

April
2010

THE MONITOR

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

MARA HomeBrew Night: Thursday April 1 at Wood Grill Buffet

MARA's monthly meeting in April will be the annual Homebrew Night. Bring in that project you've been working on and share it with us at "show and tell". Dinner starts at 6:30 pm and the business meeting at 7:30, followed by the sharing time.

PVARC Meeting: Friday, April 2, at Page Memorial Hospital

The Page Valley Amateur Radio Club will hold a business meeting in the Day room of Page Memorial Hospital on Friday, April 2 starting at 6:00 pm.

VARA Meeting: Tuesday, April 6

The regular monthly meeting of the Valley Amateur Radio Association will be held on Tuesday, April 6. Dinner at Shoneys starts at 6:00 pm, business meeting at 7:00.



Monitor Technical Difficulties

The Monitor is a little late this month, due to technical difficulties.

A new schedule will be tried next month to see if moving the publication deadline up might result in a more timely issue.

The deadline for submissions for the May Monitor is April 20.

VARA President's Message

Ok, so spring is coming. Actually, I am ready. I love snow but enough is enough already!! Just today, I noticed that the biggest pile of snow by the garage has totally melted and it's already March 15th. I know we all say that "back when I was a kid" we used to have snows that lasted all winter. Well then, I guess I must feel like a kid again.

We had a good attendance at our March VARA meeting in spite of the nasty weather that evening. Everyone seemed to enjoy their time together. It was nice to see volunteers readily accepting duties for the Field Day Committee. The VARA's portion of the committee this year consists of Benny N4BCC, Scott KI4MSJ and John W4ZA0.

We also discussed setting up a demonstration/public awareness booth at the Augusta County Fair and several agreed that it was worth pursuing the idea. If you are willing to help with this, contact Steve W4IIV.

In addition, we have an opportunity to be a part of a large Boy Scout event at Expoland. A few have agreed to help set up a station and if any others have a desire to get involved, contact Steve N4PKJ. The date for the Boy Scout activity is Saturday May 8th from 10am to 4pm so don't delay if you would like to participate.

Our program for April will be presented by AI N3JB. Its a DVD presentation about a dxpedition to Scarborough Reef BS7H in 2007. At the time, Scarborough was #1 most sought after dx entity. As seen in the picture, it should have been called a dxpedition to the four rocks. This presentation will show about all the preparation and hard work that goes into a dxpedition.

*Jeff W4PJW,
President VARA*



MARA President's Message

Happy Spring to everyone,

Yes, this greeting may sound "a little bubbly" but as I write this the sun is shining, the birds are singing (instead of coughing) and the snow is gone unlike last month when there was still snow almost up to our antennae (plural for antennas, Hi Hi)!

Unlike most people. I would still like to be working as



before retirement as I really loved my job as chief engineer of WSVA, Q-101 and the other 3 stations. I got to tinker with all of the 7 transmitters, towers and other goodies there so I am making up for it somewhat by installing antennae (I got to use it again) and playing with my ham gear at my new home south of Mount Crawford.

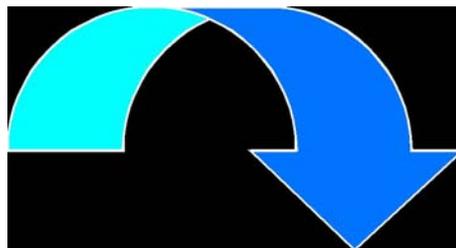
I have 140 feet of Rohn 25G tower sections that I plan to erect into 2- 60 or 70 ft. towers spaced far enough apart for a 160 meter dipole antenna. I have several acres of land so space for an antenna farm is not a problem.

I have also been having a lot of fun with my Yaesu FT-817nd QRP all-band transceiver I received from Jeanne for Christmas but that's another story.

I also welcome the new membership. I have been so pleased with the large turnouts at our MARA meetings. I hope that this continues as the weather turns warmer and there are more distractions to pull one away from the meetings.

Don't forget the April meeting is "Show n' Tell". If you know of a program for a meeting, please let Chris Shirley, KI4BAQ, our Vice President/Program Coordinator or me know.

*Ellsworth Neff, K4LXG
MARA President*



March for Babies — April 17th Public Service Event

Saturday, April 17, will be the annual March of Dimes Walk for Babies — to fight birth defects. Harrisonburg and Rockingham County hams usually turn out for an enjoyable morning playing radio. At least seven or eight hams are needed to man this event.

