



THE JUNKBOX



The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217

May 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, May 21, 2009, at 7:30 at COA building "C" room C109. Our dinner location is the Golden Corral at 6pm.

Minutes

The April meeting was called to order by Vice President, N4WYR at 7:40 PM. There were 11 member present.

The March minutes were approved as printed.

NO4Y gave a Treasures report and it was approved as presented.

A discussion was held on the upcoming TARWHEEL Century Bike Event. We have 12 people signed up to participate. NO4Y will send out maps as they become available.

KJ4FIN talked about our SKYWARN program and how the recent weather events had gone. We are looking for more hams to check in. Many suggestions were made on when to hold our SKYWARN training nets. No final decision was made.

A discussion was held on field day. K4ZVM has already started making arrangements for the NHS athletic complex. More discussion will take place at our May meeting.

It was mentioned that our next meeting was election of officers.

A short discussion was held on effect of EMI as pertained to communications.

Zeb, K4ZVM gave a wonderful presentation on the Baptist Emergency Amateur Radio Service for the April program.

Members Present:

NO4Y, KD4IJA, KC4EEA, W4UEB, N4QLD, AJ4NV, KJ4FIN, N4WYR, KG4SPP, KI4BZI, K4ZVM

Herman/NO4Y

SKYWARN

A number of changes have occurred in a short time since we (TAARS) have taken the SKYWARN Net Control Training,

back in **March**. Overall these changes have made the running of a SKYWARN net simpler. Various net scripts that were used for seasonal weather changes, or for severity of the weather event or for training have been reduced to a single, much easier to read, Universal Net Script for all activations, along with a simplified Training Net script.

In addition to more simplified scripts, paper reporting to Wakefield SKYWARN has been replaced with on-line reporting.

Jim, KJ4FIN will go over these changes at the TAARS meeting on **May 21, 2009**.

There are still openings for the SKYWARN Basic Spotter Class in Edenton on **June 2, 2009**. Please see details below:

SKYWARN Basic Spotter Class - Edenton, North Carolina

When: Tuesday, June 2, 6pm – 9pm

Where: Chowan County Public Safety Center, 305 W. Freemason St., Edenton, North Carolina ([map](#))

Description: For more information or to register, contact Doug Belch via e-mail, doug.belch@ncmail.net, or call [252-482-3155](tel:252-482-3155)

Upcoming Events

June 21st TAARS meeting and officer election

June 27th & 28th Field Day Weekend

July 18th TAARS sponsored VE testing session

Repeater Information

We recently discovered the UHF side of the top (receive) dual band antenna has all but died. The 444.300 receiver performance is very poor. We have an antenna for a replacement but still need to find a climber to install it. I'm hoping that it will be resolved in the next three or 4 weeks.

Greg N4QLD has been working on a weather radio for emergency repeater warnings in our area. Preliminary testing is good we just have a few controller issues to work out.

EMCOMMS

Just when you think you have a really state-of-the-art Emergency Operations Center, along comes Flagler County, Florida. Go to <http://www.flagleremergency.com> . Scroll down and take a look at their EOC.

Editor's Note

Does anyone have an old Fahnestock clip hanging around? They make a good holder for Allen wrenches; especially if you want to keep one with a piece of equipment. I could use one.

Columbia Emergency Repeater Association

The quarterly meeting of CERA was held Saturday, May 9th. At the meeting, a motion was passed to pursue buying a spare UHF repeater compatible with our existing equipment. It was felt that with hurricane season approaching, a backup is necessary since the Columbia machine is the heart of the backbone. We will also be pursuing a backup VHF repeater.