

AARC Awards Dinner, December 10, 2019  
Michael **KA4JJD**, Chair 2019 Awards Committee

The annual Awards Dinner of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club was held on December 10, at the DoubleTree Hotel. The meeting was apparently attended by something on the order of 60 AARC members and guests.

After about 45 minutes of the group's socializing, Michael **KA4JJD** asked for attention. President Ed Berkowitz **N3US** called the meeting to order at 1800:15 in the evening. He delivered a 9-second welcoming report (followed by thunderous applause). An excellent buffet dinner was then consumed.

Michael **KA4JJD**, Chair of the 2019 Awards Committee, thanked its members: Patrice **KM4RSL**, Dave **K4DND**, Bill **AD6JV**, Bob **K4DU**, John **KK4JP**, Dennis **WR4I**, Ed **N3US**, Larry **K4JZQ**, Bill **N0WP**, Rich **KI4QKV**, Mike **KQ9P**, Jim **K4BAV**, and Steve **KN4CJI**. He noted that the Committee held no eyeball meetings, and all business was conducted digitally (email). He suggested that serving on the Committee was great fun, which can be documented by speaking to any of the above-listed loyal members. He asked for volunteers for 2020.

Mike **KQ9P**, Emergency Coordinator for Albemarle County, welcomed and presented certificates of appreciation to **special guests**: Gabe Elias, ECC Systems Manager; Allison Farole, ECC Emergency Management Coordinator; Maribel Street, ECC Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator; and Larry (Sonny) Saxton, Executive Director ECC. The certificates thanked these folks "for continuing support of Amateur Radio by coordinating with the AARC and ARES during public service events and emergencies" and recognized community partnership with Amateur Radio. Mike noted the tridirectional support of among the ECC, ARES, and the AARC.

Michael **KA4JJD** explained the ever-evolving system for distributing certificates, proposed by Patrice **KM4RSL** and Bob **K4DU**. Awards will be announced from the lectern. Recipients will raise their hands, unless they are in the Witness Protection Program, in which case they need not. Although initial plans called for recipients to stand, it was benevolently concluded that many folks actually receive multiple awards, and some of us are too old to stand repeatedly. At the conclusion of the ceremony, recipients can claim their certificates from Beautiful Assistant Bob **K4DU**, at the table immediately beside the lectern. In fact, this approach saved lots of time. Good ideas, **KM4RSL** and **K4DU**.

Michael **KA4JJD** sighed deeply and presented the AARC Operating Awards. These were set up to encourage operating by new and old hams. Ever since **K4JZQ** ran the table some years ago, no one has completed any of these. The list is available on the AARC website, and the awards are easily obtained.

Ed **N3US** presented the AARC Special Service Awards, which honor exceptional contributions to the AARC. These awards were presented to: Dave **K4DND** for establishing and serving as Net

Control for the NEW Ham Net; Larry K4JZQ for serving as Manager of the Monday Night Information Net; John **KK4JP** for promoting community by videotaping the AARC meetings and serving as webmaster; and Rick **W3KDR** for serving as Director for Education 2018-2019.

Michael **KA4JJD** presented the Herding Cats Awards, for valiantly and repeatedly serving as Net Control for the AARC Monday Night Information Net, recognizing painful dedication to Amateur Radio. Recipients were: Ed **N3US**, Larry **K4JZQ**, Patrice **KM4RSL**, and Jim **K4BAV**.

Bob **K4DU** fulfilled his 2019 vice-presidential responsibility for developing topics for presentation at AARC meetings by awarding the Outstanding Presentation of the Year to Jim **K4CGY**. James C. (Spuds) Owen, III, Commander of the AARC Artillery Unit, received this award for his presentation, *How to Build an Air Launcher in a Couple of Easy Steps* on November 12, 2019. (By the way, if you missed it, please see **KK4JP's** video on the AARC Website).

