



The Spectrum

Issue 10

October 2004

Words From The President.

Ruth Bigio, KB4LIF

The President Says

It has been my honor to serve with a great group of officers and club members this past year. I appreciated the confidence and trust that you all had placed in me in the beginning of my term of office. At the outset, I had several goals for the Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service that I wanted to accomplish.

- a) increase membership
- b) maintain/increase our financial assets
- c) increase CARS public relations image within the City
- d) provide a variety of amateur radio activities that would appeal to many different hams' backgrounds & abilities & interests
- e) provide educational classes from technician through extra by joining with the other clubs in the area and most of all
- f) obtain a HamShack that would allow the CARS members a facility to operate various modes, teach, socialize, and perhaps provide emergency backup for the City if needed.

That was an almost impossible Task, except for the exceptional officers that worked side by side with me and all the CARS members that also came through when asked to come out and work when and wherever needed. What else can I say? We succeeded beyond my dreams!

It was a great honor to attend all the meetings in the City, boosting the Club's image as well as amateur radio over all. And it certainly has paid off. All the public

relations work has given us this wonderful QRM Room through the City's Fire Department, compliments of Fire Chief Stephen Best. Because we have supported the City during emergencies in the past, they have come through for us.

Our membership increased this past year over 100% due to the classes that were held at the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission Offices in conjunction with both the Portsmouth and Virginia Beach Clubs. A Tri-City Council between the 3 clubs was suggested in the past and is still in the formative stages. However, the three classes came through, people passed, and members joined all 3 clubs. It was great! It is always nice to meet new hams.

SpringFest was a fantastic success to the extremely hard work of the Chairman and his crew. This is the only fundraising event that CARS has. CARS' reputation for being "down-home" and "friendly folk" stems from this SpringFest – believe it not. CARS is known far and wide and not just in South Hampton Roads. We have even had people from Ohio, Pennsylvania and Florida as vendors or hams attending.

Wrap up a full year of activities: Hurricane Charley call out, Emergency Preparedness classes, the city's call for assistance with the Public Health TB Crisis, Monitor-Merrimac Special Event, Field Day, National Skywarn Day, ARRL Kid's Day, HamShack Day's, Fox Hunts, Antenna Building (I keep thinking there must have been something else too.)That is enough to keep a whole city busy, let alone 53 people in a club. However, we did plus start work on a Club House to be very proud of now and for the future.

Continued on page 2

DON'T FORGET!!!

**MONDAY, OCT 4th 7:00 pm
General meeting at the QRM ROOM!
Elections for next years Board of
Directors. Let your voice be heard!**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
2	Upcoming Events / Exam Sessions
3	Editors's Corner / Local Area Net Listings
4	Citizen Band Communications

Upcoming Events

CARS Meeting

Monday, October 4th, 2004 7:00 PM
General meeting & Board Elections.
QRM Room (Hamshack #2)

CARS Shack Day

To be announced by new officers

License Exam Session:

10/23/04. Contact Leo Kusuda,
KG4PWC (kg4pwc@ar1.net)
(757) 465-0074

11/01/2004 Portsmouth Amateur Radio Club
Churchland Baptist Church. Contact Art
Thiemens @ 757-484-2857
art.thiemens@edifax.com

Virginia Beach Ham Fest

By Carl Clements, W4CAC

September 18th & 19th - Va Beach, Va - The Virginia Beach Hamfest held it's annual hamfest at Virginia Wesleyan College on Saturday and Sunday. The doors opened at 9 am Saturday to a line of hams that could not wait to get inside. Even though several vendors could not attend the show because of flooding from Hurricane Ivan in their area, the C-Mac gym was still filled.

Several classrooms upstairs were used for forums, including a presentation by the FCC's Riley Hollingsworth to a standing room only crowd. The Roanoke Division Director, Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, also hosted an ARRL forum. Other forums included an Official Observer forum, QCWA's Jim Wise, W4PRO, who spoke on his Tibet DX trip, an ARES forum on the VDEN and Winlink 2000, and an IRLP forum hosted by Keith, KG4ZXX. At a ARRL/VEC licensing session, 6 people earned all or part of a license or upgrade. This new location even allowed a small area for tailgating, which was popular until the rains came Saturday afternoon. The hamfest committee members received generally favorable comments about the location at the College and have already started working with the school for next year's show.