A hand-held radio is best for this event, since most of the activity can be handled on simplex. The walk only covers a couple of miles.

Come out and help — and get a free breakfast and a free lunch, as well as a free T-shirt. But the best benefit is the practice we get from actually using our radios to support a public-service event.

Location: Renaissance Park

**South Liberty Street next to the Turner Pavilion
of the new Farmer's Market (across from the
Daily-News Record building)**

Time: Hams begin setting up around 7:30 a.m.

Coordinating Frequency: 147.225 repeater



KJ4AAE” I’m a *Great Grandpa!* *Twice!* (Yes, it’s twins!)



Alice and I became Great Grand Parents on the 19th of March. Jaelynn Grace Burgess weighted in at four pounds, nine ounces, and was 15” long. But that’s not all! Joshual Caleb Burgess tipped the scales at five pounds, 11 ounces, and was 18” long!. Both babies and momma came home Monday March 22, and all are doing well. Except that our grand-daughter isn’t getting much sleep as you can imagine.

(I thought this would make me feel older, but I don’t feel a thing!

Rick Wilson, KJ4AAE

W4QDC: Hamsticks for Sale

FOR SALE: 5 Hamstick mobile antennas for 40, 20, 15, 17 and 10 meters. All have quick disconnect couplings. Priced at \$15 each or all five for \$60. These antennas have been in use for about 6 years and are in good condition. I also have the "Hershey Kiss" mobile mounts which make a good strong mount. These are \$2.50 each

Email: W4QDC@arrl.net or call cell phone 810 7750.

Jay Suter, W4QDC



WD4HVM: HF Station

For Sale: Kenwood S HF Rig, Swan SWR Bridget, MFJ HF Antenna Tuner, Microphone, Speaker, MFJ Keyer. Price is completely negotiable, Seller is very motivated! Contact Bob Weaver, WD4HVM in Dayton, VA at 540-867-5892

N9AHQ: Oscilloscope for Sale



I am selling this Heathkit Model 10-18 Oscilloscope (at right). The Filter caps have been replaced, but it hasn’t been used in several years. Asking \$25.00. Telephone 540-896-9086 (Broadway VA) if you are interested. Entertaining offers, too.

Howard Zehr, N9AHQ



KI4YNA: New Repeater Serving the Valley

We have a new repeater in Fredrick County, up and running and ready for ham use!

The repeater's output is 146.865, with a minus-0.600 MHz. offset, and the repeater requires a 179.9 Hz PL tone.

This repeater is located several miles south of Route 50 a few miles west of Winchester, and appears to have good coverage into the northern parts of Rockingham County, as well as hilltop areas in Harrisonburg. Check it out, and get on the air!

John Piotrowski, KI4YNA



NN4JM: Free Dish Available

I have a cousin that has a huge dish that he got and he wants to get rid of it. It is about 12 feet in diameter and maybe 3 feet deep (rough guess). I can transport it with my truck if need be. Feel free to call me with any questions or if you would like to see it. 540-476-1912.

James McDowell IV, NN4JM

N1QEQ: Status of FD Rotator Controller Investigation

I checked the FD stuff in storage in harrisonburg. there is a rotor controller there, but it is not for the CDR 4 type rotor in the large tower assembly. The rotor controller in storage is for the smaller type CDR rotor that is in the section of Rohn 25 and fed with a four wire lead. The CDR4 is fed with and 8 wire lead. We still need a control box for the CDR 4 in the large tower sections. I measured the mast that is used in the tower and will buy a pipe that fits inside the mast section with the thrust bearing on it. Lowes and Williams Electric both have the right size.

Bob Steere, N1QEQ



KU4XN: VE Exam Session: April 10

Don't forget: The April VE Session will be held Saturday, April 10, at the Woodmen of the World building on Highway 42 just north of Dayton, Virginia. Sign-in starts at 9 am.

Gayle Shull, KU4XN

Ham Radio Cruise-In: May 1st

Cruise to Charlottesville and receive a "Certificate of Participation" just for showing up. No mobile rig required; however, special certificates will be awarded to the most innovative mobile station shown in a car, truck, RV, motorcycle and bicycle; as well as a certificate for the ham traveling the longest distance.

