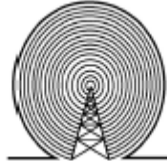


The Ham Arundel News

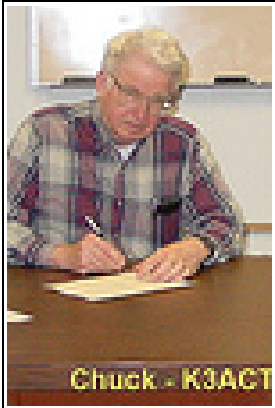


Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

February 2012

34th Year of Publication

State of the Club



At the first club meeting of the year, I gave an "off-the-cuff" talk about the "state of the club". Milford, our club newsletter editor, has asked me to reproduce that talk for the newsletter, and I am happy to do so, because it gives me the chance to do a better job of communicating the state of the club to the membership.

First of all, AARC is in good shape. At the time of this writing, we have 123 members who have paid their dues for 2012. We have money in the bank, and are paying all our bills.

We enjoy the use of a very functional clubhouse and ham shack, courtesy of the Anne Arundel County government. We operate 6 repeaters, own an impressive antenna tower, teach FCC licensing classes, support a VE team who gives license tests, support numerous public service events in the area, run a super-incredible ten-alpha field day, run the Maryland QSO party, throw a wonderful Christmas party and a great club picnic each year, provide a couple of very interesting and informative programs each month, and in general, have a great time doing all these things and even more. We have even been known to call ourselves Maryland's "premier radio club", and we certainly are one of the largest, and we have a very good reputation among our neighboring ham clubs. We are proud of our diversity, and inclusiveness, and we strive to provide "elmering" to those who need it, and to provide opportunities for club service for members who want to offer their time and talents.

But unfortunately we also have some problems, most of which are problems of leadership and participation.

It should be evident that a club this size with this many activities requires a reasonable amount of leadership and participation, and we may soon find ourselves without enough of either to continue to operate as we have become accustomed to operate. First of all, we should have more dues-paying members. In 2011, we had 216 members. Even with this level of paid membership, we need another \$3000 to pay our bills for the year. We have been fortunate to receive donations throughout the year which has allowed us to meet our budget, but the loss of \$2000 in dues will cause us severe financial pain. So if you are a member who has not paid your 2012 dues, please do so right away!

Then there is the problem of the presidency. We have started the second year in a row without an elected president, because we had no one who was willing to put

their name on the ballot. Fortunately in 2011, our vice president Nick, N3CK, offered to serve as president, and was later duly elected. This year the current VP has not yet made a similar offer, but under the right conditions may be induced to do so. More on that later.

There is also the emptiness caused as Bob Rose, AA3RR, is moving up to be the Laurel VEC Regional Coordinator. We all know that none of us is indispensable. Correction: None of us but Bob Rose. Bob has earned the right for a rest, after running the VE program for many years, running the licensing classes for several years, and cracking the field day whip for 3 straight years of outstanding participation and camaraderie. But who will, who CAN fill Bob's shoes and shoulder these responsibilities? Fortunately his wife Brenda has agreed to take over the VE job, but we all know that this will last only until Bob and Brenda ride off into the Arizona sunset, which may be a couple of years from now, but at any rate all too soon.

So I appeal to all the members of AARC to consider again what skills and talents and energy you can offer to help keep our club doing the things we want to do, and which make us the great club that we are proud to belong to. Your elected officials will be trying to better define the jobs that we think need doing, and we hope that if you think that you are a match for one of these tasks, that you will respond to the request to help. And if you think you could do a job that needs to be done that we haven't yet identified, let the board know. We always welcome suggestions and especially offers of help.

Now here is my suggestion for helping solve the problem of finding a presidential candidate. I have decided that I am willing to be a candidate for president, providing that the following condition is met: that some club member (and we hope more than one!) presents themselves as a candidate for vice president, AND makes a public declaration that they intend to be a candidate for president for the year 2013. We know that personal situations may change, and the declaration would of course not be binding, but after this declaration is made, the club should feel some assurance that there would be a candidate for president in 2013. Unless the circumstances were extremely extenuating, the VP candidate should feel honor-bound to be on the presidential slate for 2013. And this would keep from happening what has happened for the past two years--no candidate for president. I have presented this idea to the board, which I hope will endorse it soon so that we can open the nominations and schedule an election. And in fact, we do have at least one club member who has agreed to run for VP under these conditions.

