

September
2013

THE MONITOR

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

September 3 – VARA Meeting: Country Cooking in Staunton

The Valley Amateur Radio Association will hold its monthly club meeting on Tuesday, September 3rd at the Country Cooking Restaurant at 1015 Richmond Avenue, which is Highway 250 east in Staunton. This restaurant is next door to Martin's Grocery, behind the Five-Guys Diner, across the street and west one block from Wal-Mart. The meal begins at 6:00 pm, the business meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

September 5 – MARA Meeting: Wood Grill in Harrisonburg

The Massanutten Amateur Radio Association, Inc., will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, September 5th at the normal location: the Wood Grill at 1711 Reservoir Street in Harrisonburg. Dinner starts at 6:30 pm. All hams and their families are invited and welcome. Bring your projects, home-made gear, and just about anything else that you want to show off and share with others!

September 6 – PVARC Meeting: Luray Southern Grille

The Page Valley Amateur Radio Club will hold its regular bi-monthly meal meeting on Friday, September 6th, The meeting will be held at Luray Southern Grill on Highway 340 south of Luray. Friends and guests are welcome. The meeting begins at 6:00 PM.

School is in and the kiddies will be on the roadways as well as busses. Keep an eye out for them and drive safely.



MARA President's message

I'd like to thank Gerry Brunk for presiding over the past couple of meetings while I've been on my summer traveling schedule. Now that I'm back in town, I'm looking forward to being at the remaining meetings this year.

We will need volunteers for the Nominating Committee, which does its work between the September and October meetings. We elect the Corporate Officers for next year in October. The corporation is in the best shape of its 21-year existence, with more active and experienced members, more licensed hams in the valley, more equipment and other assets, and with just as much money in the bank. And best of all, we are still engaging in just as much activity and fun as ever! The next set of officers will inherit an organization that practically runs itself.

I want to publicly recognize John Spillman KT4CB for the fantastic job he's doing on the Monitor. This is just one more area in which today's ham radio continues to out-do all previous experience. Thanks, John.

David Fordham, KD9LA
MARA President



VARA President's message



Greetings fellow Hams, I hope everyone had a great time this summer! I can say it was a pretty busy one for me with work, family, chores around the house and trying to fit some radio time in as well.

The next couple of months will be busy with a few community service projects that we participate in every year, so please volunteer for them as they approach. Off the top of my head we will have the Grind Stone 100, the motocross event and the horse event and also the Fall Foliage Bike Festival all in October to name a few.

Mark your calendar for September 7th for the annual VARA picnic, held at Gypsy Hill Park, the picnic starts at noon and is a family event, so bring your family and enjoy a day with fellow Hams! All you need to bring is a side dish and your drink of choice. The club will supply the burgers, hot dogs, plates etc.

Our monthly meeting will be September 3rd at 7:00pm and the Country Cooking restaurant located in the Martins shopping center on Richmond Rd, just down from Wal-Mart.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the picnic and all the community service events.

John Keller W4ZAO
President VARA

Luray Triathlon



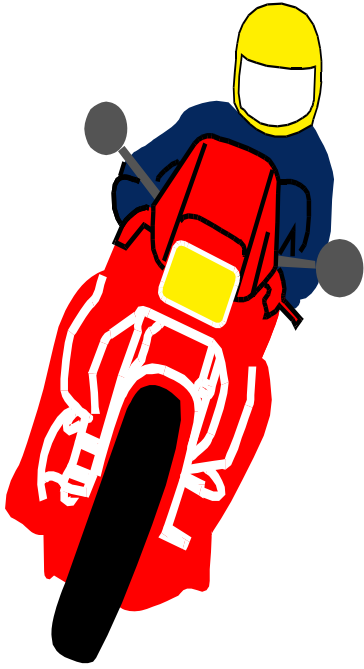
The **Luray Triathlon** took place the weekend of August 17-18 at the Lake Arrowhead Park. Members of Page County ARES and Page Valley ARC provided logistics communications for the bicycle and run portions of the International Race on Saturday and the Sprint Race on Sunday. (See last month's MONITOR for details) Those hams who provided support included:

- | | | | | | |
|------|--------|--------|--------|------|--------|
| Dave | K4DPF | Morgan | K4RHD | Mark | N4YSA |
| Zory | KB3VQC | Paul | KK4IRS | Gene | KJ4HFO |
| Bob | KI4VFP | Bob | W04MI | Phil | KQ4D |

Many thanks to these hams who showed so much dedication and patience at their posts for the 3-4 hour races....especially in Sunday's rain. It had to be better than riding a bike or running on those wet, slippery roads.

