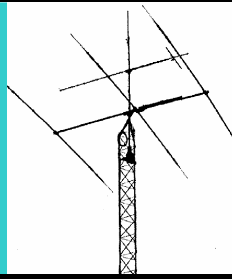


# The AARC Beacon



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

Volume 2010, No. 12



December 2010

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## The President's Letter

*Dave, K4DND*

Holiday Greetings to all AARC members and friends. I hope that you will have a pleasant time with friends and family during this important time of year. One opportunity to do so will be the December AARC meeting. Please make a special effort to join us on December 14 at NRAO for the monthly meeting. We will have an interesting presentation on the VA QSO Party, as well as a Holiday social time with refreshments.

This is the last time that I will address you as AARC President. For the past three years I have been writing this column for the Beacon and discussing things that I think are important and worth comment. It is always difficult for me to get started but as soon I actually do, I don't seem to have any trouble going on and on; I am sure that this month will be no exception. It has been a fun and rewarding three years for me personally, but even if the Bylaws did not require it, it is time to turn things over to a new President.

With the greatest confidence, I look forward to the continuing evolution of the AARC under the capable leadership of Jim, K4JEC. I want to thank Jim for all his effort and hard work as your Vice President for the past two years. Jim will do a great job for the club in the future. I am always amazed at the enthusiasm and energy that Jim brings to everything he undertakes, and the patience which Patsy K4PMC contributes.

Of our accomplishments over the past three years, to me the most important has been membership recruitment. We have seen the AARC grow impressively, and this larger membership has brought with it a diverse array of talent and capability that has made the AARC even better. Hopefully we will be able to continue growth in this way in the coming years.

From the larger pool of AARC members, we have more participation in public service, a wider array of interesting presentations for club meetings, increased outreach such as the past involvement with the CHS balloon project, and the

## Meeting Notice

The next AARC meeting will be held on **December 14 at NRAO. The AARC Board meets at 7PM and the general meeting convenes at 7:30PM. Gordon Miller NQ4K will talk about the VA QSO Party sponsored by the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club (SPARC). Annual holiday get together is also on the schedule for this meeting.**

Be sure to attend!

recent and continuing participation with Boy Scout merit badge projects.

David Sumner K1ZZ made some relevant comments in the December QST column "It Seems to Us". Sumner says "*For people who are just becoming acquainted with Amateur Radio the most important community is likely to be a local radio club. When a newcomer encounters a group that enjoys doing things together and sharing their passion for radio with one another, when the first-time visitor is made to feel welcome, he or she is likely to return.*"

He goes on to observe "*But a welcoming club doesn't just happen. It takes officers who are willing to devote the time to building a team, planning programs and activities, and seeing that the myriad tasks that are required to sustain a volunteer organization are all getting done. It takes leaders who are willing to move beyond their own comfort zone, to reach out to new people and entrust them with responsibility so they can develop into future leaders. It takes members who are willing to forego what they enjoy most – whether it is operating, building, experimenting, or just hanging out with old friends – to spend precious time sharing what they know with a new generation. There are many such clubs among the more than 2,000 ARRL affiliates, especially our Special Service clubs. We salute them. Through their efforts, Amateur Radio is healthy and growing – not just in numbers of licensees, but in our capacity to serve the public interest.*"

To me Sumner's comments are a perfect description of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club, and I am pleased to accept his salute on behalf of the entire AARC membership.

## Veep Peeps

Jim, K4JEC

With great anticipation, I am looking forward to our meeting on December 14 at the NRAO. There will be holiday refreshments and Gordon R. Miller, NQ4K, will offer a program. He will explain and explore the Virginia QSO Party sponsored and operated by the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club. All members are urged to attend. Guests and those interested in Amateur Radio are always invited. There will be a board meeting at 7 PM prior to the general membership meeting at 7:30 PM.

Tickets for the Annual Awards Dinner in January will be available for purchase at the December meeting. The dinner will find us back at the Elks Lodge on January 10 where we have enjoyed several previous ones. We will start with a cash bar at 6:30 PM and dinner will follow at 7 PM. 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.

We are looking forward to a new year with several major projects such as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Virginia Ham Radio Cruise-In the last Saturday in April, a new round of public service activities, Field Day next to the last weekend in June and the Club Picnic and Auction on the second Tuesday in August. These are all exciting adventures for the club and very rewarding for the members who pitch-in to guarantee their success.

One of the major thrusts of our club is our public service activities of the planned variety that help prepare us for the unplanned variety such as natural or man-made disasters. Public service is an excellent training ground for emergency communications and we urge each member to participate to become well grounded in process and procedures. We have sold and distributed 36 of our public safety vests and have ordered another dozen to keep us supplied so that we can all turn out for major activities wearing them for safety and club identification. If you haven't obtained yours, please plan to do so at the December or February meeting to be ready to turn out and serve.

