

August
2009

The Monitor

Published Monthly for members of the Amateur Radio Clubs in Virginia's Central Shenandoah Valley

The Heat of Summer

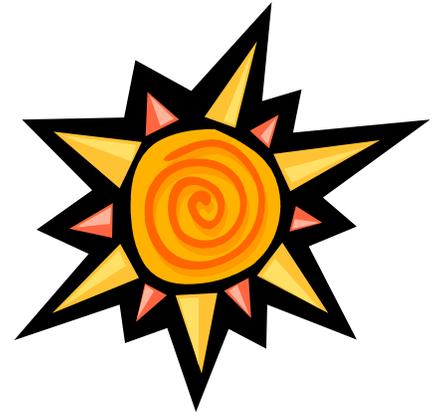
So. Why aren't you operating?

The sunspots are down, sure, but there is still plenty of activity on the bands.

Shoot, put a radio in your car, for pete's sake. And once it's there, TURN IT ON!

And once it's on, give a call once in a while.

In short: TALK to somebody on the ham radio!



MARA Meeting: Wood Grill at 6:30 pm, Thursday August 6

The Massanutten Amateur Radio Association meets at the Wood Grill Buffet Restaurant on Reservoir Street in Harrisonburg on Thursday, August 6th. Dinner starts at 6:30 pm, followed by a business meeting at 7:30 pm. A program is in the works.

PVARC Meeting: Friday, August 7 at 6:00 pm

The next meeting of the Page Valley Amateur Radio Club will be held on Friday, August 7th at 6:00 p.m. in the Day Room of the Page Memorial Hospital.

VARA Still on Vacation: No VARA Meeting in August!

The Valley Amateur Radio Association is taking a break this summer. The club will not meet in August. The next meeting will be the first Tuesday of September — September 1st! And while you're at it, mark your calendar for September 12th, too, which is scheduled as the annual VARA family picnic!



Bridgewater Lawn Party Parade Public Service Report : Hams Donate over 65 Man-Hours to Public Service

There was a great turnout for helping with the lawn party parades in Bridgewater.

Those helping with traffic control and communications included:

Gerald Nauman KN4FM
 Bob Steere N1QEQ
 Ray Ritchie K4NRA
 Nancy Ritchie KG4JAZ
 Bryan Daniels K4RMY
 Steve Tennyson KF4ZWK
 Bob Tennyson KG4CHL
 Gayle Shull KU4XN
 Gail Shull KG4JBF
 Chris Shirkey KI4BAQ
 James McDowell IV NN4JM
 Ann Underwood KA1LSK
 Sheryl Tonini KJ4DOC
 Gordon Batey WA4FJC

All total, there was more than 65 man-hours of public service donated by the hams. Some helped one night, some helped the other, and some helped with both nights. A hearty "Thank You" to all who assisted, from me, from the town of Bridgewater, from the Fire Department, and from MARA and VARA.

Gayle Shull, KU4XN
 VE Coordinator
 Phone 540-828-2132

Public Demonstration of Ham Radio at the Antique Tractor Show and Gas Engine Fair

I would like to thank the following hams for their assistance at the Shenandoah County Fairgrounds on Saturday, June 13, for the Massanutten Antique Tractor and Gasoline Engine Club 20th Annual Show:

Setup in the exhibit building was a table with a demonstration of HF on 80-meters, 40-meters, and 20-meters, along with a radio operating 2-meters.

Also, one table had a collection of old telephones, and two other tables with a collection of working old radios from the 1930's, 40's, and 50's.

