



# THE JUNKBOX



## The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217

February 2009

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, February 19, 2009, at 7:30 at COA building "C" room C109. Our dinner location is the Golden Corral at 6pm.

### **Minutes**

The January meeting was called to order at 7:36 by President Al, K4VHV. After calling the meeting to order, Al recognized a visitor to our meeting; Eric, N8XT.

The minutes of the previous meeting and treasurer's report were accepted. Al noted that there would be a VE test session Saturday morning. He also noted other upcoming events including; Frost Fest (February 7), Columbia Emergency Repeater Association (February 14) and the North Carolina QSO Party (March 1).

### **Old Business**

Herman said that the autopatch on the 146.655 machine is gone.

### **New Business**

#### **Skywarn Training**

Herman said that Steve Crow, KG4PEQ, from Wakefield Skywarn would come down for net control training. This would take about three hours and would include some spotter training. The three choices for training were March 7, March 21 and March 14 in that order.

#### **Auction**

Cynthia, KG4SPH, suggested that we might want to have an auction or tag sale of ham radio "stuff" to raise some money for the club. (not that we would have anything we would ever want to get rid of – ed).

#### **Perquimans County Radio Club**

Tom noted that there is a new club in Perquimans County for the purpose of getting a call sign for the County EOC in Hertford.

#### **ARRL Affiliation**

Al said that this item was still on his agenda and asked Tom to get to the ARRL and find out what we needed to do to get our club affiliated with the League.

#### **Digital TV Conversion**

Al talked about the upcoming conversion of broadcast television to a digital format.

Members attending the meeting included; Tom, WB1CZX; Dave, N6XNZ; Ed, KI4FHB; Jim, KJ4FIN; Al, K4VHV; Eric, N8XT; Ron, N4WYR; Rick, KC4EEA; Edgar, N4YF; Zeb, K4ZVM; Herman, NO4Y; George, KE4NBR; Champ, K2IUN; and Cynthia, KG4SPH.

### **Area 1 and 2 ARES Meeting**

The quarterly meeting of ARES areas 1 and 2 was held Saturday, February 14 at the Golden Skillet in Plymouth. Doug, N4HAJ, gave a presentation on the Down East UHF Repeater Linking System. This is a system of nine repeaters covering 7900 square miles that Doug owns and maintains. This group of repeaters can, in turn be linked to the Raleigh System of eleven repeaters and the Coastal System for a total of 22 repeaters covering 23,000 square miles. More information can be found at [www.carolina440.net](http://www.carolina440.net).

### **Columbia Emergency Repeater Association Meeting**

CERA had its quarterly meeting following the ARES meeting. Items discussed included a backup repeater that could be programmed to replace any repeater in the system and linking with the Down East UHF Repeater Linking System.

Elections were held with the following people elected: Tom, WB1CZX, President; Kerry, KD4CEB, Vice President; and Jo Ann, KC4PTA Secretary/Treasurer.

### **Perquimans County Radio Club**

The club has its new vanity call; NX4PC.