That about sums up the state of AARC at the moment. Your board deals monthly with all sorts of issues on your behalf, and we plan to start publishing the minutes of the board meetings so that you can be better informed about these issues. And to all of you members who are already working hard on behalf of the club (and there are many of you!), we appreciate your service, and thank you for supporting your club. If you want to know who these members are, check out the list of those who got service awards last month, which should be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

73 Chuck K3ACT AARC Vice President
AA

Leaders in New Positions

It is great pleasure that we can announce that folk have come forward to help not only the AARC but amateur radio in its entirety.

Thanks to Brenda Diamond Rose, KB3ATI, for taking on the reigns of the **VE Testing crew**. We are sure that she will, not only carry on as usual but, bring ideas and efforts to make this service more valuable.

Steve Hanlon, WM3O, for his acceptance as the club's **Training committee coordinator**. Steve is looking for help in developing an updated Technician Course.

Jim Goldsberry, KB3NQY, is now the **Program Chairman**. If you have ideas for upcoming meetings, or events, please make them known to Jim.

Nick Lomangino, N3CK, has accepted the awesome challenge of bringing the **Field Day operations** together. He will appreciate any help and ideas that you can give him.

Bob Jeter, K3RSJ has taken on the position of **Resident Agent**. This is a business technical position and we are very pleased that Bob has accepted this responsibility.

AA

Technician Class Starts March 17

Steve Hanlon, WM3O, as Training Coordinator is organizing the next Technician Training Class. This class will start on Saturday March 17 at 9 AM. There will be 4 sessions and each session will run approx 3 hours. Then the fifth week will be April 14. this will be a two hour review followed immediately by an opportunity to set for the Technician license.

It is felt that the shortened class schedule would be better suited for those who want to get their first amateur radio license. The study material is contained in a Technician Class manual published by the ARRL and is available through the club.

Please contact the club if you know anyone who is interested in getting their Technician License. You can contact any club officer or board member, make it known on either the Holly net in the morning or the Wednesday night 2 meter net, or go to the web site, W3VPR.org

AARC Service Awards – 2011

By Terry and Barb Nixon

For the past three years the AARC Service Award Program has acknowledged club members that have contributed significant service to the club. There are a variety of ways that members provide service to the club. They include: net control for the morning net and Wednesday night net, monthly VE testing, Field Day and public service events. This past year, 2011, club members contributed a total of 2,679 hours. As compared to last year, 2010, there was an increase of almost 25% in hours contributed. Either members are doing more or service hours are finally being reported to us on a regular basis. Here is breakdown of the hours contributed in specific areas:

Holly Morning net control – 520 hours
Wednesday night net control – 57.5 hours
VE Monthly Testing – 386 hours
Clubhouse / Repeater Maintenance – 376.5 hours
Newsletter, Classes, Boy Scout events – 188.5 hours
Club Holiday Party / Picnic – 53 hours
Contesting Events – ARRL Sweeps – 20 hours
MD QSO Party – 34 hours
Field Day 2011 – 403.5 hours
Public Service Events – 626.5 hours
Club Records / History – 14 hours

Out of 225 club members a total of 94 individuals contributed at least 1 hour to the club in the projects listed. The “downside” is that AARC has a “core group” of individuals that are involved in many of the club projects. The same names and calls appear on reports that are sent to us. This “core group” is getting smaller each year and many of these individuals are starting to back way from club projects for various reasons. Now is the time for “new blood” to step forward and take on new challenges.

It is very easy to report service hours to us. You can send us an email (thnixon@qis.net) and list the names, calls and the number of hours on a specific project. If more than one club member is involved please just send us one report. You will receive a return email letting you know that we got your report. The other way is to use the AARC website. On the left hand side of the first page is a “button” labeled “service recognition form”. If you click on the button a form will pop up and should be filled out. Once completed hit send and it will come directly to our email box.

We would like to encourage all AARC club members to submit service hours to us in a timely manner. We maintain the spreadsheets and we would like to keep them as up to date as possible.

These service hours also are used to show the IRS that we are contributing to the community. This contribution is necessary for us to maintain our non- profit status.

If you were to put a dollar amount on the time contributed by members it would total in the thousands of dollars. The club would not be able to budget for that expense nor could we afford it. Next time you attend a club business meeting look around and see the folks that have the blue and white badges. They represent a group of club members that have invested in our club.

