

Club President:

Bill Caldwell - KC9ERL

Vice President:

Chris Hosfield - KC9CQD

Secretary/Treas.:

Terry Lenehan - WM9M

Emergency

Coordinator:

Mark Phillips - W9PC

VE Testing Liason:

Sam Paul - W9AH

Repeater Trustees:

Jon Crispen - K9JRC

Larry Neal - N9SFA

Club Website:

<http://www.qsl.net/wm9m/ccarc.htm>

2004 Officer Elections

During the last meeting new officer elections were held. As a result Bill Caldwell and Chris Hosfield will be the new club officers for the next year.

- It is definitely important to thank Larry Neal and Craig Cooper for the countless hours both have served the club in their role through the last two years (at least). They did a fantastic job leading the club and they have earned a little time-off to recover.

What is a Net check-in?



The CCARC has a net that meets each week at 8:00 PM (0100 UTC) on the linked club repeater system. The net provides those participating with practical experience of operation through a controlled manner in preparation for an emergency event which requires activation of amateur radio operators for emergency operations.

Where can the club repeaters be found?

Great question, the club repeaters can be found on the 146.61 MHz with a (-) offset configured for 2 meter operation. The other frequency is 442.575 MHz with a (+) offset configured for 70cm operation. In the event the 146.61 machine is unavailable we will operate simplex on that frequency or move to the 147.045 machine.

What is a linked repeater system?

You are filled with great questions. A linked repeater system provides a mechanism to tie two active repeater systems together thereby providing additional flexibility for simultaneous operations on different bands in addition to the increased coverage area that is provided by the use of repeater systems.

It's Spring, Have Cleaned Your Shack? Anything to Sell?

Spring cleaning is a part of almost everyone's activities. Have you found some items laying around that you would like to see someone get some use out of? Or would you like to clear that spot to put something else in its place? Newly licensed ham's can learn a lot by sorting through an old box of junk that maybe repairable. Forward the item description and sale price back to WM9M to include in the newsletter for the next month.

Virginia City, BPL Provider Part Ways; Pepco opts out of BPL Investment (ARRL Newsletter)

The City of Manassas, Virginia, and broadband over power line (BPL) franchisee Prospect Street Broadband have parted company, and the city is seeking a new business partner. The decision to

terminate the joint venture was mutual, according to city officials, and the city has acquired Prospect Street's interests. Manassas was planning to open bids from prospective replacement BPL providers June 7.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, called the failure of the Prospect Street-Manassas deal just another example of a BPL deployment decision gone awry. He also predicted that BPL would not prove to be the revenue generator the city anticipates. Under the franchise agreement, Manassas receives 10.5 percent of BPL revenue and is responsible only for the relatively small cost of equipment installation. The failure of the franchise agreement leaves the city with obligations that far exceed revenues, however.

The first municipally owned utility to offer citywide BPL, Manassas has changed the name of its project from the Broadband over Powerline Enterprise to the Telecommunications Services Enterprise. City budget documents indicate that Manassas is prepared to loan \$400,000 to the Telecommunications Services Enterprise Fund "to finance operating expenses" in Fiscal Year 2005.

The city's small BPL field trial involved fewer than a dozen homes and businesses in an area with underground utility wiring and no nearby Amateur Radio licensees. "Results of the eighteen-month pilot program were favorable and demonstrated BPL as a viable technology for the delivery of data services," the city's bid invitation declares. The city approved full-scale BPL deployment last October and started offering the service in February. The contract with Prospect Street Broadband apparently was terminated several weeks later.

The city's glowing pro-BPL comments on the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rule Making in ET Docket 04-37, filed May 3, neglect to mention the cancellation of the Prospect Street agreement.

The comments also say the city "remains sensitive" to Amateur Radio's interference fears. Manassas Utilities Director Allen P. Todd, W4VUB, has met with members of the Ole Virginia Hams (OVH) Amateur Radio Club to address their concerns, the comments note, and a BPL connection was set up in the home of OVH member Bob Zaepfel, K4HJF. The city made a letter from Todd describing its efforts to cooperate with local amateurs part of its comments to the FCC. That letter says that during informal tests in early April, OVH members were "unable to identify any interference in the amateur bands being caused by BPL installation." Todd's letter did not provide test details.

The Manassas Journal Messenger reported this week that two neighborhoods now are fully equipped for the service, and, to date, 200 customers are using the service, although the bid proposal says the city's deployment of BPL "passes more than 2000 homes with the fiber infrastructure passing more than 4,000 homes, and fiber construction continuing each day." Manassas charges \$28.95 a month for its BPL service. The city is supposed to complete its citywide BPL rollout by this fall. City officials told the Journal Messenger that the Prospect Street contract termination will not affect BPL delivery.

Elsewhere, Pepco, a utility serving 700,000 Washington, DC, and Maryland customers, and its parent company, Pepco Holdings Inc,

have decided to forgo any investment in BPL. Pepco continues to operate a BPL field test in Potomac, Maryland. The utility is continuing discussions with BPL partner Current Technologies and has indicated it's open to proposals to lease access to their power lines to deliver broadband service.

