

VOX



HUNTSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Huntsville, Alabama

Volume 44, Number 11

December, 2004

Huntsville Amateur Radio Club Information

Club Officers

President:

Woodie Zeigler, K8GNM
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Vice President:

John C. Hilliard, K4JCH
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Secretary:

Rolf Goedhart K4RGG.
k4rgg@arrl.net

Treasurer:

Heath Thorson, KC4HRX, 489-1240
hthorson@knology.net

The club's address is Box 423, Huntsville, Ala. 35804. Meetings are held each Friday night at 7:30 P.M. at the American Red Cross Building, 1101 Washington Street. Dues are \$12.00 per year, family memberships are \$15.00 per year. The club maintains a Web Site at "http://www.harc.net"

The North Alabama Repeater Association operates repeaters on 146.34 / 146.94, 147.78 / 147.18, 223.34 / 224.94 and 448.5 / 443.5. NARA dues are \$16.00 per year and may be sent to NARA at P.O. Box 18941 Huntsville, AL 35804-8941.

The club's packet radio interest group, HUNTSPAC, maintains an extensive packet network for the Huntsville area. Dues for use of this network are \$15.00 per year, and can be paid through the HARC Secretary-Treasurer listed above.

The club's ATV special interest group, TVATV operates an ATV repeater. It's input frequency is 439.25 MHz and its output is 421.25 MHz. A voice coordination repeater is operated with output frequency of 145.33 MHz, input 600 kHz down.

The Vox is published the third Friday of each month except for August. Editor of the Vox is Frank Emens, W4HFU, 3714 Lakewood Circle, Huntsville, Ala. 35811 or femens@hiwaay.net. Material of interest to the HARC membership should be submitted to the editor by the second Friday of the month of publication.

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A Newsletter published monthly except for August by the Huntsville Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 423, Huntsville, AL 35804

from Cbe Prez

Congratulations, Field Day crew. You made FIRST in Class, Fourth in overall QSO's and Eighth place overall.

Coming events:

December 3 Christmas party

December 17 Membership and Vox stuffing night

73, Woodie, K8GNM

from Cbe Deep

On December 12 will be a presentation on Code Talkers thanks to Bob KG4LOQ. Here is what Bob sent me that is on the box:

"From 1942 to 1945 the US Marine Corps recruited over 400 Navajo Indians for duty as communications specialists. These specially trained Navajos, known as Code Talkers, devised an unbreakable voice code to transmit battlefield messages during the Pacific Campaign.

From Guadalcanal to Iwo Jima to Okinawa, the Code Talkers transmitted and received military messages in coded Navajo that could not be broken by the Japanese.

"Navajo Code Talkers: The Epic Story" is the first authoritative and comprehensive documentary to examine a little-known chapter in both Marine Corps and Navajo history during World War II.

This brilliant and fast-paced video brings to life the compelling story of the Navajo Code Talkers whose amazing skills played a vital role in America's victory in the Pacific."

I hope many people will come out and see this. I believe it will be a very good video.

73, John Hilliard, K4JCH

HARC Members Involved In UAH Experiments

Hot times for ham radio at UAH on Saturday, Nov 13th, despite less-than-balmy weather. Two balloons went up, with an assortment of APRS, ATV, and beacon transmitters, on the

heels of a 90,000+ ft success the preceding Saturday. At the same time, RF locating experiments were being held across the street. Hams in general and HARC members in particular were on all sides of these activities - representing UAH faculty and students, vol-



Discussion with sponsor of UAH antenna experiment. In the background to the right of KG4CUY is AE4AQ.

CAVEC License Exams

Exam sessions are held at 9:00 AM the first Saturday of each month unless a holiday causes the session to be delayed for one week.

Upcoming sessions are:
Saturday, December 4
Saturday, January 8

For information contact:

Larry Frost, KR4GU, 864-3244
kr4gu@hamfest.org

Or

Don Tunstill, W4NO, 536-3904
dontunstill@hamfest.org

Exam Sessions are held the 3rd Saturday of each month at 1:00. In even numbered months they are held at the Athens EOC. In odd numbered months they are held in Madison at

Intergraph, Building 15

For information contact Bob Hudson, W4RKH, 461-7905



Transmit side of antenna experiment. Note antenna, poised to irradiate the target with a mighty 7.4 mW EIRP.



Receive side of antenna experiment. AE4AQ, KG4CUY in foreground in another deep discussion, KG4UWE in the yellow jacket.

unteers, and contractors. This is one more instance where HARC does make a difference in our community.

That dip in temperature, and a little wind, tells us what we can expect for

the Rocket City Marathon - remember, the runners are wearing a whole lot less that we are! Give Chris Reed, KF4MMF,

a call to volunteer - and bring your ear-muffs!

