

# President's Report -

Dave advised that December 11<sup>th</sup> would be the 4<sup>th</sup> and last VE session for 2010.

November 6<sup>th,</sup> in the afternoon, has been selected for the SET antenna test. He is looking for additional volunteers for open sites. He asked that anyone interested see him after the meeting.

# Vice President's Report

K4JEC advised that he has 1000 Cruise-In Flyers on hand to be distributed between now and April to promote the event. He requested that anyone going to any ham meeting, convention, or hamfest, please take and distribute some of these flyers.

# Committee Reports

Technical Committee – Jim, K4CGY –advised that he has e-mailed the secretary his annual report, no major problems to report. The 925 is experiencing some problems. It seems to key up on its own. Could not be tone activated. He will continue to investigate. His annual report is attached.

Fund Raising Committee – Bob, K4DU, reported that the raffle had made \$253. He advised that he would be prepared for a raffle next month.

Estate Committee – Linda, KI5LLB, advised that she would get her report turned in. No recent deaths-that's good news. She reported that she had assisted 6 (8-12 year old) old Boy Scouts with a communication badge. She advised that it was a good experience. Annual Report attached.

Public Service Committee –Greg, N4PGS, reported that we had a good year so far, with over 500 total volunteer hours of service. He expressed his thanks to all who participated and he noted that our services were appreciated. He asked that he be notified of any new public service events where our services might be needed. His annual report is attached

Education Committee – Bill, AD6JV, advised us that he had 4 students taking his class. All going well. He also advised that we had one active member/mentor situation. We could have more if needed, just let him know.

Public Relations Committee—Jim, K4BAV reported that he had emailed his annual report to the secretary as requested. Nothing new to report except we are still looking for a newsletter editor. Report attached.

# Old Business-none

<u>New Business</u> – Jim, K4BAV advised that copies of the current issue of "Dots and Dashes" were upfront and available for anyone who might want to pick up one.

# Election

The Nominating Committee reported the following nominations:
President, K4JEC, Jim Crosby
Vice President, N4PGS, Greg Faust

Secretary-K4PMC, Patsy Crosby Treasurer-K4UVA-Don Eason Directors Dave Damon, K4DND; Bill Phillips, AD6JV; Jim Owen, K4CGY; Jim Wilson, K4BAV; Linda Bread, K15LLB and Michael Rein, KA4JJD.

Nominations were requested from the floor with none offered.

Harry, W2HD moved that nominations be closed and the secretary be directed to cast one unanimous ballot for the slate as presented by the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded by W2PVY and carried unanimously.

Adjournment -- The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

## **Estate Committee Annual Report for 2010**

This is a copy of the final letter written to Sharon. This estate is the only one I handled this year. I was asked to have these items examined, priced, and prepared for the winter Frostfest in Feb. I had three knowledgeable men look over all the estate items. Each one of them priced each of the items. I added the three prices for each item, then I took the sum and divided each one of them by 3. The answer to the division gave me the finial price for each one of the items. After getting the price I sent emails to the club members and the first person to call me asking for the item got to buy it. I sold all the valuable items to club members and put the money in the club account. There were a few items left after the club members paid for and received the items they purchased. I took all leftover items to the club picnic and put 5 dollars on each of two boxes. There were no items in either of the two boxes of value. I told the chairman of the fundraising to take anything not sold and use it for the club raffles. Dave said he would see to the items if they were not sold, and I left them for him.

### **Public Service Committee Annual Report for 2010**

The members of AARC did a great job supporting emergency communications at a number of events in 2010. Those events were:

- Jefferson Cup Bicycle Race
- Tour de Greene Bicycle Tour
- Bel Monte Race
- MS150 Bicycle Tour
- Devil's Backbone Mountain Cross Race
- Great Eastern Endurance Run

And while it was not technically an AARC event, our members also helped with communications at the Mountain Mama Bicycle Race.

Over the various events twenty five AARC members contributed over 500 hours of emergency communication support.

Participation in these events not only provides valuable practice and training in the use of radio equipment 'in the field' but prepares a base of communicators for future 'real' emergencies. During these events we also utilized the services of various repeaters in the central Virginia area, proving that ham radio could offer reliable communications where cell phone coverage didn't exist.

The members of the Public Service Committee respectfully submit this report and look forward to another year of continued Public Service.

# **Technical Committee Annual Report for 2010**

This year has been uneventful as far as repeater problems are concerned. The 146.76 and 146.895 repeaters have worked flawlessly and the 146.925 has been down once do likely to a power surge. It took only a power cycle to get it back on the air. However, it currently has a problem with frequently cycles to transmit. It appears that the tone decoder is not working properly. This will be attended to in the near future. Unused equipment at the site, that was privately owned, was removed and returned to the owner.

