

## **AARC Meeting Minutes 5/09/2023**

Meeting started at 7:02 PM by Bob Romanko, president.  
Held at Northside Library and on Zoom.

Introductions done, members indicated favorite mode of operation.

### **Treasurer's report - Larry Eicher:**

Current balance \$35,435.96

Board authorized expenditure of \$500 for 25 club T-shirts to first 25 volunteers for Field Day. Bob R. made motion, seconded and approved by club to appropriate money.

Volunteers should sign up on FD volunteer form.

Second expenditure requested is to advertise in C'ville weekly and other media for FD. Authorize \$600 includes advertising and brochures.

Motion made by Bob R, seconded by Bob P. and approved by membership.

Someone mentioned putting ad in Crozet Gazette monthly but get ad in soon for June issue.

### **Public Events - John Porter:**

Saturday, May 13th Fight to Defeat ALS bike tour.

Dave Damon coordinating club members volunteering for tour. Needs more volunteers.

### **Repeater report - Bill Pond:**

The previously approved antennas for the 895 repeater are received and now stored at Bill's house. Bill is in contact with person to install antennas on new tower. All antennas on old tower now gone. He also fixed tone/decode board on repeater.

### **Presentation - John Porter:**

#### **Installing wire antennas**

1st step is Safety.

Beware of nearby power lines. Never cross power lines.

Basic gear:

Knife, lighter for ends of cut line, gloves for pulling lines, electrical tape for waterproofing, intermediate line to haul lines over trees - should be heavier than fish line.

Getting lines over trees (various methods):

Tater cannon: repeatability, near vertical, lots of pumping. See Jim Owen youtube video club channel for instructions for building tater cannon.

Other methods: Bow & arrow with weight, fishing rod, weighted ball, arborist throw bag, slingshot. Disadvantages for most of these is short distance and lack of consistency.

Supporting baluns and antenna:

Hang balun from tree using rope if tree in right position.  
Prefer using Dacron/polyester paracord much sturdier than nylon rope. Use 3/16" diameter line is most common.  
Maintain tension while providing some give.  
Can use heavy-duty elastic straps to give some support to antenna. Use hanging buckets for tension.  
Keeping trees from grabbing antennas: use pulley or ceramic insulator with support line.  
Useful knots and how to tie them:  
Bowline is ideal for attaching lines to insulators. See [www.netknots.com](http://www.netknots.com) for how to do bowline knot. Secure loop that will not jam and easy to tie and untie.  
Square knot to tie 2 lines together  
Sheet bend better for 2 different diameter lines  
Highwayman's hitch to secure to tree.  
Useful helpers: rope tightener, carabiner, line tensioner.  
For strain relief use plastic ties with electrical tape alongside cable.  
Waterproofing - wrap connection 3 times using electric tape, coax or un-vulcanized rubber, the electrical tape again.

**Field Day Report** - Bob Romanko:

When: June 24/25, 1400 Saturday to 1400 Sunday. Setup is Friday, June 23rd at 4 PM.

Where: Earlysville Volunteer Fire Company (EVFC) 283 Raes Ford Rd.

What: "Ham Radio's Open House"

Who: Membership and the public

Details: Online at [arrl.org/field day](http://arrl.org/field-day)

Strategy: "Everyone does a little"

Volunteer to help by contacting committee member.

Operate see [arrl.org/field-day](http://arrl.org/field-day) for rules and details. Club operating as 3A as W4DO.

Be there Friday at 4 pm for setup.

Rest of schedule on presentation.

To see presentation slides, click on url below.

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1nkgAXKoZ-r1NN4k7VhJ1VjAwE4OS8XcoHhADM6J-t0s/edit?usp=sharing\\_eil\\_m&ts=645a8637](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1nkgAXKoZ-r1NN4k7VhJ1VjAwE4OS8XcoHhADM6J-t0s/edit?usp=sharing_eil_m&ts=645a8637)

Please note that there will also be a wedding held at the EVFC that Saturday so setup will be on Friday. Parking will need to be on field near training structure.

Port-a-potty and tables will be provided.

Other business:

Ed said Marjorie Rein donated books from Michael for sale at meeting. \$2 paperback and \$5 hardbound.

Reminder that we have to be out of library by 8:45 pm.

Bob Romanko adjourned meeting at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Kramer

Secretary

21 Attendees:

Steve Kramer	KN4CJI
Bill Pond	N0WP
Ed Berkowitz	N3US
Larry Eicher	K4JZQ
John Porter	KK4JP
Dave Damon	K4DND
Bob Romanko	AK4BR
Frank Haynes	W4NUA
Jim Wilson	K4BAV
Dave Beebe	K4UEK
Ben Casto	NX4S
James Owen	K4CGY
Warren Yursik	KN4LYF
Ben Kidd	KG4EIF
Toni Simpson	KQ4EWT
Dennis Terribile	WR4I
Ron Richey	K4RKA
Nancy Richey	WB4RBW
Bob Pattison	K4DU
Joe Giavanelli	W2PVY
Daniel Stornetta	KQ4IGK