

General AARC Meeting January 10, 2017

1. Called to Order at 7 p.m. with 23 members present with President Ed Berkowitz presiding.
2. The president asked members to rise and state their name and call to introduce themselves.
3. Secretary's Report – Asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the General Meeting from November as distributed. Motion was made to approve the minutes as posted without dissent.
4. Treasurer's Report – Don Eason for November and December combined

Opening Balance	\$9692.27
Credits	\$763.56
Debits	\$732.08
Balance at end of December	\$9723.75
5. Travis Koshko offered a program on local weather and his commitment to protect people and property with his work.
6. Repeaters Report – Bill Pond reported on the status of the pending lost of the Trump tower site and offered several suggests. The Technical Committee is to study the possibilities and come back with a recommendation.
7. Other Reports – Mike announced that he is ready to put a new mesh node up.
Ed announced that Bob Pattison has agreed to take the leadership for Field Day 2017.
8. Report of Nominating Committee:

President Ed Berkowitz

Vice President Larry Eicher

Secretary Jim Wilson

Treasurer Don Eason, Jr. – N4UVA

Director of Public Services Dave Damon

Director of Estate Services Jim Owen

Director Technical Bill Pond

Upon asking for additional nominations from the floor and hearing none, It was moved that the slate be approved without dissent.

8. AJ reported that the raffle produced \$70 for the club.
9. Old Business – None offered.
10. New Business – None offered.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Patsy Crosby, Secretary

AARC Meeting of February 14, 2017 (Valentine's Day)

1) The meeting was called to Order at 7:00 PM by President Ed Berkowitz with 27 people attending (see the attached sign-in sheet).

2) Members and non-members were asked to state their names and call signs and reveal something interesting about themselves. Some amazing facts were revealed!

3) Treasurer's report: Treasurer Don Eason commented that he has served the club for ten years as treasurer. For the month of January, Don reported:

Opening Balance \$ 9,723.75

Checks & Debits \$ 53.30

Deposits \$ 1,003.51

Ending Balance \$10,673.96

4) President Ed made a motion to approve three new members; his motion was unanimously approved. These three new members who were approved are:

Mike Chapman KB8ZWF of Waynesboro, VA

Carlos Matos-Ramos KJ4VWC of Charlottesville, VA

Davis Thomas WD3O of Midlothian, VA

5) Bill Pond provided a report on club repeaters. Bill noted that the Marshall Manor repeater site will be shut down by April 1st because the Trump Winery plans to expand their grape arbors and the tower support wires are in the way of their new grape vine fields.

6) Rick Oliver offered a report on the upcoming "Mini Maker Fare." He explained that this event was successful for the club last year and that the club plans to participate again this year. The date will be this fall. He also noted that the "Mini Maker Fair" at Barns & Noble is scheduled for November.

7) Larry Eicher promoted upcoming club programs, previewing the interesting scheduled speakers.

8) Dave Damon reported on upcoming Public service events, mostly radio coverage of bike races. Dave summarized, "It's a lot of fun," He has posted the exact dates for us on the AARC website.

9) A.J. Miller described the evening's six raffle items. These included such items as a new General Class License manual, a battery tester, a mobile head set, a historic milliamp meter, and more. The lucky winners left with a smile on their faces. A.J. reported a total raffle amount for the evening of \$60.

10) Bob Pattison reported that the club made \$1,250 in profits at the Richmond Frostfest of February 4th. Bob described AARC participation in Frostfest as very successful. Most of the profit was the result of selling a complete Swan Cubic station what was donated to the club.

11) Our program for the evening, "The Reverse Beacon Network" was presented by Rob Capon W3DX. Thanks to videographer John Porter, Rob's power point presentation is now available through the club web site (www.albemarleradio.org). Rob commented that he was first licensed as a Novice at age 14. He ended his talk with the comment, "How endlessly fascinating ham radio is; it's just been a gift." Ed also posted the PDF of the briefing on our website.

The meeting adjourned early at 8:20 PM.

Minutes are respectfully submitted by Jim Wilson /K4BAV

File Name: AARC Meeting of 02-14-2017

AARC Meeting Minutes March 21, 2017

1) The meeting was called to Order at 7:05 PM by President Ed Berkowitz with 29 people attending (see the attached sign-in sheet).

2) Members and non-members were asked to state their names and call signs and reveal something interesting about them selves

3) Treasurer's report: Treasurer Don Eason was not present but Ed presented the report as follows. Reported to him by Don Eason.:

Opening Balance	\$	10,674.	_____
Checks & Debits	\$	387.00	_____
Deposits	\$	\$1,500.00	_____
Ending Balance	\$	\$11,789.00	_____

4) President Berkowitz introduced Alfred Wanderlingh a Commercial Sales rep for Batteries & Bulbs who presented a program on batteries.

He also asked that we approve membership for Bill McDermitt who desires a family membership. Bill was voted in unanimously.

Ed advised Dave would be soliciting volunteers for the Jefferson Bike race on April 2nd.

5) Bill Pond provided a report on club repeaters. He advised that the interference problem at Marshall Manor is gone forever because our equipment has been totally removed.

6) Other Reports: Bob Patterson reported on Field Day He reported that the next field day meeting will be at Panara Bread on April 8 at 10 a.m. If bad weather the meeting would be moved to April 29th. He also reported that the next VE Session would be this Saturday, March 25th.

Mike McPherson reported the antenna committee would be replacing the antenna at W4UVA on April 22nd.

Ed also reminded members that the antenna committee was available to assist members in putting up antennas and that they were always looking for new members of that committee.

Mike McPherson reported that we have 2 mesh nodes up and running.

AJ reported that the club had raised \$71.00 from the monthly raffle.

7) The meeting adjourned 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Patsy Crosby, K4PMC, for Jim Wilson, K4BAV.

AARC Meeting of April 11, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Vice President Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, with 28 people attending (see the attached sign-in sheet).

