

October
2007

The Monitor

Published jointly by the Valley Amateur Radio Association and the Massanutten Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

MARA Corporation's Annual Meeting October 4 at Traditions Restaurant

The Massanutten Amateur Radio Association will hold its annual corporate meeting on Thursday, October 4, at Traditions Restaurant in Harrisonburg. A meal will begin at 6:00 pm, and the annual meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

It is critically important that all MARA members make every attempt to attend this meeting!

In past years, we have been unable to officially transact corporate business because of the lack of a quorum. According to the bylaws, we must have 50% of the members present at the annual meeting. Since we have 68 members of record, we need to have at least 34 members present to elect officers and transact other business. Plan to attend.



VARA Meeting October 2 at Shoneys

The Valley Amateur Radio Association will hold its monthly meeting at Shoneys for both the October and November meetings. Dinner starts at 6, meeting at 7.

VARA Picnic Oct 6 at Gypsy Hill Park

In addition to their October 2 meeting, VARA will hold a family picnic on Saturday, October 6, at Gypsy Hill Park, starting at 12:00 noon. The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, paper plates, cups, napkins, and drinks. Anyone planning to attend needs to contact **Scott Newlen, KI4QQZ**, at we4newlens@comcast.net, or telephone 540-248-3742 and let him know how many from your family will be attending, so we can plan and purchase food accordingly. Those attending are asked to bring a covered disk to contribute to the community feast.

MARA November Meeting Date Change: November 8

Due to another schedule conflict, the November meeting of MARA will be held November 8th. This is the second Thursday, instead of the first Thursday. Mark your calendars for the date change.

Fall Foliage Bike Festival: Oct 20-21

October 20 and 21 will find us out in nature enjoying God's handiwork. Some of us will be admiring the vibrant colors of the trees and others will be admiring the beautiful bikes and their "vibrant" riders.

Next to Field Day, this is the largest, most complicated and intensive emergency training exercise we get involved in. This training experience is spread out over Augusta, Rockingham and even a piece of Rockbridge County. As you can see, this covers a wide area and therefore becomes an activity involving both MARA and VARA volunteers.

In the past we have had as many as 1200 bike riders involved in this festival but in recent years the numbers have dropped off to about 700 participants. Each year, the festival organizers have depended more and more on our help. When we started providing communications assistance in the early 90's the Bike folks weren't too sure they even needed us. After a couple years of poor cell phone coverage, they realized that they were depending on us more and more. At this point, we are totally in charge of all SAG operations. This is quite a shift from those early years and also puts a lot of responsibility "in our laps".

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Over the years, we have been instrumental in assisting with several serious incidents. With so many bicycles on back roads, accidents are inevitable. The accidents have ranged from riders ending up with just cuts and bruises, to hospital confinement, broken bones and unfortunately, even one death several years ago.

This is NOT a race, but rather a bike ride with routes ranging from 10 miles to 100 miles. Some routes are easy riding routes intended for families with children but other routes are intentionally more intense with steep hills and even some dirt roads. At whatever level, there is the possibility and likelihood that we will be called upon to transport tired or hurt riders, broken bikes or even have to make emergency calls for EMS assistance.

Your help is needed! Please volunteer when the appeal is made at your next club meeting. We would like to get your callsign on our list of volunteers so we can plan event coverage efficiently. But even if you don't get on a list, feel free to volunteer at any time. We can use your help even if only for a couple hours on either or both days. We will need approximately 15 hams with mobile setups on Saturday and about 10 on Sunday. The rides begin at 8 am both days and usually end on Saturday around 4 – 5 pm and end on Sunday about 3 – 4 pm. Let us know what part of the day(s) you can be available.



This activity involves driving your vehicle to an assigned post and making yourself available to communicate any problems reported by riders who come by. You will be issued a green reflective vest to wear and other markings for your vehicle so the riders will know who you are. We will be running a directed net using identifiers such as Shadow 1, Sag 3, and Blue 4 etc., in conjunction with appropriately identifying your station with your callsign.

Each year the event organizers make a generous donation to our clubs which is divided in proportion to the number of participants from each club. Please volunteer and represent your club and amateur radio with pride.

