



The Beacon

A monthly newsletter of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club serving Central Virginia

Celebrating our 51st Year

September _____ 2014

Our Annual Picnic/Auction is set for September 9 at 6 pm. The group will convene at the Elks Lodge across from Towe Park. Make your reservation at: jecrosby@comcast.net

President's Corner

By Jim Owen – K4CGY



Where has it gone? I seem to have lost it and can't find it. Summer I'm talking about. It seems like just yesterday we were planning for Field Day and now we're thinking about the kids going back to school, the finishing up of the plans we made to get things done around the house by the first of July and of course getting up the leaves. We have had a good summer though; there were successful bike and foot races for which we provided communications in case of emergency. I thank all that were involved in these and remind you that we have a few more coming up so volunteer with Andrew KK4SHO to help out. We have the annual club picnic at the Elks Lodge coming up on September 9th and the auction. Please bring something for the auction and of course purchase something. We need to set a date and find someone to organize a clean-up party to the Marshall Manor repeater (146.76) site and later to the Heard Mountain (146.925) site. Do we have any volunteer to lead the planning as we already have volunteers for the clean-up? Then we soon will be coming up on election of new officers and directors so if you're interested in helping out the club with new ideas

please let it be known that you would accept an office. There likely will be a number of changes inside and out of the club so be alert and help out. Please when you have a chance monitor the repeaters and help out any traveler that calls the repeater, and not only travelers but club members as well.

The Skywarn service is changing somewhat in that Wakefield has worked out an agreement with Dave Damon, our Virginia ARES/RACES District 3 Emergency Coordinator. Dave K4DND's repeater (146.73) can now be connected to Wakefield via ILRP in case of a weather emergency. Wakefield serves our adjacent counties to the east and needs a portal of contact for them. Jim K4JEC and Jim K4CGY, Skywarn net control trained operators, are the primary monitors on the club repeaters during Skywarn activations for any reports of severe weather to be passed on to Sterling NWS, who serve Charlottesville/Albemarle. Other amateurs are welcomed to help and do the same. In that line it is predicted that this will be a severely cold winter with snow fall greatly above the average. This winter is predicted to be somewhat like the winter of 2010 where we measured snowfall by the foot and not the inch! Therefore be prepared! Have your generator in operating condition with sufficient gas to run at least a couple of days and of course keep your batteries charged. Be sure your radio antenna's will survive a heavy snow fall (check the ropes now) and be ready to help to run any emergency nets on both the repeaters and 75 and 40 meter bands. Remember your antenna doesn't have to be perfect to get through but it must be in position. It might pay to have an indoor antenna for 2m in case your outside one suffers some damage.

Also to those interested in contest operating, the season is beginning. Contesting is a great way to hone your listening skills and increasing your operating efficiency. Yes I said listening—any of us can talk but it takes practice to hear a given station through static, pile-ups or other types of interference. My favorite contest late in the year is the ARRL 10 meter contest the 2nd weekend of December. There are others of course including some sprints (a few hours) and regional ones like the QSO parties. BTW if anyone is interested I have an unneeded 10 meter four element yagi I could be talked out of very cheaply. I also have other antenna's such as a Hygain TH-6 tri-band yagi and three element 15 meter yagi that is taking up space.

Please check the clubs website for equipment for sale as there are quite a few nice pieces available for fair prices.

See you at the picnic.

73 Jim K4CGY

A VP Report

By Joe Giovanelli

As you will see in the list below, the AARC will be treated to a wide variety of subjects between October and February of next year.

Bob Pattison, K4DU, did a survey to determine members' interests in future presentations. Doubtless I'll be looking at the results of that survey as I work to provide you with programs which will interest all of us. Please feel free to tell me if I've failed or perhaps succeeded or failed. Better still, tell me what you would like to have presented in future meetings.

Because of our attempts to streamline our meetings, we now have the opportunity to feature more than one topic. You'll notice that this is the case next October. Here's what you've been waiting to read:

There is no program in September; this is our annual picnic.

October: Mike McPherson, KQ9P, will tell us about something known as Mesh Link.

Bonus: Bill Pond, N0WP, will discuss the AARC repeater system linking project. A little birdie told me that he just might have a bit more to tell us about our club repeaters.

November: Ron Richey, K4RKA, will give us a fascinating talk about the history of our club. He will be joined by Bob VanFossen, K4DJG, who was there at the very start of our club.

