

October 2006

The Monitor

Published jointly by the Valley Amateur Radio Association and the Massanutten Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

MARA President's Message: Annual Meeting of the Corporation

October is the annual business meeting for the Massanutten Amateur Radio Association, Incorporated.

That is right, our radio club is a corporation registered with the Commonwealth of Virginia. As such, we have definite rules and regulations we are required to meet. Some of these rules are listed in our by-laws, which are registered with the State Corporation Commission and thus have the weight of law.

The main item of business to be conducted at our annual meeting is the election of officers.

All of the positions (with the exception of one Director-at-Large) are to be filled. This is not an option, it is a legal requirement. Every member of the corporation has a legal responsibility for ensuring compliance with these rules.

Bryan Daniels, K4RMY, has agreed to run for Secretary, and Sandy Mullins, K4PZC, has agreed to run for Treasurer. This leaves the positions of President, Vice-President, and one Director-at-Large where we need at least one person to agree to be on the ballot.

Both John Lasher N3GLZ, and myself cannot serve another year due to other commitments which require our time.

There is another important rule we must meet: In order to conduct the business meeting, we must have a "quorum" present. A quorum is 50% of the club members.

I want to encourage all members to attend, and please come prepared to participate in the leadership of the club. We have too many members who simply come to the meetings, and that is the extent of what they do. If we want to have a good club, we need everyone to participate and take an active role in all of the club business and activities.

The meeting will start at 7:00 pm at Tradition's Restaurant. If you want to join us for the meal, come at 6 and tell the ladies at the cash register that you are with the radio club.

I look forward to a good turnout for this very important gathering.

Gerald Nauman, KN4FM
MARA President

VARA President's Message: Fall Foliage Ride

Perhaps the most enjoyable month of the year is October. The beautiful fall colors are something that are enjoyed by many. For the Valley Amateur Radio Association, it is the time for one of our biggest events of the year, the Shenandoah Fall Foliage Bike Ride. This year's ride will take place on October 21st and 22nd. Please mark you calendar and plan on participating in one of the two days.

Looking back to September, many thanks to the 9 hams who helped out at the Great Eastern Endurance Run on September 23rd. Looking ahead to November, we are planning a special celebration as VARA celebrates it's 30th birthday. Also, I once again urge members to consider being an officer for 2007.

Our "Quote of the Month" comes from John Wesley; who said in 'Rules of Conduct'; "Do all the good you can, By all the means you can....."

Marvin Henderson, KF4WDI
VARA President

Public Service Report: Great Eastern Endurance Run

On September 23rd, VARA provided communications for the Great Eastern Endurance Run for a second year. With beautiful weather as a backdrop, the day turned out to be a success.

About 175 runners left Afton Mountain at 6:00 am. About 100 runners were participating in the 50k (31 mile) run and about 75 runners were in the 100k (62 mile) run.

Thanks to the nine hams who helped.

Working at net control on the Blue Ridge Parkway were Doug Tippett (N8ESW), Bennie Cook (N4BCC), and Richard Huttinger (AA4RH).

Working at Turkey Pen in Big Levels were Darrell Little (KI4LLA), Ray Colvin (KE4HVR) and Mike Solomon (KJ4RM).

Marvin Henderson (KF4KNN) worked at Sherando. Marvin Henderson, Jr. (KF4WDI) worked on Bald Mountain off of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Steve Davis (KI4CGI), who is a member of Waynesboro Rescue Squad, provided an ambulance for the event and was available in case of an emergency.

Many thanks to everyone who helped this year.

Public Service Report: Bike Shenandoah

.Thanks to E.C. Showalter KG4KUR; Bryan Daniels K4RMY; Phyllis Haxton N4VZC, and Dick Haxton KC3AN.

These hams helped with the Bike Shenandoah ride on Saturday, September 23.

We were able to keep up with a total of 59 bicycle riders in the 100-mile, 62-mile, and 30-mile rides as they passed through three rest stops and checkpoints.

To the best of my knowledge, there were no major occurrences or accidents or events where our physical help was needed, and no injuries. The ride organizers appreciate the assistance of the radio amateurs who gave up their day to help.