Thanks
Dave K4DPF





Help Needed for the Shenandoah 500

The Shenandoah 500 is again asking for communication assistance from the valley hams.

This is a two day motorcycle ride that begins **Saturday Oct 5th** from 7:30 am until around 6:00PM. Then on **Sunday Oct. 6th** from around 8:00am until 5:00pm. We would need 7-8 folks each day unless someone is willing to do an early shift then relocate for a late shift.

Most shifts last about 3-4 hours but some are shorter. However, the locations for placement are mostly in the GW National Forest and various access roads.

A 4 wheel drive is not required except for Net Control, but would be helpful if the weather gets bad ;-)

You will need a good mobile radio capable of 35-50 watts, an HT will not work in the mountains.

If you are interested in helping out please email Bryan K4RMY (k4rmy at comcast.net)

Online Chat Groups

Interested in CLOVER? New list is being started.

Since the previous CLOVER group seems to be dead, I decided to setup a new group for anyone interested in the mode.

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CLOVER_Mode/

I'm in the middle of moving to a new QTH, so my HAL modems are all packed up. Once I get moved and setup, I'll work on putting together some SKEDs for anyone interested.

If you have a HAL CLOVER-capable modem and are running Airmail or BPQ32, you can use it for WINLINK 2000!

Who knew?

73, Brad K3YAN



FYI, yahoo group for WSJT-HF users. 73, David AD4TJ

I created this yahoo group with the hopes that it will help alleviate some of those who feel this group has become too much WSJT-HF oriented rather than being weak signal meteor which I believe is the original intent of the wsjtgroup according to its group description. Anyone interested in WSJT-HF is welcome to join and post. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wsjt-hf/>

Hope it helps.

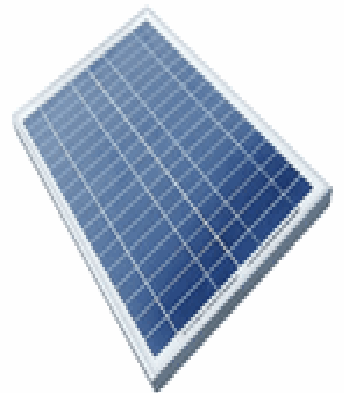
73, Jim (AAOMZ)

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Solar Panels Wanted

Anyone have unneeded, unwanted, used or unused 18v 40w to 120w solar panels for sale? Maybe a charge controller too. I'm looking to charge a few batteries for portable use and this would handle what I want to do. Me and my camper would be happy to hear from you. Let me know what you have and your asking price and see if we can come to terms. I've checked E-bay and even Craigslist and there are some good deals out there but a little leery about shipping and possible damage, so thought I'd just check locally first. Please reply to me individually, not via Valley Hams email.

Thanks, Tom, WA4ESI



Calendar of Events

September

- 1—Page County ARES Net
- 2—**Labor Day**
- 2— Old Dominion Emergency Net
- 3 – **VARA Club Meeting**
- 5 – **MARA Club Meeting**
- 6 – **PVARC Club Dinner Meeting**
- 7 – **VARA Club Picnic**
- 8—Page County ARES Net
- 12 – Augusta County ARES Net
- 14 – Virginia Beach Hamfest
- 14-15 – ARRL VHF Contest
- 15—Page County ARES Net
- 16—Old Dominion Emergency Net
- 20 – **Deadline for October submissions***
- 21— Bike Shenandoah
- 21-22 – ARRL 10GHz & Up Contest - Round 2
- 22—Page County ARES Net
- 27-28—Ten Tec Factory Hamfest
- 28-29 – ARRL EME Contest - 2.3GHz & Up
- 28-29 – CQ WW RTTY DX Contest
- 29—Page County ARES Net

