

March 2020

THE MONITOR

Published Monthly for Members of the Central Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Clubs — MARA, VARA, and PVARC

VARA TO DISCUSS MEETING LOCATION

The Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc., has enjoyed significant attendance growth at its monthly meetings. The club is seeing monthly numbers approaching 40 or more as a regular occurrence.

The Hometown Grill management and staff has been exceptionally accommodating, even going so far as to adjust the lighting in the meeting room, purchasing and permanently installing a projection screen, and rearranging the tables for special situations such as Board meetings. The restaurant itself has some major advantages, such as the offering of a buffet for those who like to choose their portion sizes and selection, as well as menu offerings for those who prefer traditional fare over a buffet. The speed and quality of service is generally excellent and attentive, parking is ample, the location is safe, and on a bus route for a couple of members who cannot drive. The hours are also suitable, the rest rooms are generally clean, and the location is very central and convenient for most VARA members.



But there are some drawbacks beyond anyone's control. The partial windows between the meeting room and the remainder of the restaurant do not reach all the way to the ceiling, and thus do not dampen the normal restaurant sounds completely. The outside windows inhibit seeing the screen during the summer months. The room aspect ratio is too long and deep. The noise of the ice cream machine makes it impossible to hear from the rear third of the room, making portable audio equipment essential, and even then those near the machine have trouble hearing the speakers. The opening of the new hotel next door will likely increase the number of patrons, contributing even more to the noise outside the meeting room.



Given the growth of the club, (which, given the sound situation, is now reaching the workable capacity of the room), it was suggested at the February meeting that perhaps it might be time to at least investigate whether a more optimum meeting site might be available. An *ad hoc* committee was formed and several members volunteered to investigate various options, and formulate some pros and cons for discussion.

It must be emphasized that a change is NOT a done deal, that it is entirely possible that the current location, even with its drawbacks, might be the optimum choice. But the March meeting will feature a report from the committee on the options, for discussion and possible consideration by the membership. Be sure to come to the Hometown Grill and Buffet Tuesday night, March 3, to hear the committee's report, and participate in the discussion. YOUR input, feelings, preferences, criteria and opinions are important. It is important that the club as a whole analyze and choose the best option for all of us.



MARCH CLUB MEETINGS

Tuesday March 3 – VARA Meeting: Hometown Grill and Buffet

The Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc., will hold its normal monthly meeting on **Tuesday, March 3** at the **Hometown Grill and Buffet** just north of Highway 250, 1 block east of I-81 Exit 222 in Staunton. The meal begins at 6:00 pm, the business meeting starts at 7:00 pm. The major topic for discussion will be the possibility of a meeting location change, so all members should try extra-hard to attend and offer their input and opinions.



THERE WILL BE A PROGRAM AFTERWARDS. The program will be by Lenny Vincent, “Getting Started with APRS”, the ham-radio based Automatic Position Reporting System. This will be Part 1 of a two-part program. In this introductory session, Lenny will explain what APRS is, how it works, and explain the benefits of applying APRS to local ham radio activities.

Thursday March 5 – MARA Meeting: Wood Grill

The Massanutten Amateur Radio Association, Inc., will hold its normal monthly meeting on **Thursday, March 5** at the **Wood Grill Buffet at 1711 Reservoir Street in Harrisonburg.** The Dinner starts shortly before 6:30 p.m. the business meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.. All hams and visitors are invited and encouraged to attend.



Wednesday March 11 – PVARC Meeting: Tactical Walls

The Page Valley Amateur Radio Club normal monthly meeting is **Wednesday March 11** at **Tactical Walls, in Shenandoah.** The address is 611 Williams Avenue, Shenandoah VA 22849. Tactical Walls is a manufacturing facility with a nice meeting room that is just east of highway 340 in Shenandoah. Turn east off 340, go about one block and drive through the gate in the fence and around to the door on the right.



MAR 7: VE TEST SESSION

VE Exam Session Schedule for 2020

2020 Volunteer Exam sessions are scheduled for March 7, June 6, September 5, and December 5, 2020.

Test sessions are held at the Woodmen Life Building, 3045 John Wayland Highway (Virginia Route 42), Dayton, Virginia. All license class examinations will be available. Cost is \$15 for any and all exams you wish to take on that day. Bring two forms of photo ID and proof of address.

If you hold a General Class license or above and are interested in becoming an accredited volunteer examiner, contact Gayle Shull at 540-828-2132m or Gerald Nauman at 540-810-7266.