The "new" 146.76 on Carters Mountain was tested for a few days during the summer and it was decided to leave it off until we can replace the damaged antenna on the tower. We are awaiting permission to have access to the tower. When it is received and the weather permits the antenna will be replaced.

Discussions are underway with the county on moving the antenna at the Bucks Elbow (146.895) tower to nearer the top. This looks like it will happen in the future after it is decided what additional antennas the county will put on the tower.

Planning has happened between the club and the Martha Jefferson Hospital and the contractors as to the move of the 145.45 and the 444.250 to the new hospital some time in mid to late spring 2011. The possibility of installing the 224.76 repeater at MJH has been discussed.

# Annual report of the Public Relations Committee for 2010

The Albemarle Amateur Radio Public Relations Committee included six members during 2010: Jim Crosby, Kenneth Kang, Michael Rein, Harry Dannals, Stan Hazen and myself, Jim Wilson, as chairman.

Publicity for our largest events during the year were for 1) the first ever Charlottesville Cruise-In, 2) the Annual AARC Picnic & Auction, 3) Field Day, and 4) the annual AARC Christmas dinner.

Currently, the PR committee is studying options to make even more effective the monthly AARC Beacon and the AARC web site. This may include combining both, or possible elimination of the Beacon. Club President Dave Daemon is serving as temporary editor of the Beacon.

The PR Committee also prepared a colorful flyer for a current series of classes aimed at getting Technicians their General Class ham radio licenses. Bill Phillips, AD6JV, is teaching this series of courses. The flyer was posted by the PR Committee at Charlottesville's two libraries, at Charlottesville's three Radio Shack stores, and at the Piedmont Virginia Community College.

Because of his newspaper editor background, PR committee member, Jim Crosby, was especially helpful during the year.

Kenneth Kang provided expertise at modernization of the AARC web site.

Two of our PR Committee members (Michael Rain & Jim Wilson) also volunteered as official judges at the Regional Science Fair, along with other AARC members.

# **Treasurer's Annual Report for 2010**

Deposit Balance 12/31/09:

\$4,978.77

Debits:

\$12,811.11

Credits:

\$14,532.10

Deposit Balance: 9/30/10

\$6,699.76

# Income Highlights:

Dues:

\$1,220.00

Repeater Donations:

\$210.00 (Restricted Balance \$939)

Annual Dinner:

\$624.00

FrostFest:

0

Raffle Sales:

\$253.00

Patch Sales:

\$20.00

Vest Sales:

\$300.00

Estate Disbursement-Items Sold-

\$8,000.00

Donations Received - CASH -

\$570.10

Total:

\$11,197.10

# **Expense Highlights:**

Food for Field Day: \$105.87

**Annual Dinner:** 

\$834.82

Patches & Vests

\$588.01

**Annual Picnic:** 

\$169.17

Annual Liability Policy Renewal:

\$448.00

Estate Sale Disbursement to Beneficiary:

\$8,000.00

Club Donations:

\$500.00 (See Note)

Web Hosting Fee- Two Years:

\$204.80

Miscellaneous:

\$569.37

Total:

\$11,420.04

Note:

### The Club Made Cash Donations as Follows:

Science Fair Awards: \$200.00

Waynesboro Repeater Association \$100.00

Earlysville Volunteer Fire Co. \$200.00

# For Sale and Wanted...

Ron, K4RKA

For Most recent listings – See www.albemarleradio.org

# Bet You Couldn't If You Tried

Alan, K9MBQ

Here is the photo I took of my well cable after driving a 5/8 in ground rod through it . . . while it was still buried 2.5 ft down!! So, for those who think this event has a probability of zero, think again.



Way to go Alan, "bullseye" on the power line

Alan has demonstrated a situation in which he was able to deal with the lesser of two evils. If it has to be one or the other, do you hit the water line and have to call a plumber, or do you hit the electrical line and have to call an electrician. Personally, I prefer to go with Alan's situation since it is infinitely easier to dig the hole filling up with loose electrons rather than one that is continually filling with water.

# **November Antenna Site Test**

Dave, K4DND

This is a pre-cap or a re-cap depending on when you read it, but I thought that it would be useful to get a list of antenna sites more widely distributed so everyone can be thinking about which site or sites are most convenient to their home or work locations.

These emergency antennas have been put up over many years. Some have been in place since the early 1990's while others have been put up in the recent past.