73, Tom Duncan, KG4CUY
Madison County ARES
 update

Thanks to all those who participated in the ARRL SET back in October. We had great response from everyone and had the opportunity to test our emergency power capabilities thanks to Hurricane Ivan 2. One of the major lessons learned from the first Ivan, was the need for a backup power source. Many areas in Florida and South Alabama lost power which meant no communication for days and in some cases for weeks. That was the focus of the SET and thanks to Ron, W4VM we were able to test several repeaters back up power by pulling the plug. It also gave us the opportunity to see how the plan to switch to repeaters worked. There are several

HARC ACTIVITY CALENDAR FOR December, 2004						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	1 Southeast Linked Repeater Net 2000 on +442.775 PL 203.5 Hz	2 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	3 HARC Christmas Party at Red Cross	4 *TWIAR Cavec Exams, Red Cross Bldg, 0900
5	6	7 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	8 Southeast Linked Repeater Net 2000 on +442.775 PL 203.5 Hz	9 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	10 HARC Meeting VIDEO: Navajo Code Talkers	11 *TWIAR Rocket kCity Marathon -- YourHelp is needed!
12	13	14 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	15 Southeast Linked Repeater Net 2000 on +442.775 PL 203.5 Hz	16 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	17 HARC Meeting Vox Night help us get the January Vox out	18 *TWIAR
19	20	21 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	22 Southeast Linked Repeater Net 2000 on +442.775 PL 203.5 Hz	23 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	24 No Meeting Watch for a fellow working reindeer mobile	25 *TWIAR
26	27	28 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	29 Southeast Linked Repeater Net 2000 on +442.775 PL 203.5 Hz	30 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	31 No Meeting New Year's Eve	1 *TWIAR Be alert for football overexposure
2	3	4 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	5 Southeast Linked Repeater Net 2000 on +442.775 PL 203.5 Hz	6 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	7 HARC Meeting	8 *TWIAR Cavec Exams, Red Cross Bldg, 0900

*TWIAR -- This Week In Amateur Radio, +442.775 PL203.5 Hz 8 PM Every Saturday
 ATV Net @ 20:00, Check in on 145.33, Tuesdays
 Southeast Linked Repeater Net on +442.775, PL 203.5 Hz @ 20:00, Wednesdays
 Madison County Emergency Net on 34/94 @19:30, Thursdays
 SkyWarn Net on 147.24 @ 20:00, Thursdays

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lessons learned and we have had several good discussions during the HARC meetings regarding possible solutions. Stay tuned for plan updates.

If you or another ham would like to register with ARES drop me an e-mail or register online at the Alabama ARRL web page at: www.arrrl-al.org. Greg Sarratt, W4OZK has created an online registration form. Fill it out and it adds you to the state ARES database coordinated by our State Emergency Coordinator, Jay Isbell KA4KUN. That information is also e-mailed to me at kf4mmf@arrrl.net and will also be included in our Madison County contact list.

Our training nets continue to have good participation. Special thanks to Robby, KG4PLK for calling quite a few of the training sessions over the past several weeks including the net for the SET. Howard Johnson, KG4WOU is the Assistant EC that also heads up the Net Manager position. If you are interested in calling the training net, e-mail him at ares@kg4wou.com. Eventually, we would like to have folks sign up to call the net and have everyone take their

turn. It is not difficult to call, takes about 30 minutes and maybe another 30 minutes to type up the net totals and send them in by e-mail. Hope to hear you on the training net each Thursday at 7:30 pm on the 146.940 repeater.

73, Chris Reed, KF4MMF

Bartlow Around The World In 91 Days Trip Truncated

Leigh & Iona were sending emails to a group of folks with reports of their activities on their around the world trip. Each report included a photograph of something they had encountered at their current location. I started collecting these reports and the pictures to put together a booklet that would serve as a record of the trip.

Then the emails seemed to dry up with no further reports after October 28. Then we received the following reports:

November 13:

Well folks, if you thought we fell off the edge, we did.

Hurt my back seriously during a rather rough commercial jet landing at Xi'an, China. Suffered a fractured L1 vertebra - ended up in the hospital in Xi'an, then here in hospital in Manila. Iona & I expect to be flown home in about 2 weeks. We're here in a 10th floor VIP room at the Asian Hospital and Medical Center.

*LB
November 15:*

Hi all,

Just a quick update on my medical progress here in Manila, where I'm in an Ambassador room on the 10th floor of the Asian Hospital and Medical Center. Iona is staying here also.

