

VOX



HUNTSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Huntsville, Alabama

Volume 45, Number 5

May, 2005

Huntsville Amateur Radio Club Information

Club Officers

President:

Woodie Zeigler, K8GNM
tzeiglerjr@bellsouth.net

Vice President:

John C. Hilliard, K4JCH
k4jch@aol.com

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.

"Vox", Vol 45, Nr. 5, May, 2005

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

Nara Notes:

This month found us concentrating on the 147.18 machine across the river. With the other repeaters behaving themselves, it was time to turn our attention to several pending task for 147.18.

We were successful in deploying the modified GE Master II repeater power supply, two backup batteries and charger for the 147.18 repeater system. A big thanks goes out to Gary our technical advisor for all of his hard work so that 147.18 can have emergency battery backup. This fulfills a long time planned capability. We also removed the existing GE power supply so that it can now be modified for backup duty and moved to 146.94 at a later date.

Ron and I updated the NHRC controller on 147.18 with the latest firmware revision. Ron also did some 'programming' on the remote base radio.

Lastly, we exchanged the existing 4 can set of VHF duplexers for a 5 can set that I've loaned the club. The duplexer on 147.18 was the only common piece of repeater hardware that we haven't replaced over the last couple of years. We're trying to eliminate the duplexer as a culprit for the 'crackle' problem. So far Ron reports that the crackle has not reoccurred. Since it is a random problem, time will tell if we're onto a final cure. The extra filtering from the fifth cavity may be enough to eliminate the local noise generation.

We'd put out a call for helping hands during the 147.18 trip, but it was a last minute deal so Ron, Gary and myself were the ones up on the site for a few hours. We'll try to get the word out sooner next time so that the repeater

helpers can get a look at the repeater site.

With spring here and the return of nicer weather, we will need to start thinking about some of the antenna projects in the queue for NARA. Time to do some of those 'field trips' as well.

The crystals have arrived to start work on a second remote link radio for 146.94. This second setup will once again be a GE master II mobile with UHF transmitter and VHF receiver. It is slated for our eastern remote site. We've also purchased a couple of GE Phoenix SX radios to act as remote base link radio and voter receivers at the main 146.94 site.

I've asked Gary to think about doing a small write up on the ATV repeater and amateur TV activity in the area. So

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, May 7

Saturday, June 4

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

stay tuned for this in a later edition of NARA notes.

73's NARA President Ralph Hogan W4XE
W4XE@qsl.net

**Bob Reese WA4YXW —
NNN0PVG, Silent Key**

Bob Reese became interested in Ham Radio in the 50s and became a Ham around that time, as I remember.

He remained active for many years until his hearing failed to the point that he had to give it up. He then turned his attention to computers and genealogy.

He was in the Navy in WWII, serving on the USS Denver in the Pacific. He was a gunnery captain, hence the severe hearing loss. His ship fired one of the first shots in the re-invasion of the Philippines and their first shot hit a lighthouse and destroyed it. The ship's

nickname after that was "The Lighthouse Buster".

He was active in the USS Denver association and served as its president for 6 years. He became active in Navy MARS in the 60s and I have seen him relaying messages on his RL Drake transceiver. Presumably, it was modified to operate on the Navy MARS frequencies.

I prefer not to set a minimum reserve, because it is never going to be used by Mrs. Reese or any of the rest of us. It will be much better for it to be in use by someone who will enjoy it. I am in the process of sorting material and equipment and have located just about every manual for all the equipment.

There are tons of components and small test devices of various kinds. I will be happy to come to the meeting to an-

swer any questions as best I can. Mrs. Reese would like to split the proceeds with the club in whatever is a customary percentage. perhaps 60/40- or 50/50. You all can decide what is reasonable. She is delighted that you are going to be able to give the equipment new homes and she will be ready for you all on the 23rd. I'll be there to help out also.