Public Service Opportunity: Fall Foliage Ride: October 20-22

The most popular public service event of the year is upon us.

The event formerly known as "Bike Virginia", and now called the "Shenandoah Fall Foliage Bike Festival", will be held the weekend of October 20-22.

Barbara Wright, one of the primary festival organizers, is counting on the ham radio community for help again this year.

The ride begins when the first bikers leave the starting gate at 8:00 am Saturday, October 21. Hams need to be on station at departure time.

Unlike in years past, we will no longer be "cruising" the routes burning gas. While one or two hams may be asked to serve as SAG and investigation vehicles, most hams will be given a fixed base location to man. As bikers need help, they will relay messages up and down the route to the next manned ham station for communication back to headquarters.



More information on the ride itself, the routes the bikers will be taking, etc, can be found on the web at the Bike Virginia site: <http://www.shenandoahbike.org>

Marvin Henderson, KF4WDI, is heading up the ham radio organization this year. Give him a call at 540-324-0937 or on the air and let him know whether you can help or not.

VE Examination Session: Saturday October 14

Just a reminder to everyone about the VE examination session Saturday, October 14 at the Woodmen of the World building on Highway 42 just north of Dayton. Keep this in mind: **We gladly do upgrades!**

Registration and sign-in starts, as usual, at 9:00 am, and we proceed with the exams as soon as the registration process is complete.

If you are interested in becoming an examiner, it's real easy. Come to the test session and we'll fill you in! Any General or Extra class ham is eligible, even the old "Advanced" class hams!

See you October 10.

Gayle Shull, KU4XN
VE Exam Coordinator



W4PJW Still Looking for VARA Memorabilia

In preparation for the 30th anniversary gala celebrating VARA's founding, Jeff Rinehart W4PJW is still seeking old newsletter copies, old photographs, old newspaper clippings, old anything, relating to VARA's history.

If you've got anything you'd like Jeff to see, know about, or be aware of, call him at 540-337-7337 or catch him on the air on 147.225 between 8:15 and 9:00 am weekday mornings.

WA4NUF: For Sale— Astron Power Supply and New 5-element VHF/UHF Beam

.Gene Sullivan has an Astron Power Supply RS-35M, for sale. This is a quality heavy-duty 13.8V DC supply, capable of putting out 25 ams continuous, or 35 amps surge, very good condition inside and out, works fine, includes meters for amps and volts. Asking \$90.00.



Additionally, he has a Cushcraft A270-10S 2M-440 antenna, already assembled, never used, (brand new condition), with five elements on 2-meters and 70cm, manual included. He's asking \$90 for this, too.

Call Gene at 540-289-5906 evenings after 5:00 pm, or email him at WA4NUF@arrl.net

Augusta County ARES Net

We're Back!

Yes, the Augusta County ARES net meets on the second Thursday of the month. Net Control for the September session was Darrell Little KI4LLA.

Tune in to 146.850, using PL tone 131.8, offset up 0.600 MHz.



WB4YEX: For Sale — Station Equipment

Kenwood TS-520S — works perfect, excellent shap
Icom IC-3200A Dual-band VHF/UHF rig, excellent condition
MFJ Deluxe Versa-Tuner II, excellent condition
Kenwood TS-120S Transceiver, works, but needs some TLC
Hal RTTY Computer Interface, works great
Model 65 Teleprinter (green keys!) with manuals, reconditioned
MFJ Signal Enhancer II, like new
Various hi-amp 13VDC power supplies, Motorola and Astron
Several hundred new-in-the-box vacuum tubes
Elecraft K-1 Low-Power Transceiver
Various other electronic stuff

Call Daryl Cline on his cell phone at 540-476-0413 or email him at darycline@ntelos.net

William Dodge Jr., N4ZSG, SK

Former VARA member William B. Dodge, N4ZSG, passed away September 2, at Augusta Nursing and Rehabilitation Center after a long illness. Bill lived at 300 Wayneridge Drive in Waynesboro, and worked at DuPont for many years, along with his son William Dodge III, and a number of other active local hams. He had been fighting cancer for quite a while. Thanks to Richard Huttinger, AA4RH for this news.

