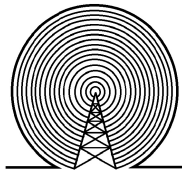


The Ham Arundel News



Providing Fellowship and Community Service Through Amateur Radio Since 1951

29th Year of Publication

Anne Arundel County's Premier Radio Club

February 2006

The Prez Sez...

One down, four to go. My oldest daughter, Sarah, finally got her ham ticket. Okay 5 to go but I'm pretty sure that the XYL is a lost cause. Sarah says that the most people don't know that ham radio even exists anymore as a hobby unless they have a relative who is in the hobby or they think that it is a relic of the past. SO.... "what we have here is ... failure to communicate". In addition to being a bad pun from Cool Hand Luke, it is somewhat ironic but may be an answer to the question of why our hobby is shrinking. How come people whose hobby is communicating aren't getting the word out about it?

The question is "what do we do about it?". How do we get the word out that we are still here? We all need to take opportunities to promote the hobby. For instance, the club will be sponsoring an AA County science fair prize and judging for the fair. Please consider volunteering for the fair. We will be inviting at least one Scout troop to participate in Field Day. This will mean that we need control operators to work the stations throughout the night. Sometimes it is as simple as taking the time to discuss the hobby with someone who asks you why you have all of those antennas on your car. When is the last time YOU encouraged or helped someone become a ham?

Once you've hooked him/her, don't forget to tell them that our new technician class starts this month. See Holly Bevan N3MB for details on the class.

Speaking of volunteering, we are in need of a new program director. Dick McKelvie

K3HQ has "retired". Anyone up for the challenge? In the meantime, if you have ideas for programs, please let me know. Thanks to Dick for some pretty good programs over the past year.

It's not too early to start thinking about Field Day. Yes, Field Day! There is lots of planning to be done. Lisa K3LUV will be heading up Field Day. We welcome your input and thoughts on Field Day. We, as a club, need to decide what mode(s) we want to operate, how many stations, do we want to operate QRP or QRO, etc. We want to have enough stations that everyone can operate but don't want empty stations sitting all night either. Please share your opinions on our Field Day operations!

I neglected to thank our outgoing president Tony Young WA3YLO in this column last issue for his year of service as President. So thank you Tony and I look forward to voting for you next year for another term!!

Robert Hurd, N3HU

Volunteers Needed

**B&A Trail Marathon
Sunday, March 5, 2006**

**Equipment needed is an HT on 2 meters.
If you can participate please contact Ted Redick by email to: tredick@verizon.net
or call 410 647-2795.**

Calendar

Club Events

February 4 - New Ham Class Begins

February 9 - Board Meeting

February 16 - Program Meeting

March 2 - Business Meeting

March 5 - B&A Trail Marathon

April 2 - Cherry Pit 10-Mile Run

May 7 - Bay Bridge Run

Hamfests, Contests and Other Events

February 17 - Echolink Section Net - 8 PM

February 26 - Winterfest - No. Va. Community Col., Annandale, VA

March 25-26 - Timonium Hamfest

VE Testing Schedule

February 11 - AARC - Robert Rose/AA3RR, 410-437-8193

February 18 - Laurel ARC - John Creel, 301-572-5124

To all exams bring:

- Picture ID

- Social Security Number or FCC Registration Number (FRN)

- **ORIGINAL** and a **COPY** of current FCC amateur radio license

- **ORIGINAL** and a **COPY** of all element credits (e.g., FCC letters, old licenses or unexpired Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination-CSCE).

The *Ham Arundel News* is the monthly official publication of The Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc. (ARRL Club No. 0484).

Editor: William Smith / AB3BZ

Send Newsletter Information to:

Internet: ab3bz@w3vpr.org

Deadline is the last Thursday of the month.

Mailing Address:

Anne Arundel Radio Club

Post Office Box 308

Davidsonville, MD 21035

Meetings:

General Business 1st Thursday at 7:30 PM

Board Meeting 2nd Thursday at 7:30 PM

Program/Activity 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM

Dues:

\$20 per year, payable December 1st

World Wide Web:

www.w3vpr.org

Repeater Frequencies:

Davidsonville	Millersville	Annapolis
147.105+	147.075+	
223.880-	224.560-	
444.400+		442.300+

PL: 107.2 for all repeaters except Davidsonville 440 which is 156.7

Maryland Slow Net:

3.717 MHz CW 7:30 P.M. Daily

Visitors are welcome - at all meetings and nets. Meetings are held in the Clubhouse at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, Queen Anne Bridge and Wayson Roads off of MD Route 214 near Davidsonville, MD. For en-route directions, make initial contact on the 147.105 repeater.

