

Albemarle Amateur Radio Club

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date: January 13, 2026

Location: PVCC/ Zoom hybrid

Call to Order: 1900 by Bob Romanko, AK4BR

1. Attendees			
In Person		Online	
Name	Call Sign	Name	Call Sign
Ian Callahan	KN4TBG	Kathy Jung	AA4A
Bob Romanko	AK4BR	Dave Damon	K4DND
John Porter	KK4JP	Dennis Terrible	W4RI
Joe Giovanelli	W2PVY	Pete Francisco	K4KE
Larry Eicher	K4JZQ	Ed Berkowitz	N3US
Joe DeVincentis	KO8V	Mike Watkins	W4H00/WB4YVQ?
Scott Barker	KQ4TNX	Allen Nathanson	WA3WCO
James Owen	K4CGY	Micheal Smith	KQ4SRP
Mark Kocher	KB4CNQ	Dave Beebe	K4UEK
Zeph Soika	KQ4BIM	Warren Yursik	KN4LYF
Len Soika	KQ4BBR	Benjamin Kidd	KG4EIF
Joe Rivera	KO4NMJ	Bill Pond	N0WP
Diana Rivera	KO4ZKZ		
Jim Wilson	K4BAV		
Glenn Hartman	WA3Z		
Russ Sawyer	KN4LAU		
Total Attendance: [16] in person, [12] via Zoom			

2. Welcoming Statement & Announcements

Welcome to the AARC monthly meeting.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the December 2025 meeting minutes was made by John Porter, KK4JP seconded by Ian Callahan, KN4TBG, minutes were passed by all present.

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4. Membership Applications

Kevin Cwalina, K4SHR

Motion to approve membership was made and approved.

5. Treasurer's Report

Presented by Larry Eicher, K4JZQ

Total Deposited Assets: \$40,749.17 as of 13 Jan 2025.

Full report attached at the end of these minutes.

6. Committee Reports

- A. Public Service – Dave Damon, K4DND: 1st public service event on the calendar for the year which is Sunday April 26. The Blue Ridge Extreme Gravel Ride.
- B. Estate Committee – Ed Berkowitz, N3US: No large or small donations have been received. Slowly but surely, we are gradually selling residual items from previous donations.
- C. Technical Committee – Dave Damon, K4DND: I talked to Bill Pond, N0WP earlier and everything is working with the exception of 224.76 receiver, the receiver is not picking up but Bill does have a plan to address it.
- D. Public Relations – Russ Sawyer, KN4LAU: not present currently.
- E. Education Committee – John Porter, KK4JP: Nothing to report.
- F. Fundraising – AJ Miller, KE4AJM: not present but Ian Callahan, KN4TBG is running the raffle this evening.
- G. Volunteer Exam Liaison – Hank Perritt, K9KDF: not present but Larry Eicher, K4JZQ mentioned he wants to drop to 3 test sessions a year.

7. Discussion

Bob Romanko, AK4BR:

Club was presented with a new logo with the idea it fits well as a patch, it can be embroidered or engraved on a nametag. Logo is on the club website. Discussion was made to remove 1963 text and replace with the

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original club callsign WA4TFZ, discussion was postponed to next month for discussion and vote.



Bob Romanko, AK4BR:

On the ARRL website feature section “find a Club” you can see our club website. We are an ARRL affiliate and a special service club. We need to maintain a very good majority of members of the AARC in the ARRL to be an ARRL affiliated club, so if you are a member of the AARC, strongly

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consider becoming a member of the ARRL. The special services club needs to be renewed every 2 years.

Bob Romanko, AK4BR:

Larry Eicher, K4JZQ and I donated to the JMRL 7 books the club purchased with an approximate value of \$200.

The books donated are:

ARRL Operating Manual 12th Edition

Portable Operating for Amateur Radio

Here to There: Radio Wave Propagation

Get On the Air with HF Digital 3rd Edition

Basic Antennas

Understanding Basic Electronics 2nd Edition

ARRL Ham Radio License Manual 5th Edition (Technician)

Also, on the magazine rack they have QST and On the Air.

The ARRL is going to release a new book "Digital Networks for Ham Radio" AARC has sponsored the book with a \$50 donation, AARC will be printed in the book, where the club is located and a link to our website also the club will receive 50% off the price of the book. Once the book is received roughly in March it will be donated to the JMRL.

Sign out data will be available from the JMRL for each book donated.

Dave Damon, K4DND:

60 meters switchover date is set for 13 February 2026; I sent out an email to the club. If you can't find it, contact me and I will send it individually.

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Pete Francisco, K4KE:

I drafted a letter that ideally would be signed by the Virginia section of the ARRL advocating for the use of WMA's and state fishing lakes.

WMA's and State fishing lakes are not POTA locations anymore. A large POTA park US-9935 (Virginia Bird and Wildlife Trail) should be checked for local locations; example Darden Towe Park and Ivy Creek Foundation, and one is just off the John Warner Parkway next to McIntyre Park in Albemarle County plus Nelson Lake and Spruce Creek Park in Nelson County.

Dennis Terrible, W4RI:

Winter Field Day is weekend of the 24th and it is a variation of summer field day under harsher conditions. We could consider a small WFD set up at Crozet Park.

Categories, locations, interest discussed, limit of 2 antennas, no generators and leave at 7pm on Saturday, the event ends on Sunday. We would probably just operate on Saturday. Dennis will touch base with the park.

8. Old Business

None presented.

9. New Business

Elections:

Nominating committee was Ed Berkowitz, N3US, John Porter, KK4JP, and Dave Damon, K4DND.

Presentation was made by Ed Berkowitz, N3US and Dave Damon, K4DND.

President- Ed Berkowitz, N3US

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Vice President- Dennis Terrible, W4RI

Treasurer- Larry Eicher, K4JZQ

Secretary- Ian Callahan, KN4TBG

The members listed above have been recommended, nominations from the floor were asked for with no response.

Fund Raising Director- AJ Miller KE4AJM

With no other nominations, we will entertain a motion for the secretary to cast 1 vote for the slate.

Joe Giovanelli, W2PVY, 1st and seconded by Scott Barker, KQ4TNX.

Ian Callahan, KN4TBG club secretary votes yes.

Ed Berkowitz, N3US took over the meeting naming the year 2026 as the year for our youth membership.

10. Comments / Announcements

Bob Romanko, AK4BR will remain as the summer field day chair.

John Porter, KK4JP asked for a round of applause for outgoing officers, namely Bob Romanko, AK4BR, club responded with applause.

Ian Callahan, KN4TBG held the raffle, raising \$52.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2035.

Respectfully submitted,

Ian Callahan, KN4TBG
AARC Secretary

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Appendix A – Treasurer’s Report

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Date: January 13, 2026

Account Balances:

- Business Economy Checking: \$4,425.63
 - Business Money Market Fund: \$24,866.81
 - Business Savings Account: \$100.00
 - Certificate of Deposit: \$11,356.73
- Grand Total: \$40,749.17