



THE JUNKBOX



The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217

September 2006

Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1217

<http://www.taars.us>

WA4VTX Repeaters 146.655/444.300 PL 131.8 APRS 144.39

Next TAARS Meeting

Our next scheduled TAARS meeting is slated for Thursday, September 21st, 7:30 at COA. Our dinner location is the Golden Corral at 6PM.

We're Back! Take note this months meeting is back in "C" building. Room C109.

Minutes from August Meeting

Al, K4VHV called the meeting to order at 7:37 there were 8 members present. A Motion was made and passed to accept the July minutes as printed. A discussion was held on upcoming Virginia Beach Hamfest and other area Hamfest. Zeb, K4ZVM asked about interest in setting up a station for citizens night out. No decision was made. He also discussed a request from the Rotary Club for a presentation on amateur radio during their morning and evening meeting. Zeb will put something together and ask George, KE4NBR for assistance as needed. It was decided to ask the people at Project Lifesaving to do a presentation for one of our meetings. Kerry, KD4CEB gave an overview of the recent Columbia meeting. We discussed the Incident command system and members were encouraged to take the online course and test. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25

2006 Dues

2006 TAARS dues were collected in June. If you haven't paid your dues please do. Dues are \$30.00 plus \$2.00 for additional family members. You can mail your check to:

TAARS
P.O Box 1217
Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1217

Upcoming Events

TAARS testing session Saturday October 21, 2006
9 AM at COA
need information contact Herman, NO4Y
252 338 1891 or no4y@arrl.net

Repeater News

After hearing several repeater conversations it seemed the repeater receive sensitivity had degraded. I began talking to users and they had noticed it also. Al, K4VHV and I made a trip out to the site to look for a problem. Our thinking was perhaps the VHF preamp, a jumper or cavity tuning. After checking all the likely culprits and finding no problems it left the antenna. We hooked an swr meter to the antenna and the SWR looked fine. During this test we noticed very low output on the VHF repeater. The VHF transmitter amplifier was the culprit. Not only did it have no output it was creating a really bad spur on or near the input frequency.

The amplifier was removed and returned to the manufacturer for repair. It should return this week.

Herman/NO4Y

HT Donation

On Saturday afternoon K4VHV and I were chatting on the repeater. Jim WX4TV dropped in for a moment. He was in the process of carrying a load of household items to Kings Daughters Charity. He offered an ICOM W32A dual band HT to the club. He is leaving the county for missionary work. I gladly accepted it and George KE4NBR retrieved it for us. We can use it for emergencies or for a loan to help a new technician get on the air. It was very thoughtful of Jim and we appreciate it very much

Herman/NO4Y

Future Contest

One of my favorite contest is right around the corner. It's the California QSO Party. It takes place the 7th and 8th of October. With a little cooperation from the band gods this can be an outstanding event. There is free software available, you can download it along with the rules visit <http://www.cqp.org/>

Herman/NO4Y

Weather Data

I'm glad to announce the weather station in Columbia is reporting data once again. You can view this data on the internet by visiting <http://taars.us/page12.htm> and choosing the KB4TOH-3 Weather report.

Herman/NO4Y