Joe's Birthday

Larry announced that member Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, celebrated his 88th birthday on April 10th (the previous day) and that Joe was licensed 71 years ago as of this past week. Members cheered.

Harry's Birthday

Larry also noted that our well known member, former ARRL President, Harry Dannals, W2HD, will turn age 90 on April 15th. (Harry was absent from the meeting.) At this point, Joe proudly chimed in, "I got my ticket six months before he did!" (Longtime friends, Harry and Joe, often banter with an ongoing humorous competition.) Larry suggested that individual members contact Harry with birthday wishes.

Members and non-members were invited to state their names and call signs. Several of those attending were first timers, so they were especially welcomed.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Don Eason, who has faithfully served our club for the past ten years, reported on club funds for the month of March:

Beginning Balance: \$11,784.15

Debits: \$ 340.09

Credits: \$ 268.87

Ending Balance: \$11,712.93

Don was excited that the club balance had never before been so high.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Larry asked if anyone had any revisions to the official club minutes of the previous meeting (prepared by Patsy Crosby). Upon a motion by Bob Pattison, K4DU, seconded by Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, the Minutes of March 21st were unanimously approved as submitted.

Technical Committee Report

Bill Pond, NOWP, provided a brief report by the Technical Committee on our club repeaters. He noted that the repeater and two antennas were removed, as required, from the Marshall Manor site.

Public Service Report

Larry mentioned the recent Sunday public service bike race. One of the bike race participants described the race as "successful and uneventful." Mike McPherson, KQ9P, added that he tried out his Mesh Network and that race organizer, Ruth, was pleased with the results.

Public Service & Education Reports

Publicity Director Paul McGee and Education Director Rick Oliver were both absent from the meeting so no update on their activities was available to the membership.

Evening Raffle

A.J. Miller, KE4AJM, described the evening raffle items. These included

A vintage computer printer

Two VHF documentary tapes
A stereo audio selector switch
Wireless headphones
A Kenwood paper log book
An SWR meter
And the always available Club Mug
The evening raffle brought in \$68 to the club treasury.

Field Day Report

Bob Pattison K4DU, reported on our upcoming Field Day, scheduled for June 24 & 25 at the 911 Center. Upon a motion by Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, seconded by A.J. Miller, KE4AJM, the club unanimously voted to authorize up to \$300 for Field Day supplies such as paper plates and plastic silverware. Bob also noted that Field Day will require three tents and that the club may need to purchase one new tent to replace a worn and damaged old tent. Bob said that he planned to check tent prices and to bring his findings to the May meeting for discussion. For Field Day, "the goal is to have fun," summarized Bob.

New Member Approved

Upon a motion by Bob Pattison, K4DU, seconded by Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, **Steve Kramer, KN4CJI**, was voted in as a new member. Two other fellows who were in the audience vowed to fill out an application to join AARC.

SkyWarn Class April 17th

Albemarle Amateur Radio Emergency Coordinator, John Porter, KK4JP, noted that on April 17th beginning at 6:30 at the Gordon Avenue library, club members may attend a class on "SKYWARN".

Club Newsletter

Larry inquired if the club members might want to revive the Club Beacon newsletter or something similar. No spontaneous responses were heard.

W4UVA Antenna Update

Mike McPherson, KQ9P, reported on the antenna situation for the University of Virginia club station, W4UVA. "The W4UVA antenna is in pathetic shape," he commented. John Porter, KK4JP, added that, with his drone, potato cannons, and sling shots, the antenna team ought to easily be able to install any new antennas for W4UVA. The volunteer Antenna Team has scheduled April 22nd for antenna work at UVA, May 6th for antenna work for Stan Hazen, and May 20 for antenna work for Dan Shumar of Augusta. The club praised their efforts.

Program Presented

Our program for the evening was presented by Mike McPherson, KQ9P, who informed us with his talk and power point slide show titled, "**An Amateur Radio Satellite Ground Station at UVA.**" Mike serves as trustee for W4UVA. A group of faculty and students at UVA are building a constellation of three cube satellites to be launched during the spring of 2018. "This is UVA's first satellite," stated Mike. These small, low power, cheap little satellites have a lifespan of about three months, Mike explained. The UVA team will soon build a ground station antenna to be placed on the roof of the mechanical engineering building. (John Porter, KK4JP, video recorded Mike's talk, which is now available on the club website: albemarleradio.org.)

Following Mike's interesting talk, Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, motioned to adjourn. A.J. Miller, KE4AJM, seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

These Minutes are respectfully prepared and submitted by Jim Wilson, K4BAV

File Name: AARC Meeting of 04-11-2017

AARC Meeting of May 9, 2017

Held as usual at the Charlottesville NRAO Headquarters auditorium, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, with 26 people attending.

Members and visitors were asked to introduce themselves. Several first timers to our club meeting were present and introduced themselves. The list of attendees is included at the bottom of these minutes.

Thanks for Antenna Assistance:

Stan Hazen, K2SSB, thanked the antenna party, Ed Berkowitz - N3US, and John Porter - KK4JP, for coming to his house on Saturday May 6th in the drizzling rain to repair his dipole and to install his 220 MHz antenna.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

The official minutes by Jim Wilson of the meeting of April 11, 2017 were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

AARC Treasurer Don Eason reported the following:

Beginning Balance as of April 1 st	\$11,712.93
Debits:	\$ 362.50
Credits:	\$ 435.64
Ending Balance as of April 31 st :	\$11,786.07

New Member:

Upon a motion by Joe, W2PVY, seconded by Bob, K4DU, **Michael Montgomery, KA4MVO**, was voted to become a new club member. Michael briefly described his ham radio background. Licensed for more than 30 years, Michael says he was significantly involved in public service communications in Lynchburg. He and his new wife just moved from Lynchburg to Charlottesville. He is also an active member of SARA, the Society of Amateur Radio Astronomers.

Committee Reports:

Public Service Committee:

Dave K4DND was absent so there was no report from the Public Service Committee.