MAR 10: SKYWARN FLOOD CLASS

For Any Registered Skywarn Member:

March 10, 6:30 pm, at Harrisonburg Fire Station, 20 E Gay St

The national Weather Service is holding a local Skywarn Class on Flooding, on Tuesday Evening, March 10, starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Gay Street Fire Station in downtown Harrisonburg.

The course is completely FREE. You must have already completed the Skywarn Basics class and have your assigned Skywarn number to register for this course.

To register, go to: <https://www.weather.gov/lwx/skywarn> and scroll down to the "Flooding" section and click the link for the Harrisonburg class.

If you are not yet a Skywarn volunteer, note that there will be a Basics Class (all you need to get your Skywarn number) held at the Albemarle County Office Building at 401 McIntire Road in Charlottesville on April 15. (Tax Day). You can register now for that class to ensure you reserve your seat. Go to the same website above and look under the "Basic" section.



SKYWARN

UPCOMING CONTESTS & EVENTS

March 7-8: ARRL International DX Contest – SSB Weekend

This contest is a good way to get started on your way to DXCC, or just to collect a pile of QSL cards from a lot of different countries. Several local hams do quite well in this contest, just working with wire antennas and low power (100 watts). Often, David KD9LA works 50, 60, even 70 countries in a single weekend! (His max was 87 countries back when the sunspots were high!) And John W4ZAO routinely works even more. Clint KB4OLM also racks up the country count, as well as his overall score (stations worked times countries contacted).

If you haven't enjoyed the fun of a contest, this is a good one to get started with.

March 21-22: Virginia QSO Party

The Virginia QSO Party is held on the third full weekend in March. This year it will start Saturday March 21 at 10:00 a.m. local time, running through midnight Saturday night, and pick up again on Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. local time and run through 8:00 p.m. local time. The goal is to work as many of the 95 counties and 38 independent cities as possible. Last year, John Keller W4ZAO walked away with the first place plaque in the Single Operator Phone Low-Power category, AND the Highest Number of Cities/Counties contacted, with 119 of the 133 possible. In reality, John got 119 of the 122 possible, since 9 counties had zero or only one ham active in the party.

It costs nothing but a little bit of time to work the contest. The two separate periods even permit you to get some sleep during the contest without hurting your score. Turn on your radio, and start calling.

March 28-29: CQ Work-the-World Prefix Contest: CQ WW WPX

Like the ARRL DX Contest, this one is a fun way to get your feet wet if you are just starting out with contesting. Your score in this contest may be even higher, and your contacts-per-hour will likely be more than the ARRL DX contest, because in this contest, you get points for contacting U.S. stations in addition to foreign ones. Thus, there are more stations to work, especially when the sunspots are low like they are now.

March 29: Vienna Hamfest: Annandale Winterfest

Although this little hamfest had been languishing over the past few years, the Vienna Wireless club promises to have more vendors and a bigger event. The ARRL is holding its 2020 Virginia Section Convention there, and the Northern Virginia AUXCOMM Conference is also scheduled for the event. Current vendors include: RF Connection, WAF Plus (military surplus), Skywarn, KJI Electronics, AMRAD, ARRL QSL Checking, Silver Tip Antennas, Townsend Engraving, ARDEN, G&G Electronics, EHI Company, Girl Scout Cookies, and over 57 tables have already been reserved and paid for.

MARA APRIL MEETING DATE CHANGE

Attention all MARA Members: April Meeting to be held on APRIL 9!

Due to the Wood Grill overbooking the meeting room, the Massanutten Amateur Radio Association's **APRIL MEETING DATE** will be on the **SECOND THURSDAY** of the month. Mark Your Calendar:

The MARA April Meeting date will be APRIL 9.

PUBLIC SERVICE DATES PREVIEW

Massanutten Mountain Trails (MMT) 100-mile footrace: May 16

Bridgewater Lawn Party Parade Support: July 17 & 18

Mountain Mama Bicycle Event: August 1

Valley Veterans Ride for Heroes — September 12

Grindstone 100 Mountain Footrace — September 18-20 — Note Date Change!

Camp Still Meadows Charity Horse Ride — October 2

Washington Area Trail Riders Shenandoah 500 Ride—TBA, but possibly October 1-2

Shenandoah Fall Foliage Bike Festival — October 16-18

GRINDSTONE 100 DATE CHANGE

September 18-20, 2020

The traditional "Triple Play" may become a "Daily Double" in 2020

The Grindstone 100-mile footrace through the George Washington National Forest mountains this year will start on Friday evening, September 18, and continue to Sunday, September 20.



This moves it off the first weekend of October, where it conflicted with the Northern Virginia Trail Riders MMX 500-mile ride, and the Camp Still Meadows Horse Ride. Mark Your Calendars for this important date change!

