



# THE JUNKBOX



## The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217

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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, November 16th, 7:30 at COA building "C" C109. Our dinner location is the Golden Corral at 6PM.

### Minutes from October Meeting

The meeting was called to order by our President Ron, N4WYR at 7:40 PM. There were 9 members present. The minutes for September were approved as published. Zeb, K4ZVM reported on the amateur radio presentations he did for the Rotary meetings. A discussion took place on the upcoming Boy Scout Merit Badge program, the JOTA, and the new 500 KHZ experimental band.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm  
Herman/NO4Y

### From the President

Hello all. I hope to see all of you at dinner before the meeting, and at the meeting. We need to discuss what, if anything, we are going to do for a Christmas dinner.

Ron/N4WYR

### Upcoming Events

CERA Meeting February 10, 2007  
TAARS Testing Session January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007

### Repeater News

The audio levels on the VHF link to Columbia were adjusted this week, I think you will find it much more pleasant to listen to the Wednesday evening net.

Coming soon to Hertford, WA4VTX on 147.330 output and 147.930 input with a PL tone of 131.8. The antenna is located on Greg's business tower at 110 feet. We are hoping this repeater will be operational within the next week to 10 days, please keep checking the frequency. The actual repeater is on loan from CERA, the antenna, coax and tower space furnished by Greg, N4QLD. Thanks to all that have worked on this project especially Mike, KB4TOH for his expertise and support.

Herman/NO4Y

### CERA Meeting

Columbia's regularly scheduled quarterly meeting took place on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup>. There were 18 members present. TAARS members attending were K4VHV, KA2TQY, NO4Y, N4QLD W4UEB and WA1TSS. Katina, KG4SPP, and Al, KI4BQI provided lunch for the group. A program devoted to the NTS was presented by W4DNA, Dave Roy from Goldsboro, NC. We all enjoyed his presentation very much.

### Around The Bands

Well I was just sitting here going over the FD Results and it looks like you guys did very well. We finished 10<sup>th</sup> overall in NC and 1<sup>st</sup> in NC in 3A and 56<sup>th</sup> in the country. Congratulations to all those who came out and participated for a job well done. Unfortunately I was in Wyoming this year and couldn't help out but I look forward to being there next year. And speaking of next year, it's only 3 more months until the NC QSO Party. which is typically the last weekend in February. I haven't heard or seen any rules changes yet, but I hope they do reconsider the hours of operating. Go get ready to join in this year.

The past month has been quite interesting for me. The log shows several new DX entry's for me. Mostly 15 meters. The band has, for the most part, been very good. As a matter of fact, I'm sitting here listening to JA5CTW and hoping his signal builds a little bit. There was even a very brief 6 meter opening into the gulf coast states that came along with a storm system moving up from that area.

But the most exciting stuff has been below 500khz. At last months meeting, Al, K4VHV mentioned about the experimental license that was issued for amateur radio around 500khz. Then Zeb, K4ZVM talked about beacons and stuff that are also in that area. So I came home and started listening. And now, three weeks later, I have heard almost 40 NDB(non-directional beacons) beacons from airports in 4 country's and 9 states. The furthest was probably Galveston TX in the US and Puerto Rico and the Dom. Republic for countries. By the time you read this, I hope to have a new page up on the club website that you can take a look at. Herman, NO4Y has even joined in the chase and we've compared notes on several occasions.

So just remember, you can't here any of this unless you fire up that rig. NDB... hmmm, that reminds we of when I first got

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interested in radios. It was true then and is still true today. This  
stuff is fun.