October

- 1 - **VARA Club Meeting**
- 3 - **MARA Club Meeting**
- 4 - **PVARC Club Business Meeting**
- 5-6—Shenandoah 500
- 6—Page County ARES Net
- 10—Augusta County ARES Net
- 12—VE Testing Session
- 13—Page County ARES Net
- 20—Page County ARES Net
- 20 – **Deadline for November submissions***
- 21-25 School Club Roundup
- 26-27 EME Contest:50-1296 MHz (Round 1)
- 27—Page County ARES Net

Daily HF Nets



VSBN	1800	3947.0kHz
VN	1900	3578.5kHz
VLN	2200	3947.0kHz

VE TEST SESSION REPORTS



We had four people show up for testing at our August session. One earned an upgrade and two a Tech license. Thanks to those who gave up a Saturday morning of their time to help with this important service:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Gerald Nauman, KN4FM | Jim Lehman, W4POL | Foster Farone, WF40 |
| Bryan Daniels, K4RMY | Hugh Pettis, KC3AN | Robert Vanfossen, K4DJG |
| E. C. Showalter, KG4KUR | | |

Our next testing session will be Saturday, October 12, 9:00 AM at the Woodmen of the World Building south of Harrisonburg.

Gayle Shull, KU4XN



AREA RADIO CLUBS MAINTAIN MANY OF THE REGIONS REPEATERS

Many Amateur Radio Licensees are aware that the majority of the ham radio 'Repeaters' located in the Valley and the surrounding areas are owned by, and/or maintained by the Radio Clubs, and/or outright by members of the Radio Clubs. The Repeaters are operated for the use, convenience, safety and enjoyment of all licensed hams, including those visiting the area. In addition, the Repeaters help to contribute to public safety and have served as emergency backup to other communications systems (including ARES, RACES, MARS, state, regional and federal).

You may be surprised to learn what the annual costs are to operate and maintain the Repeater System in the area. The initial cost of the electronics and the necessary associated equipment is substantial. In some cases a site lease payment, rental costs, and legal fees may be involved. License and registration fees are usually required. When you add together the utility bills (electricity and perhaps telephone), costs for repairs and routine equipment maintenance (including the tower, antenna and cable maintenance, back-up/ emergency electrical generators (and the necessary fuel), and antenna repairs following storm damage), liability insurance, replacement of older (less efficient and/or less reliable) equipment, the costs associated with upgrading, adding new features and/or functionality (such as D-Star™, EchoLink™, WIREST™, APRST™), etc., it becomes clear that the operation of a Repeater system is an expensive proposition. I am certain that very few (if any) Repeater owner/operators view such an operation as a "get-rich" activity.

The stimulus for this note was the recent announcement at a monthly meeting of the PVARC that the cost for the liability insurance associated with one of the widely-used area Repeaters owned and operated by one of the Club members had more than doubled (from \$X to \$2X+) for the coming year. While the Repeater owner is extremely appreciative for the donations of private money, equipment, and professional services received, the courtesy extended by the tower owner in permitting the mounting of the repeater antenna, and the annual financial contributions received from the Club(s), the actual out-of-pocket expenses still exceeded \$300.00. The possibility that the member would be unwilling to continue to absorb the annual cost, and would cease to operate the Repeater was suddenly a fear that arose in my mind (and perhaps in the mind of other Club members).

Area Radio Clubs often make annual financial contributions to neighboring clubs and/or repeater owners to show appreciation for the open availability and use of their repeaters. Those contributions are most appreciated, and hopefully will continue.