Best Regards, Frank Carlen, Son-In-Law of
Bob Reese

**Ham Radio Gear Inventory:
Bob Reese WA4YXW /
NNN0PVG**

- 1. R L Drake TR4 Sideband Transceiver
- 2. R L Drake Remote VFO
- 3. R L Drake MS4 Speaker
- 4. Heathkit Battery Eliminator (6/12 VDC, 5 Amp cont, 7.5 Amp max)

HARC ACTIVITY CALENDAR FOR May, 2005						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Birminghamfest Day 2	2	3 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	4 SE Linked Rptr Net 2000 +442.775/PL 203.5	5 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	6 HARC Meeting	7 *TWIAR CAVEC EXAMS 0900, Red Cross Bldg.
8	9	10 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	11 SE Linked Rptr Net 2000 +442.775/PL 203.5	12 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	13 HARC Meeting	14 *TWIAR
15	16	17 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	18 SE Linked Rptr Net 2000 +442.775/PL 203.5	19 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	20 HARC Meeting Vox & Gabfest Night Start of Dayton Hamfest	21 *TWIAR Dayton Hamfest, May 20-22
22 Dayton Hamfest	23	24 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	25 SE Linked Rptr Net 2000 +442.775/PL 203.5	26 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	27 HARC Meeting	28 *TWIAR
29	30	31 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	1 SE Linked Rptr Net 2000 +442.775/PL 203.5	2 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	3 HARC Meeting Election of Officers	47 *TWIAR CAVEC EXAMS 0900, Red Cross Bldg.

*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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Huntsville's Only Amateur Radio Store

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RF PARTS COMPANY ALINCO MFJ NEIL SOUND DIAMOND ANTENNA

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The Gallery Shopping Center 10 - 7 Mon-Sat, 1 - 4 Sun

Come see us next to Chili's!

- 5. 19"W x 24"D x 7" Tall Equipment Rack with Equipment as follows:
 - * AC Power Panel (7")
 - * HP Test Oscillator Model 650A
 - * Collins 75A Receiver
 - * Cabinet Drawer
 - * Antenna Loading Coil
 - * Lambda Power Supply Model C281M
 - * Rotron Model RFM Cabinet Coding Panel
- 6. Elmac Trans-citer Model AF67
- 7. Tektronix Oscilloscope Type 310
- 8. Miscellaneous parts, components and cables
- 9. Antenna (looks like 2 meter)
- 10. Miscellaneous equipment items

Pete Brake, WICPP is coordinating moving the equipment from the Reese residence to the Red Cross Building. The move is scheduled for 0900 on Saturday, 23 April, 2005. The address is 904 Jordan Lane. Pete will have his pickup but there may be more than he can haul. Willing hands are also welcome to

move the equipment. Pete's number is 895 1755 work days and 803 0662 evenings. Pete also lurks 147.24 morning and evening commute times.

The Giggle Box

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYBODY THAT WAS BORN IN MAY!!

A note from Giggles: I finally got the jokes or stories done and now I have to think of something in a hurry. Oh, well, here goes. If you missed the Old Timer's Meeting, you missed a fun time. We thought if we postponed the meeting til later in the year, more of the old timers would come out. Wouldn't you know it? It rained. There was some great stories told and good food ate. I can't believe it is already Spring. It is so nice outside today. I hear the lawnmowers running and children playing. I can't wait for those hamburger and hotdogs at Field Day. I'm sure there will be more details in the future Vox's. I'll be looking for you at the meeting. CUL 73

A Joke or Two

House Cleaning for the busy person:

Has your life gotten so busy and your time is always running short, no time for computing and no time for friends, then you need to read, "The quick way to do house work"...

1. Open a new file in your PC.
2. Name it "Housework."
3. Send it to the RECYCLE BIN
4. Empty the RECYCLE BIN
5. Your PC will ask you, "Are you sure you want to delete Housework permanently?"
6. Answer calmly, "Yes," and press the mouse button firmly...
7. Feel better? Works for me!

*** 3 Old Ladies at the Ball Game

This is a detective story .. So Pay Close Attention!!! Three elderly ladies are excited about seeing their first baseball

ARRL Alabama Section Leadership Team.
Check www.arrl-al.org/officers.htm for address and phone info.