ITEMS FOR SALE

N3USU: New-on-Spool High Quality Coax Cable, Astron RS-7A, Hallicrafters Radio

Tom DeMott, N3USU, still has his father's Hallicrafters radio from the 1950s, along with spare tubes. He also has 180-feet of RG-214/U available, brand new and still on the spool. He also has an Astron RS-7A power supply. Make Offers!

The RG-214 is 50-ohm coax with silver-coated conductors and double-shield. This is high-quality Mil Spec low-loss radio feed-line cable for VHF and UHF work, and also works great as HF feedline. Tom is asking \$2 per foot for the RG-214 but is somewhat negotiable. He is willing to cut the length of your choice from the spool. If you have any interest, contact Tom DeMott via his cell phone at **301-437-3366**.

N4JGO: Drake Documentation – \$10 for the Entire Set

Bob McCracken N4JGO cleaned out the Drake file drawer and has several pieces of Drake documentation for sale.

Other than the FS-4 Frequency manual, all manuals are third party reprints. Here is a picture of the items. Bob really would like to see it all go at once, so with that in mind \$10.00 takes it all.



As shown

- The Drake Sc-2 2 meter converter booklet
- The Drake T-4XC (with a photo copy)
- The Drake T-4XB Schematic
- The Drake 2-BQ Speaker
- The Drake TR-4
- The Drake FS-4 Frequency Synthesizer

Included are 2 strips of Cable Stickers that correspond to the Drake accessory jacks on the back of the different rigs. Also included are 2 Blue Dial Filters and 1 White Dial backup filter.

Contact Bob at dbcmc@yahoo.com

KE4NRG: Low-Pass Filter

Brian Mays, KE4NRG, is selling a "like new" Barker & Williamson 52-Ohm Low Pass filter model 425. Passes 1.5 through 30 MHz. \$20 Brian is located in Lyndhurst, south of Waynesboro. Contact Brian via email at: m-xtreme@hotmail.com



ITEMS FOR SALE

K3NLT: Liquidation Sale: Open House, Garage Sale, etc. – “Good Stuff Cheap!”

Russ Mumaw, K3NLT is continuing his “open house” or “garage sale” to liquidate his multi-decade collection of ham equipment. He is moving to VMRC, but is not leaving the air. He is setting up a remote operation, but the equipment below is now surplus, and available to the local ham community. If you see something on the list below you might be interested in, you can call him at **540-830-0718** to arrange a personal viewing, sale, negotiation, haggle, or pickup.

OR, you can just drop by his house during one of the next two Saturdays (March 7 and 14) starting around 9:00 a.m. to noon. Prices are negotiable.

Russ lives in Broadway, 540 Freemont Circle. Brief directions are as follows: Coming North on Rte #42, into Broadway, just after crossing the railroad turn right onto Industrial Drive. Continue up the hill to the Pilgrim's Hatchery sign on left and turn right following Industrial Drive, Freemont Circle is on your left. His place is the end house on your right. Use the road for parking anywhere you can.

The garage is where things will be set out on tables, and Russ wants everyone to know that even if the weather outside is below freezing, the garage won't get much below 65 degrees, so don't let the cold weather stop you from this “mini-hamfest fleamarket”.

- Elecraft K-2-100 fully aligned and checked by Elecraft K2 support
- 2 Kenwood TS50S transceivers, professionally re-capped.
- Elecraft KX-1 4 bands (80/75, 40, 30 and 20 meter bands) with antenna tuner, and battery pack installed. Best DX Germany at 2 watts out using internal 9 volt battery. On external 12.6 battery 4 watts+ out.
- Ameritron 500 watt linear amp, original mobile, no remote band switching
- Astron 50 Amp regulated power supply
- LDG 100 watt pro auto tuner
- Dentron 1 KW manual tuner
- Various audio filters
- W9GR DSP III works very well on CW and SSB
- TimeWave DSP 599-ZX
- MFJ Tuner for small magnetic loop antenna/ hard line and copper tubing loops
- Nicely built QCX QRP rig, and other small QRP transceivers
- Touch Paddle keyer
- Hustler masts and resonators for several bands two of each
- Many small parts bagged in small quantities
- Heath kit Audio generators
- Analog and digital multimeters
- Two channel 20 MHz Oscilloscope
- Several Elecraft Test Units



ITEMS FOR SALE

KA4HTC: Atlas and Ten-Tec HF Rigs, Plus One (1) Lot of other vintage gear

Will consider separate offers on Ten-Tec and Atlas but prefer to dispose of remainder in one lot.