President's Column continued from page 1

I am very delighted that the QRM Room came to fruition after two long years of negotiations with the City Officials and Fire Department. Many venues were looked at, over and through before this place became a reality and ours. Countless hours were put in to looking at other locations and even with other companies. Now that the QRM Room is here, I sincerely hope that all the members take full advantage of the opportunity it affords: socially, educationally, and with absolutely delight – operate to their hearts' content!

Yes – I worked very hard to make CARS a club that everyone could be proud of and I am proud of all my friends, officers, and members that worked hard beside me. I did not accomplish any of these things – You all did these things with me constantly. And we even had fun!

Amateur Radio is a hobby – not a vocation. People kept telling me to slow down, take it easy. I just wanted the best for CARS and always will.

73 and 88
Ruth, KB4LIF

HURRICANE EXPO AUGUST 2004

“Its Nemo!” cried out another child. The doting parent was obliged to stop so their child could point at the screen and wave to the orange fish. Glancing about yet another adult with child was forced to look at our display. I wonder what fishes would think if they knew that a cartoon fish would be used as bait for unsuspecting families? Bringing the DVD was probably the smartest thing I did the whole weekend. Certainly expecting to be able to operate HF from inside a steel enclosed mall in spite of glass roof windows was one of the dumber ideas. It goes to show you that even widely spaced steel beams can act as a good Faraday cage!

As a demonstration station, it looked pretty good. We had a 20-meter Hamstick dipole up 20 feet in the air and an 8 ft vertical collinear for VHF/UHF mounted above. The station had 2 radios, an Icom IC 2100 and IC 706 MKIIG, a LDG autotuner, rigblaster, laptop and of course Nemo! In addition we had a half dozen display boards, brochures and a “killer” salesperson, named Ruth, KB4LIF.

Some experimentation was required in antenna placement. We were located by a rather large steel monolith, kind of a gazebo on steroids, which did an

Continued Page 3

excellent job of blocking signals. A short sermon from the maintenance person about the predictable behavior of certain people to ignore all signs, not watch where they were going and trip over our power cord and sue the establishment to reassert their intelligence resulted in a reconfiguration of our power grid. Ruth, ever the Ham evangelist was promptly disciplined by another Chesapeake Square Mall employee and was told that door-to-door solicitation was absolutely forbidden no matter how holy was our cause.

A number of Hams and club members dropped by including Sonny, K4WYS, John, K0IBS, Mary Lee KF4MHL, Lee, KI4CAV, Dee Dee, KI4DNN, and Paul K4PRB. Fortunately for yours truly, several CERT members were able to help me unload and load my truck. If my demonstration station gets any larger, I will need a trailer! Being by the food court had its definite advantages in my humble gastronomic opinion. Amazingly, I did get a few RTTY signals recorded. Sonny also helped me do a field repair on my autotuner. I'm thinking of making field repair training in the food court as a prerequisite for working at Field Day!

In planning for future events at this location, I noted that it was about 250 feet to the outside, that operating a remote HF station by crossbanding was illegal and that unless I strung a long Ethernet cable or antenna feedline from masts to the front entrance (probably would provoke another mall employee lecture), I would have to relocate the HF station outside the mall. We did manage to get over half dozen people to sign up for classes and met a few older but inactive Hams still locked in a time warp with wistful recollections of whisker rectifiers. 2004 was the year of Nemo, maybe next year I will get Shrek.

