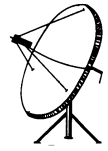




# THE JUNKBOX



## The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217  
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

December 2016

<http://www.taars.us>  
<https://www.facebook.com/TheAlbemarleAmateurRadioSociety>  
WA4VTX Repeaters 146.655 / 444.300 / 147.330 PL 131.8 \*\*APRS 144.39 (off air)

### Next TAARS Meeting

Our **January** TAARS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 19th, 2017, 7:30 PM at the COA Building "c" C109. Our dinner location is the Golden Coral at 6:00 PM.

### Minutes

Al, K4VHV called the meeting to order at 7:30 with 16 members present.

The minutes from the October meeting were approved with one correction noted ( august meeting should be changed to September).

Treasurers report was presented by Herman, NO4Y and accepted.

### Old Business

- Christmas Party is now scheduled for December 14 at Golden Corral the time is 6:30.
- Kerry, KD4CEB gave a report on the Makers Fair held Saturday Nov. 19th at Southgate Mall. Suggestions included avoiding conflicts with other activities, a CW demonstration, and setup inside rather than outside.

### New Business

- There was a discussion held on perhaps helping the Boy Scouts with merit badges next fall.
- Herman, NO4Y announced a testing session on January 21, 2017.
- Al and other members commented on what a great job Steve, KU4BY had done on the newsletter.

### Attendance

Skruff K4SDL, Joe K4EIT, Charlie KA2GXJ, Steve K1RLU, Tom WB1CZX, Dave AJ4NV, Tim N9FNI, Herman NO4Y, Ronnie K4VRI, Kerry KD4CEB, Terry WB4FXD, Mike KB4TOH, William

WB4YNF, Robert KW4CO, Ron N4WYR AND Al K4VYV

Meeting was adjourned at 8PM and turned over to Steve Kelly, K1RUL who gave an outstanding presentation on propagation, antennas, and real life experience during his military career as well as amateur radio experience.

### Upcoming Events

- TARRS Annual Christmas Party at Golden Coral on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> 2016 @ 6:30 PM.
- VE Testing Session - 21 January, 9am. is scheduled at COA. Contact Herman, NO4Y for details.

### SKYWARN Recognition Day Webinar

The 18th SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) will be held December 3, 2016 from 0000UTC to 2400UTC. SKYWARN TM Recognition Day was developed in 1999 by the National Weather Service and the American Radio Relay League. It celebrates the contributions that SKYWARN volunteers make to the NWS mission, the protection of life and property. Amateur radio operators comprise a large percentage of the SKYWARN volunteers across the country. The Amateur radio operators also provide vital communication between the NWS and emergency management if normal communications become inoperative. During the SKYWARN Special Event operators will visit NWS offices and contact other radio operators across the world.

This year, in the week before SRD 2016, there will be a webinar that covers the basics of the event, how to participate, and a few changes that are in store for 2016. The webinar will be November 29 at 8pm ET.



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As with all ARRL webinars it will be recorded and posted to the ARRL YouTube channel afterward.

### **Thumbnet**

The club received an e-mail in early December from a Wade VanLandingham who manages a non-profit organization called Thumbnet which utilized mini SDR Receivers.

He describes Thumbnet as follows:

*“ThumbNet was born to encourage students around the world to look up at the stars and to give them a chance to feel that they are part of something larger. The hardware to track and monitor radio signals from satellites in orbit is donated to the schools by ThumbNet, and with over 225 volunteer groups in more than 72 countries, we're having an immediate and positive effect on the lives of hundreds of students around the globe!”*

If you'd like to learn more about Thumbnet, you can browse over to their site which is located at <http://www.thumbsat.com/thumbnet> or <http://www.nongles.com/>.

If you have an idea for the newsletter or would like to submit your own article, send an email to [ku4by@arrl.net](mailto:ku4by@arrl.net).