Education Committee:

Rick Oliver, W3KDR, provided a report from the Education Committee. He noted that members of the club will be assisting the Charlottesville High School physics students with their upcoming balloon launch. The date is not yet set.

Upcoming Antenna Assistance:

New member Dan Shumard, N6DGS, commented that he has scheduled an antenna party to come to his house on Saturday May 20th at 11:00 AM to install his new antenna. "I'm really looking forward to getting on HF," he exclaimed.

On Breathing Smoke from Soldering:

President Ed, N3US, commented that he had concerns about the health effects of breathing the smoke from lead/tin solder. Ed said that he researched the problem on the Center for Disease Control website.

Mike, KQ9P, injected his solution, that he purchased a \$20 fan especially designed for use at soldering stations. Mike's fan system includes a carbon filter. Jim, K4CGY, offered the simple solution of having a big fan to blow away the lead contaminated smoke. It turns out that with the typical temperatures used for soldering, the potential hazard is not from lead, but from rosin core flux.

No Raffle Tonight:

A.J. Miller, KE4AJM, was absent from the meeting so we had no raffle sale or prizes for this meeting.

The Program:

Our program was a power point presentation on **Field Day 2017**, by Bob Pattison, K4DU.

Bob informed us that Field day began in 1933 and that the 1940 Field Day rules are similar to today's FD rules. "Last year, we had 56 participants," stated Bob, who emphasized the comradery and friendship opportunities of this two day event. This year, Field Day weekend will begin on Saturday, June 24.

However, tents and antennas will be set-up on Friday, June 23rd. Field Day 2017 will include a pot luck lunch beginning at 5:30 on Saturday. The site will again be the EOC center at 2306 Ivy Road. Do not park in the spaces in front of the EOC warned Bob. An adjacent parking area will be designated for member parking. Strategies of "hunt and pounce" versus occupying a frequency were discussed. Bob distributed a Field Day sign-up sheet. He noted that the Field day Committee will meet at 9 AM at Panera Bread at the Barrack's Road Shopping Center this coming Saturday, May 13th. But above all, Bob emphasized, "It's a lot of fun."

New Beam and Tent Canopy:

Bob, K4DU, added that the club is going to buy a Hex Beam for Field Day use and needs also to buy a new tent canopy to replace a worn out old canopy. Bob noted that money has already been approved for the beam. Upon a motion by Jim, K4CGY, seconded by Don, N4UVA, the members approved expenditures for a new 10 x20 canopy. Bob estimated the cost to be \$356.98.

Field Day Poster:

Bob also showed us the new 2017 Field Day poster and offered copies of the poster to members to distribute. He asked that members refrain from posting the too soon, suggesting the date of June 1st as target date for placing these on bulletin boards around Charlottesville.

Field Day Supporters:

Larry, K4JZQ, thanked Cavalier Septic for providing two portable toilets for our previous Field Day. Larry reports that Cavalier Septic will do the same for us this year, so he asked us to promote this company when appropriate. Larry also listed the restaurants that have agreed to supply free food and coffee for our Field Day. He asked us to thank and support these companies. Larry will have a complete list of these businesses as we get closer to Field Day.

Safety Officer Needed:

Bob, K4DU, commented that a "Safety Officer" is needed for Field Day. Bob said he has an outline of the duties from ARRL. (Jim Crosby, K4JEC, performed this task during the previous Field Day.)

ARRL Contest Club Offer:

Jim Owen, K4CGY, informed us that our club has been offered the opportunity of becoming an "Official ARRL Contest Club." He asked members to consider this honor and obligation.

President Ed, N3US, adjourned the meeting early, at 7:51 PM.

These Minutes are respectfully prepared and submitted by Jim Wilson, K4BAV

The AARC Sign-In Sheet for May 9, 2017 included:

Andrew Wiley KK4SHO

Dennis Mennerich K4THE

Joe Giovanelli W2PVY

Stan Hazen K2SSB

Don Eason, Jr. N4UVA

Larry Eicher K4JZQ

Ed Berkowitz N3US

Bob Pattison K4DU

Jim Wilson K4BAV

Jerry Hendrick KA4EPH

Richard Freeman KI4QKV

Michael Rein KA4JJD

Rick Oliver W3KDR

Matt Franz KM4VWD

Dennis Terribile WR4I

Chappy Chapman K4ERZ

Lauren Toairao Guest

Dan Shumard N6DGS

Steve O'Connor KM4PZN

David Thomas WD3O

Mike Montgomery KA4MVO

Mike McPherson KQ9P

Jim Owen K4CGY

Mark Whitis AK4OL

Al Bogden KF4AGT

John Porter KK4JP

File Name: AARC Meeting of 05-09-2017

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

AARC Meeting of July 11, 2017

The Albemarle Amateur Radio Club meeting, held at the NRAO headquarters auditorium, was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, with 30 people attending. [See the attendance list which is provided below]

Each attendee introduced himself.

The Program: Richmond Amateur Radio Club Participation in “Maker Fest”

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, and John King, WB4NHX, described the Richmond Amateur Radio Club’s success with their “RVA Maker Fest”, held at the Science Museum of Virginia. *[For interesting details about the Richmond Amateur Radio Club see www.rarclub.net. The Richmond club meets on the second Friday of each month at the Bon Air United Methodist church. He invited us to attend.]*

Bruce described this as an important event for providing the public with a current perception of ham radio. He noted that two long tables were used by his club for this event. The tables included many electronics items on display. “We want them to get interested in electronics,” stated Bruce. Secondly, they emphasized, “We aren’t dying,” referring to the current public misconception of ham radio. He stated that amateur radio membership is actually growing.

Bruce noted that their club designed club business cards for this special event and that the business cards “flew off the table.” He recommended that the AARC do the same. Ed asked Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, to design our new business card.

Bruce also commented that the slick ARRL brochures were popular. *[Our club has an ample supply of ARRL brochures.]*

Bruce noted that club members at this event all wore matching white Polo shirts and large club name badges. This helped the public identify club members to who they could direct questions.

