



THE JUNKBOX



The Official Newsletter of The Albemarle Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 1217

September 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, September 17, 7:30 at COA building "C" C109. Our dinner location is the Golden Corral at 6PM.

TAARS Regular Meeting August 20, 2009

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by President Ron, N4WYR.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

No treasurer's activity was reported.

Old Business

If you haven't paid your club dues of \$30.00, please mail your check to TAARS, PO Box 1217, Elizabeth City NC27906-1217

There are still some 2009 Field Day T shirts available. Contact NO4Y Herman.

New Business

President Ron described issues involved in upgrading to Microsoft Internet Explorer 8, that appear to be related to how security settings and certificates are handled in the upgrade.

K4ZVM Zeb reported on the possibility of moving the TAARS monthly meeting to the County EOC location. This was in response to a concern reported last month by KD4CEB Kerry, that the room currently used at COA, may become unavailable due to budget related closings at COA. There would be a conflict at EOC if the TAARS meeting remained on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

K4VHV Al reported on a conversation with the owner of the tower on Wellfield Road. The tower is below the break even point of profitability, and is a 300 ft tower in an area of 500 ft towers. Currently our use remains at no cost. The possibility of moving the repeater needs to be considered.

The group photo taken at Field Day will be used for the QSL card. A copy of the card was circulated.

In Attendance: N4WYR Ron, KJ4FIN Jim, N4QLD Greg, AJ4NV David, K4VHV Albert, WB1CZX Tom, KI4FHB Ed, K2IUN Champ, KG4SPH Cynthia, K4ZVM Zeb, KD4ATK Stanley, N4TOK Chris

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Upcoming Events

TAARS sponsored VE testing session
Saturday October 17th at COA
Email no4y@arrrl.net for information

SKYWARN NEWS

Net activation tools such as log sheets and scripts, the Program Roster, along with advanced training and reference tools have been moved to the [SKYWARN Operations Center](http://www.skywarnoperationscenter.org) web site, ops.wx4akq.org

If you are interested in becoming a NWS Spotter, or are in need of updating your Spotter training please review the schedule below. Details and registration instructions are available through this link, under SKYWARN Calendar.

<http://www.wx4akq.org/>

Tuesday, October 6

6:00pm

SKYWARN Basic Spotter Class - Newport News, VA

Tuesday, October 13

6:00pm

SKYWARN Basic Spotter Class - Hanover, VA

Wednesday, October 28

6:00pm

SKYWARN Basic Spotter Class - Portsmouth, VA

Thursday, November 5

6:00pm

SKYWARN Basic Spotter Class - Gloucester, VA

Tuesday, November 10

6:00pm

SKYWARN Basic Spotter Class - Poquoson, VA

6:00pm

Jim/KJ4FIN

Shelby Hamfest Report

This years Shelby Hamfest was held on September the 5th and 6th. Saturday and Sunday are the official days of operation but activities really begin on Friday and run into Monday, Labor Day. TAARS members K4VHV, KB4TOH, and NO4Y along with WA4MOK, from the Greenville Club made a yearly pilgrimage to Dallas, NC the new home for Shelby Hamfest. We arrived early on Friday afternoon, and spent most the afternoon wandering though the flea market. We all ran into old friends and found interesting sites and people to talk to. That's a big part of the fun with any Hamfest. We left the site late in the afternoon and returned the next morning for more serious shopping. ICOM America had their new line of radios on display along with a few give away maps and charts. Yeasu also had a booth set up with their extensive display of amateur radio equipment along with free hats and handouts. Ham Radio Outlet had a sales booth along with several other vendors. We departed early on Saturday afternoon and arrived back in Elizabeth City about 7PM. It was a long weekend but loads of fun.

I hope all of you can have the opportunity to visit a Hamfest before they become a thing of the past. Although crowds at Shelby appeared very good this year I'm sure that anyone that's been around Ham Radio for 10 years or so can tell you Hamfest crowds have been on the decline for quite a while. Internet buying has replaced Hamfest bargains and made it very difficult for the vendors to justify the time and expense of attending the events.

Herman/NO4Y



Looking out in the "flea market" Area



K4VHV and KB4TOH shopped till they dropped