The back injury sustained in Xi'an, China that started this whole thing seems to be responding to the TLC here at Asian. See also <http://www.asianhospital.com> Nine of 12 doctors that we have had direct contact with at Asian, including all of the senior physicians, have trained and practiced in the US - providing a warm feeling; and many patients from this part of the world seek out Asian for serious medical problems. Although I

haven't had the courage to attempt walking yet, I have sat on the edge of the bed for a brief time, and can pretty well sit up at the max angle provided by the hospital bed.

May not be able to send for a few days while in ICU following multiple bypass surgery tomorrow - Tuesday, Nov 16. We will be getting to the cardiac floor - 7th - along about Thursday or Friday Philippine time (14 hours ahead of US Central time). Two weeks is the projected time to recover sufficiently in order to return home to Huntsville.

Later. LB

I'm sure everybody reading this will join me in wishing a safe and speedy recovery for Leigh. We'll all be looking forward to his safe return to Alabama.

I'll still produce the booklet, but it will be considerably shorter than it was expected to be.

73, Frank Emens, W4HFU

NARA Notes

Greetings from the new Alabama Repeater Council President. Yes I jumped into yet something else but I figure it might be a bit easier than Frequency Coordinator. Time will tell!

It is time again for the big HARC / NARA kickoff meeting on January 7th 2005 and election time again.

If you would like to serve as a NARA officer, we would love to hear from you. We don't really have a nominating committee because I figure I can manage that since I'm not running for NARA president. Yep, you heard right - someone else has already agreed to be nominated yea! I'll let it be a surprise but you already know him. I'll still be around but I'm not sure which position our new pres might like me to be in. Again, If you want to play, don't be shy, jump in.

We are planning on the HARC/NARA Joint membership drive stick on for Fri Dec 17th which is the same night as Vox night. Many hands make light work so please come join us!

I have not closed the loop with all the folks working the Rocket City Marathon but I still hope to link '18 and '94 together to support that event. I suppose last years com plan would be fine as well in the event that does not come together. We will help out however we can.

There are ongoing projects on all 3 major repeaters which we will update

you on at the January 7th meeting. See you there!

*Merry Christmas! Ron Shaffer, W4VM,
NARA President*

Rocket City Marathon

While Leigh Bartlow, WD4CPF and Iona make their trip around the world, planning continues for HARC support of the 28th annual Rocket City Marathon on Decemeber 11 at 8 am. HARC has provided communications support for the event since its inception and this year the tradition continues in a few days. Leigh asked me to lead the effort for 2004. Thus far we have received great volunteer support, but we still have open slots at several of the normal checkpoints. If you have helped with the marathon in the past, or would like to assist with this years effort, its not to late. E-mail me at kf4mmf@arrl.net and we will gladly bring you on board.

As part of the marathon support, we will have someone in the lead vehicle and sag wagons. We will have volunteers at designated points throughout the course reporting back to race control the lead runners as they pass the various mile markers. More important than the times, is the information that someone may be hurt. HARC has relayed this critical information to medical personnel in past years. We are also working to coordinate APRS support for the event. All volunteers need to be in place between 7:30 before roads start to be blocked. Course maps are available at the Huntsville Track Club web site: www.huntsvilletrackclub.org.

The Huntsville Track Club appreciates the assistance that HARC has provided through the years. Thanks to all those who have signed up so far, and we hope you sign up to support the Rocket City Marathon.

73, Chris Reed, KF4MMF

The Giggle Box

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYBODY THAT WAS BORN IN DECEMBER!!

A note from Giggles: I can't believe that Christmas, 2004, is almost here. I'm already looking forward to 2005. I hope everyone has a fantastic Christmas. We are planning the HARC Christmas Party for Friday, December 3rd. It will be at the Red Cross and will begin at 7:00pm. Bring a gag gift and join in the fun. We will have drinks and food and if you would like to bring some delicious goodies, feel free. Hopefully, Santa Claus will grace us with his pres-

ents. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

A Joke or Two

A Few Laughs Three friends from the local congregation were asked "When you're in your casket, and friends and congregation members are mourning over you, what would you like them to say?"

Artie said: "I would like them to say I was a wonderful husband, a fine spiritual leader, and a great family man."

Eugene commented: "I would like them to say I was a wonderful teacher and servant of God who made a huge difference in people's lives."

Don said "I'd like them to say, "Look, he's moving!"

Smith climbs to the top of Mt. Sinai to get close enough to talk to God. Looking up, he asks the Lord, "God, what does a million years mean to you?" The Lord replies, "A minute." Smith asks, "And what does a million dollars mean to you?" The Lord replies, "A penny." Smith asks, "Can I have a penny?" The Lord replies, "In a minute".

*** An old man goes to the Wizard to ask him if he can remove a "Curse" he has been living with for the last 40 years. The Wizard says "Maybe, but you will have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you." The old man says without hesitation, "I now pronounce you man and wife."