Some geographic areas (including in the Baltimore-Washington region) have formed membership associations which help to provide financial resources for the operation, maintenance, and improvement of the area Repeater systems. I recently (during the Memorial Day Weekend) attended a "Hamfest" (which included many "tail-gate" vendors) in the suburban Baltimore area, which was sponsored by a Repeater group (i.e., The Maryland FM Association, Inc.), which raises funds to support the area's Repeater system (multi-sites and links) owned and maintained by the group. This group also offers "membership" in the Association for a small annual donation. Another Repeater Association in the Washington, DC area sends congratulatory notes to newly-licensed technician-class operators living in the area, welcoming them to use the Association's Repeater (and provides the Repeater operating frequency and necessary associated parameters), and "gently" solicits a financial contribution. (I received such a letter about 10 days after receiving my 1st ticket, and seeing my name and address publicly posted by the FCC.) A radio club in the suburban MD area raises funds to help support its Repeater system with on-line "for sale" listings and/or auction sales of equipment donated to the club, listing (for a small fee) "for sale" used and/or antique radio equipment owned by its members, group purchase of ham-related name tags, books, clothing and equipment for its members, "50/50 drawings" at Club meetings, and other fund-raising projects. Another club in the area allocates a portion of their collected annual membership fees to contribute to support a Repeater located in their community.

This ham solicits information (perhaps via the *Monitor*) as to how other radio clubs and Repeater operators support the valuable Repeater resources in their area.

In the meantime, I urge all users of area Repeaters to make a voluntary financial contribution to the owner or operator of the local Repeaters they use. A few bucks by cash or check would go a long way toward helping to assure that the essential Repeater systems we depend on will remain available for our use. I welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

(By the way, how does one find out who owns/ operates the Repeaters in their area?)

73, de KB3VQC/AE, Zory Glaser (Member of PVARC)

VARA Picnic Scheduled

Note the change on the VARA picnic date: It is actually Sept. 7th, not the 14th. My bad, the shelter could not be reserved for the usual 2nd Saturday in September, so we had to go with the 1st Saturday. For VARA members and their wives only. Please bring a covered dish to share with everyone. The club will provide meat and utensils, members bring covered dishes, desserts and drinks.

73, David AD4TJ

The 443.150 Repeater has an Autopatch

The 443.150+ 131.8PL repeater on Lairds Knob (East of Harrisonburg) has an autopatch available for anyone to use. It is connected by a VOIP phone adapter. I do pay around 1cent a min for ALL calls (can call anywhere in US), so the cost to me is minimal, if you use it feel it served you well, a donation would be appreciated.

Here are the instructions.

To place a call: key your radio and enter
***87 FOLLOWED BY THE NUMBER**
 (ex. *874341321)

If you are dialing a number in 540 area code area you do not need to dial it. Any other numbers you must dial area code.

- Do not stop transmitting between *87 and the phone number, enter it all in one transmission otherwise it will not work properly.

- Once you unkey you will hear a dial tone and then beeps indicating your number is being dialed.

- Once the caller answers you may key your mic and talk.

You can interrupt the caller at any time.

- To **cancel the call** at anytime, simply press **#**

- You must transmit at least every 45sec. to keep the call live, otherwise you will hear warning beeps to indicate the repeater will terminate soon.

If you feel that you need more time during the whole call (Timer is 6min.) Enter ***1**.

Please do not try to tie up the machine unnecessarily, but the timer extend is there for your use if needed.

A reverse autopatch is available too (Family members can call you via phone). If you want to use this feature contact me and I can setup access code and give you dial in number.

Jason Armentrout, N4DSL

443.150 + 131.8 PL Repeater Autopatch

To place a call: Key your radio and enter:

***87 FOLLOWED BY THE NUMBER** (ex: *874341321)

(Area code required outside of 540 area code.)

Enter all in one transmission.

Unkey and you will hear a dial tone and beeps indicating the number is being dialed.

When caller answers, key your mic and talk. You may interrupt the caller at any time.

To cancel a call: Press **#**

To increase time: enter ***1** (Default is 6 minutes)

NOTE: You must transmit every 45 seconds to keep the call alive. Otherwise you will hear warning beeps that indicate the repeater will terminate soon.

Be considerate, do not tie up the machine longer than necessary.

For your convenience

Here is a pocket guide for the repeater autopatch. You can make a copy of this page and cut on the solid line, then fold on the dotted line to carry in your wallet or purse.