The Richmond Amateur Radio Club also displayed a large banner, about 2 by 6 feet in size, which he considered “a must” item for this event.

Soldering attracted youth, but safety glasses were required, Bruce said.

And they had Morse code practice oscillators as part of their table displays. “The kids went crazy over ‘em,” stated Bruce. Of course, the club members told the public that Morse code is no longer required to earn a license. In spite of that revelation, the youngsters were intrigued with the code. So Morse code is a good draw for future events, concluded Bruce.

In addition, the club had several signs prominently displayed. The “License to transmit” sign drew many questions. This list described the first license as REGIONAL, the second license as WORLD WIDE, and the third license as BRAGGING RIGHTS. *[These corresponded with Technician, General, and Extra class ham licenses.]*

Bruce and John noted that they also had a list of common questions that the public typically asks about amateur radio. This list was helpful to the club members who participated.

Bruce and John noted that QST magazine recently published an article about the Richmond Amateur Radio Club's success with the Richmond Maker Fest.

They also noted that the Virginia Science Museum Maker Fest was free to the public and that club members were flabbergasted at the number of people who attended this indoor event:

In 2014 approximately 4,000 attended

In 2015 approximately 8,900 attended

In 2016 approximately 7,800 attended

The next Virginia Science Museum Maker Fair is scheduled during October 2017. The Richmond Amateur Radio Club plans again to be there.

Bruce and John also mentioned that Richmond Amateur Radio Club members teach classes every March and September. They emphasized that CONSISTENCY is very important in scheduling amateur radio classes.

The presentation by Bruce and John ended at 7:44 PM. *[John Porter, KK4JP, videotaped this presentation and it has since added it to the AARC web site: www.albemarleradio.org]*

Bob Romanko, AK4BR, suggested the building of crystal sets as an additional project for such an event. Bob stated that he was a Boy Scout leader in Alaska and that crystal set building was a big draw there. John King, WB4NHX, replied that a long wire and a good ground are needed for successful crystal sets.

Treasurer's report:

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

Beginning Balance \$10,889.39

Debits: \$ 282.90

Credits: \$ 118.23

Ending Balance: \$10,724.82

Approval of the June 13, 2017 Minutes:

Upon a motion by Jim Wilson, K4BAV, seconded by Don Eason, N4UVA, the official minutes of the AARC meeting of June 13, 2017 were approved unanimously. These are available on the AARC web site.

Repeater Report:

Because Bill Pond, N0WP, was absent, Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, presented his summary status of the club repeaters. "There are some issues with the audio," stated Joe.

Field Day Reports:

Bob Romanko, AK4BR, summarized Field Day 2017. "It was a great turnout. It was fun." Bob added, "We never had a dull moment on 80." *[Bob racked up an impressive score of contacts on the 80 meter phone band.]*

Michael Rein, K4JJD, reported on the Field Day "GOTA" station. He said the station proved to be valuable. He thanked Bill and Marty for assisting him with the "Get On The Air" station. Michael also noted that the old time telegraph booth run by Jim, K4BAV, was purposefully located for high visibility by passing traffic. This Civil War era telegraph station tunneled a good number of participants directly to the GOTA station. This visitor's station claimed 140 points. Steve Kramer KN4CJI will receive a "Hero of GOTA" award for completing more than 20 contacts and winning extra points.

Larry Eicher, K4JQZ, reported that 22 organizations assisted our Field Day weekend with donations ranging from food to loan of tables and portable toilets as well as media publicity. Larry already sent these organizations Thank You Letters and he suggested that Thank You Certificates also be prepared for these organizations. *[Copies of the letters were submitted by Larry for Jim Wilson's official club records. This information will be valuable to future Field Day organizers.]*

Classes Proposed:

Rick Oliver, W3KDR, our Chairman of the Education Committee, proposed a series of 8 to 10 classes for the Technician License be scheduled after Labor Day. President Ed Berkowitz suggested that classes be set at a minimum of two hours each session. Ed also noted that he and Rick are registered ARRL instructors. Subsequent to the meeting, Ed and Rick realized that the earliest we can start a Technician class is in January 2018 due to the time required to secure a venue, recruit both students and instructors, etc.

AARC Logo & AARC Brochure:

Ed Berkowitz, N3US, recommended that our club logo be modernized and that our existing club brochure be updated. Nobody volunteered to take on these tasks. Ed also stated that the business card with the club website may eliminate the need for an updated brochure.

New Members Approved:

Jim Wilson, K4BAV, announced two new member applications since the previous meeting. Upon a motion by Bob Romanko, AK4BR, seconded by A.J. Miller, KE4AJM, the two new member's applications were unanimously approved and welcomed. Our two new AARC members are:
John Norin KE7HX
Brian Altherr KN4CZY

Sunday July 16th Public Service Event:

Since our Public Service Chairman, Dave Damon, K4DND, was absent from this meeting, John Porter, KK4JP, reminded our members that more volunteers were needed for the upcoming Sunday Miller School bike races. This is a major annual public service event.

Future Program:

Vice President and Program Coordinator, Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, outlined future interesting club programs Larry said that the August meeting will feature Bob Romanko, AK4BR, talking on the topic of Lightening

Protection. Larry pointed out that there will be no programs in September due to the annual club picnic, nor in December due to the annual awards ceremony.

New Radio Tower:

Don Eason, N4UVA, commented that he has plans for erecting a new ham tower and that he will need some assistance from club members. Don stated that his county permit has been approved and that the concrete will be poured then allowed to “set” for a couple of months. Then his new Skyhawk beam antenna can be installed with member’s assistance.

Club Loaner Equipment:

President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, reminded members that the club has a TS130 transceiver which is available for loan to members who are temporarily without a station. “It’s an oldie but goodie,” stated Ed, describing the TS130.