*** A man goes to see the Rabbi. "Rabbi, something terrible is happening and I have to talk to you about it."

The Rabbi asked, "What's wrong?"

The man replied, "My wife is poisoning me."

The Rabbi, very surprised by this, asks, "How can that be?"

The man then pleads, "I'm telling you, I'm certain she's poisoning me, what should I do?"

The Rabbi then offers, "Tell you what. Let me talk to her, I'll see what I can find out and I'll let you know." A week later the Rabbi calls the man and says, "Well, I spoke to your wife. I spoke to her on the phone for three hours. You want my advice?"

"Of course." said the man.

Rabbi replied, "Take the poison."

*** A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office. "Is it true,"

she wanted to know, "hat the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?"

"Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her.

There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked 'NO REFILLS'."

*** An older Jewish gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery and he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation. As he was about to get the anesthesia he asked to speak to his son. "Yes, Dad, what is it?" "Don't be nervous, son; do your best and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me ... your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife...."

*** A man was flying from Seattle to San Francisco. Unexpectedly, the plane stopped in Sacramento along the way. The flight attendant explained that there would be a delay, and if the passengers wanted to get off the aircraft, the plane would re-board in 50 minutes. Everybody got off the plane except one gentleman who was blind.

The man had noticed him as he walked by and could tell the gentleman was blind because his seeing eye-dog lay quietly underneath the seats in front of him throughout the entire flight. He could also tell he had flown this very flight before because the pilot approached him, and calling him by name, said, "Keith, we're in Sacramento for almost an hour. Would you like to get off and stretch your legs?" The blind man replied, "No thanks, but maybe my dog would like to stretch his legs.

Picture this: All the people in the gate area came to a complete standstill when they looked up and saw the pilot walk off the plane with a Seeing Eye dog! The pilot was even wearing sunglasses. People scattered. They not only tried to change planes, but they were trying to change airlines! True story...

Have a great day and remember... things aren't always as they appear!

Did You Know: Four Corners is noted as the spot in the United States where a person can stand in four states at the same time. Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico

The Reminder for the Month of December Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people

to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

Solve the puzzle: **LBILS LEVART OUHGRTH HET LIAM TA CEITW EHT EDESP OF KSCCEH. RRMEY SMARITSRHC**

73 Peggy Bell (Giggles) K4EGB
pbell@hiwaay.net SEW LONG!

Flea Market

Miscellaneous For Sale:

Several items from the station of Roy McFolin, WA4WRU (SK) that might be of interest to someone. Plenty of component parts (resistors, capacitors, wire, etc) for those who like to build things.



NRI VTVM

Also, a Heathkit Wattmeter, a Heathkit dummy load (1 gallon can), several older pieces of test equipment, a Motorola speaker, an old tube type



Antique Instructograph Code Practice Machine

2-meter radio, and a very large transformer and lots of other little things, like analog meters. There is even an old Instructograph, for those who can remember how to use one. These are miscellaneous items that his widow

would like to get rid of so she can clean up.

If interested in making a simple offer or for more information please email Don Wade (K4DRW)at k4drw@yahoo.com or you can also call Mrs. McFolin directly at (256) 881-4739.

Cushcraft A3S

This 3-band HF beam has been on my tower about 2 years. I am going to be moving soon and so I don't need the antenna anymore. I am asking \$220 for it.

Brian Gibson, KF4LFL, 931-703-5956
from The Editor's Wastebasket

We have had some pretty frigid weather in the weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas. I, for one, am hoping we don't have anything like the conditions reflected in the article headers this month. It would make for a rather uncomfortable Rocket City Marathon if nothing else.

We've got a rather busy few weeks coming up. I hope we get a good turnout at the Christmas Party on the 3rd and lots of help with the double stick-on coming up on the 17th.

I really enjoyed the Quest For Space video presentation. Every time I see it I get a severe case of "goose-bumps" during the countdown for the Explorer 1 satellite launch. I was not at the Cape during that launch, but knew it was coming up and was sweating it out at home. Needless to say, as soon as I got the word, I headed downtown to the Square to take part in the celebration that is shown in the video. Some months later I was at the Cape for the Explorer 4 launch and got to see the most spectacular fireworks display ever. Our launch was set for dawn. There was an Air Force Thor launch set for about 2:00 AM. It went astray and the safety officer blew it while it was in full view of the JPL telemetry trailer out in the Cape's boon-docks where I was located. I must admit there was some cheering since the AF guys were considered in competition with our ABMA/JPL bunch.. I should have some copies of that video at the next meeting.

John Farr, KC4ZXX, says there were no hamfests scheduled for the month of December in our area.

73 and Merry Christmas, Frank Emens, W4HFU



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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