



THE JUNKBOX



The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217

August 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, AUGUST 20TH, 7:30 at COA building "C" C109. Our dinner location is the Golden Corral at 6PM.

Minutes from July 16, 2009 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by past President Albert K4VHV, standing in for President Ron, N4WYR.

The Treasurer reported the monthly activity, principally related to Field Day.

The minutes of the previous meeting and the treasurer's report were approved.

Old Business

A general discussion took place on the success of this year's Field Day. Comments were made on the number of participants being greater than previous years, a "super" crowd in attendance for dinner, a special thanks to Gene WB4KZW for his CW work, and special thanks repeated to all as noted in the July Junkbox, and again to all who participated in set up, food preparation, and packing up. Additional thanks also to: Herman NO4Y for the weather
Rick KC4EEA for the pictures
Zeb K4CVM for the publicity

The generator performed well and quietly, and has been serviced for storage.

Antenna work on the UHF Repeater is postponed for now and will be more economical if combined with other work requiring a climber in the near future.

New Business

3 extra Field Day 2009 T shirts, large size, are available Contact Herman NO4Y.

Samples of weather reports that we receive from SKYWARN will be sent to members to encourage more spotter participation or simply more observation of weather during our SKYWARN activations.

The new group photo taken at Field Day will be used for the QSL card.

In Attendance: KJ4FIN Jim; N4QLD Greg; NO4Y Herman; K2IUN Champ; KG4SPH Cynthia; KC4EEA Rick; WB4KZW Gene; KD4CEB Kerry; K4ZVM Zeb; K4VHV Albert

Kerry KD4CEB reminded us of the 40th anniversary of the moon landing launch on July 16, 1969, and gave a summary of communication used among the astronauts, and between the moon and the earth.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

TAARS July VE Testing Session

Only one candidate showed up for the July TAARS VE testing session. Congratulations to TAAR's member Chris Davenport, N4TOK on his upgrade to general class.

TAARS next VE testing session is scheduled for October 17th.
Herman/NO4Y

WA4VTX Repeater Report

The scheduled antenna installation for the 444.300 repeater receiver was put on hold until the fall due to weather and other concerns. We did implement a temporary fix however that has given the receiver back about 80 percent of its original coverage.

The 146.655 repeater normally transmits a PL tone of 131.8 to allow users to utilize tone squelch on their receivers. The 131.8 tone has shifted just enough that some receivers are having problems decoding this tone. By a strange coincidence this same problem has developed on WA4VTX 147.330. I would suggest that you disable tone squelch on your receiver until such time as they are tuned back to specs.

Herman/NO4Y

TAARS Membership Dues

In June we began collecting our yearly membership dues of \$30.00 for the 2009-2010 year. If you haven't paid please mail your check to TAARS, PO Box 1217, Elizabeth City NC 27906-1217. Also please verify you information on the roster and send any corrections to no4y@arrl.net. I'll try and do an updated roster no later than the end of September. The club roster can be accessed at the club website but you do need a login and password. This was included in the newsletter email announcement.

Herman/NO4Y

SKYWARN NEWS

Jim KJ4FIN, Herman NO4Y, and Greg N4QLD met with Steve Crow of Wakefield SKYWARN on 7/9//2009. Steve went over our Area 7 progress, commented that we are doing well and encouraged us to keep up with the Training Nets. Steve also conducted a brief, informal session on radar interpretation and offered that an advanced spotter training is being considered, possibly in Edenton. The number of interested people will be a factor if and when the class is scheduled. If you are interested please call or email Jim KJ4FIN, 252 426 3764

Jim/KJ4FIN

CERA News

The Columbia Emergency Repeater Association held its quarterly meeting August 8th at the Golden Skillet in Plymouth. A committee was formed to review the by-laws, specifically looking at the Board of Directors.

Tom Ponte