Phyllis Haxton, N4VZC, Recovering from a Nasty Fall

Phyllis Haxton, N4VZC, cracked the upper globe of her humerus (the bone in the top part of the arm), in a bad fall last month. According to her OM (Richard, KC4AN), she fell in the living room and not only broke her arm, but also hit her head on the piano. The bleeding was so bad, they had to discard the rug! But aside from lots of unpleasant pain, she appears to be on the mend. The entire ham community extends its best wishes for a quick recovery.

Hollis Jordan, KI4MSL, Seeking Contacts on the Local Repeaters

New ham Hollis Jordan, KI4MSL, in Mount Solon, is seeking contacts on 2-meters and 440 now that he has his new J-Pole antenna up about 25 feet in the air. Give Hollis a call at 540-350-2374 and set up a sked or two.

Howard Miller, W4KXE, SK

Word has reached us via W3MMC, that Howard Miller, former resident of Woodland Drive, Luray, also passed away in mid-September. Howard had moved to Florida last month to be with family during the final stages of cancer. Funeral services were held in the valley, with interment in Page County. The ham community extends its condolence to Howard's family.

Report from the Mexican Border: Scott Martin, KI4MSJ

Scott Martin, VARA member KI4MSJ, has been guarding the homeland as part of the National Guard deployment to the Mexican border. He is still hoping that local hams will keep in touch with his XYL about moving the household once their home sells. The last couple of offers have fallen through, but they still hope to have the home sold in the next couple of weeks.

Correction from September's Monitor: K1DB should have read N1PG!

Thanks to Dave Burgess, K1DB, for calling attention to the fact that news of his demise has been greatly exaggerated! Dave pointed out that the September monitor contained a typo, and carried an article about an estate sale being conducted by Jay Suter, W4QDC. The estate is that of Harry Brooks, N1PG, not Dave Burgess!

By the way, Jay still has some gear to sell from Harry's estate. Give Jay a call at 540-434-7750 to find out what he's got left. Jay is really, really motivated to get this stuff out of his shop and into the hands of local hams who can be using the gear. Make some offers!

VARA In Search of New Home

Ray Colvin has discovered, by talking to one of the Kathy's waitresses, that Kathy's Restaurant in Verona will be closing on October 15th. It will later re-open as a Spanish Restaurant around the first of November.

This means VARA may have to find another location for the club, starting with the November meeting. This is not much time so be thinking about a place that has enough room for the business meeting and program.

As of now we have between 27 and 36 attending. We need

extra room for programs and videos so it would be good if we could find a location that can seat 45 or 50 people.

I think when we moved the last time most everyone wanted a place where we could eat before the meeting.

Be thinking about this before this month's meeting. If you know of an interesting location give them a call or ask when you are eating there and see if they have a room.

We need to move fast on this so we will have a meeting place for November.

Last Month's Featured Mug Shot: W4QDC; This Month ..?



Last month's Monitor contained a picture of Jay Suter, W4QDC, (left) retired communications engineer and technician with the telephone company, and active ham in Harrisonburg, as the featured mug shot of the month.

This month, we feature another local ham, picture to the right.. Valley hams used to associate this fellow with Jumping Zebra Colts. He often has something to say about the weather. He hails from a tiny town that sounds a lot like a famous star ship. Do you recognize him?



Opinionated One: Find the Callsigns.... And Who's Missing?

How many valley hams do you know? Try your hand at the following puzzle.

Callsigns can go right to left, left to right, up, down, and diagonally – up-left, up-right, down-left and down-right. Circle the callsigns you recognize, and mark them off the list. How many can you find?

No cheating! Work alone! Don't look up callsigns you don't know. Go only from memory.

We'll tell you now: there are two (2) missing callsigns. That means there are two names in the list whose callsigns do NOT appear in the puzzle. Who are they?

If you find all 48 callsigns hidden in the puzzle, you get a special prize – come to the club meeting and find out what it is. If no one gets all 48, the prize goes to the one with the most. And if you can correctly identify both names whose callsigns are missing, you also get a prize. Good luck!

