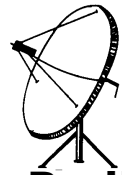




THE JUNKBOX



The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

September 2014

<http://www.taars.us>
<https://www.facebook.com/TheAlbemarleAmateurRadioSociety>
WA4VTX Repeaters 146.655 / 444.300 / 147.330 PL 131.8 APRS 144.39

Next TAARS Meeting

Our next TAARS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 18th, 2014, 7:30 PM at the COA Building "c" C109. Our dinner location is the Golden Coral at 6:00 PM.

Minutes

The club vice president, Ron N4WYR, called the meeting to order at 7:40PM.

The minutes of the previous meeting, July 2014, were approved.

Treasurer's report was reviewed, and approved.

Two visitors were present, Jason Talman and Wm Burden, WB4YNE.

Old Business

- HR-4969 and ARRL suggested actions.

New Business

- Club to get table for VA Beach Hamfest.
- Digital Thursdays to resume in September / October, with initial sessions for RTTY and macros.
- Addition of Sprint contests for club members.

Attendance

Ron Thomas, N4WYR; Albert Ryder, KI4BQI; Katina Ryder, KG4SPP; Gene Cummings, WB4KZW; Stewart Braunagel, KM4APN; Tom Ponte, WB1CZX; Tom Wilson, N8GUN; Steve Kelly, K1RLU; Herman Cox, NO4Y; Terry Simonds, WB4FXD; Joe Wright, W4UEB; Dean Patsel, AK4TW; Mike Cohoon, KB4TOH; Joe Wallace, K4EIT.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn at approximately 8:30 PM.

Joe, K4EIT, presented the ARRL QST project for DVB-T USB receivers.

Upcoming events:

by Herman, NO4Y:

September 27th CQ World Wide DX RTTY Contest.
(a favorite mode of the TAARS digital sessions)

October 4th California QSO Party (endorsed by NO4Y!)

October 18th TAARS sponsored Testing session at COA

October 25th CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest

TAARS sponsored VE testing Session is on October 18th at COA, contact Herman, NO4Y.

VA Beach Hamfest:

by Herman, NO4Y:

In case you were unable to attend, here is a short report on the Virginia Beach Hamfest. TAARS was very well represented. I suspect we had as many as 10 members present that were scattered around looking for bargains. I think everyone found a few. It was a good chance to pick up the special connector or antenna component you just had to have. I found a few treasures myself. Hamfests are a wonderful time to renew friendships that have slipped away and perhaps make a new one. I did both. I'm glad TAARS members took the time to support it and I look forward to next year.

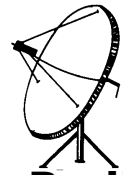
TAARS Website:

by Herman, NO4Y:

TAARS website is a great resource for the contest calendar. Just click on contest in the left column and take a look at the WA7BNM calendar. I mentioned



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the California QSO Party since it's the best know QSO party in the county. They give nice prizes and do a lot to promote it. I haven't worked it in quite a few years but several years ago George and I both won T-Shirts for high scores in NC. QSO parties are a great opportunity to find that state you are having problems getting confirmed, enjoy them and let us know how you did!

DVB-T USB Receivers

by Joe, K4EIT:

DVB-T receivers, as demonstrated at the August TAARS meeting, are an inexpensive implementation of an SDR (Software Defined Radio). These devices provide an extremely wide band receiver for a great price. The heart of the receiver is not found on the DVB-T USB device, but actually located in software running on the PC. Replacing the complexities of a receiver with software has been standard in industry for several years. This provides a receiver that can be easily modified with software, normally for little to no additional cost, and the only true limits are the sampling rate and the received signal bandwidth.

Looking for a winter project? Why not try out one of the DVB-T receiver projects easily found on a Google search, ARRL, or one of the TAARS members already using DVB-T receivers. During our August meeting we demonstrated the receiver program SDR# (<http://sdrsharp.com>) and the aircraft telemetry receiver program ADS-B (the decoder is ADSB# included with SDR#), additional details at (<http://www.sprut.de/electronic/pic/projekte/adsb>).

The receivers can be found in the ARRL QST article, the source for inspiration for this project. Also, on Ebay/Internet. Look for RTL-SDR Realtek RTL2832U devices, and refer to this article for more specifics (<http://www.flightradar24.com/dvbt-stick>). WARNING! Not all DVB-T devices are created

equal. Some have different sampling rates, receiver bandwidths, etc. Pay close attention to the devices FlightRadar24 article.

Your article could be here!

Yep, you guessed it.. YOU could write an article to fill this blank space. The best part, no cost to you.. just a little time. Your reward?? Good question, the feeling of being a contributor to the TAARS Newsletter, what more could one ask for?

73!

The editor. :)