*We would like to thank the following
members for their 2011 contribution to the
Anne Arundel Radio Club.*

Holly Bevan	N3MB	Holly Net, VEC
Glenn Bock	N3USP	Public Service events
Ron Boller	N3WOF	Public Service events
Milford Craig	N3WYG	Newsletter & Field Day
Rick Creager	KK4GV	Equipment sales, admin & Wed night net
Bob Delamarter	KB3MPR	VEC, Field Day
Kim Delamarter	KB3NGU	Field Day & other club activities
Robbie Delamarter	KB3PEB	Field Day & other club activities
Brenda Diamond-Rose	KB3ATI	VEC, Field Day
Bob Frierson	WA3HOO	VEC & Public Service Events
Jim Goldsberry	KB3NQY	Public Service Events & Field Day
Margaret Goldsberry	KB3LGC	VEC & Field Day
Jerry Hazell	N3HKJ	Public Service events
Tom Hogevoll	K3TH	VEC, Field Day & Public Service
Robert Jeter	K3RSJ	Repeater & Public Service events
Andy Juskelis	KB3VAQ	Public Service events
Fred Koester	K3LMR	Public Service events & Field Day
Barry Lazar	K3NDM	Club radios & repeater
Nick Lomangino	N3CK	Club activities, repeaters, & admin work
Paul Manley	KB3RFX	Public Service events
Brian Mary	K3HMX	Public Service events
Mike Montrose	KA2JAI	VEC & Public Service Events
Andrea Montrose	K3YLW	Public Service Events
Mark Murphy	KA3RNW	Public Service Events & Repeater work
Terry Nixon	KB3CWQ	Public Service events & Field Day
Barb Nixon	KB3LDM	Public Service events & Field Day
Chuck Penry	WA5VHU	Public Service Events
Tom Provenza	N3LHD	Repeater work
Bob Rose	AA3RR	VEC, Field Day & MD QSO Party
George Socker	N3YSA	Website, Public Service events, & Roster
Chuck Tanner	K3ACT	VEC, Wed night net, administrative work
Raven Wieland	KB3MUV	Website, Public Service events, & Roster
John Williams	K8JW	Repeater work

Thank You, very much

January 2012 Exam Session Results

On January 14th, the AARC VE Team administered six exams to five applicants. As a result of the exam session, we welcomed four new hams to our hobby and congratulate one other who upgraded to General.

Congratulations to the following:

NAME	CALL SIGN	LICENSE CLASS	NEW/UPGRADE
Spencer Johnson	KB3WYR	Technician	New Ham
Benjamin McKeown	KB3WYS	Technician	New Ham
Michael Kladias	KB3WMV	General	Upgrade
Ronald Deblois	KB3WYT	General	New Ham
Mark Copenbarger	KB3WYU	Technician	New Ham

The VEs who made the exam session a success are:

Galen Barnaby, NY1T
 Michael Brenza, WA3SKN
 Gordon Davids, WJ3K
 Elizabeth Gibbs, N3CRF
 Margaret Goldsberry, KB3LGC
 Germaine Harlow, KB3NJT
 Mike Montrose, KA2JAI
 Mark Murphy, KA3RNW
 Ellen Thompson, N3EMI

Also, thanks to Bob, AA3RR, our Laurel VEC Regional Coordinator, for stopping by to observe.

As I take on the responsibilities as the new AARC VE Team Leader, it is my good fortune to inherit a truly wonderful team of talented folks. These are really the folks who make each exam session hum. They are key to making our test participants comfortable throughout and ensuring the session is performed in a professional manner.

On a personal note, it is a distinct pleasure to take over as the VE Team Leader from a man who brought innovation and an awesome organizational ability to the AARC team. We are all fortunate for all the hard work Bob/AA3RR put into building the current AARC VE Team.

73s Brenda, KB3ATI

HAMFEST Saturday, February 4, 2012



Virginia State Convention (Frostfest 2012)
 Location: Richmond, VA
 Type: ARRL Convention

Website: <http://www.frostfest.com>

Sponsor: Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Soc.

HAMFEST Sunday, February 26, 2012



Winterfest

Location: Annandale, VA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Website: <http://www.viennawireless.org/winterfest.php>

Sponsor: Vienna Wireless Society

HAMFEST Saturday, March 31, 2012



(Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest)

Location: Maryland State Fairgrounds

2200 York Road

Timonium, MD

Website: www.gbhc.org

Sponsor: Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.67 (PI 107.2)

Public Contact: Bill Dobson, N3WD

PO Box 120

Reisterstown, MD 21136

Phone: 443-590-1444

Email: w3ft67@yahoo.com

The Used Equipment Sale at the Clubhouse

The Used Equipment Sale held on January 19th was a huge success. Thanks to all who attended! Also, thanks to George N3YSA, Ike W3IKE, Milford N3WYG, and Bob K3RSJ who spent the prior evening at the clubhouse setting up and pricing all the items. Most of the items were sold and we raised a lot of money for the widows of SK hams as well as some funds for the club. The club also elected to keep a 50 Amp power supply for the repeater room. The remaining items are on the flea market table at the clubhouse available on a make offer basis.

Thanks to Rick KK4GV for running the sale.

Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc.

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Davidsonville, MD 21035

First Class Mail

