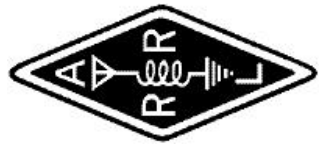


W4GA LOG

APRIL 2012

AUCTION



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Leigh Anne Brewster

It's hard to believe it is already April! The time seems to have passed so quickly since taking office in September. I have truly enjoyed having the privilege and honor to both lead and serve you. With the support of the Board of Directors, Officers, and members, I have implemented a few changes to how our club conducts its business.

Over the course of 6 months, we have instituted an Elmer (mentor) Program, restored the reading of both the secretary's and treasurer's reports at meetings, taught both old and new short programs, revamped the club brochure and member letter, created membership packages for both new and renewing members, coordinated a semi-annual social meeting (with more to come), and started our points system known as "Bacon Bits".

The Elmer Program helps both the new and experienced amateurs to receive instruction or information from those who have spent more time in certain areas of the hobby. Through the Elmer Program, members are able to take their needs and questions and receive the best advice possible. Another item that the members requested was more transparency in the club's business. As previously mentioned, both the secretary's and treasurer's reports are being read at our monthly business meeting. These reports are available at any club member's request. To me, no club or organization can be successful without their membership knowing what is happening and where money is being spent. Along with the aforementioned items, in the past month or so, club membership packets have been developed and will be distributed upon request to any new or renewing member. The packet will contain a club brochure, welcome letter, membership card, the officers and board members' contact information, and a local repeater list.

In January, we had a very successful Club Member Social event. There were around 44 people in attendance for this

event! This event provided an opportunity for everyone to get to know one another on a more personal level and to share their interests with fellow club members. There was a multitude of amazing foods and the conversation was equally wonderful. Since that meeting, there has been discussion of possibly meeting for the social aspect of the hobby more often. Right now, we are in the planning stages of organizing the next event in July. Hope to see you there!

The “Bacon Bits” points system that has been developed and implemented helps to recognize those who are most active in our club. By participating in club events such as the VE test sessions, Wednesday Night Nets, attending club meetings, and operating/participating in club events members earn points. At the end of the year, each and every member that has received at least 5 points will receive a certificate of recognition to thank them for their efforts. . In addition to a certificate, the “Top 3” in Bacon Bits Points will receive a plaque and a gift card. This system is also being used as a tracking tool for us to be able to review participation levels during our events as well as to recognize those who “go the extra mile” to benefit the club, community, and Amateur Radio.

Being the leader of the Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club isn't a one person job. Help me to serve you by offering me your ideas, support, and/or suggestions. I value your input and will continue to move our club forward in a positive direction. If you have received this edition of “The Log” and aren't a member of the RVARC, please join us for a meeting or club event and see the camaraderie our club has to offer.

Thought for today

Resistance is not futile, it is voltage divided by ohms.

AMATEUR NEWS ITEMS

Election of Club Officers

At the meeting in September, new club officers for 2012 were elected. Leigh Ann KJ4YMK will be the first YL elected as president of the RVARC. Newly elected vice-president will be Jim Martin AK4LB. Continuing for another term are Mike KF4PHW as secretary and Ray KK4HR as treasurer.

Roanoke ARES

Kennie Harris W4GIS has been appointed ARES EC for Roanoke County, replacing Phil Roark K4WFO. Kenzie will be looking for help with maintaining and operating the amateur stations at the EOC in Roanoke City, Roanoke County, and Salem City.

Dayton Hamvention

The annual super hamfest sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association will take place in Dayton , Ohio on May 18-20, 2012. Check the website at www.hamvention.com for more information.

Upcoming ARRL Contests

June 9-10 June VHF QSO Party
June 16 Kids Day
June 23-24 Field Day

Silent Keys

Robert "Bob" Anderson	K4UMK
William David "Bill" Reed, Jr.	W4PLS
Lee Baron Mosley	WA4AJG

All of these active club members have been missed, Bob was a longtime member and supporter of RVARC. Bill and Lee contributed many hours working with the students at William Byrd Middle School and the K4WBM station.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

April

- 27 RVARC Club Meeting
- 28 RVARC Auction

May

- 5 ITT Scout Safety Awareness Day
- 11 RVARC Club Meeting
- 12 Breakfast Social at Golden Corral
- 20 VE Test Session
- 25 RVARC Club Meeting
- 26-27 Festival in the Park

June

- 8 RVARC Club Meeting
- 22 RVARC Club Meeting (at FD site)
- 23-24 ARRL Field Day

July

- 13 RVARC Club Meeting
- 15 VE Test Session
- 27 RVARC Club Meeting

August

- 4 Roanoke Hamfest 2012
- 10 RVARC Club Meeting

From the Editor

Be a reporter for the W4CA LOG! Submit articles or news items related to amateur radio in and around the Roanoke Valley. Items for the newsletter should be sent by email to k4wfo@arrl.net or by regular mail to Phil Roark K4WFO , 405 Yorkshire St., Salem, VA 24153. Pictures should be kept separate from text. Ads in FOR SALE/WANTED are free for amateur radio related items. Please include call-sign, name , and phone number with ad.