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VE Report

Happy New Year from the AARC VE Team!

Good news and bad news. The bad news first: For the seventh straight month we've had 5 or less applicants show up for an exam session. We are averaging slightly less than four applicants per monthly exam session. For the ninth consecutive month we've had less than four new hams emerge from our exam sessions. That is an average of slightly less than three new hams per month.

The good news: All of the applicants (3) during the January 2006 exam session earned their first amateur radio license (Technician). Interestingly, more females passed the exam than males, which is a first for us as far as I can determine.

Session Summary: Three exams taken and passed resulting in three new radio amateurs (All Technicians). Two were from different locations within the state of Virginia.

The following VEs participated in the session:

Holly/N3MB
Brenda/KB3ATI
Tom/K3TH
HAM/N3FDH
Rich/WW3ZZ
John/K8JW
Dick/K3HQ
Oscar/NV3G
Dana/AB3AF
Bob/AA3RR

What Hath the FCC Wrought? Part 2

Opinion by AA3RR

Here's an update on the FCC proposal to eliminate Morse code as an exam element (WT Docket 05-235).

I must give credit, acknowledgement, and grateful appreciation for most of the statistical data cited below to Mr. Leonard H. Anderson, a non-ham from Sun Valley, CA. Mr. Anderson authored an excellent analysis of the responses to the proposed rule making

and that analysis is the primary source document of this article.

The FCC originally introduced the proposed elimination of Morse code testing as NPRM 05-143 and released it to the public view on 19 July 2005. The first public comments (three) appeared under WT Docket 05-235 on 20 July 05. Apparently, the proposal was also erroneously identified as NPRM 05-235 in several popular amateur radio websites and periodicals. Searches for "NPRM 05-235" on the FCC web site were directed to Media Bureau Docket 02-235 which addressed a broadcasting corporation merger. The number of hams who failed to participate due to this glitch is unknown but given the total response per the total ham population to the proposed rule making, it is probably not significant.

The initial comment period was "60 days from publishing in the Federal Register" and the secondary comment period (reply to previous comments) was "75 days from publishing in the Federal Register." From the first public notice in July it took 43 calendar days until it was published in the Federal Register on 31 Aug 05. The initial comment period closed on 31 Oct 05 and the secondary comment period closed on 14 Nov 05.

Between 15 July through 14 November, 3,786 comments were filed. Slightly more than 53% (1982) of the comments were filed prior to the official start of the comment period (31 Aug 05).

- 112 invalid comments (dupes, not related to CW, not related to the proposal, etc)

- 558 (28%) comments against the proposed rule making

- 1038 (52%) comments for the proposed rule making

- 274 comments supporting a code test for Amateur Extra licensees

- 204 comments were duplicates

- 6 comments did not pertain to this proposed rule making

- 42 did not relate to the CW issue

1724 comments were received during the official primary comment period

- 128 invalid comments (dupes, not related to CW, not related to the proposal, etc)

- 584 (34%) comments against the proposed rule making

- 671 (39%) comments for the proposed rule making

- 341 comments supporting a code test for

Amateur Extra licensees

3706 comments were received between 15 July and 31 October 05

- 240 invalid comments (*dupes, not related to CW, not related to the proposal, etc*)

- 1142 (31%) comments against the proposed rule making

- 1709 (46%) comments for the proposed rule making

- 615 comments supporting a code test for Amateur Extra licensees

22 comments were filed by persons not affiliated with amateur radio, 3454 comments were filed by radio amateurs representing less than one half of one percent of the US radio amateur population. Approximately 10-12 comments were submitted by radio amateurs in the local area. Approximately three members of AARC submitted comments.

80 comments were filed during the secondary comment period.

- 1 duplicate comment

- 25 comments for the proposed rule making.

- 6 comments against the proposed rule making.

- 48 submissions are described as "Not Reply to Comments"

Approximately 98% of all comments filed were done so electronically.

Mr. Anderson makes several additional and interesting points in his analysis:

The FCC has been fairly clear and consistent regarding their public position on Morse code as a requirement for granting amateur radio licenses. In 1990 and in 1998 they have publicly stated that telegraphy testing was not considered as essential.

A clear majority of those favoring retention of a telegraphy exam already had an Amateur Extra class license (Amateur Extra licensees account for 15% of all the US amateur radio licensees).