The antennas follow directly from the vision of Hein N4FWA, who reasoned that the best use of limited resources was not to install radio equipment that probably no one would know how to use, but rather install antennas and feedlines at critical sites, relying on the ARES volunteers to bring in their own power supplies and radios, equipment which they would know how to operate.

Over the years, the wisdom behind this approach has certainly been proven. Saturday afternoon, November 6 will be the next scheduled test of these antennas and feedlines. It has been some time since they were tested and it should be done on a regular basis to insure that they are ready to go when needed. We don't need to be trying to figure out if there is a problem with a site in the middle of an actual emergency.

Despite the ongoing commitment to install antennas and feedlines, some of these sites have client-owned radios that will need to be tested as well.

The plan will be for each emergency site to communicate with the other sites on the WA4TFZ 146.760 and 146.895 repeaters, the K4DND 145.450 and the W4FCO 145.170 repeaters. Also, those participants with the capability will also test the KF4UCI 442.075 repeater. Following the repeater tests, we will try all sites using 146.550 simplex, to see who can talk with whom directly.

We are fortunate in that the Fluvanna County ARES team, under the leadership of Fluvanna County EC Manny K4MSR, will participate by activating the Fluvanna County antenna sites.

Also, Vic N3DFS will activate the Greene County ARC office station. No one will be at the Louisa County ARC office as the building that housed that station is no longer in use by the Red Cross.

Charlottesville/Albemarle antenna sites and operators for this exercise

- Emergency Communications Center (ECC or 911 Center) – Bob Nelson KE4AQD
- Martha Jefferson Hospital may not be active due to lack of participants, and the fact that this station will be moving early in 2011.
- 3. UVA Poison Control Center Andre Berkin KI4NTM
- UVA Health South Dave Firestone K4DPF
- American Red Cross Linda Beard KI5LLB and Patsy Crosby K4PMC
- 6. Virginia Health Department Mike Rein KA4JJD
- Western Albemarle Rescue Squad Greg Faust N4PGS
- 8. Monticello High School Jim Owen K4CGY
- County Office Building (COB) South Jim Crosby K4JEC
- 10. Scottsville Rescue Squad Dave Damon K4DND
- East Rivanna Fire Station Elmer Scott KF4UCI and Jon Scott KJ4RPW
- 12. Ridge Street Fire Station Stan Hazen K2SSB (the antenna is in the process of being reinstalled at the FS after roof work required its removal)
- 13. Zehmer Hall not activated due to the facility being in use by UVA that day

Fluvanna County antenna sites and operators for this exercise (Manny K4MSR floating)

- Lake Monticello Fire Station Fred Newman KE4ZNO
- 2. Kent Store Rescue Squad Walter Parsons W4QIA
- 3. Fork Union Fire Station Dave Scott KN4ZQ
- 4. Palmyra Rescue Squad Lee Moyer K4ISW
- 5. Carrysbrook Rec Center Gym Bob Miller W4RBM
- 6. Lake Monticello Club House Larry Shultz KF4FRR
- Fluvanna Emergency Operatons Center (EOC) Glenn Schumaker W4XR and Troy Weidenheimer W0ROF

# **AARC Volunteer Examiners**

Dave, K4DND

The AARC VE list has been updated, but if I have missed anyone, please let me know so you can be added. The next AARC VE session will be Saturday December 11, 9AM at NRAO. That will be our last session for 2010. Thanks to Bruce AB3BB our VE Liaison and all the members who worked sessions this year.

| Callsign | Name            | # Sessions |
|----------|-----------------|------------|
| W2HD     | Harry Dannals   | 48         |
| WA1A     | Mark Gorlinsky  | 41         |
| K4DU     | Bob Pattison    | 30         |
| W6UZ     | John Gray       | 28         |
| K4CGY    | Jim Owen        | 23         |
| KO4WQ    | Rick Berman     | 22         |
| K4DND    | Dave Damon      | 19         |
| NOWP     | Bill Pond       | 13         |
| AB3BB    | Bruce Budinger  | 8          |
| W4PRT    | Pete Thorsen    | 5          |
| N4UVA    | Don Eason Jr    | 5          |
| K9MBQ    | Alan Swinger    | 5          |
| K4IB     | Bill Arnold     | 4          |
| KT4UO    | Terry Henderson | 4          |
| K4UL     | Brian O'Rourke  | 3          |
| KJ4XZ    | Will Seay       | 2          |
| WD4LT    | Skip Thacker    | 1          |
| AD6JV    | Bill Phillips   | 1          |
| KI5LLB   | Linda Beard     | 0          |
|          |                 |            |

# **AARC Repeater History**

Ron, K4RKA

Virginia Repeater Stations from Day 2.