The antenna, a multi-dipole from the estate of Durham Ipock was mounted along the outside of the building 16 feet in the air. The antenna tuned up well into a Yaesu FT-9990. We made 10 contacts within a 5-hour period the farthest being Arizona

Thanks to:

Matt Sarna W1DSH
 Tom Brownlee AF2D
 Steve Larrabee W2HHT
 Elizabeth Cottrell W4EHC
 John Cottrell WD4GEK
 Bryan Estep KJ4JMN
 Cliff Guetter KC4KOP
 Ed Koller KG4QVR
 Ken Moan KM4UH
 Esther Miller KK6AD, and
 Larry Miller KB6VAA

Wayne Frye, KD4WIE

146.850 Repeater Now Back On the Air

Thanks to Durwood WA4ZBP and Ray Colvin, KE4HVR, for the work on restoring the 146.850 repeater. This repeater is the workhorse of the Augusta emergency communications network, and is widely used by hams in the area. The repeater is open and uses a PL tone of 131.8 hz. Thanks again, guys!

KD4OXQ: Highway Accident Report

During Field Day, Jay Stewart KD4OXQ made an emergency call on the local repeater from a highway down in the valley. A bad auto accident had just occurred, and Jay was establishing contact to possibly contact the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in case the cell phone caller hadn't gotten through. Turned out that ham radio assistance was not needed, but Jay has an interesting story to tell:

It was a three-car crash and it was taking time to approach the scene. With the severity of the accident and even with seeing one person on a cell phone, I did not want to take the chance they were not talking to EOC with the middle car being like a pancake. As I finally got to the scene, I then heard sirens and knew that help was on the way and that is when I disregarded the emergency on the air (hope that was heard also). I do not know the condition of the person in the middle car or if they made it. I do not think I have ever seen a car crushed so much even watching the races on TV. It was a SUV type vehicle in the rear with what looked to be a mid size car in the front so you could imagine what the middle car looked like and the reason for the possible redundant call to EOC if I could have made a contact.

I use to carry a scanner and monitor the fire/rescue tac channels and would have listened for traffic going to the scene but ever since they changed to the new system, it seems pointless to monitor their frequencies any more. I did stay and work traffic control so that 1 more trained person could get in and do what they were trained where it mattered up until enough manpower arrived and the first victim had just left in the squad and someone came to relive me. In all, I probably spent 20 to 30 min on location.



K4TMH: Items For Sale

Todd Harrison, K4TMH, has the following items he'd like to find a home for:

Hustler G6-440 antenna, \$40

Comet GP-6 Dual Band antenna, \$20

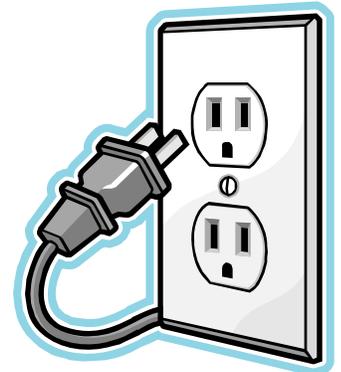
Diamond V-2000 Tri Band Antenna (6/2/440), \$40

Hamsticks, 7 total, including 2 meter, 6 meter, 12 meter, 15 meter, 17 meter, 20 meter and 40 meter, \$50 for all or \$10 apiece.

Spider HF antenna, covers 10 meters, 15 meters, 17 meters, 20 meters and 40 meters, \$50

Five GE Master II UHF radios, \$50 for all

Please contact todd@k4tmh.com



Dominion Power Outage Map

If you have backup electrical power for your computer and router, and your local ISP provider (cable or phone company or satellite) has backup power as well, you can take a look at Dominion Power's on-line outage map to make sure they are aware that your electricity is off!

The URL below shows a nice map showing the known outages in the Shenandoah Valley area covered by Dominion. The map does not necessarily include Co-Ops, but does include all Dominion Power customer connections.

<http://www.dom.com/storm-center/shenandoah.jsp>

Thanks to Fred Evans K4KYM for this info.

Marco Polo All Over Again! W4PJW, K4PJJ, and KC4HYO On the Road Again!

We are leaving Friday July 31st on another adventure. This trip includes Jeff W4PJW and Patsy K4PJJ in our trailer and Ed Good KC4HYO and wife Gloria with their trailer.