Now for some fun stuff:

Every year, those who are early risers, meet for breakfast at Shoney's in Staunton. We meet at 6:15 am on both Saturday and Sunday mornings. We disperse from there about 7 or 7:30 to go to Shelburne School or to Towers Ruritan Hall (Saturday) or to Middlebrook Fire Department (Sunday) to begin or receive our assignments. For those who get back to Shelburne early enough on Saturday afternoon, you can get a really good free Ice Cream and Apple Dumplings at Shelburne Cafeteria. Each day we get free lunch and each of us gets a really nice long sleeve cotton T – shirt donated by the Festival organizers.

Thanks in advance, — MARA/VARA



Camp Still Meadows Ride October 7

October 7 is the date for this year's Camp Still Meadow's horse ride.

This event is one of the more relaxing and rewarding public service activities of the year. The weather is usually pleasant, and the participants are extremely friendly.

The event is held by Camp Still Meadows, an innovative charitable institution which provides therapy for mentally and emotionally challenged and disabled children. The ride itself is open to anyone who owns a horse (or who can borrow one). Several hundred riders participate each year, leisurely riding back-roads and trails in the George Washington National Forest northeast of Broadway and Timberville. Riders complete either a 9-mile or a 15-mile loop. Each rider determines the distance they wish to go. Families, couples, friends – everyone enjoys the ride and has a good time.

The event requires six to eight hams posted at several waypoints to serve as contacts in the event of a rider mishap. Hams who participate receive both a free breakfast as well as lunch. Hams usually meet at the starting point of the ride (the Willow Springs Farm about four miles northeast of Timberville, nestled up against the east side Little North Mountain) to receive assignments. After a hearty breakfast (which normally includes meat, potatoes, eggs, bacon, juice, fruit, doughnuts, coffee, and more) hams disperse to their various locations along the route, where they can park and relax and enjoy the weather, providing reports as riders pass. In this manner, the hams keep track of where groups of riders are, and serve as visible reminders that riders can summon assistance if needed out in the wilderness.

The organization is very appreciative of the hams' contribution to the safety and security of the riders.

Call Ray Ritchie K4NRA on the 146.225 repeater to participate.



For Sale: Nice Amplifier

Paul Brunk, W4RY, is selling a very nice Henry 2K-3 Ham Radio Amplifier.

Built in the early 1970's by Henry Radio, this powerhouse covers 3.5 MHz through 30 MHz. It is in very, very good condition, and has been kept in a non-smoking shack.

This amp is located in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and is being sold for pickup only. It is presently used on 20 meters. Paul is downsizing his shack, and it's time for the amp to go.

The 2K-3 is truly a wonderful piece of gear, built by masters in the field of RF Power generation: Henry Radio. It is a heavy industrial-strength amp using two (2) 3-500Z tubes.

Paul prefers to demonstrate the amp prior to sale.

Asking price is \$849.00.

Call or email Paul to set up a time to drop by and see it in operation. If you like it, you can take it with you.

Paul Brunk, W4RY, 540-383-0290

Email pbrunk@yahoo.com



Waynesboro Repeater Association of Virginia: Annual Meeting October 29

The Waynesboro Repeater Association of Virginia is the operator of the 147.075 repeater on Bear Den Mountain, which gives great coverage to the southern Shenandoah Valley, and Albemarle and Nelson counties.

The Association will hold its annual meeting in Room "A" of the Waynesboro Public Library, on Monday, October 29, starting at 7:00 pm.

All amateurs interested in the 147.075 repeater are invited to attend.



Milepost Zero Rockfish Gap Special Event Station Report

The beginning – the starting point – from nothing to something – from zero to 469, that's the Blue Ridge Parkway and several of us got to play radio all day Saturday and Sunday August 18 and 19.

Ron AB4A from The Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club attended a VARA meeting recently and re-

Center right at the entrance ramp to the Parkway. Mike KJ4RM volunteers at the Information Center and attempted to get an extension cord run out a window there for power but in the end, there was no way to get that accomplished. I did make a couple phone calls and was granted permission by the owner of the surrounding property to set up our station.