In the early 1960's, Bob VanFossen, K4DJG, and such luminaries as Dick Florence, formally W4OFR, now K4VY, Gene Bosseix, W4IWW, Carter Feild, formally K4GPK, now W4FZV, and others who are no longer in the area or are no longer, decided that Charlottesville needed an Amateur Radio Club. An organizational meeting and election of officers was held on November 6, 1962. Bob was elected the first President and will be here in November, 2014 to share some other tidbits of information from that period. He presently lives in New Market and is active in the MARA club. He has attended some AARC events in the recent past, including the Cruise-In and Picnic.

We are looking forward to his co-hosting the November Club History program with Ron, K4RKA.

December: no program because our annual holiday dinner is scheduled for that time.

January: Jim Crosby, K4JEC, will give a talk which he has titled: "What does being determined a public charity mean to the AARC?" He writes: "In a letter dated June 8, 2009, the IRS wrote: 'We have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.'

February: Mike McPherson, KQ9P, will bring us up to date with the latest happenings related to ARES.

AARC Picnic and Silent Auction

By Jim Crosby – K4JEC

Wow! One of the highlights of the club year is fast coming around. The AARC Annual Picnic/Silent Auction has been set for Tuesday, September 9, at the Elks Club Pavilion located across from Towe Park. The picnic is scheduled to start at 6 p.m. Each club member is requested to bring a dish to share to round out the menu of hotdogs and hamburgers from the grill.

The club will be providing the condiments, meat, cold drinks and paper products. Each dues paid member is invited to bring their immediate family. Former and prospective members are invited to attend and will be expected to pay the ½ year dues of \$10 to be considered a member in good standing or a \$5 fee just for the banquet. Any non-member amateur is invited to attend for a \$5 fee for the picnic and participate in the silent auction of amateur gear/equipment.

While dining and visiting, you are invited to browse the auction items and place your bids. Each item will have a bid sheet upon which bidders can place their bid. Bidding will stop promptly at 8 p.m. and the bidder with the highest bid gets to claim the item and settle up with the owner. If no bid meets or exceeds the minimum bid established by the seller, you can begin negotiations with the seller who might be willing to accept your offer.

Spread the word and invite your amateur friends who might not belong to our club to share this wonderful event of fun and fellowship.

Technical Committee report

By Bill Pond – N0WP

There have been no changes at any of the repeater sites since the last update. The work done last month at Heard Mt. (146.925) to replace its VHF receiver appears to have been satisfactory.

We still need to plan and execute a work party to clean up the Marshall Manor site. I believe that Jim Owen, K4CGY is coordinating that effort, and I look forward to participating in the work since I'm sure the weeds are well above our heads at this point in time after all the rain we received earlier in the summer.

We plan to install the discrete PL encoder on the 440 link transmitter at Marshall Manor during an upcoming visit. This should eliminate ID's from that transmitter being "heard" by the Buck's Elbow 146.895 and Heard Mountain 146.925 machines. I believe the equivalent work we've already done at Buck's and Heard has made a significant improvement in excess ID's being retransmitted on 146.760.

I have repaired the original power supply from the Martha Jefferson 444.250 repeater and intend to re-install it soon. It's currently using a temporary supply that has performed well. Thanks to Greg N4PGS for donating the needed power transistors.

No further action has been taken regarding the intermittent issues with noise on retransmitted audio at 146.760 since it's been quiet lately. It's definitely our plan to determine the best and final solution to this most irritating problem.

Public Service Committee Report

By Andrew Wiley, KK4SHO

After an interesting start with lack of amateurs for the MS 150 Tour, the public service committee has gotten back on great ground! We had a very good Miller School road race with only one injury that was taken care of by Western Albemarle Rescue Squad with the help of W4MBW and K4JZQ. The next event will be the Boys and Girls Club Cycling Challenge on Sunday, September 14, 2014. All slots have NOT been filled. Please contact KK4SHO if you have not already regarding volunteering for this event.

Three problems (other than personnel issues) have come up that the club needs to address. One, we need three more Public Service Traffic vests for both follow vehicles and amateurs at corners. Two and three, we need more 2 meter AARC Event Maxtrac radios with rare-earth magnet mount antennas to be able to put into follow vehicles so that amateurs don't have to use their own equipment (unless they want to). So, I am requesting approximately \$50-100 for everything I just mentioned to go ahead and purchase these.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support and advice, I have certainly learned a lot about public service, amateur radio and this club since taking over for W4BXG, Joe Flamini. If you haven't volunteered in awhile, I highly encourage you to do so. If you have never volunteered for a public service event, why not start now! I look forward to seeing you soon.

