



The Beacon

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

Celebrating our 51st Year

December

2014

Our December Awards Dinner is set for December 9 at Blue Ridge Café in Ruckersville. Gather at 6 and dine at 6:30 p.m.

President's Corner

By Jim Owen – K4CGY



Where is this club going? Where should it go? Where do you want it to go? What should be the goals of the club? Lots of questions but not a lot of answers thus far. I 'm sure the answers would likely number about as many as our members. However we need to make decisions as to what direction to go in the near future.

Over the last couple of years we have heard that there are too many procedural discussions, committee reports and general club business at the meetings and not enough technical presentations. So we changed to have less of these types of meetings and more technical presentations and the attendance dropped off. I now hear that we should have more club business and only short presentations. So now the question is what do you want? You have to tell your officers what you the member desires of your club.

In the past the club has supported many outside organizations, mainly races, and we have done an excellent job, though the support has fallen quite a bit. Do you want to continue with these supported organizations? If so we need

a quite a few more to participate as we have a lot of problems doing the job we want with the number that turn out.

Do you want the club to continue to run one of the best repeater systems in central Virginia? If so we need more funds to enhance and maintain the system. We have taken quite a large amount of the club treasury to get the system to this point and there are still items that need to be completed. Do you want general funds to go to supporting the repeater? Are you willing to support the repeater committee with your labor and talent? We especially need someone that can climb towers to replace antennas occasionally; do you fit in this slot? Can you offer technical abilities to the committee, then volunteer.

Do you like to contest? If so are you willing to help run the Field Day exercise and can you operate in contest style. We did OK last year but still we're about in the middle of our class or a little lower. Do you want to improve on that? If we want to improve on the field day score we need quite a few proficient operators that are willing to operate for maximum points vs. enjoying a picnic centered setting. Are there other operating events in which you would like to see the club involved? Let us know!

Do you want hands on technical building sessions? If so we need to find a place to do that type of activity.

To sum it up, what do you want the club to do/be? Get in touch with one of the officers/directors and let them know.

Also one other item needed. There still hasn't been a volunteer to take the office of president and I believe that an additional director is needed. Without a head we can't do what we should. Once again volunteer.

Hope all have a great Christmas season and a Happy New Year. See all of you at the banquet.

73 Jim K4CGY

Club Officers Needed

By Jim Crosby – K4JEC

Our president has asked me to serve as chair of the Nominating Committee along with Jim Wilson, K4BAV and Bob Pattison, K4DU. The committee has been contacting

club members over the last few weeks to determine who might be a candidate for elected office.

The slate as it now stands:

President = No candidate as of this time.

Vice President = Ed Berkowitz – N3US

Secretary = Larry Eicher – K4JZQ

Treasurer = Don Eason, Jr. – N4UVA

Estate Director = Marty Wangberg – W4MBW

Technical Director = Bill Pond – N0WP

Public Service Director = No Candidate at this time.

The office of president and a director for public service activities are the only two candidates not in place at this time. This is not to say, we would not welcome additional candidates for any office to leave the selection elected by the membership at the January Annual Meeting.

Please consider serving the club as an elected officer by contacting a member of the nominating committee to express your own desire to run or maybe suggest a potential candidate.



A business discussion during our last meeting.

Our Photo Album

By Jim Wilson K4BAV



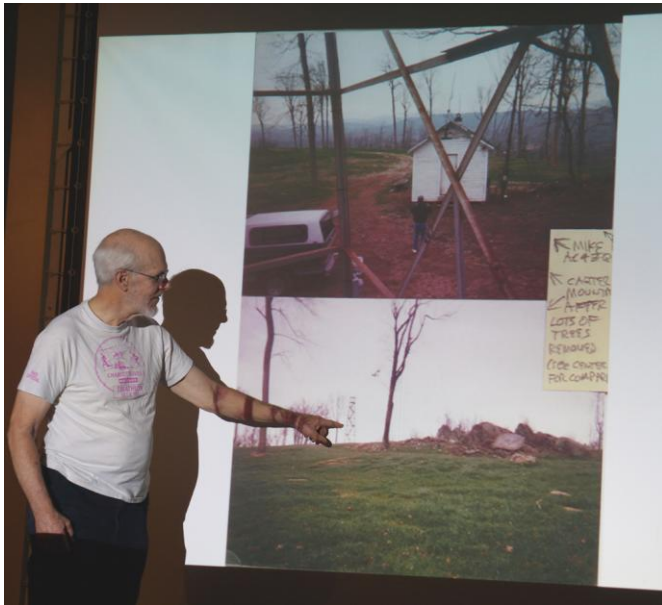
We had a visitor at the Woodgrill luncheon in the person of Buzz Beichman W3EMD who intended to be our speaker during the previous club meeting but was given the wrong date.



On stage with Ron to share his presentation.



Ron Richey's and Bill Pond's wives visit catching Mike McPherson in the background between them.



Ron Richey produced some very interesting slides during his review of the history of the club during the last meeting.



Dennis K4THE and Joe W2PVY chat during the meeting.



Bill N0WP, Harry W2HD and AJ KE4AJM lined up before the meeting for this great show.



Jim Wilson met and chatted with U.S. Astronaut Leland Melvin at Rice Hall of Engineering Studies at UVA.

Buy + Sale + Swap

Be sure to check our listing on the club website:
www.albemarleadio.org

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