On Friday the 17th, Benny N4BCC helped me set up a 40 foot mast and hoist up 40 and 20 meter dipoles. We ended up using generators for power and that worked well. We operated from 9:30 am – 5 pm on Saturday and again from 9:30 to 3:30 on Sunday when the broadcast stations took over the bands.

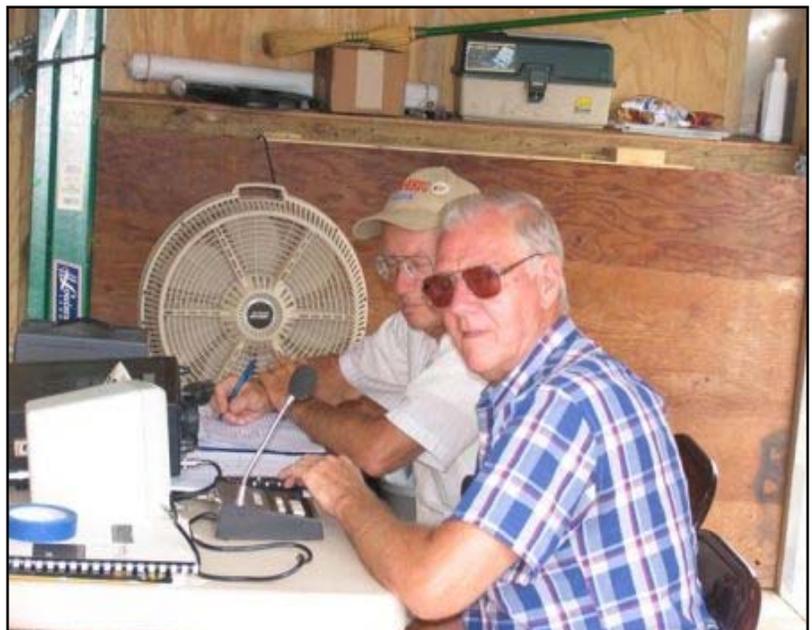
We found that 40 meters was the best for us providing 382 qso's. 20 meters, on the other hand, only provided 15 Q's after a combined total of 3½ hours on the band. We kept checking 20 meters off and on throughout both days and the band just never opened up.

The following is a list of the operators in no particular order: W4PJW N8ESW WA4FJC W4GRC KE4HVR N4KYM KI4LLA KI4TOH N4SYH. We had some visitors including Steve KI4CGI and his wife.

quested that we as a club be a part of an annual special event activity putting the Blue Ridge Parkway on the air. We were asked to set up a station near Rockfish Gap where I-64 intersects the Parkway at milepost zero. The plan included 12 other special event stations manned by various clubs located along the parkway all the way into North Carolina. Each station was assigned a frequency on both 40 and 20 meters. Anyone who worked 7 of the 13 stations would be entitled to a special certificate. QSL cards will be sent in response for any contact made with at least one of the W4CA stations, or with a W4NC station in North Carolina.

Greg, W4GRC President of VARA asked me to be in charge of organizing the station for our club. I checked out the area and decided to try and get permission to set up some antennas and an operating position near the Information

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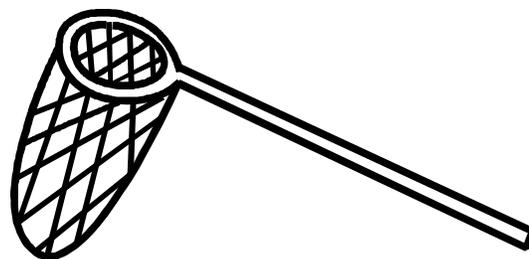
Continued from page 6

I have to give a special thanks to a few folks, starting with John N4SYH who lives near where the station was set up. John was a faithful participant who spent many, many hours both days, logging contacts for us. John's penmanship was impeccable. Neatness in recording callsigns is a real necessity when you are logging manually – thanks John for sitting there faithfully helping get the records straight.