Our MARA Secretary's Career in pictures, Dennis NS4K

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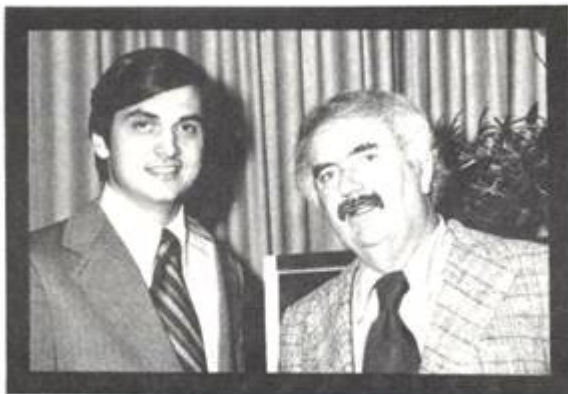
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Dennis Phillips



540-433-0514

VARA Secretary's Report — August 6th, 2013 Meeting

Minutes of the VARA Meeting of August 6, 2013

The Valley Amateur Radio Association held its August 6th meeting at the Country Cooking restaurant in Staunton. The meeting was opened at 7:01 pm by President W4ZAO John Keller. Introductions were made, with 23 members and guests present. Ray Colvin KE4HVR won the 50/50 drawing, his share being \$11.50.

ARES report: EC, AD4TJ, David Tanks told us that the next ARES net will be August 8th, at 8 pm, on the 146.850 repeater, with John W4ZAO volunteering to be Net Control.

Secretary's report: Secretary David/AD4TJ made a motion that the minutes be approved as printed in the newsletter; seconded and passed.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Doug Tippett/W8RTN gave both June's and July's report as he was not present at the July meeting. His reports were approved.

Upcoming events: The VARA club picnic will be in September on the 7th, at the shelter near the golf house, eating at 12 noon. No one volunteered to cook; John will check with Scott Newlen/KI4QQZ to see if he is coming and willing to cook again. Club supplies meat and buns and utensils/plates. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish to share.

CQ NA QSO Party(Phone) is the weekend of August 10-11; October is a busy month as we have the Triple Play going on, and then the Fall Bike Festival later in the month. Also the Hawaii QSO party is August 24.

VE session is August 10th in Dayton; Virginia Beach Hamfest is September 14th.

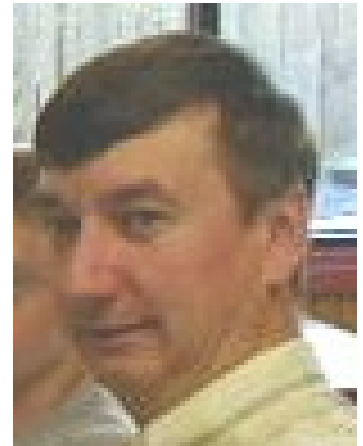
Old business: Discussed storage units: prices and locations were presented by John/W4ZAO, as gotten by Greg Czerniak W4GRC. Dan Hale KC8TEN mentioned that he has room in his garage for the equipment, but John said that we really need a central location, accessible by all in case of emergencies.

New business: Meeting place: the old Shoney's hasn't made any movement on making their room quieter, so we voted to continue at the Country Cooking Restaurant.

Wayne Bowyer/N4EYZ showed the members the Baofeng dual-band HT he had bought for less than \$40 on E-bay.

With no other business to discuss, and no program, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Al Bonck/N3JB, had a program on the differences between tube and solid state RF amplifiers.



Respectfully submitted, AD4TJ **David Tanks** VARA Secretary

MARA Secretary's Report — August 1st, 2013 Meeting

Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 PM by Vice President Gerald Brunk K4RBZ

Attendance: 25 present - 21 Members and 4 Guests Introductions made all around.

New Members: 1 application voted on after 2nd reading

KV4OK Dorn Peterson Voted into MARA by unanimous decision

Secretary Minutes: After 2 amendments: The Bridgewater Parade was in July and not August. The correct frequency of the repeater is 446 and not 146. The minutes were approved as corrected in the July 2013 Monitor.