If you have any interest contact me. Terms: cash or check only; you pick up in Verona. Gear available for your view any time. Gear is untested, as is. Willing to negotiate reasonable offers.

Contact Norman Scott, Verona, VA, telephone **540-248-0704**.

Atlas 210x Solid State single sideband Transceiver — Bracket included for mobile mounting to transceiver, Manual included

Ten-Tec Delta 520 all-band Transceiver — With Power Supply, Manual included

Pearce-Simpson Gladding 25 — 2-Meter FM Transceiver — With Power Supply; Bracket included for mobile mounting of Transceiver, Manual included, Attached microphone

Tempo S1 Synthesized Hand Held FM Transceivers (2) , — Manual included

Heathkit HM 102 Power Meter — Manual included

MFJ Versa Tuner II — Model MFJ-945B , With built-in SWR meter

Bag of Assorted Coax Connectors, Microphone Connectors, Etc.

DMI Digi-Max Frequency Counter — With Panasonic AC adaptor (needs plug-in adaption), Manual included

Thorotest SWFS2 Field Strength Meter

Antenna Rotor (well-used) CDR antenna rotor control model TR-44R, and Channel-Master model 9510 rotor controller

Astatic Stand Microphone Model No. G

Box of Assorted Mobile Mounting Brackets, Springs, Insulators, Beam Element Connectors, Knife Switches

Box of Assorted Cables with connectors on ends

Box of Assorted Project Boxes, Muffin Fans, Antenna Switch Boxes

Bag of Assorted Fuses

Boxes of Assorted Cable/Wire, Coax, Antenna Wire, Ground Wire

Books

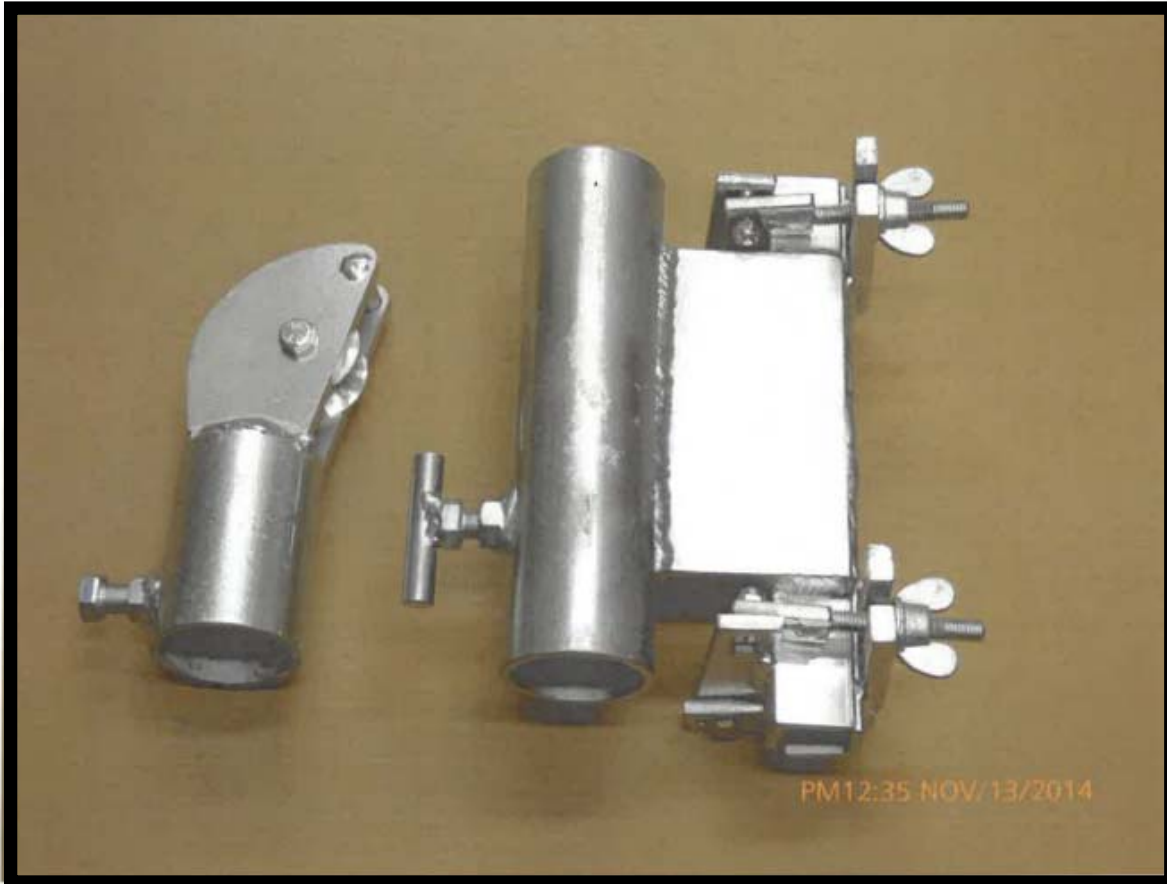
- 1957 *Radio Amateur's Handbook*
- ARRL *Understanding Basic Electronics*
- 2005 ARRL *Now You're Talking*
- ARRL *Antenna Handbook*