Section Manager: Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, w4ozk@arrl.org
 Affiliated Club Coordinator: Jeff L OBrien, KV4CX, jeffo@zebra.net
 Assistant Section Manager for Youth Activities, Rebekah A. Dorff, WG4Y, wg4y@arrl.net
 Bulletin Manager: William K, Hensley, WG8S, whensley11@comcast.net
 Alabama Frequency Coordinator - Liaison Alabama Repeater Council: Ron Shaffer, W4VM, w4vm@comcast.net
 Official Observer Coordinator: Ken Magnant, WA4WEY, kmagnant@att.net

Public Information Coordinator: James Spann, WO4W, wo4w@jamesspann.com
 Section Emergency Coordinator: Jay Isbell, KA4KUN, sec@arrl-al.net
 State Government Liaison: Richard D. Doll, KU4PY, ku4py@arrl.net
 Silent Key Coordinator: Doc Gordon King, W4XI
 Section Traffic Manager, Randy Cox, AI4FP, ai4fp@yahoo.com
 Technical Coordinator, Tim Winger, KY5R, timky5r@direcway.com

game. They smuggle a bottle of ___ into the ball park. The game is real exciting and they are enjoying themselves immensely... mixing the Jack Daniel's with soft drinks. Soon they realize that the bottle is almost gone and the game has a lot of innings to go. Based on the given information, what inning is it and how many players are on base? Think! Think some more!! You're gonna love it . (Answer is at the bottom of the page)

*** 36 CHRISTIAN WAYS TO REDUCE STRESS An Angel says, "Never borrow from the future. If you worry about what may happens tomorrow and it doesn't happen, you have worried in vain. Even if it does happen, you have to worry twice."

1. Pray 2. Go to bed on time. 3. Get up on time so you can start the day unrushed. 4. Say No to projects that won't fit into your time schedule, or that will compromise your mental health. 5. Delegate tasks to capable others. 6. Simplify and unclutter your life. 7. Less is more. (Although one is often not enough, two are often too many.) 8. Allow extra time to do things and to get to places. 9. Pace yourself. Spread out big changes and difficult projects over time; don't lump the hard things all together. 10. Take one day at a time. 11. Separate worries from concerns. If a situation is a concern, find out what God would have you do and let go of the anxiety. If you can't do anything about a situation, forget it. 12. Live within your budget; don't use credit cards for ordinary purchases. 13. Have backups; an extra car key in your wallet, an extra

house key buried in the garden, extra stamps, etc. 14. K.M.S. (Keep Mouth Shut). This single piece of advice can prevent an enormous amount of trouble. 15. Do something for the Kid in You everyday. 16. Carry a Bible with you to read while waiting in line. 17. Get enough rest. 18. Eat right. 19. Get organized so everything has its place. 20. Listen to a tape while driving that can help improve your quality of life. 21. Write down thoughts and inspirations. 22. Every day, find time to be alone. 23. Having problems? Talk to God on the spot. Try to nip small problems in the bud. Don't wait until it's time to go to bed to try and pray. 24. Make friends with Godly people. 25. Keep a folder of favorite scriptures on hand. 26. Remember that the shortest bridge between despair and hope is often a good "Thank you Jesus." 27. Laugh. 28. Laugh some more! 29. Take your work seriously, but not yourself at all. 30. Develop a forgiving attitude (most people are doing the best they can). 31. Be kind to unkind people (they probably need it the most. 32. Sit on your ego. 33. Talk less; listen more. 34. Slow down. 35. Remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe. 36. Every night before bed, think of one thing you're grateful for that you've never been grateful for before.

*** Old Men: He had a large pond in the back, fixed up nice; picnic

Answer to the mystery: It's the bottom of the fifth and the bags are loaded!

tables, horseshoe courts, and some apple and peach trees. The pond was properly shaped and fixed up for swimming when it was built. One evening, the old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn't been there for a while, and look it over. He grabbed a five-gallon bucket to bring back some fruit. As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his pond. He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end. One of the women shouted to him, "We're not coming out until you leave!" The old man frowned, "I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond naked." Holding the bucket up he said, "I'm here to feed the alligator." Moral: Old men can still think fast.

***His name was Fleming, and he was a poor Scottish farmer. One day, while trying to make a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog. There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death.

The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman's sparse surroundings. An elegantly dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy Farmer Fleming had saved. "I want to repay you," said the nobleman. "You saved my son's

life." "No, I can't accept payment for what I did," the Scottish farmer replied waving off the offer. At that moment, the farmer's own son came to the door of the family hovel. "Is that your son?" the nobleman asked.

"Yes," the farmer replied proudly.

"I'll make you a deal. Let me provide him with the level of education my own son will enjoy. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll no doubt grow to be a man we both will be proud of." And that he did. Farmer Fleming's son attended the very best schools and in time, graduated from St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin. Years afterward, the same nobleman's son who was saved from the bog was stricken with pneumonia. What saved his life this time? Penicillin. The name of the nobleman? Lord Randolph Churchill. His son's name? Sir Winston Churchill.