This time our itinerary takes us to the Huntington (WV) radio museum, through Lexington Kentucky, to St. Louis, to Lebanon Missouri for the Brumley Gospel Sing, through Nebraska City to Pine Bluffs, Wyoming. From there, we go to Cheyenne, Lander, and Jackson Hole. We spend a few days in the Tetons and Yellowstone, then head up through Missoula Montana to West Glacier and the Road to the Sun in Glacier National Park.

We then come out through Bozeman, through Gillette Wyoming, to Keystone South Dakota to see Mt. Rushmore, and maybe we might stop by the world-famous Wall Drugstore on the way. This should take us up through August. From there, we may head for Corpus Christi, Texas, or Minneapolis, or Davenport, or ... heck— who knows. We are retired and on vacation, and in a self-contained caravan so we'll play it by ear.

We plan to be on the road for at least 5 or 6 weeks, maybe more. If you want to see where we're at, point your browser to: <http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?call=w4pjw-14&terra=4> The first few lines at the top will tell our direction, speed, and elevation. It will also tell when the location was last reported. The time of the last report is significant because APRS coverage is not complete and there are significant gaps in coverage, especially out west. There are actually hundreds of miles where no location will be reportable for us.

We intend to send update emails with some pictures as we travel along, similar to the way we did on the Alaska trip. I am not sure how often we will have access to email but in the places where we have it, we will do our best to send out something. We have a fellow living in the house, so feel free to call the house at 540 337-7337 if you need to get in touch with us in an emergency.

For those hams interested in contacting us by ham radio, below is the schedule of times that I plan to be on the radio.

Jeff, W4PJW

All times are local Eastern Daylight time. All skeds are subject to change due to band conditions or whatever whim happens to strike me at the time. In other words – don't waste a lot of time looking for me – we may be having lunch, taking a nap or just plain "I forgot". After all – it's vacation time for us and we don't need any more pressure – it's supposed to be fun!!!

Sunday August 2	7258 MidCars	10 am and 12 noon
Tuesday August 4	7258 MidCars	10 am and 12 noon
Friday August 7	7258 MidCars	10am and 12 noon
Tuesday August 11	14307.5 RV Net	12 noon and 5pm
Friday August 14	14307.5 RV Net	12 noon and 5pm
Tuesday August 18	14307.5 RV Net	12 noon and 5pm
Friday August 21	14307.5 RV Net	12 noon and 5pm
Then every Tuesday & Friday	14307.5 RV Net	12 noon and 5pm

Until we decide different or get close enough home to start 40 meters again



Andrew I. McCaskey, KA4WSI, SK

Andrew I. McCaskey, KA4WSI, of Weyers Cave, Virginia, became a silent key on Tuesday, July 29, 2009.

Andy was 93 years old and passed away at his home on Brendan Lane. He was an Air Corps veteran of WWII and an avid musician. He worked for WSAV for most of his life, and was active in both newspaper and web publishing. He was a longtime member of the Weyers Cave Ruritans.

Andy became a ham after retirement and for over 10 years worked an average of 1 CW contact per day. He also enjoyed conversations with local amateurs on the local 2 meter repeaters.



His son is WA4MTP Andrew L. McCaskey, and his grandson is KI4BAQ Chris Shirkey.

Andy was a member of VARA many years ago and participated in at least one Field Day on Flagpole Knob. Andy had been in failing health for the past few years, and had not been active on the bands for some time, so many new hams might not recognize his call.

Information provided by WA4FJC and NN4JM

K8KMM : 56th Wedding Anniversary

Ken Miller, K4KMM, is continuing his treatments for cancer. He reports that he and his XYL Rose will be celebrating their 56th wedding anniversary on August 15th. Congratulations, Ken and Rose!



N4KYM Kicking Again After Heart Attack

Best wishes to Fred Evans, N4KYM, after a little bout in the hospital following a heart attack. Keep it tickin', Fred, keep it tickin'.

KC40VC's XYL Still Under the Weather

Kitty Wine, XYL of Jack Wine, KC40VC, is puzzling doctors with her temperature variations. Just like the summertime in Bergton, her temp bounces all over the map for no apparent reason. Best wishes for a quick resolution to the problem, Kitty.

