

AARC Meeting of June 13, 2017

The Albemarle Amateur Radio Club meeting, held at the NRAO auditorium, was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, with 31 people attending. (See the list below.)

Introductions were made by each person attending.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer, Don Eason N4UVA presented his report for the month of May:

Beginning Balance: \$11,786.07

Debits: \$ 1,064.74

Credits: \$ 168.06

Ending Balance: \$10,889.39

Approval of May 20, 2017 Minutes:

Upon a motion by Jim Wilson, K4BAV, seconded by Michael Rein, KK4JJD, the Minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved. (These are posted on the club web site AlbemarleRadio.org.)

Technical Committee Report:

A brief report of the Technical Committee was presented by Bill Pond, N0WP. Bill noted that the .925 repeater at Jefferson Hospital has now been linked with the Buck's Elbow repeater. "I'm happy about that," commented Bill. He invited everyone to "Use it, try it out."

ARES Report:

A brief report on ARES activities was presented by our club's Amateur Radio Emergency Coordinator, John Porter, KK4JP.

New Member Approved:

Upon a motion by Ed Berkowitz, N3US, seconded by Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, new member **Jon Brumfield, KM4WIL** of Waynesboro was unanimously approved. Jon's family membership includes his son, **Nicholas KM4WIM**.

Vice President, Larry Eicher K4JZQ, briefly mentioned upcoming club programs.

Antenna Team:

President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, reminded us of the Antenna Team, which has scheduled assistance to a N6DJS, Dan, at his home in Augusta on June 17 at 10:30 AM to install an OCF dipole.

Raffle Items:

Michael Rein, KK4JJD, pointed out the evening's raffle items. These items included:

A flatbed scanner

A set of two UHF hand held transceivers

An old fashion strip chart recorder

An audio selector switch box.

Three old fashion ammeters

A mystery box (nobody knew what it was)

A VHS tape recording of a 1999 DXpedition

A flexible neck microphone stand

Michael commented that he was filling in for A.J. Miller as raffle manager. Michael also reminded us that, "One man's junk is another man's treasurer."

The Evening Program:

Field Day Chairman, Bob Pattison, K4DU, introduced the evening program. Dennis Terrible, WR4I, shared his strategies for making Field Day contacts. Dennis, a CW enthusiast, noted that at the previous Field Day, the club earned 480 contacts by Phone plus 300 contacts by CW. "One of the most fascinating aspects of ham radio is CW," exclaimed Dennis.

The exchange to be used during our upcoming Field Day contact will be: "W4DO 3F VA." The club call sign to be used is W4DO. 3 means we will have three stations operating and F means we will be located at an emergency center. Of course, VA means we will be located in Virginia.

"I encourage everybody to operate with me," said Dennis, who likes to have a logger assisting him as he cranks out the CW contacts. "It goes much faster with two people," emphasized Dennis. "This is not a contest," he reminded us. He said that his typical code speed for Field Day is about 18 wpm. "Our bread and butter is going to be 40 & 80 meters," he stated.

Dennis suggested that we can practice for Field Day by using a computer program called "Morse Runner 1.68." Dennis also commented that he just retired from his job in finances at the UVA Hospital. So he is especially looking forward to operating Field Day 2017.

FD GOTA Station:

Michael Rein, KK4JJD, described the Field Day GOTA station. This station is designed for visitors who want to make a Field Day contact. GOTA stand for "Get On The Air." Michael noted that paper scripts will be used by non-hams. He concluded, "It's a lot of fun."

FD Pot Luck Dinner:

Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, announced that the pot luck dinner will be scheduled for Saturday June 24th from 6:00 to 7:30 PM, and that everyone is invited. The club will provide fried chicken, bottled water and soft drinks. Members are asked to bring a food dish to share. No alcohol is permitted.

Chairs Needed:

Ed Berkowitz, N3US, also reminded members who attend Field Day to bring along folding chairs.

Friday Preparations:

Bob Pattison, K4DU, stated that the schedule on Friday June 23rd will be to set up tents and antennas approximately 2:00 o'clock to 5:30 PM. Bob stated that the schedule for Saturday June 24th will begin around 8:00 AM for setting up the tables, chairs, and radios. Bob also asked folks to bring electric fans to help blow the mosquitos away.

Assembly of the New Hex Beam:

Bob Pattison, K4DU, also noted that on the upcoming Thursday (June 15th), weather permitting, a small group of volunteers will begin assembly of the club's new Hex beam. This will be at Bob's house at 1741 County Line Lane.

In addition, Bob announced a visit to the Field Day site about 10 AM on Friday, June 16th. This will be for laying out where tents and antennas and generators will be placed.

Field Day Flyers:

Club Publicity Director, Paul McKee offered professional designed and printed Field Day flyers to club members. These flyers should be placed at prominent public spaces.

Field Day Proclamations:

Michael Rein, KK4JJD, noted that he has secured Field Day proclamations and has invited prominent local politicians to Field Day. Michael then administered the raffle. The raffle netted \$79.00.

The meeting adjourned about 8:45 PM.

These Minutes of the meeting of June 13th are prepared and are respectfully submitted by Jim Wilson, K4BAV, AARC 2017 Recording Secretary.

The Sign-In Sheet for the meeting of June 13, 2017 included:

Dave Dawson KM4YWY
Eric Santana, Guest
Dennis Mennerich K4THE
Joe Giovanelli W3PVY
Jim Wilson K4BAV
Richard Freeman KI4QKV
Joh Brumfield KM4WIL
Bill Phillips AD6JV
Paul McKee AK4OH
Roland Beard KK4EDU
Rick Oliver W3KDR
Chappy Chapman K4ERZ
William Pond NOWP
Connie Pond, XYL to Bill
Stan Hazen K2SSB
Bob Pattison K4DU
Larry Eicher K4JZQ
Don Eason N4UVA
Jim Owen K4CGY
Mike Montgomery KA4 MVO
Mike Ellington KN4BFB
Taylor Vierrether KC4K
Michael Rein KK4JJD
Al Bogden KF4AGT
Steve Kramer KN4CJV

Dan Shumane N6DJS

John Porter KK4JP

Mark Whitis AK4OL

Bill McDermott, Guest

Steve O'Connor KM4PZN

Ed Berkowitz N3US