



THE JUNKBOX



The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217

February 2008

Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1217

<http://www.taars.us>

WA4VTX Repeaters 146.655/444.300/147.330 PL 131.8 APRS 144.39

Next TAARS Meeting

Our next scheduled TAARS meeting is slated for Thursday, February 21, 2008, at 7:30 at COA building "C" room C109. Our dinner location is the Golden Corral at 6pm.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:29pm by AL, K4VHV.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

Comments on the Christmas party: All were favorable. Zeb noted that the off-brand fruitcake was as good as the Claxton.

Old Business

Al commented on Greg's article on linking the various area repeaters.

Ed, W4RVZ, has been doing some work on 10 and 6 meters.

Al said there has been a lot of digital activity. Herman says that 30 meters is a great band; little activity and pretty quiet.

New Business

Champ, K2IUN, presented the "Warbler system" that he is working on. This will be all the components that he needs for the "Warbler" in one box. He also talked about the 20 and 80 meter antennas that he has built.

As a side note, Champ brought one of his 80 meter loop antennas to the ARES/CERA meeting on February 9th. Very nice construction and he indicated that he has no problem working back to New Jersey.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NC QSO Party
February 24 Starts 1700Z 10 Hours
<http://www.w4nc.com/2008ncqsoparty.html>
QSO Party Software <http://n3fjp.com/>

Virginia QSO Party
March 15th 2008 Starts 1800Z
http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2008_VQP_Main.html
QSO Party Software <http://n3fjp.com/>

Down East Hamfest
Sunday April 6th
Lenior Community College
Kinston NC

Raleigh Hamfest
Saturday April 12th 2008 (changed from Sunday)
NC State Fairgrounds Exposition Center
Raleigh NC
<http://www.rars.org/hamfest/>

TAARS VE Exams
Saturday April 19th 2008
COA
Contact no4y@arrl.net

STATE QSO PARTIES

Upcoming QSO parties offer an afternoon of fun. As you can see in the upcoming events section NC QSO Party and Virginia QSO party are both coming soon. It can be a fun way to pass a weekend or a Sunday afternoon. Forty meters is a great band to work inside either state. Last year I won the NC entry for the Virginia QSO party. To tell the truth I was surprised when the very nice certificate arrived. I didn't put all that much effort into it. It just happened to be a cool weekend that was good to stay inside. I had a lot of fun and worked about 190 stations with far from an elaborate antenna system.

I have to admit I didn't do quite as well with the NC QSO party but I did submit a log. It was still fun and if my memory is correct worked 152 stations.

Software from N3JFP cost 6 dollars and is well worth it. It does the logging and will create all the forms for submission. You can download and purchase all the N3JFP programs for 39 dollars. This includes all the available contest logs and the main logging program AC Log..

73 and have fun
Herman/NO4Y