



# THE JUNKBOX



## The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217

September 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, September 19th, 7:30 at COA building "C" C109. Our dinner location is the Golden Corral at 6PM.

### Minutes from August Meeting

The August TAARS meeting was called to order by President, K4VHV at 7:35 with 10 members present and one guest KI4UOJ Florian Merget. The July minutes were approved as printed. There was no old business. Rick, KC4EEA suggested that the TAARS repeater page be updated to include the 147.330 Hertford repeater. Herman, NO4Y made a motion to purchase 250 feet of RG8X at the Shelby Hamfest, Ron N4WYR seconded the motion and it carried.

A discussion was held on holding a technician class, a general class, and various training activities for all classes. No decision was made but a committee of George, KE4NBR; Ron N4WYR; and Kevin N4OB will make some recommendations at the next club meeting.

Zeb, K4ZVM led a discussion on the Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) and upcoming Merit badge program.

Members present:  
K4VHV, NO4Y, N4OB, N6XNZ, KJ4GDQ, KE4NBR,  
K4ZVM, KC4EEA, N4QLD, K4VHV

Submitted by  
Herman / NO4Y

### Upcoming Events

September 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>: Virginia Beach Hamfest  
October 12<sup>th</sup> Maysville Hamfest. (near Kinston NC)  
October 18<sup>th</sup> TAARS sponsored VE Testing Session  
November 8th CERA Quarterly Meeting

### Repeater News

I'm glad to report all repeaters are functioning normally.  
Herman/NO4Y

### CERA NEWS

The new CERA club call has been issued. The call is KJ4GCZ. We will be applying for a vanity call very soon. I suspect it will be a 2X2. As soon as it is finalized the repeater call will change from KB4TOH to the new club call. Tom WB1CZX, Herman NO4Y, and David KE4MIZ are tasked with selecting the new call.

### Shelby Hamfest

On Friday August 29<sup>th</sup> five of us made a journey to the Shelby Hamfest. This year Herman NO4Y, Al K4VHV, Kevin N4OB, Mike KB4TOH, and Bernie WA4MOK. I'm glad to report after early rumors about the Shelby Hamfest being cancelled it was well worth attending. The Hamfest moved from its previous location at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds to a new location in Dallas NC. This was a move of about 20 miles but the new location is wonderful and I understand that move improvements to the location are scheduled for next year. I can't say I spent a lot of money but I sure had a good time. I saw some old friends, Kevin, KA4NWS former TAARS member and Harry K4UOR who is now living in Shelby NC just to name a couple.

Herman / NO4Y

### What Lousy Bands

Wow the HF bands are the pits! On Saturday I worked a few stations in the WAE DX contest. The hi band contact opportunities were limited to twenty meters. Signals were really not as bad as you might think between here and Europe and I managed to work six new counties. It was a good way to pass a few hours on a Saturday and Sunday.

As of Thursday, September 4, there have been 46 continuous days with no spots. That is the seventh longest period of no spots, looking back over 150 years to the mid-19th century. It's got to get better!

Herman/NO4Y