Raffle Items:

A.J. Miller, KE4AJM, proceeded with the neigh’s raffle. The items included:

- Two new wireless microphones
- Two old time meters (one for volts and one for amps)
- A book about the Bhutan 2000 DX Expedition
- A new HF/VHF antenna
- An old recharger
- A guitar amplifier
- A Netgear brand stackable 16 port network hub

Nine lucky winners left the meeting with smiles on their faces.

A.J. reported a total of \$64 collected from raffle tickets.

Four Miler Race for Cancer Cure:

Before the meeting ended, Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, made a pitch for his wife, Vickie, who will be again be running the “Four Miler Race” on September 4th to raise money of the UVA Hospital’s Emily Couric Cancer Center. He asked members to consider donating to this valuable cause.

The Sign-In Sheet for the meeting of July 11, 2017 included:

- Bill Phillips AD6JV
- Richard Freeman KI4QKV
- Rich Oliver W3KDR
- Joe Morse KN4DYS
- Chappy Chapman K4ERZ
- Al Bogden KF4AGT
- Stephen Kramer KN4CJI
- John Porter KK4JP
- Mike Montgomery KA4MUO
- Jim Owen K4CGY
- Theresa Olds KD0GOA
- Kelly Olds KI0KT
- Dan Shumard N6DJS
- Michael Rein KA4JJD

Steve O'Connor KM4PEN
Chuck Gross KS4NW
Ed Berkowitz N3US
A.J. Miller KE4AJM
Stan Hazen K2SSB
Don Eason N4UVA
Bob Pattison K4DU
John Norin KE7HX (New member)
Joe Giovanelli W2PVY
Bob Romanko AK4BR
Dennis Mennerich K4THE
Jerry Hendricks KA4FHP
Bruce MacAlister W4BRU
John King WB4NHX
Jim Wilson K4BAV

These summary Minutes of the AARC meeting of July 11, 2017 were prepared and are respectfully submitted by Jim Wilson, K4BAV, **AARC 2017 Minute Man**.

File Name: AARC Meeting of 07-11-2017

AARC Meeting of August 8, 2017

The Albemarle Amateur Radio Club meeting, held at the NRAO headquarters auditorium, was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Ed Berkowitz, N3US. *[See the attendance list below of 34 people who attended this meeting.]*

Introductions:

President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, invited everyone to introduce themselves. Several first time visitors were in the audience. Ed gave them a special welcome.

Approval of the July 11, 2017 Minutes:

Upon a motion by Jim Wilson, K4BAV, seconded by A. J. Miller, KE4AJM, the official minutes of the AARC meeting of July 11, 2017 were unanimously approved. These minutes are available on the club web site at www.albemarle-radio.org.

Treasurer's report:

AARC Treasurer, Don Eason, N4UVA, presented his report for the month of July, 2017.

Beginning Balance \$10,724.82

Debits: \$ 263.65

Credits: \$ 143.65

Ending Balance: \$10,604.51

September Picnic:

Treasurer Don Eason, N3US, moved that the club spend up to \$200 for picnic supplies.

A.J. Miller seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

The annual picnic will be enjoyed at Darden Towe Park at 145 Darden Towe Park Road on Sunday, September 10 beginning at 5:00 o'clock. The club will provide burgers, dogs, rolls and condiments. Members are asked to bring a side dish. The "Silent Auction" of ham equipment will be a highlight of the picnic. So in addition to a side dish to share, bring your spare cash!

Please note that the picnic will serve as the September club meeting.

Repeater Report:

Bill Pond, N0WP, provided a description of changes being made to the AARC repeaters. The repeater links are in progress/ The repeaters "are not getting a lot of use yet," commented Bill, encouraging us to make more use of this club resource.

Bill also briefed relocating the 220 MHZ repeater. Due to some antenna limitations at the Bucks Elbow site where the 224.760 currently resides, we are proposing to purchase a new 220 only antenna and move the repeater to the Heard Mt. site, co-locating it with our 146.760 repeater near Coveseville Va.

Bill noted that Albemarle County is planning to install a new antenna tower next to the existing structure at Bucks Elbow. We expect to move to the new tower when it's available and will use one of our Hustler G5/270 antennas as part of that move. Bill will keep us informed as to when the tower will be available and what will have to be done to move our equipment.

Bill also described an offer from Yaesu that would allow us to upgrade our two existing DR-1x repeaters. The newer DR-2x model has some potentially valuable features we might find valuable in the future. The time limited trade-in offer would allow us to exchange each of our older machines for the newer model at a cost of \$500.00 each. President Ed asked Bill to provide a proposal to be offered to the club members for future approval. The deadline is Sept 30 and we could approve this at our September picnic meeting.

Public Service Report:

Dave Damon, K4DND, stated that the next public service event will be the Wisdom Oak Winery Olympic Triathlon k winery bike race on Saturday August 26. Dave is currently recruiting volunteers.

Web Site Report:

President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, commented that the AARC web site is maintained by Mike McPherson, KQ9P. Ed praised Mike's behind the scenes work. He suggested that club members check this web site often, (www.albemarleradio.org). Mike added that the club's mesh network is a work in progress.

Report of the Education Committee:

Because Rick Oliver, W3KDR, chairman of the Educational Committee, was absent from the meeting, Ed summarized the status of club educational activities. Ed announced that upcoming classes in ham radio will be provided to the public starting in January 2018 at Our Lady of Peace in Charlottesville.

The Program:

The evening program by Bob Romanko, AK4BR, was titled, "Ham Station Grounding for Lightning."

Bob, who had lived in Alaska for years, ironically commented, "In Alaska there is no lightning." Bob added, "In Alaska nobody grounds their station!" A systems engineer for the past 36 years with an Extra Class amateur radio license, Bob then went on to explain current practices for safely grounding our ham equipment. Bob's information on lightning grounding can be reviewed on the web site.

Club Raffle:

The prize items included in the evening raffle included:

A mini two-way flashlight

A "Future" kit

A pair of Kenwood handheld transceivers

A bag of plastic boxes for electronic projects

A large Micro Amps meter

A battery charger

Plastic strips for electronic projects

An "HP Officejet Pro" model 8500 desk printer plus two new ink cartridges

A.J. Miller sold raffle tickets, resulting in a total of \$61 to the club treasury.