Pictures of the Atlas 210X (left) and Ten-Tec Delta 520 (right) are from the internet for illustration purposes only. — Editor

ITEMS FOR SALE

KV4JK: Professional-Quality W9IIX Gin Pole For Sale – New, Never Used



W9IIX GP-81 GIN POLE KIT – New & Never Used

Fits all the popular towers with legs made of tubing sized from 1 inch to 1 1/2 inch o.d. This size range will cover most amateur, citizens band and commercial tower applications. There is an adjustment for the different leg sizes. The kit contains 1 quick release clamp assembly and 1 pulley assembly with the customer furnishing his own 10 foot or longer mast pipe.

GP81 gin pole kit: \$309.00 plus shipping in W9IIX store

I am asking \$275.00 – Location Lynchburg, VA

Call Dave (KV4JK) at 434-942-5357 or email david@davidkscott.com

ITEMS FOR SALE

KV4JK: 19-inch Rack Mounts For Sale



GE Base Station Cabinets 70" Tall & a Dictaphone Cabinet 72" Tall

Standard 19" Rack Rails, Some with power strips - In great condition - Lynchburg, VA
Free to an amateur radio club or charitable cause - \$50 all others

Call Dave (KV4JK) at 434-942-5357 or email david@davidkscott.com

ITEMS FOR SALE

KV4JK: Rohn 45 Missile-Top Tower Section



Rohn 45 Missile Top Tower Section – Good Condition

(Empty Beer Kegs and Audi A4 tires also for sale)

Accommodates 2” Mast – Location: Lynchburg, VA

No bent rungs – galvanizing in good condition

Asking \$ 120.00

Call Dave (KV4JK) at 434-942-5357 or email david@davidkscott.com

DIGITAL CORNER

Getting Started with WINLINK: Nice Reference Guides

If you are thinking about getting started with WinLink, here is a great reference for you to start you on your way to becoming an expert:

https://www.winlink.org/content/winlink_book_knowledge

Here is the link to Winlink's page called " How-to Recipes ".

Good info on Winlink, along with some videos on setting up your equipment.

https://www.winlink.org/content/how_to_recipes



HF Digital Frequency Listing

A Great Frequency Guide for Digital Modes (PSK, RTTY, JT65, JT9, FT8, and FT4) can be found at

<https://www.qsl.net/sv1grb/psk31.htm>

New Shenandoah Valley Google Groups Devoted to WinLink

If you are not yet signed up for shenvalwinlink, send me a request or go directly to googlegroups.io, sign in, then go to the shenvalwinlink group, and sign up there.

David Tanks, AD4TJ
ARES Augusta County Emergency Coordinator

Reminder: Saturday Night Local Yaesu Fusion Net – 145.290 Repeater

Every Saturday night at 8:00 pm. local time, there is a local Yaesu Fusion C4FM net on the 145.290 Repeater, located on Bear Den Mountain. This repeater covers most of the Central Shenandoah Valley, including Augusta, Rockingham, and parts of Shenandoah and Page Counties. If you have a Yaesu digital VHF radio, tune in and join the fun!

The logo for System Fusion. The words "System Fusion" are written in a stylized, italicized font. "System" is in a smaller font size than "Fusion". The text is white with a blue glow effect, set against a dark blue background that has a subtle gradient and a slight shadow effect.

PVARC MEETING MINUTES

PVARC Secretary's Report – February 12, 2020 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President, Bob McKay (KI4VFP) at 7:05 PM at Tactical Walls in Shenandoah. (Thanks to Tim (KM4TGC) and Carrie (KM4WDX) for the donation of the use of the facility)

There were 7 members in attendance.

The Secretary Report was approved. No Treasurer's report was presented.

Old Business:

Morgan reserved the shelter (FFA) for Field Day at Lake Arrowhead, Luray.

Carrie Matter (KM4WDX) assisted Bob McKay (KI4VFP) with updating the club website and its information. A YouTube channel for the club was also started by Carrie Matter (KM4WDX)

Bob McKay (KI4VFP) placed an ad in the local newspaper with club meeting information.

