



The Spectrum



Issue 10 06

October 2006

From the President

It's election time again! It's hard to believe a year has flown as quickly as this one has! From the excellent Field Day we had this year at Deep Creek Locks Park, to the new 146.82 repeater this has been an excellent year for the club! My hats off to each and every one of you who have made this a memorable year.

So far this is the slate of candidates: President, Keith, KG4ZXX, Vice President, Bill, WF4R, Secretary, Paul, K4PRB, Treasurer, Rich, N5RAG, Communications Officer, Reggie, W5SSB. If you would like to run for office please contact a board member and let us know so we can include you on the ballot. If you would like to recommend someone please come to the October meeting and do so. Remember that person must be present to accept your nomination.

Shortly, Rich, N5RAG and Reggie, W5SSB are both going to be moving to Texas sometime in 2007. We are going to miss them greatly. They have agreed to stay on until they leave the area.

That means we are going to need people to fill in for Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and Communications officer. Please get with the board if you are interested in filling in the remaining term when these folks leave the area. We can introduce you to the duties and see if this is something you would like to do.

The new Technician class is about to start on the 26th or September. I am happy to report we have a full class between 12 to 15 students. What a great turnout!

It has been a great pleasure to be your club president for the past two years. However, all good things must come to an end and this will be my last term as President of CARS. There are still more repeater projects and other unfinished business from this year I would like to see taken care of. Who will take the torch and keep CARS growing?

73's
Keith
KG4ZXX

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Links of Interest

[Virginia Beach Amateur Radio Club](#)

[Portsmouth Amateur Radio Club](#)

[Home - KG4ZXX.COM - IRLP and much more!](#)

[Atlantic Basin Hurricane Tracking Chart](#)



Local Nets

SKYWARN NET Fridays 1900 hours.	146.820 MHz
CARS 2M Net Sundays 2030 Hours	146.820 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
Tidewater Radio Association WT4RA net Thursday 1930 hours (code drill follows net)	147.195 MHz

Upcoming Events

CARS General Meeting

Monday, Oct 2nd, 7PM
QRM Room
116 Reservation Rd
Chesapeake VA

VE Exams

Saturday, October 14th
QRM Room, 0900

ARES / SkyWarn

Wednesday, October 18th
0900, QRM Room

For more information please visit:

[CARS Events and Training](#)

HALLOWEEN VANITY CALLS

(not all real but some are)

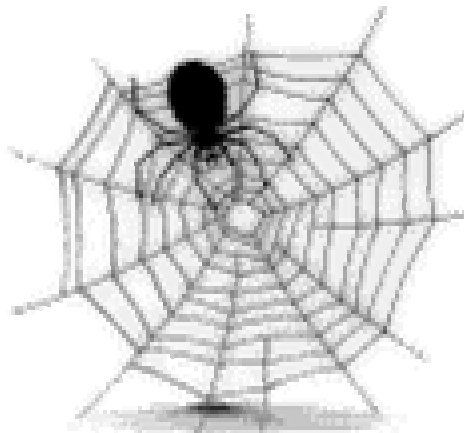
GHØST - BLØOD - W1TCH (Assigned in Yucca Valley CA) - S1REN - B1RE

GHØUL - SPØOK - AL1EN - TR1CK - CR1PT - UBØZO - BRØOM

FØOL (Assigned in New Caledonia) - WE1RD (Providence RI)- WØLF (Carthage Amateur Radio Society)

BLØB - QSL via SL1ME - GØRE & GØBLN - BØNES - GR1ZLY

HANDLE FRANK, QTH ST1EN - Special event station "BØO"



Emergency Radio Service Part I

Have you checked into a net? Have you used your radio regularly? If you answer yes to both questions, you possess the necessary skills to help the City of Chesapeake during an emergency. If you answered no to both questions, then you are missing out on a great hobby.

By the time this article is published, all the shelters should have radio boxes. The following table lists the shelters and the type of radio. Funding was from the city and individuals and the Red Cross. All boxes except DB-7 are owned by the City. DB-7 is owned by the Red Cross.