<u>LOCAL NETS</u>	
SKYWARN NET Fridays 1900 hours.	146.820 MHz
Old Dominion IRLP Net Sundays 2000 hours. IRLP Node #4865 (Simplex Frequency)	145.600 MHz
CARS 10 Meter Net 2000 hours on Mondays CARS doesn't meet	28.400 MHz
Hampton Roads Public Service Net Mon-Sat 2100 hours	146.970 MHz
VBARC 10 Meter Net 2000 hours on Thursdays VBARC doesn't meet	28.400 MHz
Portsmouth "RagChew" Net Monday & Wednesday 1930 hours	146.850 Mhz
Southeastern Virginia Traffic Net Sun, Tues, Thurs @ 2000 hours	146.850 MHz
Portsmouth Amateur Radio Emergency Services Net Fridays 2000 hours	146.850 MHz

Till next time, if you think your community has strict covenants, think about working in a Faraday cage with a large maroon, steroid inflated monolith in a large public place and you won't feel so bad!

73
Leo
KG4PWC

The Editor's Corner

Keith, KG4ZXX

As I start to see summer slip away and the realize that pretty soon we are going to be dealing with Old Man Winter I had not realized how much time had passed since I took over the duties of newsletter editor from Rick Aldom, W7STS, who left us to go home out West.

I have learned a lot from this experience. Especially how much time and effort it takes to put this newsletter together for all the members and non-members to enjoy.

First off, I wish to thank Leo for all the great newsletter articles he presents to me each month to share with all of you. I do not know how he finds the time to do it but it's greatly appreciated and I'm sure that you will agree. Again we have two exceptional pieces from him in this addition.

You will notice a smaller edition of the Spectrum from what you have been receiving the past several months. This is due mainly for the fact that some of the information received is coming later than usual and to make sure that we get this out in time, I decided to not included the usual Skywarn and ARRL news articles. One item of interest that I hope all the members will find useful is the general club meeting minutes will be posted in the Spectrum starting with the November issue.

Also do not forget that Monday is the time you can cast your vote for your new board members who will lead the club for the next year. If you have not had a chance to see the great improvements that have been made to the QRM room at the Great Bridge Locks, you need to come out. Thanks to Karon Hardy, Bill Runyon, Reggie White and all the other folks that I do not have space to put in here for their hard work.

Please keep your articles, questions, comments, complaints, etc coming. The Spectrum is a representation of you and I hope it's represented you all well.

73's

Citizen Band Communications

During a disaster, to fill the holes in communication, one should be prepared to use all forms of available communication. Those who have taken one of the ARRL Emergency Communications courses should be familiar with the Radio Emergency Associated Communications Team or REACT. You can go to the www.reactintl.org for more information on this international organization. REACT is more oriented to Citizen Band radios but membership includes Amateur Radio.

The frequency of CB is 11 meters. Given the right conditions, the potential for long distance contact is possible. Think of CB as SSB QRP phone or AM phone. IF the 10 –meter band is open, 11 meters will also be open. However, the FCC actually prohibits the intentional communication with individuals greater than 250 km or 155 miles!

If one goes to the Federal Communications Commission website <http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/personal/cb/> and looks at the regulations pertaining to Citizen Band radio, one will see that the similarities to Amateur Radio are significant. The biggest differences pertain to licensing, transmission power and modes. The pertinent regulations for both Amateur Radio and CB are in FCC Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). For CB, the rules are in Part 95 subpart D. For Amateur Radio the rules are in Part 97 (<http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur/>). The following table is not all-inclusive but compares many of the salient features of Amateur and Citizen Band communication service.

The following prohibited transmissions are taken from the FCC Sec. 95.413 (CB Rule 13):