I also want to thank Gordon WA4FJC for taking over the leadership role Saturday afternoon when I had to leave to attend a wedding. In addition, I want to thank Greg W4GRC for pulling my box trailer operating shelter back to my house Saturday afternoon.

I have included a couple pictures showing Fred N4KYM and John N4SYH operating, and also a picture which includes Ray AB4YZ who was the overall organizer and coordinator of the entire event. Ray visited us on Sunday morning and was well pleased with the participation of the VARA club members. Ray has indicated that he would appreciate our club being a part of this activity again next year.

Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW



Don't Forget the Net!



Rockingham County Emergency Net Control Stations

For more information on Rockingham County ARES, or to volunteer as net control, check into the net, or contact Bryan Daniels, K4RMY, at k4rmy@comcast.net. This list is also available at: <http://rockingham-ares.org>

October 1: Bryan Daniels K4RMY

October 8: E.C. Showalter KG4KUR

October 15: James McDowell IV KI4FZY

October 22: Gerald Nauman KN4FM

October 29: Gayle Shull KU4XN

November 5: James McDowell IV KI4FZY

November 12: Hugh Pettis K3EC

November 19: Bryan Daniels K4RMY

November 26: Vic Alger K4XTT

December 3: Ray Ritchie K4NRA

December 10 E.C. Showalter KG4KUR

December 17: Norman Benner KA4EEN

December 24: No net (Christmas Eve)

December 31: No net (New Years Eve)

The net meets every Monday night at 8:00 pm

The first Monday of every month, the net is on 146.550 simplex. All other Mondays, the net is on the 147.225 repeater, PL 131.8, +.600 transmit offset.



Public Service Report: Blue Ridge Extreme

On Sunday morning August 26th, 2007, about 350 bicycle riders participated in the Blue Ridge Extreme Event. Although about 375 registered for the event, 353 riders actually started. This event is actually three events combined into one. There were three choices of routes for riders to enter, The Century (100 Miles), The Metric Century (100 Kilometers) and the Half-Century (50 Kilometers). If the three routes were to be added together in distance, it would equal just less than 200 miles. Each of the routes also present a great deal of challenge, each transversing the Blue Ridge at least one time. Some of the climbs include, Love's Gap, Sherando and Montebello.

This year, the amateur radio operators worked in cooperation with the Wintergreen Fire Rescue Group. The event was co-coordinated with Chief Curtis Sheets, who graciously made room for our amateur net control station in their mobile command vehicle. They also had four ambulances which assisted with patrolling the courses. The coordination with Wintergreen Fire Rescue was very effective and one which we will be considering for this event in the future. Other than a few scraped up knees and elbows and a couple of cases of cramping, there were no injury incidents.

The amateurs who assisted this year were, Darrell Little(KI4LLA), John Lasher (N3GLZ), Dave Damon (K4DND), Jimmy Walker (K4JMY), Elmer Scott (KF4UCI), Linda Beard (KI5LLB), Greg Faust (N4PGS), Wes Epperly (KI4SIQ) and John Turchi (KI4DJT). Thank you to all who assisted this year. I would also like to thank Donnie (N4RAG) for the use of the 147.225 repeater and also to the Lynchburg Amateur Radio Club for the use of their 444.550 repeater on Devil's knob.

John Lasher, N3GLZ

VARA President's Message

Greetings hamsters! I would like to begin by thanking Jeff (W4PJW) for filling in for me at the September meeting while I was on vacation. I must compliment Jeff, for he did a great job not only filling in for me, but for filling me in on what transpired at the club meeting. In fact, what do we need a president for anyway?

The Blue Ridge Bonanza has come and gone. Those involved had a good time operating, logging, in hanging out together. By the time you read this, the Great Endurance Run will also be history. My hat goes off to Marvin (KD4WDI) for doing all the groundwork and taking charge of the event. When everybody does his or her part to help the club like Marvin is sure makes things easier on the president. By the way, did I happen do ask, what do we need a president for anyway?