KJ4HFM Back In Town — Temporarily

Weyers Cave ham KJ4HFM is back temporarily from college in Idaho, but will be leaving in mid-August for her summer job at Walt Disney World in Orlando!

AUGUST

Roanoke Hamfest: August 1

If you receive this issue in time, remember the Roanoke Hamfest is Saturday, August 1 in Vinton Virginia

Berryville Hamfest: August 2

If you receive this issue in time, remember the Roanoke Hamfest is Saturday, August 1 in Vinton Virginia, and the Berryville Hamfest is Sunday, August 2, in Berryville, Virginia.

VOPEX Emergency Communications Exercise in Surry; August 4

Hams around the Surry Nuclear PowerPlant will conduct an exercise testing their emergency communications capabilities on August 4, and invite hams all over Virginia to check in and participate to help them evaluate their abilities and capabilities.

Priority on the nets should be given to those directly involved in the exercise (Surry, Isle of Wight, York, James City, Charles City, and New Kent Counties, along with Newport News, Hampton, and Williamsburg.) However, all hams are welcome to check in and see if, and if so, how, they can help.

The exercise will begin with an activation of the ARES/RACES station at 8:30 a.m. local time, using HF, VHF, packet, and Winlink 2000 modes. They will be monitoring ODEN HF net on 3.947 MHz, the VDEN Packet net, the 146.88 tidewater repeater (tone of 74.4), and Williamsburg repeater 146.760, and the IRLP Raleigh Reflector #9214. Anyone in range of an IRLP node is asked to log into that reflector during the exercise. You can also participate by sending email traffic to: n4vem@winlink.org

Terry Herbert, KG4GLS
Virginia State Amateur Radio Liaison
Virginia Dept of Emergency Management

MARA Meeting: August 6

PVARC Meeting: August 7

VE Testing Session: August 8

Don't forget the VE testing session in Dayton, Virginia, at the Woodmen of the World building on Highway 42, on the second Saturday of every even numbered month. On August 8, as usual, sign-in will start around 9:00 a.m. and the testing will begin as soon as the paperwork is completed. If you can help with this test session, contact Gayle Shull KU4XN.

Augusta County Foxhunt August 9

Hello all. August 9th, Sunday, at 2 pm, we will conduct a Fox Hunt in Augusta County. The fox will be at an undisclosed location somewhere in Augusta County, transmitting on 146.490 (the official simplex frequency for Augusta County ARES operations; please put that in a memory channel in your radio!).

The fox will also try to monitor the 147.075 repeater for those needing more info. Hunters are to use the 147.075 machine for coordinating their efforts, if they choose.

The lucky hunter will get to be the fox for the next hunt.

David Tanks, AD4TJ
Augusta County EC

Shenandoah Valley Ham Breakfast: Saturday, August 15

Larry Miler, KB6VAA, has notified us that a group of hams from Shenandoah County meet regularly every month for a breakfast and ragchew at the Exxon Station on the Intersection of I-81 and Highway 42. All hams are invited, not just hams from Shenandoah County. This is not a formal club yet, just a bunch of local hams who get together to meet and get to know each other. Come on by and drop in for a spell. This group usually meets here the third Saturday morning

SEPTEMBER

VARA Meeting: September 1

MARA Meeting: September 3

PVARC Meeting: September 4

VARA Family Picnic: September 12

The Valley Amateur Radio Association family picnic is scheduled for Saturday, September 12th.

The picnic will be at the shelter near the Golf Clubhouse in Gypsy Hill Park in Staunton.

Come early for some fun and fellowship. The meal is scheduled for 12:00 noon (12 on the 12th, easy to remember!), but arrive early and enjoy visiting and snitching from the dessert plates!

Virginia Beach Hamfest: Sept 12-13

The annual Virginia Beach hamfest bounces around more than a loose football at the Superbowl.