FROM THE PAST

This picture was taken at the Roanoke Hamfest on May 17, 1959. These were the “Ole Timers” who had been licensed more than 25 years. The call signs are right to left:

W4CYK	Joe Francis
W4ATQ	
W4AOI	
W4CVO	
W4KX	
W4JFV	John Altizer
W4JG	
W4BTL	Eldridge Emswiler
W4JXE	William Butts
W4JXJ	
W4JAR	Gene Minter
W4BFK	Joe Briggs
W4IWW	

Several of these were identified by Doug Moore K4WVS. Do you know any of the others? Do you know where this picture was taken?

The photo was sent to the club by Carol Laferty K4SAF, widow of Fred Laferty W4DF.

RVARC AUCTION APRIL 28

The 2012 Roanoke Valley ARC auction will be held Saturday April 28, at the Red Cross in downtown Roanoke. The Red Cross is located at 352 Church Avenue. The auctioneer will start at 9:00 am. Doors will open at 7:30 am. Sellers should be there between 7:30 am and 8:30 am to check in their items for sale. The auction will be in the auditorium.

Admission is free of charge, but all bidders and sellers are required to obtain a tracking number. Anyone can bring Ham radio items for consignment sale. This year we have radio equipment from three estates to be sold. The RVARC auction is a fund raising event for the club.

All items sold on consignment will be subject to minimum fee of 10% of the sale price. The seller may adjust the fee from 10% to 100%. Donations to RVARC are welcome and very much appreciated. Any sold or unsold items must be removed at the conclusion of the auction. Nothing can be left at the Red Cross building.

Michael's (KF4PHW) mom, Liz will provide food concession with good food at good prices. Expect sausage biscuits for breakfast and hotdogs and chicken salad sandwiches for lunch. Sodas and coffee will also be available.

Please join the fun at the W4CA/Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club Auction on April 28. As always, thank you for your help in raising funds for the Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club.

To gain more information about the Auction contact Dave Kinsey/KS4BO at KS4BO@clubhouse.roacoxmail.net



2008 Auction



2010 Auction



2010 Auction



2010 Auction

Remarque P. Buckley Moss Print #376/384

“Mountain Homestead”

Sold Out – Rare Print issued in 2005

Original Signature of artist

Estimated Value: \$950

Measurements are IS: 22x33-1/8. PS 24x35-1/8. The picture features the Hofauger House, circa 1837, located in Explore Park, Roanoke County, VA. The print was released at a Collector’s Convention in Roanoke in August 2005. We are very fortunate to have the most valuable print ever donated to the RVARC and it is of a local attraction. Of particular interest is that only 384 prints were issued. Pat Moss made this print a *remarque* by adding the boy on the fence and adding to the man and woman carrying the basket as well as the girl standing on the porch.

Proceeds from the donation of ticket sales will be used to pay for door prizes and bingo prizes at the Hamfest.

Please help us out by selling and buying lots of tickets in order to enhance the prizes we award at the Hamfest.

We will be selling tickets at the RVARC Auction on April 28th. If you need tickets to buy or sell, please call Marion KJ4EGX or Phil K4WFO at 387-4487.



ACTIVITY REPORTS

2011 FIELD DAY – GOTA

Ron Ramsey AB4A

The GOTA station at Field Day did very well this year. It was on the air all but two hours of the 24-hour limit. We had seven youth operators, with five of them logging a contact for a 100 bonus. Also we had 6 individuals logging at least 20 contacts for an additional 120 bonus, which was doubled because of a full-time coach. This gave the GOTA station 340 points in bonus points. We had a total of 150 phone contacts and 12 digital contacts at 100 W. Phone being worth one and digital two with a power multiplier of three, we were able to contribute 742 points to our total score.

Friday I arrived a little late on site about 8:30am, because of a second trip to the storage unit. Put up the signs on the way in while listening to Ray AB4YZ (our host) run the Weed-eater for an hour. First order of business is always getting the drinks and water out for our workers but it started to rain (the only bad weather we saw all weekend). After a rain delay the help started showing up. We started setting up the GOTA station; pop-up shelter first just in case it started raining again, table and chairs and computer with a shop light. The generator arrived so we changed to that project. Power cables were rolled out and I added an extension cord to the GOTA station. By now it's about 20 minutes after 2 o'clock so we set up the 40 m station with the club FT-990. I left the work crew to put the 80m and 40m phone dipoles while I put the club vertical antenna up. When I returned to the tent the lights were on, so we set up the radios and computer and powered them up. Set the computer up for PSK31 with DigiPan and hit Tune. Turned the power down to 50 W. Everything works great, made two or three contacts on 20 m and 40 m to demonstrate to digital mode to our work crew. We're on the air with no problems. Something is definitely wrong when we have no

problems. Take a little time to set up my personal tent since we're ahead.