Treasurer Report: The Treasurer's report was approved as what was printed in the July 2013 Monitor.



Reports by Committees:

ARES/RACES: Bryan (K4RMY) Nothing to report.

Public Service: September 21st is Bike Shenandoah as noted by Gerald Nauman KN4FM. Thanks to all for helping with the Bridgewater Parade. A \$300 donation was given to the club.

Volunteer Examiners: Gayle KU4XN The next testing session is on August 10th at the Woodman of the World.

Repeater Committee: All are functioning

Other Announcements: None

Old Business: None

New Business: None

50/50: won by Sam Lilly, KK4QKI. The pot was a \$9 split from a total of \$18.00 collected. Sam kindly donated back his winnings to the club.

Motion to Adjourn, seconded, passed.

Program: Apparently there was a misunderstanding about tonight's program.

During the raffle drawing Secretary Dennis Phillips told a couple of topical jokes. Lacking a formal program he was asked to continue his entertaining with a few magic tricks and jokes. He tore the center out of a real one dollar bill and ate it only to announce that the whole thing was an illusion and the center reappeared back in the bill.

He then took a spoon from the table and held it in his hand and the metal became soft and the spoon bent in two while he rubbed it lightly with his finger.

Attempted to find out if anyone in the audience had the ability to be an assistant and twist into unbelievable positions, he had everyone hold out their hands and cross them and grasp their right and left hand. He was able to easily untwist his and others could not.

Respectfully Submitted August 11, 2013 by **Dennis Phillips**, NS4K MARA Secretary

PVARC Secretary's Report — August 2nd, 2013 Meeting



The Page Valley Amateur Radio Club convened at 1800 in the Lord Fairfax Community College – Luray Campus Complex. PVARC President Bob Forrest/WO4MI presided, calling the meeting to order. With only 11 members in attendance (11 of 23), he noted that a quorum was not present for voting purposes. He asked if anyone had any announcements. Dave/K4DPF made several announcements. He opened with remarks on the medical condition of Geoffrey/WD4LYO by saying he was in a nursing home and would welcome visitors. The Secretary was asked to send a card from the membership, and also e-mail particulars as to how to get to the facility, visiting hours, etc. He then gave a short summary of Field Day, recognizing the efforts of all who participated.

While the overall score was slightly lower than last year he was especially gratified that "new trails" had been broken with the addition of a VHF and UHF capability (thanks to Phil/KQ4D and his van); and, the efforts of Bob/KI4VFP in setting up a satellite station.

He also complimented the Chef (Morgan/K4RHD) for his marvelous cuisine! In conclusion, he reminded the members that the ARES training scheduled for tomorrow (Saturday) would also include a discussion of the upcoming Triathlon and associated assignments.

Bob/WO4MI announced that FCC may release a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that potentially impacts PVARC (and all amateur radio operators) with respect to encryption of certain ARES (and other) activities where transmission of sensitive, but unclassified messages may be required by our served agencies. The example was given of patient protections ensured by HIPA in the event PVARC was providing back-up/emergency communications for Page Memorial Hospital. Also given as an example was a loss of life incident naming the victim intercepted from radio communications between ham operators. After a lively debate, it was decided to bring this topic up at a future meeting, perhaps after the FCC NPRM is released. The Secretary reported that there were no minutes taken at the July meeting, which was a social event sponsored by, and at the QTH of Phil/KQ4D.

Carol/KA4LAF, PVARC Treasurer reported a balance of \$1,214.56 in the club bank account. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

Bob/WO4MI asked if there were any committee reports.

Education and Training Committee, Chaired by Morgan/K4RHD – Bob/WO4MI reported that he had made a presentation to a youth group (15 boys/girls), demonstrating VHF radio in the amateur radio service. He felt it might have been more successful if he could have demonstrated more technology. He plans on building on this initiative at a later date. After a short discussion Morgan/K4RHD agreed to demonstrate a solar power station; and Bob/KI4VFP offered to setup a satellite station. Someone to demonstrate a mobile HF/SSB capability is also desired.