This year, the event is on the weekend of September 12 and 13th, and will be held at the Virginia Wesleyan College campus.

Admission is \$8 at the door.

To reach the hamfest location this year, take I-64 east through Norfolk and exit on Northampton Blvd, Exit 282. Once past the overpass and ramp traffic light, merge right and turn right onto Wesleyan Drive. The entrance to the college is on the right 3/4 mile further on. Enter the campus driveway and immediately turn left onto Smith Drive. Follow Smith Drive all the way to Building 5. Parking is all around the building.

Talk-in is on 146.970 repeater.

Wednesday, September 16 in Harrisburg PA: An Evening with Riley's Successor

The Harrisburg Radio Amateur Club cordially invites all interested hams to spend a special evening with Ms. Laura Smith, Esq., the new FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Enforcement.

Ms. Smith will be speaking at the Holiday Inn and Convention Center at 148 Sheraton Drive in New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday, September 16, starting at 7:00 pm.



The meeting is open to all amateurs. No reservations are required.

The hotel is on I-81, at exit 40A in Pennsylvania, Lime Kiln Road, Route 83, just north of the junction with the PA Turnpike. This is within driving distance for MARA, VARA and PVARC members.

There has been some speculation about the direction the FCC will be taking with amateur radio rules enforcement since the retirement of Riley Hollingsworth, who for many years did an exemplary job of enforcing the Part 97 rules. Be sure to come hear Ms. Smith's presentation, followed by an open question and an-

Blue Ridge Bonanza September 19-20

This isn't a contest, but is a nice relaxing operating event. A special event station will be set up at Milepost Zero of the Blue Ridge Parkway on Afton Mountain above Waynesboro. Operators are needed to man the radio and hand out special event contacts. More information at the September 1 VARA Club meeting.

CQ WW RTTY Contest: September 27-28

OCTOBER



MARA Meeting: October 1

PVARC Meeting: October 2

Triple Play Grand-Daddy Public Service Event: October 2-4

The highly-successful Triple Play event from last year will be repeated in 2009, this time on the weekend of October 2-4. Hams will be needed to test out our communications abilities in the western mountains of both Rockingham and Augusta Counties. This is a solid 48-hour event, although individual hams can contribute one, two, five, ten, or even more hours, depending on their individual circumstances and schedules. Look for more info at the club meetings.



VARA Meeting: October 6

VE Testing Session: October 10

The October testing session in Dayton, Virginia, at the Woodmen of the World building on Highway 42, will be held on October 10.



Fall Foliage Ride: October 17-18

The Fall Foliage Ride will be held on the weekend of October 17-18, 2009. More information will be forthcoming for this grand old tradition among valley hams.

CQ WW DX Contest SSB: October 24-25



Field Day Leftovers

A lawn chair and jacket were left at the field day site. The chair is one of those canvas folding types, royal blue, with a cupholder in one of the arms. The jacket is a flannel type that is lined — dark blue with some tan. Email W4P JW@arrl.net if you recognize these.



Keeping Warm: 2000 Watts on Your Back

Ray Colvin KE4HVR sends us a link to one of the most intriguing videos on ham radio from Youtube:

Type in the following URL all on one line without spaces.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nxp_Nsa54_Q&feature=channel_page

No Date Yet on ARES Training

The July 11 training session for Rockingham County ARES volunteers was cancelled and has not been re-scheduled as of press time. Come to the August MARA meeting for an update on the training sessions. All hams are welcome and invited to attend these training sessions.



Green Giant — W4PQK: Solar Power, Anyone?