Quick break to check on the 40 m station and grab a drink. They're up and running also. Work crew having a little trouble with the 80 m dipole but they're going to persevere. Walk over to the CW station but they already have the beam and the 40m CW dipole up. Good work everyone.

Socialized with every one for a while and had a wonderful club meeting in the outdoors. The group that's going to work the satellite arrived during the meeting, so everyone went out to eat while they set their equipment up and watched the site. No one was going to operate so the generator was turned off. Return to camp, total quietness with crickets and a Whippoorwill way up in the holler. This has to be one of my favorite times at Field Day. No fire yet, just some soft noises from the younger crowd working on the satellite station.

Saturday started with a quick trip out to Hardee's and Kroger's for ice. Field Day site looks like an ant farm. Five hours until we can start operating. Fire up the generator and check out the radios. It acts like we don't have an antenna, now this is more like Field Day. Linda N4LCL went to check the club vertical, she just touches the connection and it starts working. HIT TUNE !!! Hi SWR's!!! Take the connection apart to find a loose wire but Dave KS4BO has a soldering iron. Before we can repair the jumper, Ray has an electrical problem with his air-conditioning to the RV. THIS is DEFINITELY FIELD DAY. Return to find someone has already repaired the jumper, we're on the air finally. Charlie AB4SK fine-tunes the vertical antenna. Even have time for a quick lunch. A nice group of under 18 year old operators are ready to start things off. Our star operator has to be Hannah Webber an 8-year-old. By the end of Field Day, she could call CQ or Hunt and Pounce like an old-timer. Hope all of the other operators had as much fun as she did.

Hamfest 2011 Report

The 2011 Roanoke Valley Hamfest was held at William Byrd High School on August 6, 2011. There seemed to be the same size crowd as in prior years, but a lot of new faces. Charlie AB4SK is to be applauded for his efforts in making this hamfest a success.

The hamfest VE test session produced many new and upgraded hams. Congratulations to three new technicians, Iva Daniels, Robert Wills, and James Bailey. Upgrading were W4TKW, KF4VLT, WB4PWZ, KC2IMD, KJ4PZZ, WB2CJU, KK4DGF, KJ4SNT, and KK4DGG. Thanks to Wally W5WMD and all the other VEs who make this happen.

Marion KJ4EGX and all the helpers work hard to make the bingo game good entertainment with a chance to win some small prizes.

Every hamfest must have door-prizes. This year a total of 21 hourly prizes and 5 main prizes were awarded.

1st prize went to KJ4YMK Yaesu FT-7900 mobile

2nd prize went to AK4HX Yaesu FT-2900 mobile

3rd prize went to WA4MPJ Yaesu VX-3R handheld

4th prize went to K9PJ Woxhun handheld

5th prize went to WA4AJG Woxhun handheld

Richard Turner KZ4VT won the set of three P. Buckley Moss prints. "Bruton Parish Church", "The Governor's Palace", and "The Capitol"

Chapter 202 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association held their quarterly meeting at the hamfest. An excellent presentation on contesting was given by Mark Sihlanick N2QT.

The main vendors this year were AC/DC Electronics, Quicksilver, DBj Electronics.

ROANOKE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Club call sign W4CA

Meetings 2nd and 4th Friday 8PM
Roanoke Red Cross
305 Church Ave.
Roanoke, VA

Officers:

President	Leigh Anne Brewster KJ4YMK
Vice President	Jim Martin AK4LB
Secretary	Mike Hevener KF4PHW
Treasurer	Ray Pillow KK4HR

Mail P.O. Box 2002
Roanoke, VA 24009

E-Mail admin@w4ca.us
Website www.w4ca.us

Repeaters 146.985 -600 PL=107.2
442.500 +5000

Club net Wednesday 8:00 pm 146.985 repeater

W4CA LOG Published Quarterly JAN, APR, JUL, OCT

Mark your calendar!

The Roanoke Hamfest will be at William Byrd High School on August 4, 2012. The location is 2902 E. Washington Ave., Vinton, VA. Plan to attend. As always there will be door prizes, vendors, VE tests, bingo, food concession, and a flea market. The hamfest chairman this year is Phil Roark K4WFO.

**Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 2002
Roanoke, VA 24009**

