

Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service

The Spectrum

January 2009

Www.w4car.org

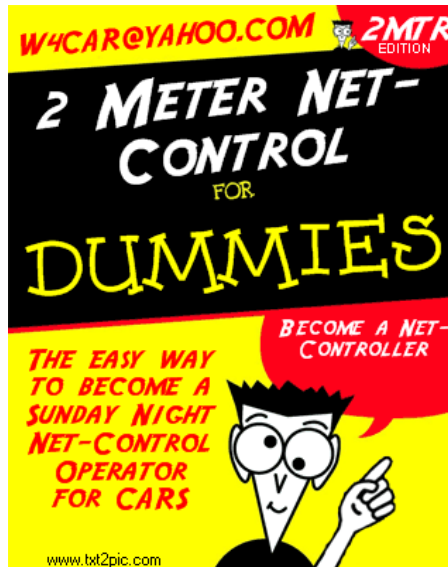
Net Controllers Needed!

The Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service is looking for Net Control Operators.

If you are interested and are available on a Sunday night, any Sunday night, please contact w4car@yahoo.com.

All training and scripts will be provided for free.

This is great experience! You never know when you will be called upon to run a net when the big one hits.



Upcoming Events

- **Special Event: USS Midway**
January 10, 2009
1700Z - 0059Z
Details on page 7
- **Shack Day**
January 17, 2009
- **Frost Fest**
February 7, 2009
FrostFest.com
- **Swamp Stomp**
April 11, 2009
- **Tour de Cure**
April 18, 2009

QSL.net & QTH.net Announcement

December 31, 2008

Dear fellow hams,

After 13 years of providing hams with no cost web space, e-mail forwarding and mailing list services through QSL.net and QTH.net, I have decided to retire. All QSL.net and QTH.net servers and Internet connections at my home QTH are being turned down.

Scott KA9FOX has gra-

ciously decided to pick up where I left off, and he is in the process of migrating all services to new hardware. See below for an update on the status of the migration.

I want to thank all of you for all of your support over the years, and I hope that you will support Scott as he takes over the reigns.

See you on the air!

73 - Al Waller, K3TKJ

**Note: Our website w4car.org is back up.*

—Spectrum Editor



Honoring: Robert G. Siff, (Uncle Bob) 1919-2006

K4AMG “Formerly W8QDI”

Memorial Amateur Radio Club
721 Wood Duck Lane
Chesapeake, Virginia 23323 USA

Honoring: Robert G. Siff, (Uncle Bob)
1919-2006



QCWA, Political Activist, and supporter of the Sarasota Senior Center

Station _____

Date _____

Time _____

Band _____

Mode _____

Report _____

Family man, US NAVY, Electronics Enthusiast, Businessman, Innovator,

Volunteer: Dayton CD, Dayton ARA, One of the Founders of the Dayton Hamvention, Sarasota Emergency Radio Club, Sarasota Power Squadron,

New QSL Mapper



The *Copasetic Flow QSL Mapper* is a great little web based application for any QRPer or DXer.

Enter your call sign and click locate. Then enter your contact’s call sign and click locate. The application will tell you both of your addresses and distance between you and your contact in miles or kilometers.

Another nifty piece of information the Copasetic Flow QSL Mapper tells you, if you enter the number of watts you were run-

ning, is the amount of miles per watt you used.

I think it could add a whole new dimension to contesting.

<http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/2008/12/new-qsl-mapper.html>

KG4ZXK’s New Website

Keith (kg4zxc) has upgraded his website, and is looks great!

It’s so cold out there, for southern Virginia at least, his website has snow falling on it.

He covers news and thoughts not just about amateur radio but all the cool gadgets we love.

Visitors to his site can even leave comments.

So go there and let him know what you think about his website and his articles.

<http://kg4zxc.wordpress.com> is his web site address.



Straight Key Night

Not a contest but a wonderful night of CW QSOs makes SKN (New Years Eve) a great end of the year event. I don't know when SKN started because everyone was straight key in the beginning, but the tradition continues. This New Years Eve, I was ready for some great CW Rag Chews, and I was not disappointed except for the S-9 noise level. Probably caused by Christmas lights nearby.

I chose again this year 80 meter CW. The band was crowded, but signals were spaced out every 500 Hz so QRM was non-existent. Even though the rig I choose has multi problems there were many QSOs to be made some lasting for one hour plus.