<i>Box #</i>	<i>Power Supply</i>	<i>Radio</i>	<i>SWR meter</i>	<i>Location</i>
1	Astron RS 35A	Yaesu FT 7800R	SX 40 C	Hugo Owens MS
2	Astron RS 35A	Yaesu FT 7800R	SX 40 C	Thurgood Marshall ES
3	Astron RS 35A	Yaesu FT7800R	SX 40 C	Hickory MS
DB-7	Astron RS-20A	Kenwood TM V7A	SX 40 C	Western Branch HS
5	Astron RS 35A	Yaesu FT7800R	SX 40 C	Hickory HS
6	Astron RS 35A	Yaesu FT7800R	No	Great Bridge HS
7	Astron RS 35A	Yaesu FT7800R	No	Oscar Smith HS
8	Astron RS 35A	Yaesu FT7800R	No	Indian River HS
9	MFJ 4125	Yaesu FT7800R	No	Great Bridge Int
10	MFJ 4125	Yaesu FT7800R	No	Carver Int
11	MFJ 4125	Kenwood TM 271A	No	Indian River MS
12	MFJ 4125	Kenwood TM 271A	No	Western Branch MS

Each box, contains a radio with manual, power supply, power strip, coax cable, an ARRL ARES book, log book/notebook, pens and some smaller items. If a floor plan of the school is not in the box, please consult with the EOC or the school shelter manager for drop locations. Combinations to the box and shelter drop locations are given to those operators who attend the Public Service/ARES meeting and register as an ARES member. Registration as an ARES member does not commit or obligate you to participate in exercises or emergencies. Registration allows the EC to know the capabilities of those who are interested. In an event of an emergency, any operator who is currently licensed and is willing to assist is encouraged to check in regardless of prior ARES affiliation.

Radios are the 2-meter Kenwood TM 271 or the dual band 144/440 MHz Yaesu FT 7800 and Kenwood TM V7A (Red Cross). You can download operating manuals at www.kenwood.net or www.yaesu.com. Commonly used repeater frequencies are programmed in; however, the most recent PL tones may not be in memory. Only some of the boxes contain SWR meters. The City of Chesapeake, gladly accepts any donation of old SWR meters, patch cables, etc. for use on VHF or VHF/UHF frequencies.

The City has 4 other radios. Two additional radios are with the CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams). At this time, some shelters do not have operational drops either due to bad antennas or connections. Many antenna installations would not survive a 100 mph wind (city codes require towers to survive 110 mph wind speeds). A category-3 hurricane by definition has wind speeds in excess of 110 mph. If you have a mobile VHF/UHF antenna, please consider bringing it with you.

Continued on next page

Briefly, in the event of a hurricane, predicted to come into our region, we would normally have about 3 days to prepare. Chief Best, head of the city's Fire Department and Ms. Hui-Shan Walker will activate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and contact the Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service and myself. A few people that are familiar with Net Control Station operations and EOC will go to the EOC, which is located in the Fire Department Headquarters on Albemarle Drive, just down the street from the QRM Room. The two Kenwood V7a's will be set up.

Small-scale disaster support will usually involve opening up Oscar Smith HS. In the event of a major hurricane, all the shelters will be opened. Shelters are designated by the Red Cross and managed by the school's principal. Since the availability of Amateur Radio operators is quite variable, notification will be by phone and through the 146.820 repeater. The primary frequency is 146.610 MHz. However, with the current repeater at this frequency not performing well, 146.820 MHz is the alternate frequency. Simplex frequency is 146.420 MHz. CERT Amateur Radio members in the initial activation will support the shelters and general emergency communications. After the storm has passed, CERT roles will be announced from the EOC. Ted Ambrose, the CERT coordinator works closely with the Amateur Radio Community and CERT. For more information on CERT, visit <https://www.citizencorps.gov/citizenCorps/certView.do?certId=1882>.

If you are able to help, even if it is for a few hours, it will be greatly appreciated. Everyone who has helped in the past has felt great satisfaction in supporting our community. The next article will be on setting up shelter radios and Net operations during a disaster/

Leo
KG4PWC
CARS Public Service Coordinator
Chesapeake ARES Emergency Coordinator (EC)

Home Brewing....It's all in the numbers

I have to admit, I am an expensive HAM on a shoestring budget. I am always trying to find ways to make or procure antennas and equipment that will perform the way the big expensive items do. My latest project was inspired during Field Day. I wanted a 20 meter beam that I could break down and carry around in the back of my truck. The beam had to be 1.) inexpensive, 2.) easy to handle by one person and, 3.) WORK! I started researching the internet for various home brew plans and ideas. After finding various plans I realized they did not fit into the criteria mentioned above. I broke out my calculator and ARRL Handbook. What I came up with was a 3 element beam for 20 meters made from PVC a 6 Ham Sticks.