RAG Chewing

Notes from members to share with the club

Editor's Note: This is a new feature to offer space to members who want to share personal items with their fellow club members.

ND0CW and "Little Black Box"

By John Green KX4P

Recently, through my amateur radio station, I had the pleasure of working David Heintzleman, ND0CW, on 15 meters CW (Morse code). His location in North Dakota is not common to hear, so I was delighted to work him. Oddly enough, there were few stations on and we soon found ourselves in a lengthy CW QSO. After discovering some common interest, we moved up to the phone band and continued to chat on SSB. Among other things, we learned we were both retired, had been hams since childhood, and had been pastors of Baptist churches, he in North Dakota and myself in Oregon. I also realized his call sign was rather

special, i.e., "ND" (North Dakota) + 0 + "CW" (continuous wave oscillation for Morse code operating).

Following the contact we exchanged QSL cards to add to our collections. In addition, David included a poem that was very appropriate for both of us as "old timers" who grew up when radios came in black boxes, had "jewel" indicator lights on the front panel, "rocks" were electrically tuned quartz crystals that set the radio frequency, the warm glowing glass tubes provided the oscillations, amplifications, etc. As high school kids learning the thrill of amateur radio, we all had our "little back room" with squealing sounds of Morse code as we made friends around town, across the entire United States and, can you believe it, all over the world! And all we had was a little black box and a wire antenna out the window - and, oh yes, a telegraph key for sending Morse code!

Hope you enjoy the following poem as much as I did. Thank you ND0CW for the QSOs, QSL and poem. Also, thanks to ARRL's KB1EIB for permission to reprint the poem.

73 from John Green, KX4P
Pittsboro, NC

Little Black Box

By Max P. Vander Horck, WA6HUW

Published in QST, November, 1966, page 33

Used by permission of ARRL's KB1EIB

A little black box of jewels and rocks,
with lanterns that flicker and glow,

Make lighter the gloom in my little back room,
where often I haste to go.

An anthem it peals of whistles and squeals
and of voices so ghostly and queer,

That you'd never decry, should you chance to
pass by,
what a brotherhood foregathers here!

Each separate tone has a soul of its own;
each voice is the voice of a friend,

United through space in this gathering-place
at the radiant rainbows end.

Reverberant sounds ride the wave that
rebounds,
like the waves of the sea from afar.

Reporting the doings, the comings and going
of brothers, wherever they are.

A curious band, spread over the land,
yet joined from equator to poles,

Disperses the gloom in each little back room
by this magic communion of souls.

I could part with a lot of the things that I've got,
but I'll carry my love to the tomb,

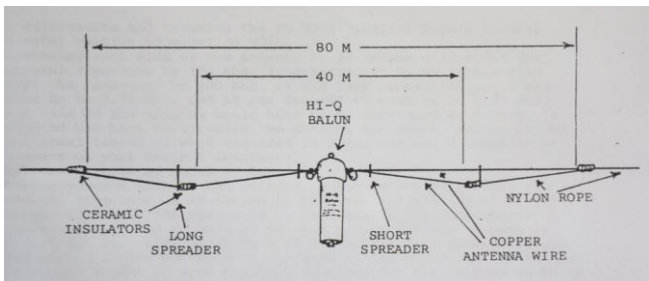
Of that little black box and the joys it unlocks
when I enter that little back room!

Hi:

While this may seem un-newsworthy, earlier this week I built and installed a new 80-40-15 meter parallel dipole. Why is this significant? We have now lived here for ten years as of July 1st. This is my first workable HF transmitting antenna.

A couple of photos are attached and can be cropped if used.

Jim Wilson K4BAV



CERT Classes Begin September 11th

By Jim Wilson K4BAV

Several members of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club have already completed their Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training and have become more involved with the community. CERT training offers: Free emergency preparedness training classes, a nine week course, covers disaster preparedness, fire suppression, basic first aid and disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, disaster psychology, team organization, and terrorism awareness.

If you decide to rise to this challenge, the classes meet once a week at the Charlottesville-UVA-Albemarle County Emergency Center.

I have completed this course and feel more prepared to assist my family and the community.

To inquire and sign up for the CERT course, call 434 971-1263. Class number one begins on the evening of September 11th.