John **KK4JP**, Chair of the Public Service Committee spoke to the importance of public service for the amateur radio community. He noted that many members of the AARC had participated in numerous events in areas in which other forms of communication were notoriously unreliable. Members of the AARC also took part in public service events sponsored by other radio clubs. Certificates for participation were presented to Barbara **KN4LAH**, Dave **K4DND**, Dayton **AA4DH**, Ed **N3US**, Joe **KJ4PE**, Greg **N4PGS**, Jeff **K4OLW**, Ian **KN4TBG**, Jim **K4CGY**, Larry **K4JZQ**, Lenny **N4LXP**, Luke **KN4WCW**, Mike **KQ9P**, Michael **KN4BFB**, Michael **KA4JJD**, Paul **AK4OH**, Bill **N0WP**, Rich **KI4QKV**, Russel **KN4LAU**, Elmer **KF4UCI**, Seth **KN4YNI**, Sid **WA4MBS**, Steve **KN4TKR**, Thomas **WB5BNT**, William **K4OOO**, Wynn **AI4MV**, and Warren **KN4LYF**.

**John** **KK4JP** then presented the Hein Hvatum Award for Outstanding Public Service. This award, one of the most important presented by the AARC, memorializes its namesake, who was a good friend and example to many in the AARC, and who was instrumental in designing and promoting public service activities. The 2019 award was presented to Dave **K4DND** for his outstanding support of public service events including his provision of a portable repeater. Thunderous applause ensued.

Dennis **WR4I** received a special Outreach Participation Award for once again organizing AARC participation in the 2019 Apple Harvest Fall Festival Camporee of the Stonewall Jackson Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He described the event and then presented certificates for participation to Joe **K4OPS** and Bill **KF4IE**.

Bob **AK4BR**, Chair for 2019 Field Day, presented special Outreach Awards recognizing contributions to the event. He initially praised the members of the AARC for their collaboration and expertise. *He also noted that he would Chair the event again next year. Applause ensued.*

**AK4BR** presented the following awards:

- Ed Berkowitz **N3US** - Operator Coordination Award, in recognition of coordinating and encouraging the operators for Field Day 2019.
- Kevin Cwalina **K4SHR** - Precision Logging Award, in recognition of a job well done in providing a top-notch PC environment for Field Day 2019.

- Joe DeVincentis **KO8V** - Power to the Radio Award, in recognition of efficiently and reliably powering Field Day 2019.
- Larry Eicher **K4JZQ** - Care and Feeding Award, in recognition of outstanding solicitation of donations and care and feeding of the club.
- Paul McKee **AK4OH** - Getting Out the Word Award, in recognition of making Field Day known to all, far and wide.
- Jim Owen, **K4CGY** - Transceiver Excellence Award, in recognition of generously providing the finest transceivers and equipment for Field Day 2019.
- John Porter **KK4JP** - Education Award, in recognition of putting together and delivering a top-notch education event at Field Day 2019.
- Michael Rein **KA4JJD** - GOTA Award, in recognition of organizing and staffing a stellar GOTA station for Field Day 2019.
- Michael Rein **KA4JJD** - Writes Good Award, in recognition of excellence with the written word and dedication to quality Field Day communications and awards.
- Dennis Terribile **WR4I** - "You Want an Antenna Where?" Award, in recognition of putting any antenna in any tree at any time.
- Linda Uihlein **KM4JIO** - 2 Days Without an Accident Award, for keeping all of us safe and sound for Field Day 2019

Bob **AK4BR** the presented some Special Field Day Awards

- Joe DeVincentis **KO8V** - This is Digital Award, in recognition of successfully reintroducing the digital mode to Field Day 2019.
- Richard Freeman **KI4QKV** - Open Arms Award, in recognition of being the face of the club and enthusiastically greeting visitors to Field Day 2019.
- Steve Hull **KN4TKR** - What's Mine is Yours Award, for exhibiting exemplary generosity in donating much time and material to Field Day 2019.
- Dennis Terribile **WR4I** - Dit Dah Award, in recognition of leading the CW effort, and yes, I know, they count double.