Requirement	Amateur Radio	Citizen Band
License	Yes	No
Can modify radios	Yes operator can. Manufacturers have spurious emissions restrictions	No
Bands	160 thru microwave	There are 40-shared CB channels used on a "take-turns" basis. There are no channels authorized in the CB Radio Service above 27.405 MHz or below 26.965 MHz.
Assignment of frequency use	FCC defined mode restrictions and commonly accepted band plans	No CB channel is assigned to any specific individual or organization. Channel 9 is used only for emergency communications or for traveler assistance.
Maximum Transmit Power	1500 watts PEP	4 watts AM and 12 watts PEP SSB
Allowed Modes	AM, SSB, CW, FM, Digital, TV	AM and SSB phone only
Territorial Limits	FCC jurisdiction	FCC jurisdiction
Codes and secret messages	Not permissible but Q codes are commonly recognized	Not permissible but Ten codes are commonly recognized and allowed
Antenna height restrictions	Local ordinance. If greater than 200 ft needs FAA approval. If in restricted areas such as Government Lands, other restrictions apply.	Vehicles or HT – no height restrictions Base - highest point of your antenna must not be more than 20 feet above the highest point of the building or tree on which it is mounted, or 60 feet above the ground. There are lower height limits if your antenna structure is located within two miles of an airport.
Prohibited Communications	In connection with any illegal activity Profane or obscene language Material of a political nature Business related Broadcasting Music (space station excluded) Intentional interference False or deceptive communications	Essentially the same as for Amateur Radio. See below
Restrictions on communications with foreign countries	Restrictions only pertain to 3 rd party communications	Prohibited to communicate with stations in other countries, except General Radio Service stations in Canada; or
Maximum distance of communication	No restrictions	It is prohibited to communicate with, or attempt to communicate with, any CB station more than 250 kilometers (155.3 miles) away;
Can you be paid for radio communication	NO	NO
Must you identify your station	Yes	No
Can you connect to a phone	Yes – control operator rules apply	Yes – similar control operator rules apply and must use an FCC approved phone patch

Station Records	Logbook of station transmissions as needed to document good operating practices	Your station records include the following documents, as applicable. (a) A copy of each response to an FCC violation notice or an FCC letter. (See CB Rule 22, Sec. 95.422.) (b) Each written permission received from the FCC. (See CB Rule 19, Sec. 95.419.)
Penalties for violations	Suspension of license and fines	Fines up to \$75,000

You must not use a CB station--

- 1) In connection with any activity which is against federal, state or local law;
- 2) To transmit obscene, indecent or profane words, language or meaning;
- 3) To interfere intentionally with the communications of another CB station;
- 4) To transmit one-way communications, except for emergency communications, traveler assistance, brief tests (radio checks), or voice paging;
- 5) To advertise or solicit the sale of any goods or services;
- 6) To transmit music, whistling, sound effects or any material to amuse or entertain;
- 7) To transmit any sound effect solely to attract attention;
- 8) To transmit the word "MAYDAY" or any other international distress signal, except when your station is located in a ship, aircraft or other vehicle which is threatened by grave and imminent danger and you are requesting immediate assistance;
- 9) To advertise a political candidate or political campaign; (you may use your CB radio for the business or organizational aspects of a campaign, if you follow all other applicable rules);
- 10) To transmit a false or deceptive communication;
- 11) You must not use a CB station to transmit communications for live or delayed rebroadcast on a radio or television broadcast station. You may use your CB station to gather news items or to prepare programs.

The FCC website has the following quote:

"Be cooperative. Keep your communications short. Users must never talk with another station for more than 5 minutes continuously and then must wait at least one minute before starting another communication."

The bottom line is that the Citizen Band service is useful and that as a licensed Amateur Radio Operator, you do know what constitutes good operating practices. When you operate CB you should set an example. Just as with Amateur Radio, other people are listening and setting a poor example only gives Amateur Radio a bad name.

73
Leo
KG4PWC

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Monthly newsletter of the Chesapeake
Amateur Radio Service (CARS)

Post Office Box 6867
Chesapeake, VA 23323-6867

<http://www.qsl.net/cars>

Email: w4car@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor:

Keith Ainsley – KG4ZXK

Webmaster:

Leo Kusuda – KG4PWC

CARS Repeaters:

146.610 MHz

146.820 MHz

444.000 MHz

W4CAR Trustee:

Bill Runyon WF4R

CARS OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

President: Ruth Bigio KB4LIF

Vice President: Bill Runyon WF4R

Secretary: James Gwaltney KA4EDI

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COM Coordinator:

TBA

Public Service Coordinator:

Leo Kusuda KG4PWC

Repeater Committee Chairman:

Barry Goldblatt W3AFH

Spring Fest Coordinator:

Leo Kusuda KG4PWC

Technical Committee:

Bill Runyon WF4R