

AARC Meeting of June 12, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM in the National Radio Astronomy Observatory auditorium by Albemarle Amateur Radio Club Vice President, Dennis Terribile, WR4I [President John Porter, KK4JP, was out of town.]

Previous Meeting Minutes Approved:

Dennis made a motion for the approval of the AARC Minutes of the previous meeting. By unanimous vote, the Minutes of 05-08-2018 were approved.

Introductions:

Each person attending was asked to briefly introduce themselves by name and call sign. The names and call signs of the twenty-six people attending this meeting are listed at the end of this summary.

Treasurer's Report:

Don Eason, N4UVA, presented his report for the month of May, 2018:

Beginning balance	\$14,611.81
Debits	\$ 110.72
Credits	\$ 158.66
Ending balance	\$14,659.75

Report of the Fund Raising Committee:

A.J. Miller, KE4AJM, listed the raffle items and after the raffle reported \$60 raised by the evening raffle. See the list of Club Raffle items further down in this meeting summary.

Report of the Education Committee:

The Chairman this committee was absent, so Jim Wilson, K4BAV, reported that he attended and photographed the first Morse code class on June 7th instructed by Bob Pattison, K4DU. Jim reported that nine students attended this class, held at the Ivy Creek United Methodist church. Jim also noted that Steve, editor of QST magazine, has promised to publish a photograph of this new class in an upcoming issue of QST magazine.

Report of the Public Relations Committee:

Paul McKee, AK4OH, presented the colorful Field Day posters and invited those attending to take one or two to post on bulletin boards in their neighborhoods. Also, copies of the Field Day flyer can be printed on home computers.

Report of the Estate Committee:

Jim Owen, K4CGY, reported that many items, especially radio receivers which he tested, have been placed on line for the club "Swapfest." However, Jim said that no club members have shown interest in these bargain priced items, so he plans to place these on E-Bay for sale to a larger audience.

Special Field Day Visitors:

Larry Eicher, K4JQZ, alerted us that the ARRL Roanoke Director, Dr. James Boehner, N2AA, and ARRL Roanoke Vice-Director, Bill Morine, N2COP, are scheduled to visit our AARC Field Day site on Saturday morning, June 23rd. Larry suggested that we come early to the Earlysville Field Day site to welcome these distinguished visitors.

Field Day Food Donated:

Larry also noted that he has arranged for donations of food during Field Day from various restaurants. Members thanked Larry for his efforts at securing free food.

Oldest AARC Member Deceased:

Jim Wilson, K4BAV, announced that the Club's oldest member, Phil Lawrence, W4DGN became a Silent Key on June 5th. Phil was age 99. Jim notes that a graveside service is scheduled for Saturday July 21st at 11:00 AM at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church at 851 Owensville Road in Ivy, Virginia.

Monday Night Information Net Debated:

Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, raised the issue of the Monday Night Information Net, which meets every Monday at 7 PM. For more than a dozen years, Joe has faithfully provided rebroadcast of two amateur radio news bulletins. But Joe commented, "I'm not so sure we should bother with it anymore." Joe explained that recent check-ins following the weekly bulleting have been sparse -- typically six or seven people. Joe noted that with the internet we can individually read these bulletins, making his retransmission unnecessary.

Members spoke for and against continuing the MNIN. The final decision was to try the net at 8 PM instead of 7 PM to see if that brings more check-ins. Thus, the MNIN for June 18th was scheduled to begin an hour later than previous nets.

Ed Berkowitz, N3US, commented that the use of amateur radio repeaters has declined nationwide. Cell phones and other communications options have replace much of the need for amateur radio repeaters.

Report of the Bylaws Committee:

Michael Rein, KAK4JJD, presented the committee suggestions for updates to the AARC Bylaws. His one page summary is available on the club website (albemarleradio.org). Don Eason, N3US, commented that the club membership will get to vote on the proposed Bylaws revisions at the next meeting [July 10th].

ARES Happenings:

Mike McPherson, KQ9P, told us that a new antenna tower will soon be installed by Albemarle County, and that the AARC repeater antennas will be included.

The Program:

Field Day chairman, Bob Romanko, AK4BR, reminded us that Field Day 2018 is scheduled for June 23 & 24th. Bob praised club members for their "excellent commitment" to our upcoming Field Day. "This club does Field Day right," he added. Bob then summarized some of the planned Field Day events and activities.

Bob, AK4BR, reminded us that a Field Day sign-up sheet is available on line via the club web site.

Larry, K4JZQ, emphasized the importance of the “floater position” and encouraged us to take turns greeting visitors to the site. He also asked members to wear their bright yellow AARC vests. Larry confirmed that he will be the club Safety Officer for our Field Day.

Paul, AK4OH, stated that he contacted about fifteen media outlets, so that we can expect coverage of Field Day by the local newspaper, radio and television stations.

Dennis, WR4I, asked for volunteers to log CW contacts for him. He reminded us that, “Field Day is a test of our emergency communications.”

Mike, KQ9P, reminded us to bring our families to Field Day.

Bob, AK6BR, asked us to bring our own chairs for use during Field Day.

Don Eason, N4UVA, made a motion to permit the spending of up to \$300 for Field Day supplies. A.J. Miller, KE4AJM, seconded that motion, which passed unanimously.

Club Raffle:

AJ. Miller, KE4AJM, provided the evening’s raffle items, with Stan Hazen, K2SSB, pulling the winning tickets from the big plastic jar. Raffle prizes for the evening included:

The book “Basic Radio”

The book “Basic Electricity”

A programmable tort timer control

A large sized MFJ clock

A “go bag” suitcase with wheels

A passive infrared home burglar alarm

Two mystery bags

“We raised \$63 for the club,” announced AJ. Miller.

The sign-in sheet of 26 people attending this meeting included:

Jim Condon AD4YM

Andrew Wiley KK4SHO

Michael Ellington KN4BFB

Stephen Kramer KN4CJI

Al Bogden KF4AGT

Bill (Chappy) Chapman K4ERZ

Dennis Terribile WR4I

Richard Freeman KI4QKV

Steve O’Connor KM4PZN

Carter Elliott WD4AYS

Mike McPherson KQ9P

Dan Shumarc N6DJJ

Michael Rein KA4JJD

Jim Owen K4CGY
Larry Eicher K4JZQ
A.J. Miller KE4AjM
Stan Hazen K2SSB
Peter Thorsen, Jr. W4PRT
Don Eason, Jr. N4UVA
Bill Merrott KN4LAN
Russell Sawyer KN4LAU
Paul McKee AK4OH
Ed Berkowitz N3US
Bob Romanko AK4BR
Joe Giovanelli W2PVY
Jim Wilson K4BAV

This meeting summary was prepared by your AARC Minute Man, Jim Wilson, K4BAV, and is respectively submitted to the members of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club for review.