Please be mindful of the next big event coming down the pike. The Fall Foliage Bike Festival takes place October 19-21. This is a fun event, and many of you have helped in the past. We always like to see new blood, so come on out and give us a hand. Jeff, (W4PJW) has been so kind as to be the lead ham during this event. However, I think it would be great if someone else came up to bat and was willing to take charge and help organize our part in the bike event. See Jeff or myself if you are interested.

Don't forget that on the 6th of October at Noon the club will meet at Gypsy Hill Park for a carry in picnic. The club will provide the bulk of the items needed, including meat, rolls, plastic wear, plates, etc. All you need to do is bring a covered dish (with food in it). Deserts are good too! We are going to try and secure the pavilion located just below the National Guard Armory. See you there.

Before you know it, it will be time for our Christmas Party. We are going to meet with MARA in December. The gathering will take place at Traditions Restaurant in Harrisonburg. Details will be discussed at the meeting.

Now that we have all that out of the way, let's talk about qsl cards. Recently, Ray, (KE4HVR) showed me a certificate he had received from eqsl-net. This is an on-line qsl bureau. When Ray showed me his certificate, it jogged my memory. I am a member, but I had not checked to see if I had any qsl cards since 2001. Guess what? I had bunch! I am still managing my qsl account and catching up.

Here's the point. Go and check it out. You can choose one of their templates and make an electronic qsl card, or design your own (for a small fee). You can sign up and pay nothing (using one of their templates) and use the site to receive and send electronic qsl cards. It is a great way to send and receive qsl cards. Every time you send a card electronically, you save money in postage. You can check it out at www.eqsl.net.

Last, but not least, don't forget to come to our club meeting. We meet at Shoney's on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. for supper and our club meeting starts at 7:00 P.M. You don't have to eat if you don't want to, just show up at 7:00 P.M. Not to come and support the club would be a shame.

73, Greg, W4GRC

Tips from Debbie KB4WPE: How to Change Your Oil



INSTRUCTIONS FOR WOMEN:

1. Pull up to Jiffy Lube when the mileage reaches 3000 since the last oil change.
2. Drink a cup of coffee.
3. 15 minutes later, write a check for 25 dollars and leave with a properly maintained vehicle.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEN:

1. Go to O'Reilly auto parts.
2. Write a check for 60 dollars for oil, oil filter, oil-dri (AKA Kitty litter), hand cleaner, a new cupholder for the center console, and a scented pine tree for the rear-view mirror.
3. Go back home. Discover that the used oil container is full. Instead of taking it back to O'Reilly to recycle, dump in hole in back yard
4. Open a beer and drink it.
5. Jack car up. Spend 30 minutes looking for jack stands.
6. Find jack stands under kid's pedal car.
7. In frustration, open another beer and drink it.
8. Place drain pan under engine.
9. Spend 30 minutes looking for 9/16 box end wrench.
10. Give up and use crescent wrench.
11. Try to unscrew drain plug. Realize that wife took car to Jiffy Lube last time, and the idiot there used an air-wrench with 6000 pounds of torque to tighten the drain plug tighter than a Washington BPI lobbyist is with the FCC commissioners.
12. Use mallet on crescent wrench to try to loosen drain plug.
13. Pick up broken pieces of crescent wrench and discard in trash barrel.
14. Open another beer and drink it.
15. Use vice-grips and hammer to unscrew drain plug.
16. Drop vice-grips and drain plug in hot oil pouring out of engine into drain pan — splashing hot oil all over you.
17. Fish drain plug and vice-grips out of drain pan. Clean up.
18. Have another beer while oil is draining.
19. Spend 30 minutes looking for oil filter wrench.
20. Give up; stab oil filter with Phillips screwdriver and twist it off.
21. Another Beer.
22. Buddy shows up; finish case of beer with him. Finish oil change tomorrow.
23. Next day, drag pan full of old oil out from underneath car.
24. Throw oil dri (AKA kitty litter) on oil spilled during step 23.
25. Beer. — Uhhh, no, drank it all yesterday.
26. Walk to 7-11; buy beer.
27. Install new oil filter making sure to apply thin coat of clean oil to gasket first.
28. Unscrew oil filler cap.
29. Open new quart of oil. Dump into engine.
30. Remember drain plug was removed in step 15.
31. Try to find drain plug by running fingers around in old oil in drain pan. Remember that drain plug was fished out yesterday in Step 17 and is lying on workbench.
32. Hurry to replace drain plug before the whole quart of fresh oil drains onto garage floor.
33. Slip on oil on floor and bang knuckles on frame.
34. Bang head on floor.
35. Watch as drain plug rolls out of sight under workbench.
36. Begin cussing fit.
37. Throw vice-grips.
38. Cuss for additional 10 minutes because vice-grips bounce off of garage ceiling and hit passenger side of front windshield..
39. Clean up; apply Band-Aid to knuckle.
40. Beer.
41. Beer.
42. Beer.
43. Tighten drain plug. Dump additional 4 quarts of oil into engine. Replace filler cap.
44. Beer.
45. Lower car from jack stands.
46. Accidentally crush one of the jack stands.
47. Move car back to apply more oil dri (AKA kitty litter) to fresh oil spilled during step 29.
48. Drive car.