Only maritime radio services have any requirement for commercial radiotelegraphy even though other modes (VHF voice, HF SSB, etc) for a majority of their communications while afloat. All other civil radio services have dispensed with radiotelegraphy for communications purposes. And finally, the US military does not use radiotelegraphy for communications.

There is no record in any news media of any amateur radio operator actually saving lives during hurricanes Katrina, Rita, or

Wilma, let alone using radiotelegraphy to do so. That is not to say that radio amateurs did not provide valuable service and support (logistics and health and welfare messages) during these events. [Note: While HF was used in some instances, it appears that the preponderance of communications support provided by radio amateurs during these events was made using 2m/70cm]

A common mythical refrain in the pro-code comments is that the commercial infrastructure always fails but amateur radio is always there to take over (or similar words) suggesting that the amateur equipment and operator miraculously survive. [As opposed to arrive from an outside area as in Katrina and Rita]

Having completed the initial and secondary commentary periods, the FCC is now in the process of reading and evaluating the nearly 4000 comments they received. How long that will take is anybody's guess. I seem to recall that it took nearly 16-18 months for the FCC to review the comments in response to the proposed amateur radio restructure that was implemented on 15 April 2000.

In summary, the data clearly shows that with respect the proposed rule making the majority of those submitting comments, support the proposal. If you included those who supported code testing for Amateur Extra licenses with those who oppose the proposal, the numbers for and against are virtually identical. However, because the level of participation by hams was so pathetic and insignificant, the FCC may very well choose to ignore all of the comments from the amateur radio community. Who can blame them?

Echolink Net

On Friday, February 17 at 2000L The MDC Section will hold the first monthly Echolink section-wide net. If you are not on Echolink you can go to <www.echolink.org> to learn about and download the program. If you plan to join in the net, be sure to download it several days in advance to be authenticated and try it out. We will use the Wash_DC conference server node 6154 managed by John Creel/WB3GXW and found on the Index Tab. His 147.225 (156.7) repeater will be available for those locals who wish to check in via the repeater.

Control operators of repeaters in the section that are Echolink capable are encouraged to check in so that their users can participate via RF. Control ops are requested to turn off your reset beeps. This is an opportunity to meet your section staff, learn about and discuss upcoming events, and possibly meet invited guests from outside the section.

CW over the Internet

Eric/N3EF

I found this really neat and free morse code chat program called CWCom, to use for QSO's over the internet or over a LAN. I just hooked up my paddles to my computers computer and had my first internet QSO with someone in California. Of course, this is no substitute for the real thing, but it is a great way to improve your sending as well as receiving skills without actually getting on the air. It translates the received cw to text so you don't miss a thing and it translates your sending to text so you can see how your doing. It's really great for cw newbies because you won't miss anything and you don't experience the jitters of actually being on the air. Of course, the idea is to copy the received code either on paper or in your head and only look at the screen to fill in what you may have missed. You can use a straight key or iambic paddles or even your keyboard. There are three kinds of Connections supported by CWCom - computer to computer direct, via the IONOSPHERE (a server program that provides communications between many CWCom programs) and via a MORSEMAIL server. If we have enough interest, we could set up a regular practice net between members. You can download the software at: http://www.mrx.com.au/d_cwcom.htm And the online help page is at: http://www.mrx.com.au/images/cwcom_help.htm I'd be happy to help anyone with making up a cable for your connection. For mine, I just used a 3 conductor cable with a D9 on one end for the serial port, and a female 3.5mm stereo jack on the other end so I can just unplug the paddles from my rig and plug it into the computer. Check it out! I've added the link to my web page which is just a bunch of "quality" links to amateur radio sites. Check it out also if your interested at: <http://home.comcast.net/~fairbank56/>

Amateur Radio Hurricane Conference Set

The 11th annual Amateur Radio Hurricane Conference will take place Saturday, February 4, 8-10 AM, at the National Hurricane Center in Miami. Admission and refreshments are free, but seating is limited to about 40 people. WX4NHC Amateur Radio Volunteer Coordinator John McHugh, K4AG, will host the gathering, which will feature presentations on how ground-level reporting of hurricane-related weather data by Amateur Radio observers aids forecasters. This year marks 25 years for ham radio at the National Hurricane Center, and Assistant Amateur Radio Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R, will talk about the history of ham radio at the center during the conference. Hurricane Watch Net Manager Mike Pilgrim, K5MP, will discuss the operation of his net, which works hand in hand with WX4NHC. ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Emergency Coordinator Rob Macedo, KD1CY, will speak on the EchoLink/IRLP Hurricane Net. Forecaster Stacy Stewart will summarize the historic 2005 hurricane season. Presentations of awards and door prizes will cap the two-hour session. The National Hurricane Center is located at 11691 SW 17th Street in Miami, just a few blocks west of the Tropical Hammock taking place the same weekend. Attendees will receive a CD with hurricane and WX4NHC/NOAA information and videos. Those planning to attend should contact McHugh via e-mail as soon as possible.