W	H	X	H	3	W	K	N	4	F	M	A	K	M	J	X	K
K	A	4	E	E	N	A	3	C	K	1	R	E	N	3	J	N
W	G	4	A	7	O	2	J	1	Z	G	T	4	M	V	K	W
W	4	L	I	G	5	4	B	K	4	K	L	H	L	W	4	N
4	X	T	J	T	N	P	4	W	D	N	4	V	O	X	P	Y
P	N	4	N	4	Y	E	T	A	U	9	2	R	4	4	Z	N
J	N	8	K	4	M	G	K	4	1	A	L	3	B	C	C	X
W	A	4	E	E	D	A	A	F	8	H	9	Z	K	Z	L	4
C	3	Z	4	S	U	S	O	J	O	Q	L	K	R	V	U	U
D	P	M	F	4	W	X	L	C	O	G	I	D	W	4	F	K
Q	D	C	M	I	A	D	4	N	3	E	K	5	N	N	O	P
4	V	N	5	C	C	B	4	N	V	4	R	K	4	D	J	G
W	K	G	4	J	O	F	C	R	G	4	W	A	A	4	R	H
K	I	4	F	Z	V	N	O	O	4	G	K	K	J	4	R	M

- Dee Almquist
- Cowles Andrus
- Jason Armentrout
- Andrew Barbour
- Gordon Batey
- Norman Benner
- Charlie Bennetch
- Al Bonck
- Rusty Bowman
- Gerry Brunk
- Clint Campbell
- Ray Colvin
- Benny Cook
- Greg Czerniak
- Bryan Daniels
- David Fordham
- Charlie Garner

- Dick Haxton
- Phyllis Haxton
- Paul Helbert
- Marvin Henderson
- Ken High
- Billy Hooke
- Richart Hutteringer
- Bill Jones
- Don Landes
- John Lasher
- Neal Layman
- Ronnie May
- Bob McCracken
- Mac McGrath
- Sandy Mullins
- Gerald Nauman
- Bob Neimeyer
- John Nelson
- Mark Payne
- Joe Pehan
- Jeff Rinehart
- Mike Reno
- Dale Showalter
- Gayle Shull
- Mike Solomon
- Jay Suter
- Doug Tippet
- Bob Van Fossen
- Gary Van Fossen
- Chuck Vogan
- Dick Weaver
- Richard Wilkins
- Howard Zehr

MARA Secretary's Report: September 7

The September meeting of MARA was the annual family picnic held at the radio studios and transmitter site of WSVB. No business meeting was held, and thus there are no formal minutes.

Camp Still Meadows: Public Service Event Oct 1

Monitor readers who receive the electronic edition are reminded of the Camp Still Meadows Horse Ride to be held outside Timberville on Sunday morning, October 1. Ray Ritchie, K4NRA is heading up the effort again this year. Talk-in will be on 147.225 (PL 131.8). Help is always needed and appreciated. This is a nice relaxing way to spend a Sunday morning.

Local Ham Howard Zehr, N9AHQ, Wins Another Award

Howard Zehr, a professor of restorative justice at Eastern Mennonite University, is the 2006 recipient of the annual Community of Christ International Peace Award, one of the world's top awards for work in the peace field. The award comes with \$30,000, which will go to EMU's Center for Justice and Peacebuilding. Previous recipients have included U.S. civil rights leader Rev. James Lawson, British primate researcher and environmentalist Jane Goodall, Children's Defense Fund founder and president Marian Wright Edelman, and Egyptian social reformer Dr. Jehan Sadat.

The award is in recognition of Zehr's role as "one of the founders of the contemporary restorative justice movement," according to the organization's website, www.cofchrist.org/peaceaward. Zehr is currently co-director of the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding (CJP).

In addition, The Journal of Law and Religion will be giving Zehr its "Lifetime Achievement Award" at a ceremony on Oct. 5 at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Zehr plans to use the awarded \$30,000 to assemble and publish "the wisdom and learning of CJP's masters-degree graduates who have studied restorative justice and are now practicing it in some way, not only in criminal justice but in schools, transitional justice, and other arenas."