Tim Matter (KM4TGC) set up an antenna and radio at his place of residence, with Mark Hensley (N4YSA) and Gene Frazier's (KJ4HFO) assistance.

Tim Matter (KM4TGC) suggested reaching out to youth to get them interested in the radio hobby. His idea involved holding an outdoor event, possibly at the Greenway in Luray.

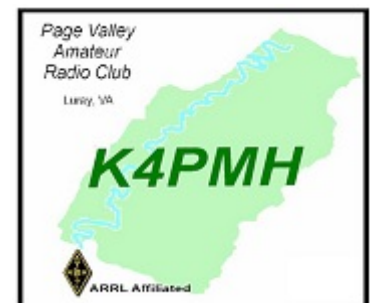
New Business:

Use of the callsign K4PMH at the hospital for Winlink transmissions under Will's (N4WIL) trustee supervision.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM, and was followed by Bob Forrest (W4RMF) presenting the club his antenna slingshot.

Respectfully submitted by:

Gwen Matter (KN4COU),
PVARC Secretary
(gwensmatter21@gmail.com)



MICROWAVE: ANYONE ON 1296 MHz?

I just installed a Yagi antenna for 1296 MHz. I am limited to 10 watts on either FM or SSB. If anyone has 1296 in the Waynesboro/Augusta County area, please let me know so I can test it out.

Thanks,
John Lasher, N3GLZ
n3glz@comcast.net

MARA CORRECTED JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Corrected Report: December 20, 2019, to January 20, 2020

Opening Balance December 21, 2019

\$ 2251.40

Income: Dues	\$ 510.00
50/50 Drawing	\$ 43.00

Total Income:	<u>553.00</u>
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Expenses: Electric December	\$ 22.66
Reimburse David Fordham for new repeater equipment	400.00

Total Expenses:	<u>\$ 422.66</u>
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Balance January 20, 2019

\$ 2,481.74

Submitted by Gerald Nauman KN4FM
MARA Treasurer

MARA FEB TREASURER'S REPORT

January 21 to February 20, 2020

Opening Balance January 21, 2020

\$ 2381.74

Income: Dues \$ 90.00
50/50 Drawing \$ 32.00

Total Income: 122.00

Expenses: Electric January \$ 34.77
State Corporation Commission
Corporate Renewal 25.00

Total Expenses: \$ 59.77

February 20, 2020

\$ 2443.97

Submitted by Gerald Nauman KN4FM
MARA Treasurer

MARA SECRETARY'S REPORT

The MARA February Secretary's Report did not arrive in time for inclusion in this month's Monitor.



VARA MEETING MINUTES

VARA Secretary's Report – February 4, 2020 Meeting

At 7:01 pm the February meeting of VARA, Inc. was brought to order by President David Fordham KD9LA. 38 members and guests were in attendance. The usual introductions were made.

The **Secretary's Minutes** were approved as written in the Monitor.

New members voted in: **KO4AMI Frank Pyanoe, KN3Y Bob Moore, W4KKL Neil Buckingham, and KE4KEW Marty Krupinski.** Welcome, guys!

The **50/50 drawing** for \$22.00 was won by Erika Michaels. A 2nd drawing for a telescoping device (cattle prod?) was won by KN4ILI John Glover; a 3rd drawing for a VMI ledger book was won by AD4TJ David Tanks; a 4th drawing for a (official VARA?) hand towel created by Debbie KB4WPE was won by KK4DQW Susan Lasher.

The **Treasurer's Report** was read and accepted.

ARES report: the next Augusta County ARES® will be on the 13th at 8 pm; Kevin Numbers KC8MTV volunteered to be Net Control. The net will be held on the 145.290 repeater.

Audit Committee: the committee consisted of John Lasher N3GLZ, Fred Castello KF4FC, and Norm Dallura KN4YFI. They examined the books and said everything checked out as it should. Thanks, gentlemen!

Field Day report: committee members: Fred, Norm, and Erika Kancler K4NOV. David noted that there is a problem with the club providing services for the Shenandoah 100 bicycle event due to it being run by a for-profit organization. We may have to hold Field Day at a different location. It is being checked out by the MA-RA committee. If you have an idea for a location, please let any Field Day committee member know.

Dues Waiver: the Board has approved a Dues Waiver for the Shenandoah Fall Foliage Bike Festival; if you put in 4 hours of time into the event, your dues for 2021 will be waived.

The **annual club picnic** is set for August 15, at noon, at the pavilion near the golf club house in Gypsy Hill Park, Staunton. Thanks to Ray Colvin, KE4HVR!

Old business: none.