Thanks to the ARRL Letter

FOR SALE

2-Meter Amateur VHF-FM Transceiver, Radio Shack HTX-202, in Original Packaging. Rarely Used. \$75.00 Call Sam/N3VEE at 410-263-0510

FCC ZIPS THROUGH VANITY APPLICATION BACKLOG

Once the FCC resumed processing Amateur Radio vanity call sign applications earlier this month, its Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) blazed through the backlog.

A total of 990 vanity applications piled up in the queue after the FCC suspended vanity processing September 23. The WTB dispatched them in fairly short order. An initial batch of 121 grants Friday, January 6, was followed by 195 more the next day. Apparently confident by then that the system was working okay, the FCC let loose the remaining 674 vanity grants Tuesday, January 10.

During the vanity hiatus, applications appeared with a "Y--application has problems" flag in the Universal Licensing System (ULS) <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>>, prompting some concern on the part of those who checked their applications' status. The WTB reportedly applied the "Y" status to prevent the system from running the entire backlog at once.

The WTB halted vanity processing last fall after realizing that filing deadline extensions for licensees in certain states affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita applied to Amateur Radio's two-year "grace period" and could impact the vanity system.

FCC spokesman Tracy Simmons told ARRL this week that the WTB now is processing current vanity call sign receipts. It typically takes approximately three weeks from the time a vanity application is submitted until a call sign is issued. The current vanity call sign fee is \$21.90 for the ten-year license term.--some information from Fred Maia, W5YI

Thanks to the ARRL Letter

How to Sound Like A Lid

Step One: On FM use as many "Q" signals as possible. Yes, they were invented solely for CW and are totally inappropriate for two meter FM, but they're fun and entertaining. They keep people guessing as to what you really mean. I.E. "I'm going to QSY to the phone." Can you really change frequencies to the phone? QSL used to mean, "I am acknowledging receipt", but now it appears to mean, "yes" or "OK". I guess I missed it when the ITU changed the meaning. It is also best to use "OK" and "QSL" together. Redundancy is the better part of Lid-dom. Double points for using "check, check."

Step Two: Never laugh when you can say "HI HI". No one will ever know you aren't a long time CW rag-chewer if you don't tell them. They'll think you've been throwing spark since the days of Marconi.

Step Three: Utilize an alternative vocabulary. Use words like "destinated" and "negatory". It's OK to make up your own words here. I.E. "Yeah Tom, I "pheelbart zaphonix" occasionally myself."

Step Four: You must always say "XX4XXX" (Insert your own call) "for I.D." As mentioned in Step One, anything that creates redundancy is always encouraged. That's why we have the Department of Redundancy Department. (Please note that you can follow your call with "for identification purposes" instead of "for I.D." While taking longer to say, it is worth more "LID points".

Step Five: The better the copy on two meter FM, the more you should use phonetics. Names should be especially used if they are short or common ones. I.E. "My name is Al..." Alpha Lima" or "Jack... Juliet Alpha Charlie Kilo." If at all possible use geezer HF phonetics "N6EEZ... Nan Six Easy Easy Zansibar." And for maximum "LID points", make up unintelligible phonetics. "My name is Bob... Bet On Bumperpool."

Step Six: You must always give the calls of yourself and everyone who is, or has been, in the group, whether they are still there or not. While this has been unnecessary for years, it is still a great memory test. You may also use "and the group" if you're an "old timer" or just have a bad memory. Extra points for saying everyone's call and then clearing in a

silly way "KN6K, Ciao, Ciao."

Step Seven: Whenever possible, use the wrong terminology. It keeps people guessing. Use "modulation" when you mean "deviation", and vice-versa. Complain about "bleedover" a lot. Any discussion of "VISWARS" will place you in contention for the Lid Hall of Fame.

Step Eight: When another CW op sends "CQ Test" always be sure to give him your name, location, and the short version of your life's story. Then reassure him that his signal is just fine. Offer to further aid his testing effort by switching between your different antennas.