Saturday, 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. — May 1, 2010
(Rain or Shine, the event will go on with shelter available)

Darden Towe Park - Charlottesville
(A Half-Mile North on Route 20 from Route 250 East of Charlottesville)

Talk-In will be on 146.760 Repeater, No Tone Required. Talk-Around on site will be on 146.550 simplex

Query: Jim Crosby, K4JEC, 434-823-2277

Come to Charlottesville and participate in a showcase of mobile amateur radio equipment. Pack a picnic lunch and spend a fun day in the park with your fellow hams from all over Virginia. To save time on your arrival, let us know you are coming by completing the pre-registration form on our website. Pre-registration is not required for participation but will be appreciated for planning purposes. There will be no entry or registration fee.

Check our website: albemarleradio.org for specific and last minute details.

Mail to: AARC, P. O. Box 6833 Charlottesville, VA 22906

Email to: k4jec@arrl.net

KD4OXQ: Local Ham Website Addresses FCC Docket 10-54

Jay (KD4OXQ) has added a whole page dedicated to the subject of the "WP Docket No. 10-54" with the necessary links associated with it on his website! From his Home page, Go to his ARES page and there is a link at the right of the page (in the General downloads box) in a red blinking link to the new page. From that link, the page will appear with the title on the top, and a center "body" for viewing the information from the links, and the links at the bottom of the page. You will have to inter "10-54" on the pages for the last 2 links in the box labeled "Proceeding Number:" and if you are filing a comment, you will also need to fill out the other required information. He has made this as easy as he possibly can for everyone to be able to view other people's comments and inter their comment with ease!



Deadline for comments is April 2nd 2010, and reply comments is April 19th 2010.

The address to his website is: <http://www.valley-ham.info>

Jay is glad to provide services like this for our local hams on his website and please check his website for new items often! There is some work going on trying to get forums included in his website so it could be down for a few minutes now and then while the work is going on so if you get an error when accessing his website, try back in a few minutes. This will not happen very often!

As always, he hopes you enjoy his website and visit often. If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to email him at: kd4oxq@gmail.com

Thank You all in advance for your help in spreading the word!

Jay Stewart, KD4OXQ
 Rockingham County ARES/RACES (District 15 VA)

Harrisonburg Burger King Crowd Moves to Wendy's

It's official. The "Burger King" crowd has moved! The informal ham lunch gathering which for almost 20 years has been held daily at the Burger King on east Market Street in Harrisonburg has officially moved! Thanks to a new expanded value menu, as well as free Senior drinks, the quieter atmosphere, and most importantly of all, the larger tables (!), the motley crew of old-timers has relocated to the Wendy's on South Main Street for Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Wednesdays? Well, that's still up in the air. For now, Jay Suter advises us that Wednesdays will temporarily be held at the Burger King, but who knows... maybe the difficulty of finding out what day it is might be too much for this group, and Wendy's will become a five-day-a-week tradition.

If you find yourself in Harrisonburg around lunchtime, stop in at the Wendys on South Main, 2 blocks south of Port Republic Road, and join W4QDC, K4RBZ, K4DJG, KD9LA, W4PJW, W4POL, and all of the others who drop in from time to time.



Field Day Committee Meetings: Mt. Crawford Burger King April 15, May 20, and June 17 – Starting at 6:00 p.m.

The joint MARA/VARA Field Day Committee will meet for its organizational meeting at the Burger King in Mount Crawford on Thursday night, April 15, at 6:00 p.m. Other meetings will also be held on the third Thursday of the month for May and June. Mark your calendar. Visitors and other interested hams are welcome and invited.

Meet the 2010 Field Day Committee



From left to right: Bob Steere N1QEQ – Benny Cook N4BCC – John Keller W4ZAO – James McDowell IV NN4JM – Herb Slade AA3BF.

Not pictured: Scott Martin KI4MSJ

Rockingham County ARES Training Drill – May 15

Rockingham County ARES is planning to participate with the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Communications Center in a training drill. We will need 12 volunteers to assist with this drill.

The date is Saturday, May 15th!

The drill will consist of two parts. The morning session will be training and discussion revolving around the scenario of a multiple HRECC tower outage. Topics will include dual band operations, equipment compatibility, antenna and propagation issues, mounting of antennas, alternative power, long term operations, and other topics from the Public Safety area.

The afternoon will consist of actually going to sites from the scenario and creating a net to pass information/traffic back to HRECC.