Jess Hancock is looking for anyone interested in solar power in the valley. Contact Jess via email at this address: valy-home@ntelos.net



FEMA



CitizenCorp Website

Dennis Dura, K2DCD, Manager of Emergency Preparedness for the ARRL, wants all hams to know about the website: <http://www.citizencorps.gov> which contains a lot of good information on the state of emergency preparedness of the American public. Another good site is the ready campaign, <http://www.ready.gov>

Page Valley Amateur Radio Club Field Day at Lake Arrowhead Park



Photos provided by Sparky Terry KD4KL



MARA/VARA Joint Operation Field Day at Flagpole Knob Meadow



Photos from VARA website Photo Gallery





Rockingham County ARES Net Control Schedule

August 3: K4RMY
 August 10: W4TMV
 August 17: W4HXX
 August 24: KD9LA
 August 31: KA4EEN

September 7: KU4XN
 September 14: K4LXG
 September 21: N4KYM
 September 28: K4RBZ

October 5: K4NRA
 October 12: K3EC
 October 19: KG4KUR
 October 26: N4VVJ

November 2: KN4FM
 November 9: NN4JM
 November 16: Unknown
 November 23: W4TMV
 November 30: KA4EEN

December 7: KY4XN
 December 14: W4HXX
 December 21: KD9LA
 December 28: K4LXG

All Net Schedules on the Web

Remember that all local net schedules, including the local county ARES nets as well as traffic nets can be found on the MARA website. Point your browser to <http://mara.ws>, then click on Schedule and Calendar (first menu option), and then click at the top of the page where it says, "Net Schedules Can Be Found HERE".



Hams Can Still Monitor Emergency Service Dispatches

Remember, hams and scanner listeners can continue to monitor the Rockingham County emergency operations dispatch communications, by listening to 460.625 and 452.050 MHz. These channels are in the clear and carry all EOC dispatch and activation traffic. The local, incident on-scene communications are now digital and cannot be heard with regular radios, but the dispatch and tone-out calls can still be heard "in the clear".

VARA Secretary's Report – June 2 Meeting

The **VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION** met at Lynn's in Waynesboro June 2, 2009. The President, Scott Newlen KI4QQZ, opened the meeting at 7:00pm. There were 15 members present and 2 guests Ron Ramsey AB4A and Wanda Dunnigan W4SED.

After a round of introductions the Treasurer and Secretary Reports were read and accepted by the club.

50/50 was won by Al Bonck N3JB, Al donated his share back to the club. Thanks to Al!

TABLES: The club voted to purchase 4 30" X 72" tables with folding legs to use at field day.

CLUB MEETINGS: The club voted to discontinue club meetings for the months of July and August.

BLUE RIDGE BONANZA Special Event Mile post "O" on Afton Mountain Sept. 19 & 20. We need operators to man the station both days. This is not a contest so it's a good time to enjoy operating the radio and meeting the visitors that come by to see what it's all about.

CLUB LISTING Ron Ramsey AB4A attended our meeting and recommended that we have our club listed on the ARRL Site. People have been trying to find our club listed there with no success. Ron also would like to see our club affiliated with the ARRL as we were at one time.

FALL FOILAGE BIKE FESTIVAL October 17 & 18. We need help at several locations for this event. This is our main event of the year and we get a generous donation for our help. Let's all join in and help with this event and enjoy the fall colors along the way. <http://www.shenandoahbike.org/>

LYNN'S MENU CHANGE: The club voted in May to begin ordering from the menu at our June meeting since we didn't have enough members for Lynn's to make a profit from the buffet and the club made up the difference.

WEB SITE DOMAIN: The domain has been set up. Type in **w4xd.com** to go to the Club Web Page.

AUGUSTA Co. 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.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

VARA Secretary,
Ray Colvin, KE4HVR

PVARC President's Message

Greetings from the Page Valley Amateur Radio Club.

June 2009 marks the first attempt at Field Day for the PVARC. Our Field Day site was Lake Arrowhead park in Luray, VA. It turned out to be a wonderful location with "perfectly spaced trees" among other things.

The turnout of club members was good, and the weather was great. We operated 1A made 215 CW contacts and 467 Phone contacts, we made some new friends and got some experienced hams on the air that had not been on HF in a number of years.

We received a wonderful article in the local newspaper "The Page News and Courier", and we are already making plans for next year.

I would like to thank anyone who helped with Field Day in any way, even if you could not make to the Field Day site. I hope to see you at the next club meeting at Page Memorial Hospital day room on Friday August 7 2009.