Step Nine: Always ask involved questions of the person who is trying to sign out. Never let him get by with just a "yes" or "no" answer. Make it a question that will take him a long time to answer.

Step Ten: The less you know on a subject, the more you should speculate about it in the roundtable. Also the amount of time you spend on the subject should be inversely proportionate to your knowledge of the subject even though you have no damn clue.

Step Eleven: Always make sure you try to communicate with only a handheld and a rubber duck antenna. Also, make sure you work through a repeater that you can hear very well, but it cannot hear you. This will put out a kind of "LID mating call": "Well, Joe, I can hear the repeater just fine here. I wonder why it can't hear me?" You will score maximum LID points if you are mobile, and with the radio lying in the passenger seat. You are a true LID roll-model if you tell the other operator that he is "lighting all the lights."

Step Twelve: After failing to make contact with another station, be sure to tell everyone that you are "clear". This way you will actually feel that others care. And the rest of us will have someone else to ridicule besides Claude Rains.

Step Thirteen: If you hear someone on the repeater giving directions to a visiting amateur, even if the directions are good, make sure you break in with your own "alternate route but better way to get there" version. This is most effective with several other "would-be LIDs", each giving a different route. By the time the visiting

amateur unscrambles all the street names whizzing by in his mind, he should have moved out of the range of the repeater. This keeps you from having to stick around to help the guy get back out of town, later.

Step Fourteen: On HF always find two amateurs engrossed in their weekly schedule, interrupt them by requesting a quick signal report, and then warm the ether with your life's story. Be sure to embellish your interruption with the many helpful hints provided in this guide.

Step Fifteen: Always uses the National Calling Frequency for general conversations. The more uninteresting the content, the longer you should transmit. Extra points are awarded if you have recently moved from an adjacent frequency for no reason. Make sure when DX is "rolling" in on 52.525 that you hang out there and talk to your friends five miles down the road about the good old CB days!

Step Sixteen: When reporting an emergency via an autopatch, be sure to tell the dispatcher "I am a ham." and "When I am keyed-up, I can't hear you." It's a high stress job, and she will appreciate the diversion.

Step Seventeen: Make sure you say the first few words of each transmission twice, especially if it is the same thing each time. Like "roger, roger" or "fine business, fine business." I cannot stress enough about encouraging redundancy.

Step Eighteen: If you hear a conversation on a local repeater, break in and ask how each station is receiving you. Of course they will only see the signal of the repeater you are using, but it's that magic moment when you can find a fellow "LID", and get the report. Extra points are awarded if you are using a base station, and the repeater is less than twenty-five air miles from you.

Step Nineteen: Use the repeater for an hour or two at a time, preventing others from using it. Better yet, do it on a daily basis. Your quest is to make people so sick of hearing your voice every time they turn on their radio, they'll move to another frequency. This way you'll lighten the load on the repeater, leaving even more time for you to talk on it.

Step Twenty: See just how much flutter you

can generate by operating at handheld power levels too far away from the repeater. Engage people in conversations when you know they won't be able to copy half of what you're saying. Even when they say you're uncopyable, continue to string them along by making further transmissions. See just how frustrated you can make the other amateur before he finally signs off in disgust. Also when you hear a hopeless pile of noise open the repeater input, be sure to tell the other op that he's "not making the machine." This way, he will, at least, have you to talk to.

Step Twenty-One: Use lots of radio jargon. After all, it makes you feel important using words ordinary people don't say. Who cares if it makes you sound like you just fell off Channel 19 on the Citizen's Band? Use phrases such as "Roger on that", "10-4", "I'm on the side", "Your making the trip" and "Negatory on that". And never forget a healthy sprinkling of "here's" and "there's" for the most professional effect.

Step Twenty-Two: Use "Umm" and "Ahhh" whenever possible to keep your VOX relay from opening between words. If mobile, make sure the wind noise is loud enough that others have to strain to pick your words out from the racket. On HF, whistle frequently to keep your d'Arsonval movement in top form.

Step Twenty-Three: Start every transmission with the word "Roger" or "QSL". Sure, you don't need to acknowledge that you received the other transmission in full. After all, you would simply ask for a repeat if you missed something. But consider it your gift to the other amateur to give him solace every few seconds that his transmissions are being received.