QCWA Announcement:

Stan Hazen, K2SSB, President of the local chapter of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, announced that the quarterly QCWA dinner is scheduled for Sunday August 20th at the Double Tree Hotel next to Sam's Club. Stan invited QCWA members in the club to register with him for the dinner.

Future Location of AARC Meetings:

President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, announced that our long time club meeting place at NRAO will be terminated at the end of this year. The National Science Foundation (NSF) has decided that because of security issues, it would terminate all meetings of outside groups at NRAO.

Ed explained that several of our members have already looked into potential future meeting places for our monthly club meetings. Researched already are fire stations, libraries, churches, UVA facilities, and Red Cross buildings. From the audience came two more suggestions to be researched. These include the new YMCA and the downtown "City Space."

Chuck Gross, KS4NW, said that he is a member of the YMCA board. Chuck volunteered to investigate our meeting at the new YMCA community room.

ARRL Equipment Insurance:

From the audience came the suggestion that members can get ham equipment insurance, an "all hazard policy," for \$60 per year from ARRL. This was suggested as a good back-up plan if lightning does damage your station.

Club Antenna Team

President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, reminded the members that the club antenna team is available to assist members with installation of ham antenna. He noted that the team, recently assisted member Don Eason, N4UVA. Don is installing a new beam antenna.

ARES to be activated:

Mike McPherson, KQ9P, Assistant Albemarle County Amateur Radio Emergency Coordinator, announced that the ARES will be activated net Saturday, August 12th. The reason for the activation is the planned Rally in Charlottesville of thousands of potentially angry people. The ARES will stand by with back up emergency communications by ham radio.

[Because of competition on August 12th from a public service bike race and his being out of town on that day, Mike has since de-activated the ARES for August 12th.]

Ed Berkowitz, N3US, adjourned the meeting at 8:47.

The Sign-In sheet for the meeting of August 8, 2017 included:

Don Eason N4UVA

Jim Wilson K4BAV

Steve Kramer KN4CJZ

Michael Ellington KN4BFB

Richard Freeman KI4QKV

David Thomas WD3O

Austin Thomas N3CVA

Dennis Mennerich K4THE

Joe Giovanelli W2PVY

Bob Romanko AK4BR

Alan Swinger K9MBQ

Chuck Gross KS4NW

Bill Pond N0WP

Connie Pond
Gene McClurken KJ4RPR
Eric Santana KN4EVT
Jim Owen K4CGY
Jessica Otey KD6SVT
David Otey WB6NER
Al Bogden KF4AGT
Michael Rein KA4JJD
Dave Damon K4DND
Dan Shumard N6DJS
Mike McPherson KQ9P
Mike Bawster WB4ZJO
Chappy Chapman K4ERZ
Mark Whitis AK4OL
Bill McDdermoit (no call sign yet)
Ed Berkowitz N4US
A.J. Miller KE4AJM
Larry Eicher K4JZQ
Stan Hazen K2SSB

These summary minutes of the AARC meeting of August 8, 2017 were prepared by and are respectfully submitted by Jim Wilson, K4BAV, **AARC 2017, Secretary**

AARC Picnic Meeting of Sunday – September 10, 2017

The AARC annual picnic was held at Dowden Towe Park on Sunday afternoon, September 10th. Weather was perfect. About 50 people attended.

A brief meeting was conducted between eating, chatting, and studying the used equipment for sale.

New Members:

President Ed Berkowitz, N4US, read the names of four new members to be voted upon. A. J. Miller, KE4AJM, moved to approve the four perspective members. His motion was seconded by Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, and was unanimously approved.

The newly approved members:

Michael Ellington, KN4BFB

Bill McCoy, KE4JSU

Mile Giovanoli (no call yet)

Chris Shaw, K7CGS

Upcoming Tech Class:

Rick Oliver, KG4ZWE, announced that a nine session class for the Technician license exam will begin on Thursday January 11, 2018. AARC members were asked to consider teaching one of the classes.

Antenna Budget Item Approved:

Bill Pond, NOWP, informed the club members that approximately \$250 is needed for a 220 Mhz repeater antenna in order to move the clubs 224.760 repeater from Bucks Elbow to the Heard's Mt. site.. Since this amount exceeds the limit allowed for approval by the AARC Board, a motion was made by Patrice Porter, seconded by ??? (Maybe AJ Miller?) then passed unanimously to spend up to \$250 for this purchase.

Scout Event:

Dennis Trebbile, W4RI, announced that the Apple Harvest Festival is scheduled for Saturday October 13th. This Boy Scout event will run from 9:00 to 1:00 o'clock. Ham radio will be demonstrated by several club members.

Following this brief, approximately five minute meeting, President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, returned attention to the picnic in progress.

File Name: AARC Picnic Meeting of 09-10-2017

AARC Meeting of October 10, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Ed Berkowitz, N3US.

All attendees were asked to briefly introduce themselves by name and call signs.

Twenty-six people attended this meeting [see a list of these names at the bottom of this report.]

Treasurer's report:

Our Treasurer, Don Eason, N4UVA, reported for the month of September:

Opening Balance: \$10,604.51

Checks & debits: \$ 745.45

Deposits: \$ 2,664.02

Closing Balance: \$12,523.08

Treasurer's Suggestion:

Treasurer Don suggested that since the club has a record high amount of cash in the treasury, that the club subsidize the annual banquet meals by up to \$650. He distributed a sample menu, suggesting that the \$30 menu meal be made available to our club members for \$20. This would be intended as a good will incentive to encourage all members to attend the December banquet. Don then moved that the club spend up to \$650 to subsidize the annual awards banquet. Don's motion was seconded by A.J. Miller.

