



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 146.655/444.300/147.330 PL 131.8 APRS 144.39

Next TAARS Meeting

Our next scheduled TAARS meeting is slated for Thursday, August 16th, at 7:30 at COA building "C" C109. Our dinner location is the Golden Corral at 6pm.

Minutes from July Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Al, K4VHV. The minutes of the previous meeting (read by Greg, N4QLD), were accepted. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Field Day Review: The cook gets a well done from the entire Field Day crew. It was noted that a first aid kit should be available. Ron noted that it was good sleeping weather. Al said that Kevin and Gene did a great job on CW. It was mentioned that the bands were not in good condition. Zeb was able to get all the ropes over the light poles on the first shot. All the old timers agreed that it was the best weather ever for Field Day (including sleeping).

The Perquimans County ARES plan, published in the last Newsletter, received favorable comments.

A motion was made by George and seconded by Zeb to order 20 TAARS hats from Greg to be sold for \$10. The motion carried.

On a technical note, Ron noted that a lawn edger works well for burying radials.

A class for the Technician Class license was discussed. It would start in October and finish by Thanksgiving. Zeb will do the PR and have more info at the next meeting at which time plans for the class will be finalized.

Gov. Easley has signed the NC Antenna Bill requiring Counties and Cities to reasonably accommodate amateur radio communications. The Governor has also designated the week of January 17 – 24 as Amateur appreciation Week.

Hurricane Awareness Day will be held August 10th at the Museum of the Albemarle (see article).

Extra T-shirts from various Field Days and Tar Wheel Century events were randomly distributed by George.

Al's comments on the bands: 6m was OK; 10m had a couple of good days; 18m was only good at sunset; and 20m had few DX stations on. His TA33 with the new element for the WARC

bands has been installed and tuned with the SWR flat on all bands.

Zeb visited Tar Heel Antenna and was impressed with their shop.

George said that we have to think about fundraisers.

In the same vein, Al said that although we voted to keep the phone patch, we should think about keeping it because of the cost and its use (some party apparently used the patch instead of a cell phone).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43pm.

Hurricane Awareness Day

TAARS was represented by three tables at the Museum of the Albemarle. This was a Hurricane Awareness Day. Kerry set up a laptop with wifilinks, two VHF setups with portable power supplies, and a weather instrument. Also a Go Kit with sleeping gear.

Champ had his normal station in a box, aka FIELD RADIO SHACK.

75meterSSB,UHF,VHF, FM. Because of the structure of the museum outside ceiling, it was difficult to use the HF. The repeaters worked well.

Cynthia had a wealth of information on her table, and a sign promoting the fall class for technician. Since no date has been decided, she took the names of a family with two sons which were really interested. She will email them this information when the class is finalized. Also supplied lolipops. That is a good attention getter.

Visitors included Herman, which brought the banner, and Zak. Nice to see them.

Congratulations!!!

Congratulations go to Gene Cimmings, WB4KZW, who worked and confirmed all 3077 US Counties and was awarded Certificate #1155 dated 8/6/07. This is quite an achievement as Gene did this in only 18 months at the bottom of the sunspot cycle. (ed; OK, so how much time did you have to spend on the radio and what times of the day and night?)