## Club Business

Patsy, K4PMC

### Board Meeting

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, KA4JJD, N4UVA, AD6JV and K4DND present.

### Secretary's Board Report

We have received an invitation to Richmond Frost Fest for February 5<sup>th</sup> at the Richmond Speed Way – the same place as last year.

The minutes of the October Board Meeting were published in The November Issue of the Beacon. Does anyone have any corrections or additions? If not they stand as published.

### Treasurer's Report- Held for General Meeting.

### Vice President's Report

Tickets available for sale for the January dinner. Put the date of January 11 on your calendars. We will gather at 6:30 p.m.; and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$16 each. We have sold out of Club Safety Vests but have a good supply of Club Patches.

A motion was made to purchase 12 additional vests by N4UVA and seconded by K4CGY. The motion passed.

### President's Report –

K4DND suggested reserving a table or two at Richmond Frost Fest. He pointed out that we usually get two tables

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and five tickets for those who commit to staff the clubs table. K4JEC moved that we reserve two tables and 5 tickets. The motion was seconded by AD6JV and carried.

### Committee Reports for the board.

No committee reports were offered to the board.

Old Business -- None

New Business -- None

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

### General Membership Meeting

Call to Order -- 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 29 members present. Sign-in sheet attached to file copy in minutes book.

### Secretary's Report

General Meeting Minutes for September were approved as printed in The Beacon on a motion by W2PVY that was seconded by K2SSB

### Treasurer's Report –

Opening Balance in October	\$6,699.76
Deposits	94.00
Expenses	1,481.00
Closing Balance	\$5,312.76

### President's Report –

Our current membership is 129. Could we find one more member to round it out for the year at 130? We will have two tables at the Richmond Frost Fest on February 5 at the Richmond Raceway. We will be accepting items for sale there. Items can be donated to the club for sale and if donors want receipts, the club will get 10%. The last VE Session will be held on December 11 at 9 a.m.

### Vice President's Report

Tickets are here and available for sale for the January 11 Dinner. They are \$16 each; the same as last year, The dinner will be at the Elks Lodge. We will gather at 6:30 and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. I have been authorized by the board to order an additional dozen Club Safety Vests for new member and replacements. We have a good supply of Club Patches.

### Committee Reports

Technical Committee – Jim, K4CGY – The committee will hold a meeting immediately following this meeting.

Fund Raising Committee – Bob, K4DU, -- Not present.

Estate Committee – Linda, KI5LLB, -- Not present.

Public Service Committee –Greg, N4PGS, -- The public service activities have ended for 2010 and it was a very successful year for the club. I urge everyone to check your emergency supplies and ready kit for that unplanned emergency response that may come at any time.

Education Committee – Bill, AD6JV, -- We have had our second session of the General Class Course with four students. The Technician Class mentoring program is well underway with two students.

Public Relations Committee—Jim, K4BAV – It was pointed out that The Beacon offers us an archive of club business and activity that could be required at some point to maintain our IRS 501 (c) (3) status. We are still looking for someone to volunteer to become editor of The Beacon.

Old Business- None offered

New Business –K9MBO offered information on the Super Bertha Antenna Tower and stated that he is now a representative for the company.

Adjournment -- The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

### Program

Kenneth, KJ4KIH, presented a program to introduce our new club website and answered questions regarding it use and access.

The Program ended at 8:33 p.m.

A meeting of the Technical Committee followed which lasted about 30 minutes.

## For Sale and Wanted...

*Ron, K4RKA*

For Most recent listings – See [www.albemarleradio.org](http://www.albemarleradio.org)

## Local Author W2PVY

*Dave, K4DND*

On the afternoon of Monday, November 29, our own W2PVY Joe Giovanelli held a reading and book signing event at Out Lady of Peace in Charlottesville.

**December 2010**

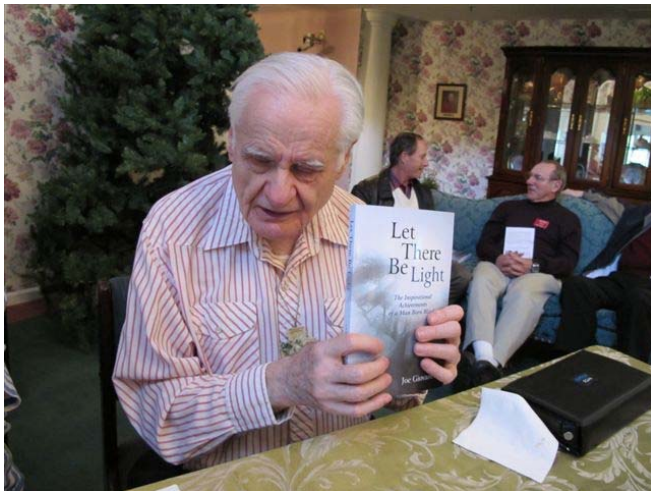
Joe's autobiography titled "Let There be Light" was written, edited and proofed by Joe over an eighteen month period and tells Joe's personal journey through life overcoming his blindness and how he managed to accomplish so much.