MARA Secretary's Report – July 5 Meeting

Introductions made all around

1. Reports

New members- David Firestone K4DPF first reading

a. Secretary- Minutes moved to approve as printed , seconded, passed.

b. Treasurer- \$1913.69
moved to approve , seconded, passed

c. Groups
ARES/RACES - No report

VE- Aug. 11th Study manuals for Tech and general are available

d. Field Day Committee for MARA

Gayle KU4XN moved to order more Field Day pins. Seconded and passed

e. Public Service-

Bridgewater Lawn party and Fireman's Parade July 20th and 21st

6:00 pm Friday July 20th

5:00 pm on Saturday July 21st

2. Announcements:

-programs upcoming

WHSV- working on a studio tour on a Thursday night in the fall

Capt. Jim Junkins from Harrisonburg- Rockingham ECC - a transmitter site tour Oct or Nov.

Green Bank tour still in process.

Invite Donnie Mowbray N4RAG to talk about his repeaters

Richard KC3AN said Phyllis N4VZC walked about 200 feet and making progress.

3. Old Business

- Gayle KU4XN - Coax- .75 a foot \$315.00 for 400 feet from Riley's Electronic we will wait until Berryville to check on prices.

4. New Business none

50/50

\$11-Richard KC3AN

Submitted by
Bryan Daniels
K4RMY

Program- none

MARA Secretary's Report: August 2 Meeting

. Introductions made all around

1. Reports

New members-

David Firestone K4DPF Second reading- approved for membership

a. Secretary minutes read -moved , seconded and passed.

b. Treasurer- \$1480.14 — moved, seconded and passed

c. Groups

ARES/RACES -

Bryan K4RMY Thanked all the folks for helping out with the ARES net while K4RMY was on vacation.

VE- Aug. 11th

Gayle KU4XN has study manuals for Tech and General

d. Field Day Committee for MARA

e. Public Service-

Bridgewater Lawn party and Fireman's Parade July 20th and 21st

There were problems getting help this year especially on Saturday.

Gerald KN4FM- Sept. 22 Bike Shenandoah needs about 8 hams to work communications

Ray K4NRA - Camp Still Meadows. 1st Sunday in Oct.

2. Announcements:

Pam KC4HYT's Birthday

Berryville Hamfest on Sunday 5th

Dick W3HXH- has some old QST magazines to give away and some aluminum and antenna parts

Paul W4PFM has some ham equipment from an estate to dispose of

Darrell KI4LLA will be teaching a Technician License Class in September at Augusta Medical Center - only cost is the cost of the book.

November meeting will be on the 2nd Thursday. November 8.

The Dec. meeting will be the 1st Tuesday with VARA — Christmas Party

HEC is thinking about BPL system for internet service since the wireless contractor folded. May need to contact folks about this.

3. Old Business

- Gayle KU4XN - Coax- .75 a foot \$315.00 for 400 feet from Riley's Electronic we will wait until Berryville to check on Sunday.