Did You Know: The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

The Reminder for the Month of May
Friends are angels who lift us to our feet when our wings have trouble remembering how to fly.

Solve the puzzle: NOD'T TEL A TILTEL PUTESID RUJEIN A TEAGR PIHSDNIEFR

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

Hamfests Of Local Interest for April & May

30 Apr-1 May 2005

- Alabama State Convention
Birmingham Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.w4cue.com> Talk-In:
146.88 Contact: Tom Gaskins,
WT4TG c/o BARC PO Box 603
Birmingham, AL 35201 Phone:
205-956-9632 Fax: 205-956-9651
Email: wt4tg@charter.net
Birmingham/Irondale, AL Zamora
Temple 3521 Ratliff Road Div:
Southeastern Sect: Alabama

20-22 May 2005

- Dayton Hamvention / ARRL
National Convention Dayton ARA

<http://www.hamvention.org> Talk-In:
146.94(-), 146.91(-), 223.94(-),
442.1(+) Contact: Hamvention PO
Box 964 Dayton, OH 45401-0964
Phone: 937-276-6930 Fax:
937-276-6934 Email:
info@hamvention.org Dayton, OH
Hara Arena 1001 Shiloh Springs
Road Trotwood, OH Div: Great
Lakes Sect: Ohio
Steve Bell KD4TFN: sbell@hiwaay.net

Flea Market

For Sale or Trade

- Heath SB-230 Linear Amp
w/manual.
10 - 80 Meters, 1200 Watts PEP or
1000 Watts CW
120 or 240 Volts
WB4HBG, 851-8309
jdcheek1@comcast.net

Spring Cleanup

Spring clean-up time and have some "stuff" that might be of interest to someone in the club, especially since it is free.

- Triband HF, VHF and other beam components. Needs help but usable.
- Three element quad beam boom - no spreaders.

Jim Wallace, W4NYC, 539-5677

From The Section Manager

The North Alabama Weather Alert Response Network (NALWARN) organization is looking for volunteers to provide communications to the National Weather Service during severe weather events. Emergency communications is a valuable public service that amateur radio operators can provide.

If interested, contact NALWARN coordinator, Greg Sarratt W4OZK at w4ozk@arrl.org

Hot off the Press! 2005 / 2006 Repeater Directory

Join or Renew your ARRL Membership with the Alabama Section Manager and receive a NEW ARRL Repeater directory!



The Section Manager, W4OZK can be found around town, at club meetings and Hamfests, look him up. For more Ala-

bama ARRL information see www.arrl-al.org

73, Greg Sarratt, W4OZK

From The Editor's Wastebasket

From the number of maple tree whirlygigs on my front lawn and the amount of pollen on my car, I've got to assume that Spring has sprung. That gives us all kinds of things to look forward to -- antenna parties (for those not trying for the "brrrr" effect (3 db gain in signal strength both ways for every ten degrees below 50F it is when the antenna is installed), FD, hamfest, backyard BBQ sessions, etc. But it also gives some things to watch out for. Bad weather conditions are not a stranger to North Alabama and it makes sense for everybody to be prepared.

May is also time to start thinking about a slate of officers to select for the HARC's 2005/2006 club year. Election time comes up the first meeting in June, so be ready.

Speaking of antenna parties, I'll be wanting to convene one sometime during the temperate season. My tri-band beam with the 40M add-on is shedding pieces of elements and seems to be beyond recovery and the rotator is permanently pointing southeast, which is probably the least useful direction it could have failed in. The tree to which one end of the 80M dipole was attached has come down and that half of the antenna is wrapped around the tower. I've decided to do away with the beam and rotator and keep the rest of the "stuff" that's on the tower (2M + 440 vertical and a WARC band fixed dipole). I've acquired a B&W BWD90 terminated folded dipole which I'd like to get hanging off the tower, but before that can happen, a big-old pecan tree which has branches encroaching on the antenna space (and which is responsible for the shedding elements) needs to be trimmed back. The BWD90 should give me pretty good coverage (for a non-DXer) on most any band I'm likely to try.

73, Frank Emens, W4HFU

Labels must be parallel to the bottom of the mail piece within 5 degrees. Please affix labels carefully. Cover this block completely.

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