Step Twenty-Four: When looking for a contact on a repeater, always say you're "listening" or "monitoring" multiple times. Repeating your multiple "listening" ID's every 10 to 15 seconds is even better. Those people who didn't want to talk to you will eventually call you, hoping you'll go away after you have finally made a contact.

Step Twenty-Five: Always use a repeater, even if you can work the other station easily on simplex ... especially if you can make the contact on simplex. The coverage of the repeater you use should be inversely proportional to your distance from the other station.

Step Twenty-Six: Always assume that the folk's just 3 KHz above or below you are part of a secret cabal bent on destroying your QSO with another LID, and demand that they move.

Step Twenty-Seven: When confronted with above situation, adjust the other party's transmitter frequency using your speech processor control.

Step Twenty-Eight: When on repeaters using courtesy tones, you should always say "over". Courtesy tones are designed to let everyone know when you have unkeyed but don't let that stop you. Say "over", "back to you" or "go ahead". It serves no useful purpose but, then, neither do you.

Step Twenty-Nine: Use the repeater's autopatch for frivolous routine calls... especially during morning or evening commute times. While pulling into the neighborhood, call home to let them know you'll be there in two minutes.... or, call your spouse to complain about the bad day you had at work. After all, the club has "measured rate" service on their phone line so they get charged for each autopatch call. Your endeavor is to make so many patches in a year that you cost the club at least \$20 in phone bills. That way you'll feel you got your money's worth for your dues!

Step Thirty: Never say "My name is..." It makes you sound human. If at all possible, use one of the following phrases: a) "The personal here is..." b) "The handle here is..." Better yet, say, "I am WD6EPV." Others will marvel at your parent's creativity.

Step Thirty-One: Use "73" and "88" incorrectly. Both are already considered plural, but add a "s" to the end anyway. Say "73's" or "88's". Who cares if it means "best regardses" and "love and kisseses." Better yet, say "seventy thirds"! (By the way, seventy thirds equals about 23.3).

Step Thirty-Two: It is vital that you ask for a signal report using the high power mode of your HT after already having received a full quieting signal report when using low power. Toggle back and forth and repeat your request to make sure the other operator was not lying to you.

Step Thirty-Three: You must always repeat the salient points (presuming you were not speaking to another LID, in which case such

points would not exist) of the other fellows transmission. Thus, "Roger, roger, on the new Kenwood TS-570, the G5RV, and not being able to use all the bands you have because you're too busy yakking with me instead of studying for your upgrade." can be used to complete a QSO in the event that band conditions or intellectual restrictions render genuine two way communication impossible.

Step Thirty-Four: When instructing others to "Buy Golly", please be courteous: offer the NASDAQ ticker symbol.

Step Thirty-Five: When on CW send "R" and then send "pse rpt ur name." He will take fondly your interest in hearing it again.

Step Thirty-Six: Ask the other operator for an SWR check.

Step Thirty-Seven: If the repeater is off the air for service, complain about the fact that it was off the air as soon as it's turned back on. Act as though your entire day has been ruined because the repeater wasn't available when you wanted to use it. Even though you have never paid a penny to help out with the upkeep. It was among the reasons I took mine off the air. Sorry if the LIDs are now using your repeater instead.

Step Thirty-Eight: People can be pretty ambivalent. Cater to that. Say, "For those who care, for those who don't" often before offering an opinion that most of us could not give a damn about.

Step Thirty-Nine: Is Roger That related to Roger Rabbit? Enquiring minds want to know.

Step Forty: Please tell people that they are "Banging the repeater" it will give them a cheap, safe, thrill.

Step Forty-One: Compassion is in these days. All will want to know about your "terrible situation" or perhaps learn about one of their own that they did not know they had.

Step Forty-Two: Big Bonus Points!! Remind folk's often that station identification is not optional. Please remind us of the deterrent wonder of English Common Law, and say "for license preservation purposes" every time you say your callsign. Others will marvel at your legal savvy. Fellow Lids will

appreciate the reminder, and some of us will just be relieved that you were born a dope, rather than us.

Ensure the line unbroken:

Charlie Young, AG4YO

I long for the sound,
of pure and melodious note,
wafting into the air,
aloft the distant currents float.

As balmy days,
the cool nights follow,
so too, the sound transcends
cities, forests, hollows.

Not like the robin's chirp
nor hammer upon metal rake,
but like the loon, the softness
murmurs across the summer lake.

As waves soft upon the beach flows,
notes bathe my brain in warmth hushed,
thus in the mist the words appear...
into my mind they softly rush.