4. New Business — none

50/50

\$9.50 Ginny xyl of W4HXH

Submitted by

Bryan Daniels

K4RMY

Program was a video about the history of radio provided by Gerry K4RBZ

MARA Secretary's Report: September 6 Meeting

Introductions made all around

1. Reports

New members- none

a. Secretary minutes read ,moved , seconded and passed.

b. Treasurer- \$1597.64
moved , seconded and passed

c. Groups

ARES/RACES— no report

VE- Second Saturday in Oct.

e. Public Service-

Gerald KN4FM- Sept. 22 Bike Shenandoah needs about 8 hams to work communications

Ray K4NRA - Camp Still Meadows. 1st Sunday in Oct.

2. Announcements: NONE

3. Old Business

- Gayle KU4XN - Coax was bought 3 100 foot lengths and will be put in storage

Programs:

Green Bank tour is off until spring

WHSV tour scheduled for the 2nd Thursday in Nov.

Oct. -K4RBZ history of radio video

4. New Business

Phyllis N4VZC will have a radio,antenna and power supply to use in rehab.

Dave KD9LA is providing power supply and roll-up antenna, Bob K4DJG is providing 2m radio.

We have been invited to Harrisonburg Health and Rehab. to have a meeting if we want to.

Need a nomination committee for offices.

Jeff W4PJW- Oct. Fall Foliage ride in Augusta and Rockingham counties in Oct. More information coming.

50/50

\$13.00 won by Rick Wilson from Port Republic

DX - St Marius Is. Starting 7-24th of Sept.

Motion to adjourn.

Submitted by

Bryan Daniels

K4RMY

Program

Ray K4NRA did program on repeater use

VARA Secretary's Report: September 4 Meeting

The Valley Amateur Radio Association met at Lynn's Restaurant in Waynesboro on September 4, 2007. The Vice President, Jeff Rinehart W4PJW, opened the meeting at 7:00pm. There were 24 members present and 3 guests, Bob Van-Fossen K4DJG, Andrew Barbour AG4XN, and John Barbour.

Welcome to all our visitors, we hope to see you back for next month.

VARA Meeting Place will be at Shoney's in Staunton for October and November.

50/50: was won by Scott Martin KI4MSJ, congratulations to Scott!

GREAT EASTERN ENDURANCE RUN Thanks to all that came out and helped with this event again this year.

Those signed up to help were...Marvin KF4WDI, Gordon WA4FJC, David AD4TJ, Scott KI4QQZ? and Dan KC8TEN?

Milepost "0" Special Event on Sept. 22 & 23 was a great success even though the propagation on the 20M band was very poor. There were close to 500 contacts made. Thanks to everyone that came out to operate.

VARA PICNIC: October 6 at 12:00 Noon in Gypsy Hill Park in Staunton, VA. The club will furnish hamburgers, hotdogs, buns and drinks. Scott Newlen KI4QQZ volunteered to purchase these at COSCO. Scott will need a count on the number in your party so he will know how much to buy. **Contact Scott at:** we4newlens@comcast.net Bring a covered dish and join the fun and fellowship.

OFFICER COMMITTEE FOR 2008 are: Marvin Henderson KF4WDI, Steve Davis KI4CGI and Ray Colvin KE4HVR.

Nominee for President was: Jeff Rinehart W4PJW Refused

Nominees for Vice President were: Gordon Batey WA4FJC Refused
Scott Newlen KI4QQZ Accepted
Greg Czerniak W4GRC

Nominee for Treasurer: None

Nominee for Secretary: None

Nominees for Program Manager: Al Bonck N3JB Accepted
David Tanks AD4TJ
John Lasher N3GLZ

Magnetic Signs: The club voted to purchase 15 magnetic signs for club members to use during public events so our vehicles will be recognized while on duty. Mike Solomon KJ4RM will work with Greg Czerniak W4GRC on this project.

2007 Christmas Party will be on December 4, with MARA at Traditions Restaurant on Rt. 42 North of Harrisonburg. We will be doing the Chinese Gift Exchange again this year. Bring a wrapped gift but spend no more than \$10, this can be a gag gift.

CLUB DUES will be discussed at our annual meeting on October 2nd.

