



THE JUNKBOX



The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217

June 2005

Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1217

<http://www.taars.us>

WA4VTX Repeaters 146.655/444.300 PL 131.8 Packet 145.710

Minutes From May 2005 TAARS Meeting

The May TAARS meeting was called to order at 19:40 by Pres. Ron N4WYR followed by a round of self-introductions. The April minutes were read and approved following a motion by Al, K4VHV and a second by Gary, WA1TSS. The treasurer's report was also and there was a balance of \$2676.49.

Field Day 2005 led the business session and Zeb, K4ZVM advised he was working on acquiring the permissions for use of Northeastern H. S. Instead of verbal permission as has been done in the past, forms must now be filled out to obtain permission but he did not see a problem. It was also discussed about the need for an advance of funds to pay for some items needed for FD up front. Following a motion by Al, K4VHV and a second by Ed, KG4QMI, it was approved to appropriate \$250 for this purpose. There was some discussion as to equipment like radios and antennas that would be needed and also that we may try wireless networking to eliminate running CAT-5 cables to each station. A list of materials needed based on previous years needs will be placed in the June 2005 newsletter.

The nominating committee then presented it's slate of officers for the coming year 2005-2006. Pres. Ron, N4WYR: V-Pres. Al, K4VHV: Sec. Herman, NO4Y and Treas. George, KE4NBR. Following a motion by Ed, KG4QMI and a second by Gary, WA1TSS the officers were elected by acclamation.

It was mentioned that the new fee for dues is \$30 dollars a year (+ \$2 for each additional family member) and that there are no longer two sets of dues since the merger of TAARS and PARK and the dues are still due in June.

A brief report on the recent Columbia Area 1-2 meeting was given and around August 17 2005 there will be an Area training exercise held in Dare and Currituck. More details will be forthcoming.

Al, K4VHV gave an update on the status of amateur satellites at this time. The International Space Station continues to be the main VHF digital sat and AO-51, AO-27 and the new Indian sat, HAMSAT are the three main voice satellites available at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:45. Ed/

Next TAARS Meeting

Our next scheduled TAARS meeting is slated for Thursday, June 16, 2005 7:30 at COA. Our dinner location is the Virginia City Buffet and Restaurant located near Office Max on Halstead Blvd. at 6PM.

CLUB DUES

In case you missed it in earlier editions of the JUNKBOX, PARK or repeater group has merged with TAARS. TAARS now is the only Amateur Radio Club in the area. TAARS dues were increased to \$30 dollars a member and \$2 dollars for additional family members. This new dues structure is to commence at our June meeting. Repeater dues are no more! TAARS is responsible for everything.

Herman, NO4Y

TAARS SPONSORED TESTING SESSION

The next TAARS Amateur Radio test session will be held July 23rd, 2005 at 0900 local at the College of the Albemarle, room 110. Also, we are always looking for more volunteer examiners. Presently we have four active Volunteer Examiners in the club; Herman NO4Y, Ed KG4QMI, Ron N4WYR and Dave N1DP. If you are interested in taking a test or becoming an examiner please contact Dave N1DP at 252-336-4602 or n1dp@arrl.net.



Herman, NO4Y and Ron N4WYR correcting tests at the last TAARS test session

Around The Bands

Wow. What a difference a month makes. Just about a month ago, 6meters was showing signs of taking off. Boy, did it. Since our last newsletter I've made over 300 contacts most of which have been on 6m. Many new grids were worked both close to home as well as out west and I picked up 2 new states on 6m, OR and UT, leaving me only WY.....oooppps stand-by. As I was saying I only need WY for WAS-Lower 48.

This is 2 hours later and I've worked a bunch of FL, MS, OK, and AR contacts as the band just went wide-open while I'm sitting here typing. Not a great opening but it'll do. While I've managed some new states and grids, I've also managed a few new countries like Trinidad, Suriname and Martinique on 6m.

HF has been fun also, but not as many contacts. I still need AK on 80m to finish my 5-Band WAS but Australia and Trinidad on 10m, Trinidad on 40 and Switzerland on 20m made the month interesting, as they were all new countries on those bands.

Two other bits of news. A special thanks to Herman, NO4Y for being my first-ever CW contact. Although using a keyboard due to physical limitations, it was fun nonetheless and with "a lot" of practice, who knows. Relax Heywood, I'll never be a threat. Hi. And maybe by the time this gets to you, you may notice a new call sign on the air. If all goes well, gone will be KG4QMI replaced by W4RVZ.

So this weekend (the 11-12) is the ARRL VHF contest and in two more weeks (25-26) it's Field Day. It sure would be nice to see some of you come out and take a turn or two at the Mic. 24 hours is a long time and some of these guys aren't as young as they used to be. Seriously, come on out to Northeastern High School and jump right in. And stop by Friday around 6pm when we start setting up. C U there. *Ed/KG4QMI*

Field Day 2005

Once again it's time for our big event of the year. Field Day. If you haven't attended a TAARS FD makes this your first. If you have I'm sure you will want to come out again this year and show your support. Field day is geared to both newcomers to amateur radio as well as seasoned operators.

No mater what your schedule you can find a few hours to participate in field day over the 24 hour period. We will be at Northeastern High Athletic Complex on Friday evening for setup and back again Saturday morning at 9:30. The contest runs a period of 24 hours and the site will be manned the entire time. Bring your family for or TAARS field day dinner on Saturday afternoon, all are invited.

It takes a lot of hard work to make field day a success. Your help in setting up, tearing down, cooking, logging, and operating make it a fun event.

Donations of equipment for FD use probably total \$10,000 dollars or more. Thanks to all that make those donations for every ones use.

Herman, NO4Y

The Official TAARS Field Day 2005 Planner

What: Amateur Radio Field Day 2005

When: June 25-26, 2005

Times: Setup #1: Friday, June 24, 1800 local
Breakfast Saturday, June 25, 0800 local
Setup continues: 0915 local until noon or completion
Begin operation: 1400 local
Suspend operations: 1830 local for dinner
Breakfast: Sunday 0700 local

Who: Everyone! New hams, Old Hams, Wannabe Hams!!

Duties:

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Permissions: | Zeb, K4ZVM |
| Computer networking: | Greg, N4QLD |
| Food & Drink | George, KE4NBR |
| Generator: | Herman NO4Y |
| Advertisement: | Dave, N1DP |
| Antennas ect. | Al, K4VHV |

Complete FD 2005 rules available @
<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/>

More information to follow at our website www.taars.us



Dave, N1DP and Heywood, AI4DW at Field Day 2004.

Last year we had 1499 contacts. With 3 HF stations and a 6 meter station.

See you at the June TAARS Meeting,

73 Herman, NO4Y