Overcoming rig problems (Boat Anchors Rock):

1. Receiving I had to keep my hand on the Adjustable Beat Frequency Oscillator of the Hammarlund SP 600 as the receiver has terrible drift and I was using a selectivity setting of about .2 cycles, which is about the equivalent 500 cycles with the modern day radios. Usually on AM I use 9 kc and 12 kc to expand the audio quality so drift is no problem.
2. Transmitting using the Barker and Williamson B & W 5100, I had to hook up an MFJ Electronic Keyer to produce a side tone. The Boat Anchors do not have side tones to hear what you are sending. The poor tired old transmitter needs some tender loving care, and I hope that someone will volunteer to help move the 100-pound unit and help fix it. Grid drive level is too high and now the modulator has an arc. My most favorite AM transmitter in the world, except for the old retired Voice of American transmitters.
3. Using a Vibroplex Original Deluxe Bug to key with presented a problem. Several years ago Earl, W4LPF, gave me the bug. As you may know, Earl was certified at 72-WPM CW. The bug was too fast for me and I could not get it below 20 WPM. I used a Craftsman stainless steel socket adaptor to match the bug for additional weight. The socket adaptor sat on top of weight #2, and brought me down to about 12 WPM. Think that I will order another weight to slow it down.
4. Me, I am just old broken down.

On this special night I used my new club license, K4AMG. The club is the K4AMG Memorial Amateur Radio Club, we have 15 members at this time, Melody, KE4ACK is the Trustee. The club competes with no other club and is my design an Elmering Club. The club honors my first Elmer, my Uncle Bob. Before he retired and moved to Florida in 1968 he lived in Dayton, Ohio and was one of the founders of the Dayton Hamvention. His call in Dayton was W8QDI. Note: In the 60s the FCC forced you to get a new call when you moved out of your call area. That was before vanity calls. When vanity calls came in, I asked my Uncle if he wanted his old call back? He replied NO! "Why would I want W8 Queen Dog Idiot?, when I can be K4 All Mighty God! So I remember him as K4AMG.

The K4AMG Boat Anchor Old Man station made 11 QSOs some of the QSOs were over one hour long. A QSO with Don, W2LID in NJ, we discussed the origin of the term HAM Shack / Radio Shack, because in the old days the radios were located in shacks. Typical QSOs were about Keys, Boat Anchors, and Weather, as some areas had or would soon have 9 - 12 inches of snow, all in all a great night of CW, no pressure just fun.

I hope all of you had a Happy New Years and I look forward to seeing or talking to you in 2009.

God Bless
R
WA4BUE

President's Column

Welcome to the New Year 2009! I am looking forward to another great year for CARS. We already have our customary space in the Deep Creek Lock Park reserved for Field Day, June 26 & 27. We have received the approved permit from the City's Parks & Recreation Dept.

We will host the local Ham radio community at our Springfest, Sunday, March 22. In between Springfest and Field Day we will provide public service communications support for the "Dismal Swamp Stomp" foot race on April 11, and the American Diabetes Foundation's Tour de Cure bicycle race April 18. This year we will have a much bigger role to fill for Tour de Cure due to the previous route in North Carolina being relocated into Chesapeake. Please plan to participate in a very pleasant day in the countryside – we will need your help more than ever!

CARS continues to attract new Hams and currently licensed Hams that are new to the area. We have several such new membership applications pending and a couple of new Hams-to-be on deck. Remem-

ber, there is strength in numbers. Please be proactive in attracting new members to our club. If you know of someone who might be interested in becoming a Ham, refer him or her to CARS. We can do the training and the VE testing. If you run into a Ham in the area that is not a club member, tell them what you think CARS can do for them, and refer them to us.

We are planning a number of training classes for Technician, General, and Extra class licenses this Spring and Fall in the clubhouse. These will be held jointly with our friends in the Virginia Beach club. Stay tuned for the schedule.

Our next Shack Day will be Saturday, January 17. Please come and join in the fun, and bring a friend, a neighbor, or a youngster who might like to know a little bit more about ham radio.

Let's make this a really great New Year for CARS.

73,

Paul K4PRB

CARS Club Meeting Minutes 12/1/08

Meeting called to order at 7:40 pm. Attendance: 46 members and guests.

As this was a dinner meeting, the usual order of business was suspended.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Paul K4PRB thanked Bill W1ATA, Chris KJ4EZH, Richard WA4BUE, Ralph KG4PBA and Dewey W4DCJ for assisting in the United Way's Race for Literacy November 29. The Portsmouth and Franklin clubs also assisted the Isle of Wight club who was in charge of Ham radio support for this event.