The 6 HAM Sticks were purchased via E-Bay for a total of \$39.00 (they were not new and I was a little concerned if they were any good.) The 2 sections of PVC purchased at the local hardware store for \$5.00. The 1:1 Balun / RF Choke I had laying around from an old wire dipole. The 30' collapsible mast was purchased from Home Depot for half of what was marked (\$49.00) because it has a slight bend in it.

Requirement #1 had been meet! After 2 hours of cutting, connecting, tuning, and a few crossed fingers I had my 20 meter, 3 element beam weighing in at 12 pounds. Cross off requirement #2.

Now, for the real test. I tuned the beam for mid-range on the 20 meter band. With an understanding acquaintance in Jamaica (Rooney - 6Y5RP) and contact made over the wire dipole, at 100 watts, I switched over to the "plastic" beam. The reports were 3 S-units stronger. Cross off requirement 3!

From the pictures below you can tell this is far from permanent but it works! Look how small it breaks down! I can't wait for the next field day or parking this on the beach some sunny afternoon.

73s
Rich N5RAG



*CARS CLUB MEETING MINUTES 9 / 11 / 06 **Not Approved***

Attendance: 25 total, members (aprox. 17) & guests

Meeting called to order at 7: 20 pm

CARS dinner meeting was held at the International Buffet on Sam's Circle. All agreed the restaurant was unsuitable for dinner meetings because the management had double booked the banquet room after promising exclusive use to CARS when reservations were made in person three weeks previously. The noise from the other group in the room and the third group in the adjoining, non-isolated second banquet room made it impossible to conduct business.

As such the usual order of business was not conducted.

Announcements:

Leo KG4PWC announced that the ARES / PS meeting will be held Wednesday, Sept. 20.

Keith KG4PWC announced:

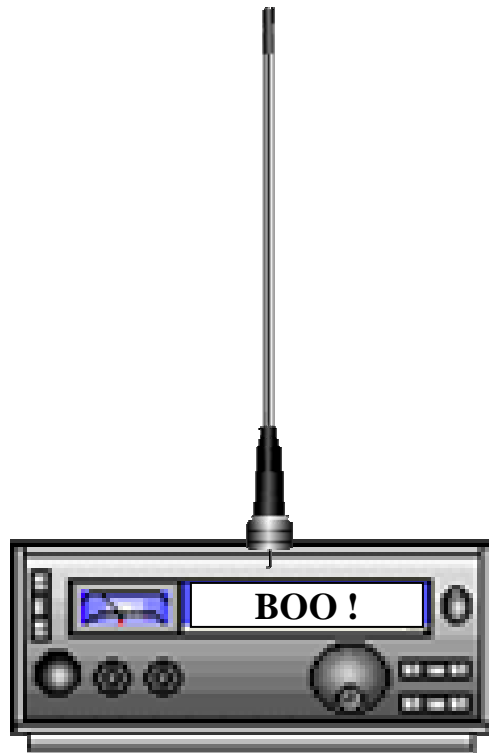
Volunteers to serve on a Ham of the Year Award committee are needed.

Volunteers to serve on a By-Laws Review Committee are needed.

Elections of Club officers will be held at the next regular club meeting Oct.2. All members are welcome to run for office and join the current slate of candidates which consists of the present officers (Paul K4PRB read that current slate of nominees.) Keith mentioned that mid-term vacancies of the Treasurer and Communications Officer are expected and new candidates for those offices or understudies for same which may be appointed by the BOD to fill those mid-term vacancies are especially needed.

By unanimous voice vote those present voted to accept family membership applications of Scott Novotny AA0EI & wife Sharon N0SHN, and Margaret Galotti KI4EIR & son Alex KI4EIS.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.



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Monthly newsletter of the Chesapeake
Amateur Radio Service (CARS)

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CARS : Repeaters

146.610 MHz (PL 100.0)
146.820 (PL 162.2) MHz
444.000 MHz

W4CAR Trustee: Bill Runyon WF4R

CARS OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

President: Keith Ainsley KG4ZXX

Vice President: Bill Runyon WF4R

Secretary: Paul Buckwalter K4PRB

Treasurer: Rich Graham N5RAG

Communications Officer

Reggie White W5SSB

Past President:

Ruth Bigio KB4LIF

Public Service Coordinator:

Leo Kusuda KG4PWC

Repeater Committee Chairman:

Bill Runyon WF4R

Spring Fest Coordinator:

Leo Kusuda KG4PWC