Technical Assistance Committee, Chaired by Mark/N4YSA reported that he and Larry/K3JRR helped install a tower and 40m beam. He also said he had attempted to contact Tony/W3ELE to offer assistance in re-hanging his HF dipoles, but had not received an answer to his e-mails. It was suggested that he telephone Tony, since his failing eyesight made it difficult for him to read e-mails.

PVARC Secretary's Report — Continued

Old Business: Incorporation of PVARC – The Executive Committee is still trying to find someone to provide background on the pro's and cons. Contact has been made with a lawyer but arrangements have not yet been concluded. Also under consideration is the possibility that someone from academia, e.g., a teacher of business law at the college level might be interested in addressing the issue at a regular meeting. [Tabled]

New Business: Mark/N4YSA and Phil/KQ4D briefed the members on issues associated with the continued operation of the KQ4D repeater located on Big Mountain. The radio site owned and operated by WHSV-TV who essentially provides equipment and tower space and electrical power necessary to run the KQ4D repeater facility. WHSV is very supportive of amateur radio operations and has provided a "home" for repeater equipment for many years. However, the cost of continuing the operation of the KQ4D equipment, maintaining and updating to meet new standards, as well as raising insurance costs are all making it impossible to continue with the limited resources available to the Big Mountain Repeater Association. They asked if PVARC might be in a position to offer any suggestions, given the dependence upon the KQ4D repeater facility by valley hams in supporting local public service events.

However, the cost of continuing the operation of the KQ4D equipment, maintaining and updating to meet new standards, as well as raising insurance costs are all making it impossible to continue with the limited resources available to the Big Mountain Repeater Association. They asked if PVARC might be in a position to offer any suggestions, given the dependence upon the KQ4D repeater facility by valley hams in supporting local public service events. A far ranging discussion followed with numerous suggestions and comments relating to projected expenses, current and future plans, site management, increasing general liability insurance costs, etc.

After summarizing the discussion and combining a variety of recommendations, Bob/WO4MI suggested the following: (1) That PVARC and Big Mountain Repeater Association find a way to work together to ensure the continued operation of the KQ4D repeater system. (2) That the Executive Committee draft a Memorandum of Understanding to be voted upon by the membership before the end of the month, using e-mail voting inasmuch as a quorum was not present, describing the mutually agreed upon relationship between PVARC and Big Mountain Association. (3) Establish a Repeater Committee to facilitate and implement necessary support efforts. {Secretary's Note: The committee consists of Mark/N4YSA and Phil/KQ4D as co-chairmen, assisted by Bob/KI4VFP and Zory/KB3VQC as initial members.} (Tabled for Executive Committee action.)

Following the above discussion, it was the general consensus that PVARC By-Laws concerning voting and quorum issues should be reviewed and possibly changed. Bob/WO4MI agreed, noting that changes would be made in the next Executive Board meeting and made available for review at the September meeting. It would need to "layover" for 30 days before the new language could be voted upon at the October meeting. (By-Law rewrite tabled for Executive Committee action.)

Tim/AK4CJ asked that a list of all paid-up members of PVARC be e-mailed to him. The Secretary agreed to provide an updated list to all PVARC members within the next few days.

Ending remarks: Dave/K4DPF reminded everyone that the Triathlon will be August 17th and 18th and he still needs a few more volunteers. Contact him if you can help.

Zory/KB3VQC announced that the Berryville Ham fest will be Sunday, August 5th beginning at 0630. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1900.

Submitted by: Sparky Terry/KD4KL, PVARC Secretary

Homebrew? A 1,000-W 2-M Amp!

This ham built his 1000 watt 2 meter solid state amp, and here is his description and pictures of what he did. May be of interest to you solid state amp builders!

73, David AD4TJ

<http://ah6le.com/index.php/eme-goodies/my-2-meter-solid-state-kilowatt> — Ken

President and CTO - Arcom Communications Makers of repeater controllers and accessories.

<http://www.arcomcontrollers.com/>

Authorized Dealers for Kenwood and Telewave and we offer complete repeater packages!

AH6LE/R - IRLP Node 3000

<http://www.irlp.net> "We don't just make 'em. We use 'em!"