Zehr has written or edited seven books, including the widely-cited "Changing Lenses: A New Focus for Crime and Punishment," which is in its third edition and has been published in Russian, Ukrainian and Japanese. An easy-to-read version of Zehr's ideas is contained in his "Little Book of Restorative Justice," which also has been translated into multiple languages.

MARA Elections: October 5

Mara Members are reminded that the October 5 club meeting is the Annual Corporate Meeting, featuring election of officers for the new year.

As of press time, nominees were still needed for the positions of President and Vice-President, and 1 director..

Come to the meeting and cast your vote.

Zehr's two 2006 awards follow three earlier ones conferred by: the Restorative Justice Association of Virginia in 2005, which named an annual award after Zehr and made him the first recipient of it; the New York Dispute Resolution Association in Albany, N.Y. in 2003; and Prison Fellowship International in Toronto, Canada, in 2003.

Zehr earned a bachelor's degree from Morehouse College (the first white to graduate from this historically African American university), a masters from the University



of Chicago and a doctorate from Rutgers University. Before coming to EMU in 1996, Zehr served for 19 years as director of the office on crime and justice for the Mennonite Central Committee. A former professional photojournalist, Zehr often uses photography and interviews for his documentary work on restorative justice topics.

Zehr will participate in a panel discussion at Hamline

University on Oct. 6 (see www.hamline.edu/law/jlr/Symposium) and be the keynote speaker at the Community of Christ Temple in Independence, Missouri, on Oct. 27 (see www.cofchrist.org/peaceaward). -

Article by Bonnie Price Lofton
Contributed by Gerry Brunk, K4RBZ

VARA Secretary's Report: September 5 Meeting

The **V**alley **A**mateur **R**adio **A**ssociation met at Kathy's in Verona on September 5, 2006. The President, Marvin Henderson KF4WDI, opened the meeting at 7:00pm. There were 24 members present and 3 guests, Andrew Barbour AG4XN, Scott Newlen KI4QQZ and Bob Van-Fossen K4DJG. Welcome to our visitors, and we would like to see all of you back next month.

50/50 was won by Darrell Little KI4LLA, congratulations Darrell!

2007 Officers The Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary have agreed to continue their office for 2007. We need someone for the office of President and Program Manager. **Please give these offices serious thought before our October meeting.**

October Meeting time we will start our business meeting at **6:45pm** to allow time for a video (October only). The video will be on all types of antennas and their radiation patterns.

October 21-22 will be the Fall Foliage Bike Festival which has been our annual event for several years now.

We need your help for the event again this year. Last year with the higher gas prices we did the communications differently, we were stationed along the route and reported any problems the cyclists relayed to us. Only the Shadow person did the patrolling. Jeff W4PJW was the Shadow person that Barbara Wright rode with and Jeff plans to do this again this year. This worked out better for us and saved a lot of driving and gasoline also.

This November will be the 30th anniversary of the VARA.

Christmas Party we plan to have our Christmas get together on our regular meeting night on December 5th.

There will be a Chinese Gift Exchange again this year since everyone enjoyed the one last year. Greg Czerniak W4GRC has agreed to conduct it again this year. Just bring a GAG gift costing no more than 5 to 10 dollars and join the fun. It's fun to see who ends up with the silliest prize or the prize you would like to have at the end.

400th ANNIVERSARY Jeff Rinehart W4PJW is gathering information for the early days of the VARA, if you have any information please send it or a copy to Jeff as soon as possible. Mike Solomon KJ7RM and Richard Huttinger AA4RH will work up a PowerPoint presentation to show during the event.

Great Eastern Endurance Run Thanks to everyone that helped with the September 23 Endurance Run again this year.

ON THE SICK LIST:

Queenie, Clinton's (KB4OLM) wife still has health concerns but is doing well.

Denny Morland N4XPW is home and doing well at this time.

Frank Forsyth WD4LES and Grover "Doc" Cloyd have moved into Baldwin Park and have HF antennas now.

Dan James W4DLJ went to UVA for a pacer-maker and is home now and doing well.