Equipment that MAY be useful to have for helping in the afternoon is listed below. Please note that we DO NOT expect anyone to have all of this equipment. This is just a short list of what would be useful to help the afternoon drill be successful.

- Dual band 2M/70cm mobile radio with 50W
- Single band 2M or 70cm mobile with 50W
- dual or single band 2M or 70cm HT
- alternative power such as high amp hour deep cycle battery or small generator
- Power-Pole type power connectors
- dual band or single band base station type vertical antenna
- dual band or single band yagi antenna
- hardware, connectors and tools to mount antennas on a 5-6" tower pole
- antenna cable in 25 or 50 foot lengths (MARA will supply some of this)
- climbing harness
- 4 wheel drive vehicles

Also, if you have expertise in any of the discussion areas included in the morning session and would be willing to share this with the group, it would be greatly appreciated.

This is the first time that we have worked in a formal way with the HRECC in a training drill. We hope to make this a very worthwhile activity for all concerned.

Bryan Daniels, K4RMY
Emergency Coordinator, Rockingham County ARES
District 15 VA





Caravan Planning for Dayton Hamvention 2010

If you haven't been to the Dayton Hamfest in Dayton Ohio, this might be a good year to go.

Local valley hams caravan together, leaving on Thursday morning. The group meets for breakfast in Lexington, then drives cars, trucks, RV's, almost anything with wheels and a 2-meter radio, to Dayton. The group meets again at lunchtime each day to compare notes, ask each other to "be on the lookout for" sought-after items, and just enjoy each other's company.

If you are thinking of going to Dayton this year, contact Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW, for some special information that will help prepare you for what may be one of the highlights of your life. Those who have been know: every ham needs to go to Dayton at least once in their life. Jeff's phone number (540) 337-7337 (Churchville).

The problem is, once you've been to Dayton, it's so great you want to go back again, year after year. Give some serious consideration to asking for a couple of days off work in May to attend this exciting and unique event. You'll never be sorry you did.



The Opinionated One: Field Day Experiences

Those of you who have never been to the joint MARA/VARA Field Day simply don't know what you are missing.

You've got to come out this year, come on up to the top of the mountain, just to see what really goes on up there. For one thing, it will give you a new appreciation for the ingenuity (and sometimes, the stupidity) of local ham radio operators. More importantly, it will help you understand why some of the local hams are the way they are. And you'll get to meet some of the more famous hams that might have heard about, but haven't yet seen in person.

If you HAVE been to Field Day, you might recognize some of the following famous individuals from the valley ham community.

For example, which ham was it, several years back, who was operating CW in the trailer. It was raining cats and dogs and had been for hours. This ham and his logger were working 40-meters on the late shift. They worked for three hours on a run, putting over 380 QSO's in the log, working 172 DXCC countries, and 52 ARRL Sections, before they finally realized that the radio had been turned off the entire time! They had been copying the chirping of the 200 tree frogs in the mud puddle outside the trailer.

Which ham was it that was working 160-meters on the dipole one year, when a windstorm came up and tore down the trees holding up both the antenna and the Carolina Windom the group had been using earlier. As the trees came down and rolled down the hill, the branches broke loose and cut and coiled up the wire into huge loops that were perfectly spaced to form a 25-element circularly-polarized beam for 10 meters. The ham and his logger changed bands and were able to work a QRP station on 28.075 who claimed to be located somewhere in the fringes of the Andromeda Galaxy.

And which ham was it that was working the VHF station when a thunderstorm came up and a lightning strike blew up the generator. But it didn't stop this ham. The kitchen crew earlier that night had put their cooking materials inside one of those cylindrical plastic Igloo coolers to keep it dry. There was a roll of paper towels in there, along with a roll of aluminum foil. Somehow the towels and foil got intertwined, and together made a giant capacitor. The lightning bolt charged it, and this quick-thinking ham hooked up the radio to the Igloo and worked the remaining 14 hours of Field Day, and still had enough power left over to jump-start W3HXH's RV when it was over.

And then there was the June when it got so cold that ice formed on the 80-meter dipole. The ice prevented the signals from getting out. But unbeknownst to everyone, the CQ's were being frozen and collected inside the wire. When the wire was taken down and stored in W4PJW's garage, it thawed out and all the signals came out at once. PJW got a warning from an official observer for using a 200 kilowatt signal that completely covered up the entire 15-meter band, end-to-end, for five solid minutes.