Use it or Lose It



Quoting the Federal Register: "In his June 2013 Executive Memorandum on Expanding America's Leadership in Wireless Innovation, President Obama directed the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to design and conduct a pilot program to monitor spectrum usage in real time in selected communities throughout the country."

More Here:

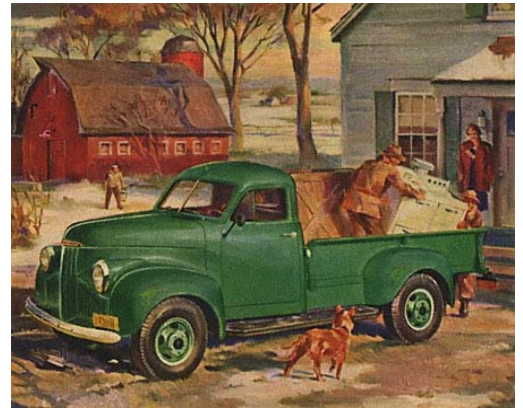
<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/08/19/2013-20148/spectrum-monitoring-pilot-program>

Might be a good time for all of us to get on the air more, especially on our underused bands and modes. And IMO everything 2M and above is underused.

Harry F. Wetzel hfwetzel@comcast.net

MOVING?

Don't forget! If you move, you must notify the FCC of your new mailing address **AND** the new physical address of your station within 30 days! If the FCC gets a mailing back from you with a forwarding address (or even worse, no forwarding address!) your license will likely be canceled. This means that you must test all over again to reinstate your license. Don't risk it: Notify the FCC of your new address promptly!



The club newsletter, **the Monitor**, is provided free of charge monthly to all members of all three clubs via email distribution, in PDF format. However, it is the individual club members' responsibility to notify the newsletter editor directly of all changes in email address. Electronic back issues will be provided free to members on request.

Elderly, disabled, or special-needs members may make special arrangements with their respective club officers to receive a hardcopy of the Monitor via U.S. mail in lieu of the electronic PDF version. However, the hardcopy requires additional production and delivery time and is not guaranteed to arrive before the scheduled monthly club meeting dates.

Members not receiving the electronic Monitor in a timely fashion (e.g., before their monthly club meeting) should notify the newsletter editor promptly to investigate and resolve the problem with distribution.

Members who are using the latest update version of Adobe Reader and experience trouble opening the Monitor email attachment can contact the newsletter editor for assistance.

MASSANUTTEN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, Inc.

President: David Fordham, KD9LA
 Vice President: Gerry Brunk, KB4RBZ
 Secretary: Dennis Phillips, NS4K
 Treasurer: Sheryl Tonini, KJ4DOC
 Board (exp 2013): Bob Van Fossen, K4DJG
 Board (exp 2014): Andrew Pearson, N4RCE

<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: John Keller W4ZAO
 Vice President: Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW
 Secretary: David Tanks, AD4TJ
 Treasurer: Doug Tippet, N8ESW
 Program Manager: Al Bonck N3JB

<http://w4xd.com>

VARA meets the first Tuesday of each month.
 at the Westside Grill on West Beverley Street
 in Staunton, Virginia

Dinner starts at 6:00 pm,
 the business meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Visitors are welcome

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

Doug Tippet
 2348 Mosley St.
 Waynesboro VA 22980

PAGE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President: Bob Forrest, W04MI
 Vice President: Mark Hensley N4YSA
 Secretary/Treasurer: Mike "Sparky" Terry, KD4KL
 Board Member: Morgan Phenix K4RHD
 Board Member: : Geoffrey Phillips, WD4LYO

<http://www.k4pmh.org>

PVARC meets the first Friday of each month: Odd-
 numbered Months at Luray Southern Grill on Highway
 340 south of Luray and even-numbered Months at Lord
 Fairfax Community College in Luray
 The 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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 in the Central Shenandoah Valley.

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
 provided to prospective members free of charge.

Clubs may also formally decide to provide complimentary copies
 at club expense to various constituencies.
 Contact your respective club officers for more information.

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MARA/VARA/PVARC

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