Harry, W2HD, recently gave me a stack of old ARRL Repeater Directories and suggested that I summarize the Virginia Repeaters shown in them for possible interest to club members. The "Day 2" in the title refers to the fact that the earliest Directory is dated 1972 and we know there were repeaters on the air in Virginia (including Charlottesville) before then.

The earliest Charlottesville repeater was on 146.28 input, 146.94 output under the K4RKA call and went into operation from the Carter's mountain Forest Service lookout tower in the spring of 1970. By 1972 we were organized as the Charlottesville Emergency Amateur Repeater Society under the call WB4KNX and the output frequency changed to 146.88 as planned when the orginal frequency pair was chosen. This repeater was coordinated by the Carolina

Virginia Repeater Association (CVRA), the predecessor to the present SouthEastern Repeater Association (SERA). The 1972 AARL Repeater Directory listed 10 (that's TEN) repeaters in the state of Virginia including one 6m remote base. The whole directory was only 36 pages long.

By 1976, the ARRL Repeater Directory had grown to 88 pages, included several pages of advertisements and listed 38 repeaters in Virginia, one of which was on 220MHz and 7 on 450MHz. Charlottesville was represented by the new repeater call group WR4ADV. The story behind the "WR" call grouping for repeaters is one of the little guys (hams) overcoming serious technical obstacles put in place by the big guys (FCC) where we successfully proved that we were up to the substantial technical reporting challenge equal to commercial radio stations.

In 1977, the directory listings had grown enough that the repeaters were separated into bands. The Charlottesville repeater was now on 146.16/.76 with the call sign WR4ATL due to a paperwork foul-up and the more powerful Richmond repeater on 146.88. The two meter repeater list had grown to 41, there were two 220 MHz repeaters, three 6 meter repeaters, and seven 450 repeaters including WR4AYG which was also a 6m remote base located on Chapel Hill at Bud Maine's (WB4FZV) house.

By 1978, Virginia added one more 6m repeater, eight more 2m repeaters, one more 220 repeater and three more 450 repeaters.

In 1981 there were 77 2m repeaters and 17 450Mhz repeaters listed in Virginia and the "WR" calls were being replaced by "normal" calls signs. In the summer of 1981, CEARS was absorbed into the AARC and the repeater call changed to the club call of WA4TFZ. The "lifetime" membership feature of CEARS was dropped and the AARC took over all financial responsibility and legal liability for all the club repeaters.

1983 saw a new Virginia listing for a 10m repeater with 8 6m repeaters, 94 2m repeaters, 5 220 MHz repeaters, and 24 450 MHz repeaters.

Jumping way ahead to 2009, the ARRL directory has ballooned to 770 pages, with Virginia contributing two 10 m repeaters, 37 6 m repeaters, 189 2m repeaters, 50 220 MHz repeaters, 187 450 repeaters, 16 900 MHz repeaters, 11 1200 MHz repeaters, 18 D-Star repeaters, 13 IRLP nodes, and 5 EchoLink repeaters.

Along the way, ATV repeaters, Packet Nodes, APCO, and WiRES repeaters have come and gone in the listing. It might be interesting to plot a graph of all categories of repeaters by year, band or mode as listed by the ARRL, perhaps cross referenced to SERA or TMARC since I noticed some one place but not the other, but these variations are minor in the overall picture. There are also a few known repeaters not listed but I'm sure there are many more listed which no longer exist or are off the air.

I have a few gaps in Directory coverage, mostly in the late

1990's and mid 2000's. If anyone has copies of those issues and would like to loan them to me for a few days, I might put together a spread sheet of repeaters by year. I have SERA Journals complete from CVRA days but they don't cover TMARC territory so aren't truly representative of Virginia as a whole. The other consideration is "who cares", but it's a lot like stamp collecting, if the data is there, SOMEONE will care or at least be interested enough to make a chart or write a summary for a newsletter.

# **Special Notice – Continuing General License Class**

# Amateur Radio Classes (Free!)



**Learn Ham Radio:** Now is your opportunity to receive detailed instruction from experienced local amateur radio operators. Free classes will be offered to amateurs who already hold the Technician class license to earn their **General Class license**.

# Where & For How Long?

Each session will be conducted at the **Charlottesville main public library** (201 East Market Street) and runs approximately two hours. Session dates:

- 9:30am Saturday October 2<sup>nd</sup>
- 9:30am Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup>
- 9:30am Saturday November 20<sup>th</sup>
- 9:30am Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup>
- December 11<sup>th</sup> Exam Session at NRAO

If you need to purchase an ARRL General Class License Manual, these will be offered for \$20.