Bob **AK4BR** described the UVA Bicentennial Special Event Station, which he organized and which took place at **W4UVA**, October 4-6, 2019. He thanked those AARC members who participated and hoped that the event would serve as the beginning of an AARC effort to increase interest and activity at **W4UVA**. He presented the following awards:

- Kevin Cwalina **K4SHR** - W4UVA Special Event QSL Award in recognition of creating and producing a beautiful QSL card for the UVA Bicentennial Special Event.
- Mike McPherson **KQ9P** - W4UVA Special Event Hosting Award in recognition of dedicated service to W4UVA and making the UVA Bicentennial Special Event truly special indeed.

Michael **KA4JJD** noted the importance of Elmering to the present and future of amateur radio and presented certificates honoring contributions to the education, nurturing, and motivation of new members of the AARC in the radio arts to: Edward L. Berkowitz **N3US**, Dave Damon **K4DND**, Jim Owen II **K4CGY**, Bob Pattison **K4DU**, Ron Richey **K4RKA**.

Michael **KA4JJD** noted that a final set of special awards did not fit into any of the regular categories. He presented the following awards:

- Ham of Many Years – for being a licensed amateur radio operator for 70 years (and counting), recognizing prolonged support for Amateur Radio – Stan **K2SSB**. Impressive applause ensued.
- Lovely Assistant – for unswerving dedication to the logistics of the Awards Committee, elegant prolonged support for Amateur Radio – Bob **K4DU**.
- Really Good Friend – for delivering exceptional assistance to an AARC member in frequently visiting and providing ongoing support for **W2HD**, recognizing empathetic support for Amateur Radio – Bob **K4DU**.
- Sweet, Hot, and Spicy – for obtaining excellent sauces for Field Day, recognizing outstanding provisioning for Amateur Radio – Larry **K4JZQ**.
- Good Sport – for letting Larry receive the Sweet, Hot, and Spicy Award in public, recognizing understanding support for Amateur Radio – Vicky **XYL**.
- Most Faithful XYL – for attending every meeting of the AARC with **NOWP**, thereby demonstrating the triumph of hope over experience, recognizing steadfast support for Amateur Radio – Connie **XYL**.
- Turboencabulator – for his assiduous efforts to explain the electronics of the AARC repeater system to the AARC, recognizing unwavering support for Amateur Radio – recognizing prolonged support for Amateur Radio – Bill **NOWP**. Confused expressions ensued.
- Human Repeater – for accurately retransmitting events from AARC meetings, recognizing precision in support of Amateur Radio – Steve **KN4CJI**.
- Home of the Stars Tour – For arranging and piloting the AARC trip to Greenbank and for providing AARC terrestrials with a home, recognizing unwavering support for Amateur Radio – Jim **AD4YM**.
- Kids Table – for developing and stewarding the New Hams Net, recognizing educational support for Amateur Radio – Dave **K4DND**.
- Club Shrink – for conducting supportive counseling with those AARC members who apparently needed it, recognizing empathetic support for Amateur Radio – Patrice **KM4RSL**,
- Final Frontier – for his support, encouragement, and patience in spearheading the UVA cubsat project, recognizing resolute support for Amateur Radio – Mike **KQ9P**.
- Mysterious Dx – for reliably communicating from Transylvania during an interval of low sunspot activity, which doesn't make it any safer for vampires, recognizing frightening support for Amateur Radio – Count Bob **K4DU**.
- Mr. Clean – for having the neatest and most orderly shack in all of hamdom, recognizing exemplary support for Amateur Radio – Jim **K4CGY**.
- Transmutation – for reliably and magically turning one ham's junk into another ham's treasure, recognizing fiscal support for Amateur Radio – AJ **KE4AJM**.

AJ **KE4AJM**, Director for Fundraising, conducted the final raffle of the year with special prizes, including HTs (which AJ had programmed for local repeaters and other handy frequencies) and several ARRL publications. Over \$200 was raised. Applause ensued.

Ed **N3US** presented the final awards of the evening. The President's Award, honoring exceptional contributions and value to the President of the AARC, was presented to Bill **NOWP**. The Ham of the Year Award, honoring exceptional and sustained contributions and outstanding service to the AARC was presented to Bob **AK4BR**. Thunderous applause ensued.

**N3US** adjourned the meeting at about 2000 hrs. Socializing persisted.

Respectfully submitted (with apologies for typos, omissions, and other errors)

Michael

**KA4JD**