Then, my turn comes, and my hand too,
upon the key now is unfurled,
I warmly send the music back
its journey halfway 'round the world.

From measured tones the sweetness goes
and with exchange the very reason,
my mind to another's joined
in this and every earthbound season.

On that day so long ago
what things could Samuel Morse have
thought?

That in the ages his life passed,
we'd know the joy God hath wrought?

And continue on unfettered,
his work to pass to future generations,
our hands gently stretched in friendship
across the many nations.

Thus, upon our shoulders fall
the solemn duty of that noble token,
to see the knowledge passed along
and ensure the line unbroken.

That our sons too, one day,
will know the loving melody
of mankind's history told aloud,
by the tapping of a simple key.

**ANNE ARUNDEL RADIO
CLUB
P.O. BOX 308
DAVIDSONVILLE, MD 21035**

**Minutes of AARC Business Meeting for
January 5, 2006**

Officers present for the meeting were:

Robert Hurd/N3HU	President
William Smith/AB3BZ	Vice Pres.
Robert Montagne/K3REM	Secretary
Lisa Fairbank/K3LUV	Treasurer
Fred Koester/K3LMR	Director
John Williams/K8JW	Director
Anthony Young/WA3YLO	Director

The Meeting came to order at 7:30 P.M.

Quorum Present with 25 members

To get to know everyone, Group went around the room to announce name and call

New members were voted on, Billy Locke No callsign yet, Rich Hartnett KA3KYW, Robert Delamarter KB3MPR

John Williams, discussed issues with the repeater. John Williams hooked up phone patch, checked repeater, phone line was recently cut and now repaired. 220 No phone line will have in a couple weeks. Hookup 075 and repeater in the next week.

John discussed issues with the repeater and opened it up for comments.

Fred Koester, commented on the great success of the Christmas Party

Barry Lazar, discussed the club project, order goes in on the 16th, Kit building will take place on Sundays after Church.

Tom H Announcement, This Saturday is Kids Day on the Air 2nd & 4th Saturday 1 to 3pm.

2006 Class for Technicians start Saturday Feb. 4th

Robert Hurd requested we change the Directors meeting to 2nd Thursday of the month.

Lisa Fairbanks, discussed financial picture. 501(3)© has not been filed yet. Larry will

file this month.

Field Day, John Williams, Directors talked about purchasing Push Up Masts, Rocker Launchers, Easy to use, He asked for comments, would like to order before Field Day.

Group brainstormed for ideas to increase membership. Opportunities. John W. said ARRL has courses to encourage, we should review them. Tony Y Talked about Science Fair Judging this spring. Fred said we should go county wide, he has contacts.

Lisa talked about putting up a Mural on the side of the building, have a school contest.

John Merit Badge Madness. Barry have a the boy scouts camp out for Field Day, Punch tickets for merit badge. If your interested in being a Boy Scout Merit Badge Counselor, Email Robert Hurd. What can we do to replace the lifetime membership? Bill Rynone had a short Program Meeting on the Universe Home Alone.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

**Minutes of AARC Board Meeting for
January 12, 2006**

Officers present for the meeting were:

Robert Hurd/N3HU	President
William Smith/AB3BZ	Vice Pres.
Robert Montagne/K3REM	Secretary
Lisa Fairbank/K3LUV	Treasurer
Fred Koester/K3LMR	Director

The Meeting came to order at 7:30 P.M.

The minutes from the Jan. 5 Business Meeting were read.

Looking for ways to interest new hams in the hobby, and increasing Membership, Fred started the meeting with the Science Fair Information he put together. He provided everyone with 3 handouts on the AACPS Regional Science and Engineering Fair. This included contacts, events timeline, applications, judging information. We need a response by Feb. 24th. We could possibly give away an HT and Now You're Talking License Manual.

Coke machine was discussed, repairs may

cost more then the equipment is worth. We should look into a used refrigerator to replace it.

2 Projector Screens have been donated.

Robert H has a suggestion to start a new tower fund. Robert H. to send letter to AARC Staff, do they want to continue in the current role, also ask them do they feel the position is still needed.

Program meeting for February, ARRL Look at Hying the benefits of ARRL. We are going ask Tony Y. if he will help put this together and present. Also discussed putting in the newsletter what programs the club would like to have.

Life Members, put together in the club house an area to display pictures of the Life members. Suggestions were made to have an upscale picture board, and an elite name badge that would only be available to the Life Members.

We need someone to start looking for Grant monies.

At the March meeting we need to talk about awards for this year.