New business: Kevin brought up the subject of a bigger meeting place; we are outgrowing the present room at the Hometown Grill and Buffet. Should we meet at the Hometown Grill at 5:30 pm on the first Tuesday for the meal, then move to a larger place for the actual meeting? After some discussion, a committee was formed to look into the matter. It consists of: Dave Beebe KN4UEK, Dave Thomas WD30, Kevin KC8MTV, Marty KE4KEW, and Fred (KF4FC)

Announcements:

David AD4TJ brought us up-to-date on upcoming contests.

Next month's program will be on " Getting Started With APRS ".

(continued—)

VARA Secretary's Report – January 14, 2020 Meeting (*continued*)

(from previous page)

Kevin thanked those who are supporting his 145.290 repeater. It is also a WIRES-X node. Saturday nights are for a C4FM digital net. Up to 22 people have checked in!

The MARA group has gotten the 147.315 repeater back on the air at the Great North Mountain radio site. It is running 30 watts into old coax thru recently tuned "cans" and then into an X700 antenna. It is running under a "construction permit" at this time to check on interference with Green Bank or Sugar Grove. The tone is 131.8. There is also a 444.600 repeater there.

Dave WD30 donated a wireless speaker sound system to the club. If someone could donate a speaker stand to go with donation, that would be nice.

David KD9LA reported on the Frostfest, noting that was a well-attended event, with many valley hams in attendance.

Weyers Cave hamfest? David won't be able to organize it this year as he is very busy at work. Maybe 2021? There is an RC (radio control) swap meet in March that we could possibly combine with. Fred KF4FC said he will ask about it.

With no other business to conduct, and no program, we adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David Tanks, AD4TJ, Secretary

WORKED ALL STATES YET?

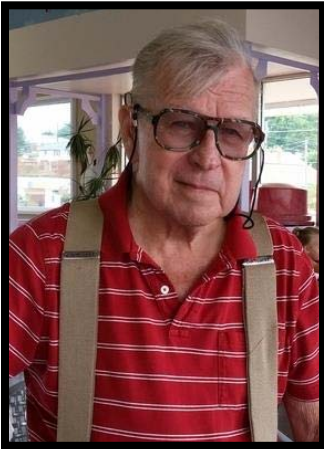
State QSO Parties Are the Place to Start

If you have not yet confirmed two-way contact with all 50 states for your Worked-All-States award, you might be interested in the state QSO Parties.

While most state QSO parties are intended for state residents to contact all counties and cities within their states, you can usually find plenty of stations on the long-distance bands (assuming they are open, of course) looking for contacts!

Coming up in March, we have the North Carolina QSO Party on March 1, the Oklahoma, Idaho, and Wisconsin QSO Parties on March 15 and 16. The Virginia QSO Party will be March 21-22 (see page 4 of this issue). In April and May, there are almost a dozen states you can snag if the conditions are right.

MYSTERY SILENT KEYS



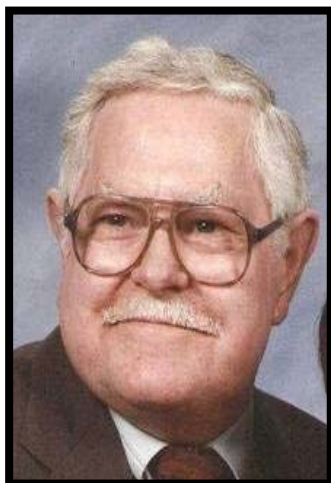
February Mystery SK:

Jack Wine, KC40VC

Jack Wine KC40VC was our February silent key. He passed away October 25, 2016, at age 82. He was affectionately known as “Starman” for the many countless hours he spent gazing through his telescopes and taking breathtaking photos of the heavens. He was born July 5, 1934 and left behind a wife of 61 years, two sons, a brother, and two granddaughters.

He was instrumental in starting several clubs in the area. One was the Staunton Augusta Radio Control club where he flew for many years and brought many new flyers to the hobby.

Also, he helped found the Shenandoah Valley Stargazers in which he was the observatory director in Stokesville and showed many children and adults the stars in the heavens and his love for God’s creations in the skies.



February Mystery SK:

**VARA Member,
Air Force Veteran,
Korean Conflict,
National Guardsman,
Virginia Fone Net
Regular, etc.**

Our March mystery silent key was born March 30, 1935, in Leeville, Mississippi,, and passed away at age 74 on December 10, 2009 at Augusta Health. He served in the United States Air Force, during the Korean Conflict, and upon return served many years with the Delaware National Guard. He was active with the VARA club in Staunton, although he lived in Waynesboro. He also was a member of the Albemarle club in Charlottesville. He was active with the Virginia Fone Net. In 2005, he fell and broke his leg just below his hip, requiring pins and screws, and laying him up for a while. He was survived by his wife Shirley, and two sons, five daughters, and 12 grandchildren, a great-granddaughter, and several other relatives. Remember his call?