# **How to Register:**

Please contact Bill Phillips, <u>billp104@earthlink.net</u> or telephone (434) 872-0686. Or, just show up at any session!

These classes are sponsored by the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club. Join the fun; all ages are welcomed. Opportunity knocks!

# None The AARC Public Service Schedule is completed for 2010, Many thanks to all for the great turnout this year. See you at our events in 2011.

| Area Hamfests |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|
|               |  |  |
| None          |  |  |
|               |  |  |

| FCC Database Updates |        |  |
|----------------------|--------|--|
| New Calls            |        |  |
| Joseph Burch         | AK4CX  |  |
| Alex Olihovik        | KJ4YWP |  |
| Upgrades             |        |  |
|                      |        |  |
| Vanity Calls         |        |  |
|                      |        |  |
|                      |        |  |

| VE Session Schedule - 2010                    |                                                                                                      |  |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Date: December 11<br>Location: NRAO Rm<br>230 | Remember the new Technician<br>Question Pool is effective as of July<br>1, 2010. DON'T study the old |  |
| (ARRL VEC)                                    | questions!!                                                                                          |  |

|                   | AARC             | Club ( | Officers                                         |
|-------------------|------------------|--------|--------------------------------------------------|
| President         | Dave Damon       | K4DND  | k4dnd@arrl.net<br>(434) 973-5866                 |
| Vice<br>President | Jim Crosby       | K4JEC  | jecrosby@comcast.net<br>(434) 987-2006           |
| Secretary         | Patsy Crosby     | K4PMC  | patsycrosby@comcast.net<br>(434) 989-2362        |
| Treasurer         | Don Eason<br>Jr. | N4UVA  | deason@comcast.net<br>(434) 973-9119             |
| Director          | Jim Wilson       | K4BAV  | jwilsonphoto@earthlink.net<br>(434) 245-7041     |
| Director          | Linda Beard      | KI5LLB | lindaskyone@embarqmail.c<br>om<br>(434) 823-2107 |
| Director          | Greg Faust       | N4PGS  | n4pgs@arrl.net<br>(434) 978-1962                 |
| Director          | Bill Phillips    | AD6JV  | billp1048@earthlink.net<br>(434) 872-0686        |
| Director          | Bob Pattison     | K4DU   | k4du@arrl.net<br>(434) 985-4828                  |
| Director          | Jim Owen         | K4CGY  | <u>k4cgy@yahoo.com</u> 434-<br>296-3044          |

| Contest Calendars                         |                                                                               |  |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| ARRL Contest Calendar 2010                | ARRL sponsored contests                                                       |  |
| SM3CER Contest Service -<br>Calendar 2010 | 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.albemarleradio.org/



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### ISSUE DEADLINE - 25th of each month

Contact Information
Dave Damon K4DND
4521 Burnley Station Rd
Barboursville, VA 22923
434-973-5866
k4dnd@arrl.net

Next Club Meeting:

November 9 - 7:30 PM

NRAO Auditorium

# CLUB MEETINGS and NETS

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

BOD Meetings: Prior to regular meeting at 7:00 PM

Meetings are held at the NRAO building on Edgemont Road.

LUNCH BUNCH: 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

Northern Piedmont Emergency Net: Each Thursday at 8:00 PM

All Nets are held on the 146.760 repeater

### AREA REPEATERS

| 146.760 (-)          | 151.4 Hz Tone | WA4TFZ              |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 146.925 (-)          | 151.4 Hz Tone | WA4TFZ              |
| 146.895 (-)          | 151.4 Hz Tone | WA4TFZ              |
| 224.760 (-)          | No Tone       | WA4TFZ              |
| 444.000(+)           | 151.4 Hz Tone | WA4TFZ              |
| 444.250 (+)          | 151.4 Hz Tone | WA4TFZ              |
| Other Area Repeaters |               |                     |
| 444.775 (+)          | 151.4 Hz Tone | KF4UCI              |
| 442.075 (+)          | 151.4 Hz Tone | KF4UCI              |
| 443.000 (+)          | 151.4 Hz Tone | W4UVA               |
| 145.17 (-)           | 151.4 Hz Tone | W4FCO (Fluvanna)    |
| 146.79 (-)           | 110.9 Hz Tone | WW4GW (Buckingham)  |
| 145.450 (-)          | 151.4 Hz Tone | K4DND (MJ Hospital) |
|                      |               | IRLP Node # 4703    |

**KG4HOT** 

224.600 (-) 151.4 Tone

Membership application available in PDF format at http://www.albemarleradio.org/members/AARC\_member\_application.pdf