The AARC Jr. was discussed.

Maryland Slow Net

January 2006

TO: MSN

FROM: W8CPG

December Honor Roll (15+ check-ins)

KA3AKC, W8CPG, WE2G, KG2HA,
KG4YLZ

December Statistics

Sessions: 31 Minutes: 1006

QTC: 228 QNI: 113

Student News

Bill/WB9LBI, Nick/N2QZ, Bill/KB3JAJ, Allan/KH6ILR and Paul/K3MZ are learning the new prosigns and procedures and are moving steadily through the Basic course. Randy/W4XJ and Eric/N3EF embarked on the Liaison portion of the course and are making great progress. It's really great to have such active and interested students. Good to hear you on the net.

Net Protocol.

If the station you are working with asks you to wait (AS), reply with AS to let him know you understood and are waiting for him to call you.

If you are an NCS please assign Students with Instructors and rout your traffic as quickly to take advantage of any "good" air time as we may have.

The MSN is good practice field for working with other nets. Listen carefully to the instructions from the NCS, especially when he calls for QNV. Call your assigned station, establish copy (QRK is working well), and move to your assigned frequency for traffic or training. If you miss the QNV and send G or GG and move off frequency, the NCS must now reunite two disconnected stations.

NC Stations – when an unfamiliar station QNI, ask him if he "would like training in traffic handling". If the answer is yes, assign an experienced operator to welcome him and obtain his address for an Information Packet to be sent. Perhaps we'll gain new students if we pique their interest promptly.

Around The Net

Congratulations to Dean/KB3HOO on completing Level III of the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course. Way to go, Dean. This training is important in

these post 9/11 days.

Band conditions have been nothing short of "challenging" these past several months. Sincere thanks to you all for persevering through the QRN/QSB and often QRM. There have been some S9 Lids practicing the art of on-air tune-ups that have challenged our patience as well as our RITs and filters.

Despite the band conditions this has been an outstanding month for training. A great part of the training has been done by a very few stations. MSN Instructors are well trained and experienced and you are needed to help spread out the teaching load. This is fun and worthwhile stuff, so, please jump in early and let the NCS know that you're present and available to help out. We're all on the same team.

It is with great sadness that I have confirmed the passing of Bruce "Swoop" Fleming, N3EGF (SK), our MDC Section Traffic Manager. He became an SK December 30 after a brief bout with the flu. He's been a great help to the MSN and will be missed.

*"Cryptoqwticisms" and Philosophy dujour
If you keep driving even though your gas tank is nearly empty, I'd say that's a fuelish mistake. If a person is found guilty of battery, I guess he ought to be placed in a dry cell. How might a person figure out why light bulbs work? I guess by process of illumination.*

AARC STAFF - 2006

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President: Robert Hurd / N3HU 410-757-6527
Vice Pres.: William Smith / AB3BZ 301-805-4211
Secretary: Robert Montagne / K3REM 301-464-4377
Treasurer: Lisa Fairbank / K3LUV 410-741-1022
Directors: Fred Koester / K3LMR 410-643-2020
John Williams / K8JW 410-647-7406
Anthony Young / WA3YLO 301-262-1917

REPRESENTATIVES

Trustee: Buck Watson / KC3Y 410-255-0896
DFRC Rep: Wm.. "Stan" Stanek / N3PPJ 410-798-9963
Public Relations: Holly Bevan / N3MB 410-923-0229
ARES/RACES: Lew Hendrixson / N3IJK 301-261-3447
Joint 440 Comm: Butch Marshall / N3KVP 410-295-7244

COMMITTEE COORDINATORS

Facilities Mgr.: Bill Rynone 410-263-0794
Interference: *open*
Public Service: Ted Redick/K3TED 410-647-2795
Training: Oscar Ramsey / NV3G 301-262-3392
Repeater Ops: John Williams / K8JW 410-647-7406
Programs: *open*
Shack Ops: Gerald Burdette / N3ADY 410-956-6216
Robert Rose / AA3RR 410-437-8193
Eric Fairbank / N3EF 410-741-1022
Tech. Adv. John Ward / W3OJ 301-953-9273
VE Team: Robert Rose / AA3RR 410-437-8193
Packet Radio: Barry Lazar / K3NDM 410-757-5510
Newsletter: William Smith / AB3BZ 301-805-4211
Web Page: William Smith / AB3BZ 301-805-4211
Weathernet: Margie Currey / KA3PQP 301-261-4011
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FIRST CLASS