ON THE SICK LIST:

Denny Morland N4XPW is confined to a wheel chair now and has a sensor that goes off if he gets near the door. Bennie N4BCC visited Denny and was told he didn't get out of bed much on weekends. He would appreciate cards and visits.

Fran Davis, Steve Davis's wife had a reaction from medications and was taken to the hospital for treatment. She is home now and feeling much better.

Let's keep Denny and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

e-Mail ADDRESSES: Keep your e-mail address up to date. Please send them to:

Greg Czerniak W4GRC grcljc@verizon.net, Doug Tippet N8ESW dtippet@ntelos.net, Ray Colvin KE4HVR colvingr@comcast.net and David Fordham KD9LA fordhadr@jmu.edu.

ALSO, keep QRZ updated when call signs and e-mail addresses are changed.

ARES NET: David Tanks AD4TJ is looking for Net Controls for the Augusta County ARES Net. The Net will be held on the 146.850 repeater on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 8:00pm. This repeater has a minus offset and a tone of 131.8 when needed. Foxhunts are also scheduled for some months as weather permits.

PROGRAMS NEEDED: Al Bonck N3JB, our 2007 Program Chairman, is looking for anyone that would like to do a program for the club. Give him a call and set up a date to present it. It does not have to be HAM related.

It could be anything you think the group would find interesting. Al's e-Mail address is: margeal@ntelos.net

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Al Bonck N3JB showed a video from the early days of Amateur TV and the equipment used at that time and some of the modern day transistorized ATV transceivers with 1 Watt output and a rubber duck antenna.

Thanks to Al for this presentation!

Submitted by
VARA Secretary
Ray Colvin, KE4HVR



Calendar of Important Events

- October 2: VARA Meeting at Shoneys in Staunton
- October 4: MARA Annual Corporate Meeting at Traditions in Hburg
- October 6: VARA Picnic at Gypsy Hill Park
- October 7: Camp Still Meadows Public Service Event
- October 14: North American RTTY Spring
- October 20-21: Fall Foliage Bike Ride Public Service Event
- October 27-28: CQ World-Wide DX Contest – SSB
- October 28: Mason-Dixon (Carroll County MD) Hamfest
- October 29: Waynesboro Repeater Association Annual Meeting at Wboro Public Library
- November 3-4: ARRL November Sweepstakes – CW
- November 6: VARA Meeting at Shoneys in Staunton
- November 8: MARA Meeting at Traditions in Hburg – **note date change!**
- November 17-18: ARRL November Sweepstakes SSB
- November 24-25: CQ World-Wide DX Contest – CW
- December 4: Joint MARA/VARA Christmas Party at Traditions in Harrisonburg – **note date!**

MARA/VARA

c/o David Fordham
131 Wayside Drive
Weyers Cave, VA 24486

Phone: 540-568-3024
Email: fordhadr@jmu.edu

Return Service Requested

MASSANUTTEN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, Inc.

President: Eugene Rogers KG4JBC
Vice President: David Fordham KD9LA
Secretary: Bryan Daniels K4RMY
Treasurer: Sandy Mullins, K4PZC
Board (exp 07): David Gordon KB4LCI
Board (exp 08): Gayle Shull KU4XN

<http://mara.ws>

MARA meets the first Thursday of each month
at Traditions Restaurant on Mt Clinton Pike, in
Harrisonburg.

Dinner begins at 6:00 pm.
The Business Meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

Visitors are welcome.

Dues (\$12 per year) should be mailed to:

MARA
PO Box 1882
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

President: Greg Czerniak, W4GRC
Vice President: Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW
Secretary: Ray Colvin, KE4HVR
Treasurer: Doug Tippet, N8ESW
Program Manager: Al Bonck N3JB

<http://www.qsl.net/w4xd>

VARA meets the first Tuesday of each month.
The October meeting will be at Shoneys, off
of US 250 at I-81.

Dinner begins at 6:00 pm,
The Business Meeting begins at 7:00 pm

Visitors are welcome.

Dues (\$15 per year) should be mailed to:

Doug Tippet
2348 Mosley St.
Waynesboro VA 22980