

AARC Meeting of July 10, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM in the National Radio Astronomy Observatory Headquarters auditorium by Albemarle Amateur Radio Club President, John Porter, KK4JP.

Introductions:

Each person attending was asked to briefly introduce themselves by name and call sign. First time attendees, Judy Petsch, KN4BHJ, and her friend Catherine Hughes, KN4BHT, made a plea. "We need lots of help," said Judy. The names and call signs of twenty-nine people attending this meeting are listed at the end of this meeting summary.

The Program:

Bob Romanko, AK4BR, presented his synopsis of AARC 2018 Field Day 2018, which was June 23 & 24th. With great enthusiasm, Bob thanked everybody who assisted and participated in Field Day.

[Also, John Porter, KK4JP, projected his time lapse video of Field Day being put up and then being taken down. He also included various color photographs of Field Day. John noted that his Field Day video is already available on the AARC web site.]

Bob projected lists of things that he felt the club did right and a list of potential problems and a list of things to add to Field Day next year. He sought additional comments from club members who attended Field Day.

"We are all volunteers and we all did our best," summarized Bob.

Bob thanked Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, for his volunteering as Field Day Safety Officer. "We were accident free," stated Bob.

Bob thanked John Porter, KK4JP, for managing the GOTA radio station for newcomers and visitors.

Bob noted that two headphones per station was a great idea, allowing two people to monitor each station, the operator and the logger.

"We had five antennas up," and some performed better than others, Bob noted.

For Field Day 2019, Bob recommended that *one hour time slots* be implemented and that someone on site should monitor and enforce those time slots. [Four hour time slots were not effective, he felt.]

Ed Berkowitz, N3US, noted that Field Day was covered by two television and one commercial radio station. [We have been fortunate to have similar television and radio and even newspaper coverage of the past eight AARC Field Days.]

With enthusiasm, Bob Romanko, AK4BR, exclaimed that he is already willing to serve the club as Field Day chairman for next year!

As a Part 2 of the Field Day report, Mike McPherson, KQ9P, explained the software that he created for our Field Day. This was a live snapshot look at what was happening. "I had quite a lot of fun with this," said Mike. His statistics included band performance and individual operator and mode performance scores. The 40 meter band performed best this Field Day. Club members worked six countries. The most productive time of day was Sunday morning. The most QSO's were made with Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio. Mike explained extra points that the club earned with solar power, traffic messages, formal traffic, and a visit by local officials, Win link tutorial, social media, and more. The extra points totaled about 1000 points, said Mike.

Dennis Terrible, WR4I, thanked folks for logging for him at his CW station. He noted that Field Day included 16 operators during the 24 hours of operation.

[The Field Day sign-in sheets include names of 65 people who visited or participated in Field Day 2018! The Field Day sign-in sheets are included with the official minutes of this meeting.]

Treasurers Report:

Treasurer Don Eason, N3UVA, was absent, so President John Porter, KK4JP, read Don's report.

The beginning balance for the month of June was	\$14,659.75
Debits	\$ 125.00
Deposits	\$ 654.27
Ending balance:	\$15,189.02

It was noted that the deposits included a \$500 donation from Ruth Stornetta for club support of a recent bicycle race and that a tax donation letter has been mailed to Ruth.

Report of the Technical Committee:

Bill Pond, NOWP, commented that, "For the most part, things are working well."

Report of the Fund Raising Committee:

At the end of the meeting, after the raffle, it was announced that a total of \$85 was raised by the evening raffle. [See the list of items raffled at the end of this summary.]

Report of the Education Committee:

Rick Oliver, W3KDR, noted that the recent Tech class was a success.

Bob Pattison, K4DU, noted that his Thursday night Morse code classes went well and that two more on-the-air sessions were planned. [A photograph of Bob's class is scheduled for publication in an upcoming QST magazine.]

Chuck Gross, KS4NW, suggested that the next time the club runs classes in amateur radio, that we offer these classes through PVCC, which would ensure inclusion in their area wide mailings. Rich Oliver, W3KDR, responded that PVCC charges for classroom space, whereas the club preferred a no-cost venue for the March 2018 Tech class.

Report of the Public Service Committee:

Since Dave Damon, K4DND, was absent, President John Porter, KK4JP, reminded attendees that a public service opportunity is available for a bike race next Sunday. "Public Service events are fun," chimed Mike McPherson, KQ9P.

Report of the Estate Committee:

Jim Owen, K4CGY, joked, "My basement is getting full." Jim noted that he just sold five receivers on E-Bay and has more receivers to sell for the club from recent estates. He presented the club with a check for \$2,152.44 from recent E-Bay sales of estate equipment.

Approval of the Previous AARC Minutes:

President John Porter, KK4JP, made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting of June, 12, 2018. Those minutes were made official by a unanimous vote of members attending. [These Minutes are posted on the club web site: www.albemarleradio.org.]