Those of you who know Joe, also know there is little that is beyond his talents and abilities. I thought that the two things that might be beyond Joe's capabilities are 1.) driving a car and 2.) flying an airplane. When I mentioned that to Joe one time, he quickly set me straight, that he was perfectly capable of driving and had done so in the past. So much for my assessments....

Thanks to Jim K4BAV for the photos, other AARC members attending Joe's event were Stan K2SSB and Sheila, Dennis K4THE, Harry W2HD, and Alan K9MBQ.



Joe W3PVY and Vail answer questions



Joe W2PVY and his book



Alan K9MBQ, Dennis K4THE and Harry W2HD



Stan K2SSB and Sheila talk with Joe W2PVY and Vail

**AARC Member Focus**

*Dave K4DND*

Those of you who attended the November AARC meeting got a chance to meet Kenneth Kang KJ4KIH, and see his informative presentation on the new aspects of the AARC website. For those of you not present at the last AARC meeting, let me introduce you to Kenneth.

Kenneth was born in Georgia, so has legitimate claim to being a "southerner". He attended Stanford University in California, and graduated with a degree in Computer Science. Kenneth says with some regret, that while he was busy pursuing his degree, he saw others drop out and start small companies such as

Google and Yahoo.

He was interested in Amateur Radio and tried to get licensed in the 1980's but was unable to do so because of the code requirement in effect at the time.

Kenneth and his wife moved to the Charlottesville area as his wife was accepted into the PhD Psychology program at UVA. Shortly after moving to Virginia, Kenneth attended a VE session put on by the Mt. Vernon ARC in Northern Virginia, and in one sitting passed his Technician and General Class licenses.

If you were wondering how it is that Kenneth is such a skilled computer whiz, consider the fact that Kenneth is employed as a full-time "off-site" software engineer for PayPal.

For those not familiar with PayPal, it is the leading on-line financial service that allows over 87 million account holders in 197 markets using over 24 different currencies to send payments from sources such as bank accounts or credit cards to any other registered account without sharing any financial information. PayPal is headquartered in Palo Alto, CA with international operations headquartered in Singapore.

The AARC is fortunate to have the skill and expertise of Kenneth as one of our members.



Kenneth Kang KJ4KIH

## AARC Beacon Content

*Dave, K4DND*

Each month the Beacon Editor (temporarily yours truly) needs content for the current issue. While it is my pleasure to provide this service to the AARC, it is always made easier by having contributions from other members.

Whether you have a story to tell, hint to share, report on some activity you participated in, special interest of yours, whatever.... It will be of interest to other club members.

Just write it up, and let me know if it is ok for me to edit or if you want it to appear as you submitted it, and email it to me at [k4dnd@arrl.net](mailto:k4dnd@arrl.net).

Thanks, and I look forward to your contributions.

## 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, [billp104@earthlink.net](mailto:billp104@earthlink.net) 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!

## AARC Public Service Schedule

<b>None</b>	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.
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## Area Hamfests

<b>None</b>	
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## FCC Database Updates

<b>New Calls</b>	
<b>Upgrades</b>	
<b>Rick Thomas</b>	KJ4WLK upgrade to General
<b>Vanity Calls</b>	

## VE Session Schedule - 2010

<b>Date: December 11</b> <b>Location: NRAO Rm 230</b>  <b>(ARRL VEC)</b>	Remember the new Technician Question Pool is effective as of July 1, 2010. DON'T study the old questions!!
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## AARC Club Officers

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

## Contest Calendars

<a href="#">ARRL Contest Calendar 2010</a>	ARRL sponsored contests
<a href="#">SM3CER Contest Service - Calendar 2010</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.albemarleradio.org/>



**THE AARC BEACON**  
**Vol 2010 No. 12**  
**December, 2010**



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**ISSUE DEADLINE - 25th of each month**

**Contact Information**  
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Barboursville, VA 22923  
434-973-5866  
[k4dnd@arri.net](mailto:k4dnd@arri.net)

**Next Club Meeting : December 14 - 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**  
224.600 (-) 151.4 Hz Tone **KG4HOT**

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