Our Nov. 22 VE session produced six new hams (KJ4IED, KJ4IEE, KJ4IEF, KJ4IEG*, KG4IEH*, and KE5YHO*) and one upgrade to Extra. Three new hams (*) passed both Technician and General exams.

All three Corps of Engineers towers next to the shack

have been removed.

We may face a possible increase in rent for the clubhouse.

We are currently developing the 2009 budget. If anyone would like to suggest something to be considered for the club's budget, please contact our Treasurer, Barry K5VIP.

The Bob Armstrong Ham of the Year award was presented to Richard Siff, WA4BUE.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

CARS BOD Meeting Minutes 12/3/08

Meeting called to order at 7:40 pm.

Attendees: Paul K4PRB Vince KJ4CCR Phil WA9KFB Barry K5VIP Jim KG4WOJ

Bill WF4R Richard WA4BUE

Paul read the previous BOD minutes. Barry K5VIP moved to accept as read. Seconded & approved.

Barry K5VIP presented the Treasurer's report.

Jim KG4WOJ presented the Comm. Officer's report, which included the re-stringing of the 80 – 40 m dipole,

and his plan to develop standardized criteria for qualifying members for shack access.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PS / ARES – Our participation in the Isle of Wight's public service comms for the United Way's Race for Literacy Nov. 29 was successful. For the next several months the PS/ARES Wednesday meetings will be replaced by a brief program within the regular CARS Monday meetings.

Springfest – Keith KG4ZXK will assist Phil WA9KFB by lining up vendors.

OLD BUSINESS:

Skywarn – Steve Crow KG4PEQ from Richmond who has put himself in charge of all amateur radio operations for Skywarn has given the Tidewater Skywarn franchise to the Portsmouth club.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jim KG4WOJ moved to accept the 2009 budget. Seconded and approved.

The BOD decided against an offer to have a recording of the Sunday night 2 meter net available on the club's website.

Keith KG4ZXK reported an informal conversation he had with Tim Winslow of the City's Facilities Management Dept. which included a mention of possibly billing us for some costs associated with the building containing our clubhouse.

Paul K4PRB presented the idea of the club having a social chairman to organize dinner meetings etc., and the BOD was agreeable.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

New Ham Radio e-Zine

There is a new free monthly e-magazine dedicated to ham radio.

The first edition has just been published!

You can subscribe with your email address for free. If you don't want to give them your email address, you can go to the web site and download the current edition.

<http://www.ham-mag.com/>



**WorldRadio
Magazine is no
more!**

WorldRadio Magazine Is Now CQ!

"CQ Communications, Inc., publisher of *CQ Amateur Radio*, *Popular Communications*, and *CQ VHF* magazine, has acquired *WorldRadio* magazine. " — *WorldRadio Magazine web site*.

If you are a regular subscriber to WorldRadio magazine, your remaining issues will be fulfilled with issues of CQ Magazine.

There are many combinations of continuances for different scenarios of subscriptions

to either WorldRadio Magazine or CQ Magazine.

The WorldRadio website is now and will stay free.

Log onto World Radio Magazine's website for details.

WorldRadio: <http://www.wr6wr.com/>

CQ: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/>

Field Day 2008 Videos

Promo Video for Field Day 2008

This would have been a great video to get on TV as a Public Service Announcement to promote Field Day.

It is apparent a lot of time and energy was put into this video.

This promotional video does a great job of helping change the public's perception of amateur radio.

I don't want to spoil it for you, so here is the link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=varHL752Odk>

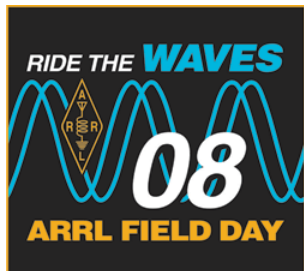
News Broadcasts of Field Day 2008

Here is a video I found of a local Florida TV news station promoting Field Day 2008.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30QtbCOnKS8>

New Orleans TV news broadcast covering Field Day 2008

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fUpZonDhoqQ>



E.T. Radio Transmissions?

I subscribe to a few different eMail news letters.

In one of the eMail news letters, a ham mentioned he wanted to know how to go about listening to the radio waves from the Sun and other planets in our solar system.

Another subscriber suggested to visit NASA's Radio Jove Project.