At that time, Dave Damon, K4DND, responded, "I don't like that idea at all." He stated that he is opposed to spending club funds on the annual banquet in December. Dennis Terribile, K4THE, commented that he agreed with Dave. Ed tabled this motion for further study.

Banquet Door Prizes:

A.J. Miller, KE4AJM, proposed that raffle ticket door prizes again be offered at the annual banquet. He stated that the income last year from the banquet raffle exceeded the cost of the prizes, so that these items "didn't cost the club anything." No one objected.

The Meeting Program:

The program speaker for this meeting was introduced.

"Emergency Preparedness" was the topic, presented by **Chief Deputy Chan Bryant of the Charlottesville Sheriff's Office**. Wearing her official uniform, Chan advised us all to 1) make a survival kit, 2) make an emergency plan, and 3) always be informed of pending bad weather or other emergency issues.

Chan also invited us to become members of CERT, the *Community Emergency Response Team*, which routinely offers free classes. She also recommended that we each sign up for "Code Red," a robotic system that rings our telephone when a local emergency threatens our community.

Chan explained the local search and rescue system. She invited our AARC members to consider training for this mission. She noted that the next two-day training session for search and rescue volunteers will be this coming spring, dates not yet finalized.

Chan also noted problems with their communications system, such as the Charlottesville Sheriff's Department being unable to communicate with the state police because of technical glitches in their separate radio systems.

Chief Deputy Chan offered her personal email cbryant2@albemarle.org in case we have questions that weren't answered during her presentation.

AARC member John Porter, KK4JP, videotaped this presentation, which is now available online through our club web site: albemarleradio.org.

Apple Harvest Scout Festival:

Dennis Terrible, WR4I, reported that he has three volunteers for the upcoming Apple Harvest Scout Festival on Saturday, October 14. Dennis recounted that during previous Boy Scout Jamborees, "Morse code really gets the kids fired up." Dennis sought additional volunteers for this event. He cited his contact information and details of the Apple Harvest Festival in recent emails that he sent to club members.

Raffle Items:

Raffle items for the evening included:

- 1 A portable power station
- 2 An antique universal 28 range volt-amp meter
- 3 A mystery grab bag
- 4 RCA speakers
- 5 A cordless telephone system
- 6 A 1950's Motorola hand held radio
- 7 Two metal construction boxes
- 8 A Decca DC Resistor test box

After the raffle drawings, A.J. reported that the club raised a total of \$56 from the evening raffle.

Two new members Approved:

Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, moved to approve a new member, Douglas Eddy. This motion was seconded by Bob Pattison, K4DU, and was approved unanimously.

Later in the meeting, a second membership application was submitted in person by a young man in the audience. Upon a motion by Dave Damon, K4DND, seconded by Michael Rein, KA4JJD, Kieran Garrod, KN4GGZI, was approved a new member.

Nominating Committee:

President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, made a plea for a volunteer to chair the Nominating Committee for 2018 AARC officers. Bob Pattison, K4DU, volunteered.

Repeater Committee:

Because our Repeater Committee Chairman was absent, no report was made.

Future Meeting Programs:

Vice President - Program Chairman, Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, reported that he already has a few programs scheduled into 2018. But, he noted that since his term will expire in December this year, the newly

elected Vice President/Program Chairman will have to fill some slots for the ten programs needed. Larry encouraged members to contact him with ideas for future club programs.

Balloon Beacon Project:

Rick Oliver, W3KDR, reported that Charlottesville High School had planned to fly its balloon beacon the previous Saturday, but weather cancelled the launch. The new launch date was uncertain, possible the following Saturday.

Meeting Location Negotiated

President Ed Berkowitz, N3US, announced that the AARC has been granted approval to continue meeting at the NRAO auditorium. Vice President, Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, praised the work by Ed in securing this wonderful NRAO facility for another year. Ed thanked the members who researched potential alternate meeting locations.

The meeting officially ended at 8:30 PM.

The sign-in sheet of people attending this meeting included:

Joe DeVincentis – K08V/first time guest

Michael Rein – KA4JJD

Dave Damon – K4DND

Steve O'Connor – KM4PZN

Jim Owen- K4CGY

Dave Dawson – KM4GWY

Rick Oliver – W3KDR

Rob Garrod – no call yet

Kieran Garrod – KN4GGZ

Stephen Kramer – KN4CJI

Dennis Terribile – W4RI

Al Bogden – KF4AGT

Chappy Chapman – K4ERZ

Jim Wilson – K4BAV

Andrew Wiley – KK4SHO

Mike Finch – WQYN216/guest

John Porter – KK4JP

Dan Shumard – N6DJS

Joe Giovanelli – W2PVY

Dennis Mennerich – K4THE

Larry Eicher – K4JZQ

A.J. Miller – KE4AJM

Stan Hazen – K2SSB

Bob Pattison – K4DU

Ed Berkowitz – N3US

Chief Sheriff's Deputy Chan Bryant

This meeting summary was prepared by Jim Wilson, K4BAV, your AARC 2017 Minute Man!

File Name: AARC Meeting 10-10-2017

Minutes of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club
November 14, 2017
NRAO
6:59PM to 9PM

Chair: Ed Berkowitz, N3US, president

Acting Secretary: Larry Eicher, K4JZQ substituting for Jim Wilson, K4BAV absent due to tie up in traffic due to tractor trailer blocking highway access.

Ed, N3US called the meeting to order at 6:59PM in anticipation of a number of items to be discussed.

First on the Agenda was introducing Eric Santana KN4EVT a new ham applying for membership. AJ Miller KE4AJM made a motion to accept Eric's new family membership, and this motion was seconded by KA4JJD, Michael. The motion passed unanimously with no opposition.

Next Ed N3US called on K4DU, Bob Pattison to give us a report on the Election Committee. Bob is asking for committee volunteers to work with him to encourage members to run for various positions at the January AARC meeting. As Field Day chairman in 2017, Bob also discussed information that has appeared on the digital mode of QST magazine indicating our 3F station last June came in 7 out of 47 stations in that category. More info will be processed once the December hard copy of the QST magazine arrives in our mailboxes in the near future.