Which ham was it, several years ago, that was put in charge of ordering the Porta-potty, but accidentally dialed the phone number for Harrisonburg Glass and Metals instead. When everybody got to Field Day and saw the sanitary facilities, no one had the courage to use the bathroom for the entire weekend. Sunday afternoon, when everyone had gotten home, they all flushed at once. The strain on the valley water systems was too much. The water table was depleted, and the valley experienced its worst drought since the 1930's.

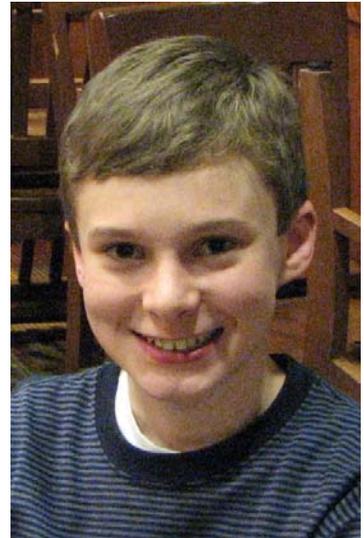
And then there was the ham who was involved in the incident involving the two ducks, the bottle of Old Spice, and the four-foot rattlesnake that was mistaken for a length of coax. Remember?

If you don't remember any of these events, don't worry. You can experience situations that will put these to shame if you just drive a few minutes to the Field Day site this year. We'll plan to see you there!

AA4BH: Working the World on 5-Watts!

Blaise, AK4BH, has finally fired up his first HF rig. It is a 5 Watt QRP rig. He has been able to make contacts in The Netherlands, Spain, Northern Ireland, France and a number in North America. He has started to receive and send his first DX QSL cards. His mother hasn't even made any complaints about having 15 meter and 20 meter dipoles strung from the living room, up the hallway and into his parents' bedroom!

His mother, KJ4MWT, who he talked (nagged) into getting her Technician Class license, has now taken and passed the exam for a General Class license. And now a woman who says she hates electronics is studying for the Extra Class exam. She has been bitten by the DX bug and wants to talk to the world.



PVARC Secretary's Report – March 5 Meeting

In keeping with PVARC's tradition of alternating business and social type meetings every other month, the March 5th meeting was held at Brown's Chinese & American Restaurant on Main Street in Luray. We had a great turnout with almost all members attending. Adding to the enjoyment of the evening were: Fern, XYL of Charlie Roach (KG4ALT), Mary, XYL of Paul Ininger (N4PJI) & Janet, YL of Gary Fischer (K6OZ) – our newest PVARC member. Our bi-monthly dutch treat social event is proving to be very popular.

While individual eyeball QSO's dominated the evening, several topics of interest to the general membership were brought up for discussion by PVARC President Mark Hensley (N4YSA). While not particularly in the forefront of everyone's mind, Mark, assisted by Dave Firestone (K4DPF) brought up a variety of issues to be thinking about in preparation for the 2010 ARRL Field Day coming up in June – only a few short months from now. Following an animated exchange of ideas, the members were asked to give a thought as to how they personally can participate and be prepared to "SIGN-UP" at next months meeting. Sign-up sheets for PVARC Field Day Assignments will be available and Mark encourages all members to commit themselves to fully supporting this important public display of local amateur radio capabilities. Dave reported that an application is ready to be filed with the Luray Parks and Recreation Department for the same FFA site at Lake Arrowhead that we used last year.



A second interesting discussion followed addressing an article written by NOAX in the ARRL Contest Update for March 3, 2010 and circulated by Bob Forrest (KJ4HFU) regarding "Sidewalk Radio." Bob suggested the club "might consider setting up on the Luray Greenway some weekend when the weather gets warmer. There are several tall trees where we could shoot up a couple of dipoles and there is certainly an ample amount of foot traffic on Saturdays, especially when the Farmers Market would also add additional foot traffic." The original article stated: "It is commonly agreed that ham radio has lost much of its place in the public conversation. Services rendered by hams in time of need may be duly noted, but after the fact and still the public has little interaction with what it is we do. It seems to me that instead of hiding our activities, we should be performing them out in plain view where anyone can experience the ham radio of today." This topic closed out the evening, everyone seemingly to support the idea for Side Walk Radio which will be further discussed in upcoming meetings.