MARA Members, Don't Forget: MARA April Meeting Date Change APRIL 9!

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 2019

- March 1: North Carolina QSO Party
- March 1: Page County ARES Net:, 8:00 p.m., 146.625 Repeater
- March 2: Rockingham County ARES Net 8:00 pm (146.55 simplex – first Monday)
- March 3: VARA Club Meeting: Hometown Grill in Staunton (6:00 pm)**
- March 5: MARA Club Meeting: Wood Grill Buffet in Harrisonburg (6:30pm)**
- March 7: VE Examinations – Dayton VA 9:00 am**
- March 7-8: ARRL International DX Contest, SSW Weekend**
- March 7: Fusion Digital 2m Net, 8:00 pm, (145.290 repeater, C4FM digital)
- March 7: Daylight Savings Time Starts March 8, set your clocks ahead before bed!**
- March 8: Page County ARES Net 8:00 pm (146.625)
- March 9: Rockingham County ARES Net 8:00 pm (145.130 repeater)
- March 10: Skywarn Flood Preparedness and Reporting Class (see page 3 of this issue)**
- March 11: PVARC Club Meeting: Tactical Walls, Shenandoah, (7:00 pm)**
- March 12: Augusta County ARES Net 8:00 pm, frequency TBA
- March 13-14: Charlotte (NC) Hamfest
- March 14: Fusion Digital 2m Net 8:00 pm (145.290 repeater), C4FM digital
- March 14-15: South American 10-meter Contest
- March 14-15: Oklahoma QSO Party, Idaho QSO Party, QCWA QSO Party
- March 14: Charleston (WV) Hamfest
- March 15-16: Wisconsin QSO Party
- March 15: Page County ARES Net 8:00 pm. (146.625)
- March 16: Rockingham County ARES Net 8:00 pm. (145.130 repeater)
- March 21-22: Virginia QSO Party**
- March 21: Frederick Maryland “Fredfest” hamfest
- March 21: Fusion Digital 2m Net 8:00 pm (145.290 repeater, C4FM digital)
- March 22: Page County ARES Net 8:00 pm. (146.625)
- March 23: Rockingham County ARES Net 8:00 pm. (145.130 repeater)
- March 28-29: CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB Weekend**
- March 28: Fusion Digital 2m Net 8:00 pm (145.290 repeater, C4FM digital)
- March 29: Vienna Hamfest (Winterfest), Annandale, VA**
- March 29: Page County ARES Net 8:00 pm. (146.625)
- March 30: Rockingham County ARES Net 8:00 pm. (145.130 repeater, C4FM digital)



Advance Notice: Future Items for your Calendar – 2020

Dayton HAMVENTION – May 15-17

BERRYVILLE Hamfest – August 2

VARA Family Picnic – August 15

Grindstone 100 NEW DATE – September 18-20

MASSANUTTEN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, Inc.

President: Bradley Boyd, W4BVB
Vice President: Bob Steere, N1QEQ
Secretary: Chris Shirkey, KI4BAQ
Treasurer: Gerald Nauman, KN4FM
Board (exp 2020): Andrew Pearson, N4RCE
Board (exp 2021): Don Landes, WX4C

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

MARA
PO Box 1882
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, Inc.

President: David Fordham, KD9LA
Vice President: Ellsworth Neff, K4LXG
Secretary: David Tanks, AD4TJ
Treasurer: John Chevalaz, KB2LOZ
Board Member (exp. 2020): Wayne Bowyer, N4EYZ
Board Member (exp 2021): Dave Thomas, W4OD

<http://w4xd.com>

VARA meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Hometown Grill and Buffet off Richmond Road in Staunton, Virginia.

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

Dress is Casual. Visitors are welcome

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

VARA
PO Box 2103
Staunton, VA 24402

PAGE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President: Bob McKay KI4VFP
Vice President: Gene Frazier, KJ4HFO
Secretary: Gary Fischer, K6OZ
Treasurer: Carrie Matter, KM4WDX
Board Member (exp 2020): Tim Matter, KM4TGC
Board Member (exp 2021): Bob Forrest W4RMF

<http://www.k4pmh.org>

PVARC meets the second Wednesday of each month at Tactical Walls, 611 Williams Ave, Shenandoah, Virginia.

The meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

Visitors are always welcome.

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

PVARC
PO Box 245
Luray VA 22835-0245

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Contact the president of your respective club for information on paper copies.

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