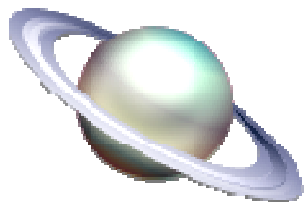
On the project's website there is information about kit building, specialized antennas and software so you can do your own listening in

on the solar system.

There are downloads of sample sounds from Jupiter, the Sun and even galactic background.

That is some serious DX listening there!

<http://radiojove.gsfc.nasa.gov/>



Special Event: USS Midway

[illinoisdigitalham] eMail List—Jan 3, 2009

Special Event Station NI6IW can again be heard from the USS MIDWAY (CV 41) Radio Room on January 10, 2009 from 1700Z - 0059Z to commemorate two historic events.

On the morning of January 17, 1955, at 11 am EST, USS NAUTILUS' first Commanding Officer, Commander Eugene P. Wilkinson, ordered all lines cast off and signaled the memorable and historic message, "Underway On Nuclear Power." The USS NAUTILUS (SSN 571) was the first commissioned nuclear powered ship in the United States Navy.

Operation DESERT STORM, the fight to liberate Kuwait, began on January 17, 1991. Aircraft from USS MIDWAY flew the initial air strikes of Operation DESERT STORM. This was the final combat mission for USS MIDWAY.

NI6IW will be operating D-Star on the San Diego Reflector REF012C and can be contacted locally on the 145.615 (KI6MGN C) Palomar Mountain D-Star Repeater. NI6IW will also be operating on the following HF Bands.

SSB: 14,320 (+/-) and 7,250 (+/-)

CW: 14,060 (+/-) and 7,055 (+/-)

PSK31: 7,070-7,080 (+/-)

RTTY: 7,080 (+/-) and 14,080 (+/-)

For QSL: Send SASE to...

USS MIDWAY (CV 41) Museum Radio Room

910 North Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

or email af6ha@yahoo.com

73 de W9EN

**USS Midway Website: www.midway.org*

**Special Event
Station NI6IW
can again be
heard from the

USS MIDWAY
(CV 41)

Radio Room**

CARS Officers and Chairpersons

President

Paul Buckwalter
K4PRB

Communications Officer

Jim Rogers
KG4WOJ

Past President

Keith Ainsley
KG4ZXX

Vice-President

Vince Williams
KJ4CCR

Public Service /ECOMM

Sean Gorman
W5CDR

Webmaster

www.w4car.org
Sean Gorman
W5CDR

Secretary

Phil Henline
WA9KFB

Repeater Committee

Chairman
Bill Runyon
WF4R

Treasurer

Barry Priddy
K5VIP

Trustee

Bill Runyon
WF4R

**Have a
comment or
suggestion for
the newsletter?**

Contact

**Kenneth
Jensen**

ki4rui@arrl.net



Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service

P.O. Box 6867
Chesapeake, Va 23323-6867

w4car@yahoo.com

QRM Room / Clubhouse
116 Reservation Drive
Chesapeake, Va 23322-5204

Meetings are the first Monday of
each month in the QRM Room

Local Nets

CARS 2 Meter Net
Sundays 20:00 Hrs
146.820 MHz (162.2)

CARS 10 Meter Net
Mondays 20:00 Hrs
Excluding meeting days
28.400 MHz

VBARC 10 Meter Net
Thursdays 20:00 Hrs
28.400 MHz

Hampton Roads Public Service Net
Monday through Saturday
146.970 MHz

Portsmouth "Rag Chew" Net
Mondays and Wednesdays
19:30 Hrs 146.850 MHz

Southeastern VA Traffic Net
Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays
20:00 Hrs 146.850 MHz

Portsmouth Amateur Radio Emergency Services Net
Fridays 20:00 Hrs
146.850 MHz

QRM

Need some background music when working that late night DX but tired of your music library?

Pandora.com is the answer!

"With Pandora you can explore this vast trove of music to your heart's content. Just drop the name of one of your favorite songs or artists into Pandora and let the Genome Project go. It will quickly scan its entire world of analyzed music, almost a century of popular recordings - new and old, well known and completely obscure - to find songs with interesting musical similarities to your choice. Then sit back and enjoy as it creates a listening experience full of current and soon-to-be favorite songs for you." — <http://www.pandora.com/corporate/>

Of course, it's free.

You can setup a free account and it will save your "radio stations". Then you can access them from anywhere that has an Internet connection.

Works on Windows, Mac and Linux.