Report of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service:

Mike McPherson, KQ9P, explained that the ARES system is currently being re-evaluated. "When all else fails -- amateur radio," is the current slogan. But Mike added, because billions of dollars are spent on emergency service communications, commercial radio systems seldom fail anymore. Mike noted that priorities are now focused on the Charlottesville August 12th rally. This will commemorate the tragic events in Charlottesville on August 12, 2017.

Bylaws Committee Report:

Bylaws Committee Chairman, Ed Berkowitz, N3US, thanked the Bylaws Committee members, noting that the first reading of these was at the previous meeting, so that members, a quorum or 20 members, could vote on and approve these tonight. Joe, Giovanelli, W2PVY, stated that he read the proposed Bylaws changes and that he felt the committee did a good job. Joe moved to approve the proposed changes to the Bylaws. Mike, KQ9P, seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by the 29 people attending.

Club Web Site:

President John Porter, KK4JP, asked for volunteers to work on the club web site. No one volunteered.

Donation of \$250 Approved:

President John, KK4JP, requested that the club donate \$250 to the Earlysville Volunteer Fire Company for their permitting AARC to use their site and facilities for Field Day. Upon a motion by Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, seconded by Marty Wangberg W4MBW, the motion was unanimously approved.

Annual Picnic:

Ed Berkowitz, N3US, stated that he and Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, volunteered to organize the annual club picnic. "We have the site reserved," stated Ed. Upon a motion by Ed Berkowitz, N3US, seconded by Bob Pattison, K4DU, the motion to spend up to \$200 on club picnic items was approved unanimously.

Field Day Food Donations:

Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, estimated that donations of food to Field Day saved the club about \$500. Larry asked that club members remember to thank and patronize these organizations. Wegmans, Panera, Starbucks Coffee, Fresh Market, McDonalds, and more provided food for Field Day 2018. Larry also mentioned that Wayside Chicken donated two large sides in addition to the purchase by the club of Wayside Chicken.

Larry said that Michael Rein, KA4JJD, prepared and sent Thank You certificates to each of the donor organizations. Larry noted the donation of \$250 by the club to the Earlysville Volunteer Fire Company for hosting our 2018 Field Day event. [It is likely that the club will ask to use this site again in June 2019.]

Ladies Four Miler:

Larry Eicher, K4JZQ, mentioned that the Ladies annual Four Mile run for breast cancer research was coming up. He stated that his wife, Vickie, will be one of the runners and that she is asking for volunteer donations. Larry provided donation forms to those who expressed interest.

The Changing MNIN:

President John Porter, KK4JP, stated that the Monday Night Information Net (MNIN) has changed drastically by moving from 7 to 8 PM and by eliminating the broadcast of amateur radio bulletins. Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, has faithfully provided these bulletins each week for more than a dozen years. But it was now a consensus that these bulletins are no longer needed. So the nature of this weekly radio net has changed. Members were asked what the new Monday Night Net might include to make it more useful to club members.

New Member Approved:

Upon a motion by President John Porter, KK4JP, new member Barbara Freeman, KN4LAH, was approved unanimously.

Technical Questions Sought:

President John Porter, KK4JP, asked for any technical questions that club members might discuss. A couple of questions were raised and were answered by knowledgeable members.

Club Raffle:

A.J. Miller was absent from the meeting, so the evening raffle was run by Bob Pattison, K4DU, with Stan Hazen, K2SSB, pulling the winning numbers.

Raffle prizes for this evening included:

- A box containing various cables
- A regulated power supply
- A Kenwood handheld transceiver
- A giant electric blower
- A Mode MFJ 1272 gizmo

A 2016 ARRL Handbook
A Sierra Wireless Air Booster
2 pairs of stereo headphones
A Navy Manual on Electronics
A Jackson Multimeter
An FM wireless microphone

At the end of the raffle, it was announced that the raffle funds totaled \$85.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:48 PM.

The sign-in sheet of 29 people attending this meeting included:

Jim Condon AD4YM
Marth Wangberg W4MBE
Warren Yursik KN4LYF
John Porter KK4JP
Michael Rein KA4JJJ
Stan Hazen K2SSB
Dennis Terribile WR4I
Judy Petsch KN4BHJ
Catherine Hughes KN4BHC
Al Bogden KK4AGT
Chappy Chapman K4ERZ
Richard Freeman KI4QKV
Barbara Freeman KN4LAH
Michael Ellington KN4BFB
Chuck Gross KS4NW
Rick Oliver W3KDR
Andrew Wiley KK4SHO
Bill Philips AD6JV
Bob Romanko AK4BR
Stephen Kramer KN4CJT
Bob Pattison K4DU
Jim Owen K4CGY
Larry Eicher K4JZQ
Jim Wilson K4BAV

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

File Name: AARC Meeting 07-10-2018