Frequent visitors to the Wednesday Lunch Bunch were caught by Jim Wilson, our roving club photographer. Sheila and Stan K2SSB surround Rick Burman KO4WQ, a former old time member of the club.



The club exhibit and literature distribution center set up for The Miller School Bicycle Event. Marty Wangberg W4MBW took this picture.

New Members Approved in August

During the August Club meeting, we approved five new members. They were:

KM4CWP – Mary Loose DeViney

KM4CWO – Sarah Vegley

KJ4MKS – John Marsh

K4OLW – Jeff Heavin

W4LNT - Nancy Hillman

Approved previously was:

KMCWN – Anita Webb

Changes to the AARC Awards Program!

By Michael Rein - KA4JJD

In order to make qualifying for AARC awards easier, and recognizing that QSL cards have become rather harder to obtain, the AARC Awards Committee will accept logs of contacts for all awards. Please see below and the descriptions of individual awards for details.

AARC AWARDS - REVISED

The Albemarle Amateur Radio Club has established an Awards Committee to oversee the development and presentation of Club awards. The Committee is particularly interested in awards that recognize and thereby foster operating by new hams, encourage participation in Club activities, and increase the fun of amateur radio. The Board of Directors will approve all awardees proposed by the Committee.

The Awards Committee currently includes Michael KA4JJD, Dave K4DND, Bob K4DU, and Bill AD6JV, but other interested club members are invited to join. Suggestions for additional awards would be much appreciated.

Submissions, opinions and correspondence regarding the Awards Committee should be sent to Michael KA4JJD: mfr6t@virginia.edu, 434-977-4281, 109 Sturbridge Rd,

Charlottesville, VA 22901-2113.

Submissions are logs prepared by the AARC member applying. Submitted documentation consists of the date, time, location, and call sign of the station contacted. Logs may be submitted to the Awards Committee in any format, including .exc, .doc, .ppt, Cabrillo, legible handwriting, or other inventive formats. Logs are on the honor system.

OPERATING AWARDS

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club Central Virginia Repeater Century Award

Purpose: To encourage use of repeaters in Central Virginia
Rules:

1. Only contacts made on repeaters in Central Virginia count for credit. Simplex contacts do not count for this award. Contacts may include those made through linked repeaters or through IRLP.
2. Each QSO counts as two points, but only one contact with each licensed amateur, even if on different repeaters, can be counted for credit.
3. 50 contacts provide the 100 points required for the award.
4. Submitted documentation consists of the date, time, repeater used, and call sign of the station contacted. Logs may be submitted to the Awards Committee in any format, including .exc, .doc, .ppt, Cabrillo, legible handwriting, or other inventive formats. Logs are on the honor system.
5. Contacts made by a Net Control Operator (NCO) for the Monday Night Information Net, The Digital Net, or the Northern Piedmont Emergency Net maybe counted for award credit. An operator signing into a net may count the Net Control Operator once as a contact.
6. The award will be presented at or before the second regular club meeting following submission and approval.

Worked Lotsa States Awards

Purpose: To encourage new HF operators

Rules:

1. HF contacts with 15 of the 50 United States made from one's home station or mobile.
2. Contacts may be made with any mode and on any band.
3. Contacts may be made during contests
4. Submitted documentation consists of the date, time (UTC), frequency, location, and call sign of the stations contacted. Logs may be submitted to the Awards Committee in any format, including .exc, .doc, .ppt, Cabrillo, legible handwriting, or other inventive formats. Logs are on the honor system.
5. The award will be presented at or before the second regular club meeting following submission and approval.

Big 10 Award

Purpose: To encourage new HF operators

Rules:

1. HF contacts with all 10 United States call areas made from one's home station or mobile.
2. Contacts may be made with any mode and on any band.

3. Contacts may be made during contests or with special event stations.
4. Submitted documentation consists of the date, time (UTC), frequency, location, and call sign of the stations contacted. Logs may be submitted to the Awards Committee in any format, including .exc, .doc, .ppt, Cabrillo, legible handwriting, or other inventive formats. Logs are on the honor system.
5. The award will be presented at or before the second regular club meeting following submission and approval.