Ed called on Rick W3DR to give us a report on the results of the Barnes & Noble Maker Faire which was held Sunday Nov. 12, 2017 between 12 noon to 4PM. Eleven club members volunteered to help make the ham radio presentation a success. Michael Rein KA4JJD presented certificates to the 3 hams who stood by at home to make on air radio contacts with students. Those honored were Bill Phillips, AD6JV, Dave Damon K4DND (mobile), and Ron Richey K4RKA. Rick also gave an update on the upcoming ham Technician class at Our Lady of Peace starting on January 11. Rick had more flyers to give out to members and asked everyone to post these flyers at various venues wherever possible to advertise the classes.

Don Eason W4UVA gave us the latest Treasurer's report.

Beginning Bal.	\$12,523.08
----------------	-------------

Checks:	\$310.36
---------	----------

Deposits:	\$658.66
-----------	----------

Ending Bal.	\$12,871.38
-------------	-------------

Ed, N3US reminded the membership of the Awards Banquet scheduled for Dec. 12 Tuesday at the Double Tree Hotel. Information and registration for the dinner is on our AARC website. Cost for the dinner is \$20 per person. The club will also invite a number of guests to the dinner as a thank you for their support during the year. AJ Miller KE4AJM asked for a motion that the club be authorized to spend up to \$200 for raffle items to be presented at the Awards Banquet. Joe, W2PVY made the motion to permit this expenditure, and it was seconded by Larry K4JZQ. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill Pond N0WP gave his report on repeaters and indicated everything is running per normal. Over the last 6 weeks the 220 repeater was moved from Bucks Hollow to Heard Mountain. Bill indicated that continued problems with the 220 repeater might be due to an old antenna. The focus was on getting equipment we already have to work properly through repairs, although the possibility if things can't be fixed a new purchase proposal might be made by Bill to spend approximately \$1200 to improve the 220 repeater. Some in the audience questioned the cost, given the low usage of the 220 repeater. Only 3 hams in attendance make use of this repeater at this time.

Ed N3US asked if there were any additional New/Old Business. Hearing none he asked AJ Miller KE4AJM to conduct the Raffle.

Ed then asked Larry, K4JZQ program director to introduce our speaker for the evening, Larry told members that Mike McPherson, KQ9P had kindly moved his talk up to the November meeting after we learned that the scheduled speaker Cole Fairchild had to cancel for this evening because his group's weather balloon project had just been postponed due to weather. We hope to have the BACON weather balloon project people back with us sometime in 2018 however. Larry also encouraged more members who wished to present a future talk to AARC club members to contact him so the new incoming VP would have a cushion of speakers to start 2018 off right.

Mike KQ9P first gave us an update on the UVA cubesat launch. The ELaNa-25 mission has now been scheduled for the last half of 2018, with 3 coming from Virginia, 8 other satellites coming from other universities. These units will be launched on a space station resupply launch at a date to be determined sometime in the future, with launch of the cubesats to occur the last quarter of 2018 or first quarter of 2018.

Mike, KQ9P then turned to his main topic of the evening, Winlink. Winlink is email but ... it adds ham radio to the system.

Advantages: It uses a worldwide redundant infrastructure; is 100% accurate; looks like standard email; and is interconnected with internet email.

Disadvantages: it is more complex than CW or Phone operation; requires some additional hardware; and is not blazing fast. Mike then began a discussion of speed with various approaches to Winlink.

What is the purpose of Winlink? Anything with ham radio is ok for Winlink for routine communications between hams but it is best utilized during emergencies when accurate emergency communications are needed.

Mike continued to go over the Winlink pros and cons of this approach. He indicated that many of the Kenwood transceivers already have a built in TNC for Winlink so you only need a cable to operate. Currently the club has a Kenwood D710 for sale, donated to the club by Roland Beard KK4EDU. Mike plugged his unit into the USB port on his computer and gave a demonstration on downloading a couple of emails that had been sent to him via Winlink.

At the conclusion of his talk, Mike KQ9P indicated he would be free to talk to any AARC members who might want

further info on Winlink and how to install it onto their laptop computers. His entire talk is on video and on the AARC website for those who want to view once again this interesting presentation and for whoever missed the meeting.

In the meantime, AJ Miller KE4AJM indicated the club had gained \$80 from the proceeds of the evening raffle.

Ed then reminded AARC members that Bill Pond N0WP was in the back of the auditorium with the AARC club service monitor and would be available to check out any member's HT for various power levels. Approximately half a dozen AARC members took advantage of this offer to utilize a popular AARC acquisition. A similar number spoke with KQ9P about Winlink opportunities.

With no other discussion raised, Ed N3US adjourned the meeting at 8:45PM and members either disbursed to their homes or stayed for a leisurely talk with both N0WP and/or KQ9P on HT power levels and Winlink.

Respectfully submitted.

Larry Eicher, Acting Secretary for November 14, 2017

Members Attending the November 14 meeting:

Bob Pattison K4DU
Larry Eicher K4JZQ
Dave Dawson KM4YWY
Eric Santana KN4EVT
Stan Hazen K2SSB
AJ Miller K34AJM
Bob Romanko AK4BR
Mark Whitis AK4OL
Michael Ellington KN4BFG
Stephen Kramer K44CJZ
Rick Oliver W3KDR
Joe Greenberg KJ4PE
Chuck Gross KS4NW
Meghan Pendergast No call
Seth Morris KN4GWF
Mike McPherson KQ9P
Richard Freeman KI4QKV
Don Shumard N6DJS
Steve O*Connor KM4PZN
Keran Garrod KN4GGZ
Rob Garrod No call
Al Bogden KF4AGT
Chappy Chapman K4ERZ
Ed Berkowitz N3US
Michael Rein KA4JJD
Dave Damon K4DND
Don Eason, Jr. N4UVA

Jim Owen K4CGY

73,

Larry K4JZQ