The dinner meeting ended on this happy note and members were reminded that our next business meeting will be held at Page Memorial Hospital on April 2nd at 1800.

Submitted by
Sparky Terry, KD4KL

MARA Secretary's Report – March 4 Meeting

Attendance: Members: 34 Guests: 5 Total: 39

Introductions made all around.

Ellsworth (K4LXG) conducted the meeting.



Reports:

New Members: 1st reading: Charles Baber (KJ4SIP) and Tomie Baber (KJ4SIR)

2nd reading: Michael Turner (K4MIC); voted and approved

Secretary's minutes: It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the February minutes as printed in the Monitor.

Treasurer's report: It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the report as printed in the Monitor reflecting a February 26, 2010 balance of \$3,417.89.

Groups:

ARES/RACES:

Bryan (K4RMY) distributed copies of the ICS-213 form. This is the standard general message form that will be used for all emergency communications traffic. The PDF format is available on the web. Just google on ICS 213 for specific sites.

The March ARES meeting will be replaced with a committee meeting to organize the upcoming drill with the ECC.

VEC Session – the next VE session will be held on Saturday, April 10th at 9:00 am at the Woodmen of the World building in Dayton. Gerald (KN4FM) has several exam preparation books available for anyone interested.

Public Service – None to report

Announcements:

David (KD9LA) reminded everyone of the VA QSO Party scheduled for March 20- 22nd. Also, the Raleigh, NC Hamfest is scheduled for April 3rd.

Augusta County ARES net meets on 223.500 simplex the 2nd Thursday of the month.

The FCC is seeking comments for a blanket waiver to allow amateur radio in hospital emergency drills (WP Docket 10-54)

Old Business: Herb (AA2BF) will be joining James (NN4JM) and Bob (N1QEQ) as members of the Field Day committee. Meetings will be scheduled for April, May and June. They are still looking for a control box for the rotor.

New Business: It has been brought to our attention that the email address on various public service announcements for MARA club meetings is incorrect. Ellsworth will look into it.

New Call or Upgrades: None to report.

50/50 – \$40.00 total proceeds; \$20.00 split won by Nancy (KG4JAZ).

Motion to adjourn, seconded and approved.

Program: Jeff Rinehart (W4PJW) – slide presentation of hams in action during the flood of 1985.

Submitted by:
Sheryl Tonini, KJ4DOC,
MARA Secretary

MARA Treasurer's Report – February 26, 2010 to March 31, 2010



| | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Beginning Balance February 26, 2010 (last report) | | \$ 3,417.89 |
| Add: | | |
| Membership renewals (10 members since last report) | \$ 120.00 | |
| March meeting 50/50 donations | \$ 20.00 | |
| Donation from Bikefest from VARA | <u>\$ 150.00</u> | |
| Total Income | | \$ 290.00 |
| Less: | | |
| Reimbursement for printing of ICS-213's, rosters, VAWSOP handout, dinner for program speaker | | <u>\$ -39.46</u> |
| Ending Balance as of March 31, 2010 | | \$ 3,668.43 |

Submitted by David Fordham, KD9LA, MARA Treasurer

VARA Secretary's Report – March 2 Meeting

The VARA meeting was held on March 2, 2010 at the Shoney's in Staunton.

22 people showed up for the meeting.

50/50 was won by Ray Colvin KE4HVR.

ARES reported no callups this winter.

All reports were submitted and approved.

Had the 1st reading on 2 new applications for membership:

 John Keller, W4ZAO of verona,

 Tom Benson, WA4ESI of staunton

VARA FD committee

 Scott Martim, KI4QQZ

 Benny Cook, N4BCC

 John Keller, W4ZAO

Several events were discussed including:

 Boy Scouts at Augusta Expo - May 8

 Ham Radio Cruise In in Charlottesville - May 1

Come on down and see what we are doing



Steven Grant W4IIV

Calendar of Upcoming Events

April 1: MARA Homebrew Night – Club Meeting
 April 2: PVARC Club Meeting at Page Memorial Hospital
 April 3: Raleigh (NC) Hamfest
 April 4: Page County ARES Net 8pm 146.67 repeater
 April 4-6: Montana QSO Party
 April 5: Rockingham County ARES Net 8pm on 146.55 simplex
 April 6: VARA Club Meeting
 April 6: VHF Spring Sprint
 April 7: Highland County ARES Net, 8:30 pm 147.18 repeater
 April 8: Augusta County ARES Net, 8:00 pm on 146.85 repeaters
 April 10: VE Exams in Dayton, Virginia
 April 11: Page County ARES Net 8pm 146.67 repeater
 April 11: Chesapeake (VA) ARA Springfest Hamfest
 April 11: EU Spring Sprint - 80,40,20-meters
 April 12: Rockingham County ARES Net 8pm on 147.225 repeater
 April 15: Field Day Committee Meeting: Mt Crawford Burger King
 April 17: Harrisonburg March of Dimes Public Service Event
 April 18: Page County ARES Net 8pm 146.67 repeater
 April 19: Rockingham County ARES Net 8pm on 147.225 repeater
 April 21: Highland County ARES Net, 8:30 pm 147.18 repeater
 April 24: Harrisonburg Education Foundation public service event
 April 25: Page County ARES Net 8pm 146.67 repeater
 April 26: Rockingham County ARES Net 8pm on 147.225 repeater

May 1: Hagerstown (MD) Hamfest
 May 1: Ham Radio Cruise-In (Charlottesville)
 May 2: Page County ARES Net 8pm 146.67 repeater
 May 2-3: MARAC County Hunter HF Contest CW&SSB
 May 2-3: ARI International DX Contest
 May 3: Rockingham County ARES Net 8pm on 146.55 simplex
 May 4: VARA Club Meeting
 May 5: Highland County ARES Net, 8:30 pm 147.18 repeater
 May 6: MARA Club Meeting
 May 7: PVARC Dinner Meeting
 May 9: Page County ARES Net 8pm 146.67 repeater
 May 9-10: Armed Forces Communications Test
 May 9-10: CW-M International DX Contest
 May 10: Rockingham County ARES Net 8pm on 147.225 repeater
 May 14-17: Dayton Ohio Hamvention
 May 15: Rockingham ARES-RACES Emergency Drill
 May 16: Page County ARES Net 8pm 146.67 repeater
 May 17: Rockingham County ARES Net 8pm on 147.225 repeater
 May 19: Highland County ARES Net, 8:30 pm 147.18 repeater
 May 23: Page County ARES Net 8pm 146.67 repeater
 May 24: Rockingham County ARES Net 8pm on 147.225 repeater
 May 29-31: CQ WPX CW Contest
 May 30: Page County ARES Net 8pm 146.67 repeater
 May 31: Rockingham County ARES Net 8pm on 147.225 repeater

June 13: Manassas Hamfest
 June 26-27: Field Day



Nets, Nets, and More Nets!

Sunday night from Luray. Monday night from Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. Wednesday nights from Monterey and Highland County. Almost every night from Staunton, Waynesboro, and Augusta County. Get on the nets! Get on the air! Transmit something. Say something. Exercise your equipment! Even if you can't find anyone on during the day, turn on your radio in the evening and check in and let us know you're around.

Sunday nights: 8 pm: 146.670 repeater, input down 0.600, PL 114 Hz

Monday nights: 8 pm: 147.225 repeater, input up 0.600, PL 131.8 (first Monday of each month on 146.55 simplex)

Wednesday nights: 8:30 pm: first and third Wednesdays only, 147.180 repeater, input up 0.600, PL 100.00

Almost every night: 10:00 pm: 146.850 repeater, input down 0.600, PL 131.8



MASSANUTTEN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, Inc.

President: Ellsworth Neff, K4LXG
 Vice President: Chris Shirkey, KI4BAQ
 Secretary: Sheryl Tonini, KJ4DOC
 Treasurer: David Fordham, KD9LA
 Board (exp 2010): Bryan Daniels, K4RMY
 Board (exp 2011): James McDowell IV, NN4JM

<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: Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW
 Vice President: Gordon Batey, WA4FJC
 Secretary: Steve Grant, W4IIV
 Treasurer: Doug Tippett, N8ESW
 Program Manager: Al Bonck N3JB

<http://w4xd.com>

VARA meets the first Tuesday of each month.
 The April meeting will be held at the Shoneys
 in Staunton on Hwy 250 at I-81.

Dinner begins at 6:00 pm.
 The business meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

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.
 Odd-numbered Months
 at Browns Restaurant in Luray,
 Even-numbered Months in the Day Room of
 Page Memorial Hospital.

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

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