All American Award

Purpose: To encourage new HF operators and fellowship in the Americas

Rules:

1. HF contacts made from one's home station or mobile with one station outside Virginia in the United States, one station in Canada, one station in Mexico, one station in Central America, and one station in South America.
2. Contacts may be made with any mode and on any band.
3. Contacts may be made during contests or with special event stations.
4. Submitted documentation consists of the date, time (UTC), frequency, location, and call sign of the stations contacted. Logs may be submitted to the Awards Committee in any format, including .exc, .doc, .ppt, Cabrillo, legible handwriting, or other inventive formats. Logs are on the honor system.
5. The award will be presented at or before the second regular club meeting following submission and approval.

Worked All Border States Award

Purpose: To encourage new HF operators and knowledge of geography

Rules:

1. HF contacts made from one's home station or mobile with operators in each of the states bordering Canada, Mexico, the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and the Gulf of Mexico
2. Okay, that's: ME, VT, NH, MA, RI, CT, NY, NJ, DE, MD, VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL MS, LA, TX, NM, AZ, CA, OR, WA, ID, MT, ND, MN
3. Contacts may be made with any mode and on any band.
4. Contacts may be made during contests or with special event stations.
5. Submitted documentation consists of the date, time (UTC), frequency, location, and call sign of the stations contacted. Logs may be submitted to the Awards Committee in any format, including .exc, .doc, .ppt, Cabrillo, legible handwriting, or other inventive formats. Logs are on the honor system.
6. The award will be presented at or before the second regular club meeting following submission and approval.

Worked All Suffixes Award

Purpose: To encourage new HF operators and knowledge of the alphabet

Rules:

1. HF contacts made from one's home station or mobile with operators with suffixes beginning with each letter of the alphabet
2. Okay, that's: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, V, W, X, Y, Z
3. Contacts may be made with any mode, on any band, and to any country.
4. Contacts may be made during contests.
5. Submitted documentation consists of the date, time (UTC), frequency, location, and call sign of the stations contacted. Logs may be submitted to the Awards Committee in any format, including .exc, .doc, .ppt, Cabrillo, legible handwriting, or other inventive formats. Logs are on the honor system.
6. The award will be presented at or before the second regular club meeting following submission and approval.

Worked My Call Award

Purpose: To encourage new HF operators and knowledge of the alphabet

Rules:

1. HF contacts made from one's home station or mobile with an operator with one's own suffix
2. Okay, so for KA4XYZ, that is working a ham with any prefix and from any zone or country, who has the suffix XYZ.
3. Contacts may be made with any mode, on any band, and to any country.
4. Contacts may be made during contests.
5. Submitted documentation consists of the date, time (UTC), frequency, location, and call sign of the station contacted. Logs may be submitted to the Awards Committee in any format, including .exc, .doc, .ppt, Cabrillo, legible handwriting, or other inventive formats. Logs are on the honor system.
6. The award will be presented at or before the second regular club meeting following submission and approval.

Paper Chaser Award

Purpose: To introduce new and older hams to the process of working special event stations.

Rules:

1. HF contacts will be made from one's home station or mobile with operators of 20 special event stations.
2. Contacts may be made with any mode, on any band, and to any country.
3. Submitted documentation consists of the date, time (UTC), frequency, location, and call sign of the stations contacted. Logs may be submitted to the Awards Committee in any format, including .exc, .doc, .ppt, Cabrillo, legible handwriting, or other inventive formats. Logs are on the honor system.
4. The award will be presented at or before the second regular club meeting following submission and approval.

Worked Nearby States Award

Purpose: To encourage new hams and hams with lower power stations and smaller antennas.

Rules:

1. HF contacts made from one's home station or mobile with operators in states bordering on Virginia
2. Okay, that's: MD, DE, NC, TN, KY, WV (special endorsement for DC)
3. Contacts may be made with any mode, on any band.
4. Contacts may be made during contests.
5. Submitted documentation consists of the date, time (UTC), frequency, location, and call sign of the stations contacted. Logs may be submitted to the Awards Committee in any format, including .exc, .doc, .ppt, Cabrillo, legible handwriting, or other inventive formats. Logs are on the honor system.
6. The award will be presented at or before the second regular club meeting following submission and approval.

SERVICE AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

AARC Public Service Participation Certificate

Purpose: To encourage and recognize participation in AARC public service events

Award: The award consists of a certificate presented at the Club's Annual Awards Banquet and recognizes the number of AARC public service activities in which the member has participated during the calendar year. Half-day events count as one, and full-day events count as two. Data are provided by the Director for Public Service and the coordinators of the individual events (currently KK4SHO).