William B. Dodge Jr. N4ZSG a former club member became a SK recently.

Lets keep these folks and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

SWAP SHOP:

This is for Ham related items only. You can send a list of items you have for sale, swap or something you would like to buy, to Billy Hooke KG4JOF at: kg4jof@arrl.net Also a picture of the item would help it sell. Go to VARA Web Site at: <http://www.qsl.net/w4xd/> **PLEASE notify Billy when your item is sold.**

ADDRESSES!!! Keep your e-mail address up to date. Please send them to: Marvin Henderson KF4WDI marvista@ntelos.net Doug Tippett N8ESW dtippett@ntelos.net

Ray Colvin KE4HVR colvingr@adelphia.net and David Fordham KD9LA ford-hadr@jmu.edu Also, keep QRZ updated when call signs and e-mail addresses are changed.

ARES NET: David Tanks AD4TJ is looking for Net Controls for the Augusta County ARES Net. The Net will be held on the 146.850 repeater on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 8:00pm. This repeater has a minus offset and a tone of 131.8 when needed. Fox hunts are also scheduled for some months as weather permits.

PROGRAMS NEEDED: Richard AA4RH, Program Chairman, is looking for anyone that would like to do a program for the club. Give him a call and set up a date to present it. It does not have to be HAM related. It could be anything you think the group would find interesting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Charlie Bennech N4LNU did a Show-and-Tell on a small battery powered (solar charged) radio that is especially built for Missionaries to take into foreign countries to be used to spread the word of God there. The radio is made by Galcom and operates on 101.0 MHz FM. The radios are fix-tuned to one frequency to receive broadcasts from a line of sight transmitter tower. He also passed a couple pamphlets around explaining more about their Missionary projects of getting the word of God into foreign countries. If there are any Church groups that would like to donate to this project it would be greatly appreciated by the Missionaries and the people of foreign countries. Here is the web site for more information on this project. <http://www.galcom.org/> Thanks to Charlie for doing the Show-and-Tell for the club.

Respectfully Submitted
Ray Colvin KE4HVR
VARA Secretary



Calendar

October 1: Camp Still Meadows Public Service Event
October 3: VARA Meeting, Kathy's in Verona
October 5: MARA Annual Business Meeting at Traditions
October 14: VE Examinations, Dayton VA
October 21-22: Fall Foliage Ride—Public Service Event
October 28-29: CQ WW DX Contest SSB Weekend
October 29: Mason-Dixon (Westminster MD) Hamfest

The Monitor is generally mailed the weekend before the first club meeting of the month. The absolute deadline for each issue is usually one full week before the first club meeting of the month.

MARA/VARA

c/o David Fordham
131 Wayside Drive
Weyers Cave, VA 24486
Phone: 540-568-3024
Email: fordhadr@jmu.edu

Return Service Requested

MASSANUTTEN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, Inc.

President: Gerald Nauman KN4FM
Vice President: John Lasher, N3GLZ
Secretary: Bryan Daniels K4RMY
Treasurer: Sandy Mullins, K4PZC
Board (exp 06): Jason Armentrout N4DSL
Board (exp 07): David Gordon KB4LCI

<http://mara.ws>

MARA meets the first Thursday of each month
The January meeting is at Traditions
Restaurant on Mt Clinton Pike, Harrisonburg.
Meal starts at 6:00 pm.
Business meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Visitors are welcome.

Dues (\$12 per year) should be mailed to:

MARA
PO Box 1882
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

President: Marvin Henderson, KF4WDI
Vice President: Mike Solomon KJ4RM
Secretary: Ray Colvin, KE4HVR
Treasurer: Doug Tippett, N8ESW
Program Manager: Richard Huttinger, AA4RH

<http://www.qsl.net/w4xd>

VARA meets the first Tuesday of each month
at Kathy's Restaurant on U.S. 11 north of
the traffic light in Verona.
Meal starts at 6:00 pm.
Business meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Visitors are welcome.

Dues (\$15 per year) should be mailed to:

Doug Tippett
2348 Mosley St.
Waynesboro VA 22980