"73"

Mark-N4YSA

Missing Minutes

The minutes from the MARA club's July meeting did not arrive in time for inclusion in this month's Monitor. The July PVARC club meeting did not have minutes due to the absence of the club secretary from the club meeting. The VARA club did not meet in July.

MASSANUTTEN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, Inc.

President: David R.Fordham, KD9LA
 Vice President: Gerry Brunk, K4RBZ
 Secretary: Sheryl Tonini, KJ4DOC
 Treasurer: Sandy Mullins, K4PZC
 Board (exp 2009): Ray Ritchie K4NRA
 Board (exp 2010): Bryan Daniels, K4RMY

<http://mara.ws>

MARA meets the first Thursday of each month
 at Wood Grill Buffet on Reservoir Street
 in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Dinner begins at 6:30 pm,
 the business meeting begins at 7:30 pm

Visitors are always welcome.

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

MARA
 PO Box 1882
 Harrisonburg, VA 22801

VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

President: Scott Newlen, K14QQZ
 Vice President: Gordon Batey, WA4FJC
 Secretary: Ray Colvin, KE4HVR
 Treasurer: Doug Tippett, N8ESW
 Program Manager: Al Bonck N3JB

<http://w4xd.com>

VARA Meetings are suspended for July and
 August. The next meeting will be held on Sep-
 tember 1st at a location to be announced.

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

Doug Tippett
 2348 Mosley St.
 Waynesboro VA 22980

PAGE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President: Mark Hensley N4YSA
 Vice President: Dave Firestone, K4DPF
 Secretary/Treasurer: Mike "Sparky" Terry, KD4KL
 Board Member: Morgan Phenix K4RHD
 Board Member: : Robert Forrest KJ4HFU

Website to be announced

PVARC meets the first Friday of each month
 in the Day Room of
 Page Memorial Hospital in Luray, Virginia.

The business meeting begins at 6:00 pm

Visitors are welcome.

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

Sparky Terry
 PO Box 649
 Luray VA 22835-0649

The Monitor is published monthly by MARA, Inc.
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Distribution is in Adobe PDF format via email attachment
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Clubs differ in their policies regarding paper copies.
 Contact the president of your respective club
 for information on paper copies.

Back issues are freely available on the MARA website
 starting a few months after publication.

Since the clubs derive their revenue from memberships,
 the Monitor is not to be made regularly available on a
 timely basis to individuals who are not club members.

Occasional complimentary current copies are
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Clubs may also formally decide to provide complimentary copies
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Contact your respective club officers for more information.

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MARA/VARA

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

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

Return Service Requested

Calendar of Events

August 1: **Roanoke (Vinton) Hamfest**
August 1-2: ARRL UHF Contest
August 2: **Berryville Hamfest**
August 4: NO VARA MEETING – Summer vacation
August 4: VOPEX Emergency Communications Exercise
August 6: MARA Meeting – Wood Grill
August 7: PVARC Meeting – Page Memorial Hospital
August 8: VE Exams – Dayton, VA
August 9: Augusta County Fox Hunt
August 15: Shenandoah County Ham Breakfast (see page 6)
August 15-16: North American QSO Party SSB Weekend
August 16: Carroll County (MD) Hamfest

September 1: VARA Meeting, location TBA
September 3: MARA Meeting – Wood Grill
September 4: PVARC Meeting – Page Memorial
September 12: **VARA Family Picnic**
September 12-13: Virginia Beach Hamfest at VA Wesleyan College
September 16: **Evening with Laura Smith, FCC Counsel**
September 19-20: Milepost Zero Special Event Operation (see pg 7)
September 27-28: CQ WW RTTY Contest

October 2-4: **Triple-Play Weekend (public service event)**
October 16-18: **Fall Foliage Bike Festival (public service)**
October 24-25: CQ WW DX Contest SSB Weekend
October 25: Mason-Dixon (Westminster MD) Hamfest