AARC Elmering Award

Purpose: To encourage new members of the AARC and to encourage elmering by more experienced (dare one say "more senior") members.

Award: The award consists of a certificate presented at the Club's Annual Awards Banquet and recognizes help and support provided to another member of the Club. Any member of the Club who has been elmered by another member may nominate potential awardees. The nomination consists of a one page letter or email describing the elmering that has taken place. Elmering may be strictly related to amateur radio, and new hams are particularly encouraged to recognize and provide thanks for such assistance. Elmering may also include assistance with computer-related activities.

AARC Ham of the Year Award

Purpose: To recognize a member of the AARC who, through dedication and hard work, exemplifies the best of what an amateur radio operator should be.

Award: any member of the AARC may nominate the recipient with a letter describing the accomplishments of the nominee. The winner will be selected by joint action of the Awards Committee and the Board of Directors. The award will be presented, to thunderous applause, at the Club's Annual Awards Banquet.

The President's Award

Purpose: To allow the President to provide special recognition to a member of the AARC.

Award: the President presents this award only when he or she feels that a member of the Club deserves such special recognition. The award will be presented, to thunderous applause, at the Club's Annual Awards Banquet.

Life Membership

Purpose: To recognize individuals who have, over time,

demonstrated a continuing high level of dedication to the Club and to amateur radio.

Award: Life Membership can be conferred upon a Full Member who has rendered notable service to the Club or Amateur Radio and has been a continuous Full Member for a minimum of eight years or has a total of ten years as a Full or Associate Member. A Life Member shall be entitled to all of the privileges of a Full Member, and shall be exempt from paying dues. Any member proposing another Member for Life membership shall submit the name of the person and the justification for such membership in writing to a member of the Board. The Board shall review the application to assure that the person meets the qualifications for such membership, and, if determined to be appropriate, submit the application at the next regular Club meeting. An affirmative vote by a three-quarters majority of those present is required for acceptance.

Buy + Sale + Swap

NEW ITEMS & MOST RECENT LISTINGS as of 8/16/2014

For Sale: posted 8/16/2014

Large selection of aluminum tubing and plates....1", 2", 3" in both thin-wall and thick wall....5 ft and 6 ft lengths. Going to re-cycle yard if not sold before AARC Picnic....

Marty W4MBW 434-547-9642

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YAESU 2900R (info link)

Purchased new in June 2014 - used indoors only.

Great radio, but won't work in my Jeep. \$140

Sarah Vogeley KM4SAR

434-242-5238 (can text photos)

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FOR SALE posted 6/11/2014

Yaesu FT-2900R with 2 year warranty. \$200.00

Yaesu FP-1023A \$140.00

ADMS-2900 \$30.00

NIFTY-FT2900 \$15.00

Will consider Best (serious) offer

Mike Richardson KJ4MFN

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FOR Sale: posted 5/22/2014

New never used OCFdipole.com model OCF1 off center fed dipole covers 80-6 meters, is similar to the Array Solutions antenna, antenna is rated for 3 KW. New price is \$275 but will sell for \$150.

Tnx

Ed, N3US

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WANTED: posted 5/16/14
 Stranded copper antenna wire 12-14G preferred;need
 app 135 feet for multiband doublet.
 Carter, WD4AYS, 566 8767.

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FOR SALE - posted 3/31/2014
 Hammarlund SP-600 receiver
 - National NC 109 receiver
 - Hickok 800A tube tester
 - Knight R-100A receiver
 - Old QST magazines- free
 Carter, WD4AYS, 434 566-8767

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FOR SALE revised 5/3/2014
 Sell: New 200 feet solid braided polyester rope, 3/16
 diamter 800 pound strength, perfect for wire
 antennas. \$30. Maco 10 meter Ground Plane
 antenna. Works quite well on ten meters and also on
 17 and 15 meters with a tuner.
 Assembles in five minutes. \$65.

The Beacon

The Beacon is the official newsletter of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club, Inc. It will strive to communicate with, enlighten, and entertain the members of the club in strict compliance with the official word of the club as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. The newsletter shall be published monthly on or before the 1st day of the month of issue. The deadline for submissions shall be the 25th of the month preceding the month of publication. The primary role of the publication shall be to promote upcoming activities, report past activities and accomplishments of the club and its members, carry the minutes of the preceding month's meetings, as well as, become a recorded history of the club by the archival of all past issues.

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The End