Pepco was said to be less interested in delivering broadband than in finding ways to improve its billing systems. A company spokesperson said the decision not to invest in BPL applies to all Pepco Holdings Inc companies.

Additional information on BPL and video clips from field trial sites are on the ARRL Web site
<<http://www.arrl.org/bpl/>>. <http://www.arrl.org/bpl/>>.

Field Day Checklist

The following list is just a subset that will be needed for field day. Have you gotten any of these items? Are they in your box to bring to the event?

1. Rigs and computers for logging: W9PC, KC9ERL, WM9M are bring rigs for primary service (N9SFA is bring a backup rig.)
2. Roller inductor tuners: KC9DYM, KC9ERL, W9PC and N9SFA for backup?
3. Generators: N9SFA, K9DGS, KB9ZNN (backup generator)
4. Yellow light bulbs (keep the bugs down)
5. 5 gallon gas cans (filled)
6. Antenna: K9DGS, W9PC, and N9SFA(?)
7. Tents in case the trailers don't come through or for a little shut eye between shifts.
8. Tables for equipment
9. Scented candles to keep bugs away (specifically if we are using the tent)
10. Rope to be used for antennas
11. Power cords and outlet strips

Upcoming Testing Session

The next club testing is upcoming for the month of July, it will be at the Frankfort Public Library on the 2nd floor across from the Theatre. The testing session starts at 9:00AM and typically ends at 11:00am. If you plan to attend, please let one of the many VE's that participate know so that we can look for you. They include Sam Paul – W9AH, John Guffy – W9ILO, Don Reeder – K9DGS, Mark Phillips – W9PC, Stephen Tharp – K9MD, or Terry Lenehan – WM9M to name a few.

Please see the website <http://www.qsl.net/wm9m/ccarc.htm> for specifics about the testing session. *Special Reminder-If upgrading, please bring your license or a copy of your license.*

Code Practice Net (CW for all)

on HOLD temporarily, but to return soon.

Every Tuesday evening (except the first Tuesday of the month, which is the club meeting) at 7:30 PM on the 146.610/442.575 MHz repeaters will be a Code Practice Net. The net is sponsored/directed by Mark Phillips – W9PC and all are welcome to listen, participate, and/or check-in.

June Club Meeting Minutes

The June club meeting was held on the 1st, with the following information recorded:

Attendees:

Craig Cooper	KB9JDW	John Davey	N9SEZ
Bruce Butler	KC9DYL	Kevin Hall	KC9DYM
Tony Hardesty	KB9LKD	Don Reeder	K9DGS
Mark Phillips	W9PC	Bill Stong	K9FUE
Bill Caldwell	KC9ERL	Jon Crispen	K9JRC
Chris Hosfield	KC9CQD	Larry Neal	N9SFA
Ray Smith	KC9EPH	Bruce Butler	KB9DHI
Duane McHale	KC9ZNN	Terry Lenehan	WM9M

Minutes:

Old Business:

Treasures report - \$1,615.23

Field Day setup will be on Friday afternoon and evening. Met Saturday morning around 8:00AM, finish setup and eat at noon. Operations start at 1:00PM. We'll have CW, GOTA and a SSB station. Anyone wanting to setup a VHF station is welcome to do so. A lot of discussion about who brings what to cover our bases.

Committee reports – Skywarn report, Bill was appointed as assistant emergency coordinator and a list of contacts within the county was provided for him. While the 146.61 repeater system is down, we will use the 147.045 machine in its place.

Mark determined that you don't go to dealers to talk about trailer s. Kevin found a line on a construction trailer that might serve our purposes. Kevin, Terry and Jon will road trip to Bloomfield to look at a trailer in the coming weeks.

Mark will turn over dues to Terry from those he's collected dues from.

Need 4 copies of the Tornado DVD for Doc, John G, Chris, and an extra copy for Bill.

Mark will sell you power connectors at cost and will crimp them for you.

Monthly newsletters avail. in hard copy for those who don't have internet connectivity

New Business:

Repeater news- 2 mtr is down. Larry has caled Chris in Kokomo, but he's been ill.

2 mtr antena at Verns got turned to the west and that seemed to lower the SWR.

Terry has been researching the web for possible grant money to help with repeater expenses.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

June 14, 2004	Net checkin – N9SEZ, John (net control operator)
June 19, 2004	Kid's Day Operating Event, 1800Z-2400Z.
June 21, 2004	Net checkin – N9SEZ, John (net control operator)
June 25, 2004	2004 Field Day, preliminary setup (move trailers and tents)
June 26, 2004	2004 Field Day, setup starts first thing in the morning, contacts to begin at 1:00pm. See the club website for details and directions to Camp Collum.
June 27, 2004	2004 Field Day, contacts stop at 1:00pm, cleanup to follow.
June 28, 2004	Net checkin – KC9ERL, Bill (net control operator)
July 5, 2004	Net checkin – W9PC, Mark (net control operator)
July 6, 2004	Club Meeting – Frankfort Public Library
July 12, 2004	Net checkin – N9SEZ, John (net control operator)
July 19, 2004	Net checkin – N9SEZ, John (net control operator)
July 26, 2004	Net checkin – KC9ERL, Bill (net control operator)

