

ESARC Minutes –January 8, 2014 Meeting, held at Sage Diner in Onley, Va

Action items highlighted

12 licensed members in total came, plus 1 guest (separate list of attendees available). A quorum was, thereby, established.

Meeting was called to order at 19:00 EDT. Minutes of previous meeting were accepted as written and previously mailed out to the membership

TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Eric Dodge):

	<u>Nov 10 2013</u>	<u>Jan 7 2014</u>
Bank balance	4,259.23	4,235.85
Cash	155.75	155.75
Accnts receivable	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	4,414.98	4,391.60
<u>TRANSACTIONS</u>		
Interest	1.03	
Dues	45.00	
Trailer contrib	170.00	
Trailer Costs	(179.41)	
Events	(60.00)	picnic
Club maintenance	<u>-</u>	
NET CHANGE		-23.38

MEMBERSHIP

49	Total Roster, including members in 2010-2012
40	total in good-standing (2013 dues paid)
8	non paid in roster, but were still considered active in '12
1	considered inactive
7	Already covered for 2014
6	Spousal members (in numbers above)

(During the meeting, dues were collected from 7 more members, so 14 are so far paid up for 2014)

I have posted our current membership roster on K4BW.org, which also indicates club positions, as well as status of dues paid by members. **Members who haven't, are hereby requested to bring their dues up-to-date.** Dues for full membership, with voting privileges, are \$15 for the first FCC-licensed family member, and \$5.00 more for his/her licensed spouse.

Y'all may **pay your dues by paypal**, It works!! (pay to WA2AIC@VERIZON.NET) or send to

ESARC, c/o Dodge
12 Meadville Drive
Onancock, Va 23417

Thank you.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT: (Al Dunahoo)

License Exams Session

The next Eastern Shore ARC test session is scheduled for 9am Saturday 8 February Aug 2014 at the Community College, room A47. Please send John Floyd (jfloyd@es.vccs.edu), Ken or Anna Sterling (annasterling@verizon.net), or me (w0add@verizon.net) a note **letting us know what test level you'd like to take, and pass this test date information on** to anyone you might know who is contemplating getting an Amateur Radio Operators license.

Repeaters

Since my last report the repeaters seem to be working great. No problems to report and I finally got the audio problem on the VHF/UHF link resolved. Thanks to help from Bob Reynolds (KD4NFI), I was able to adjust the system audio configuration and therefore repeat more natural sounding audio. The only issue is the limited repeater coverage area. With the UHF antenna being at only 125 ft. and the power being 25 watts, the range is Parksley to Melfa. Maybe in the future, we should take a look and purchasing a 100 watt amplifier to see if we can increase the range a bit. **If anyone has any suggestions for improving our UHF coverage please let me know**

Emergency Shelter Testing

We had a successful emergency shelter communications test on the 4th of December 2013, with 6 volunteers. As with the last quarterly shelter test session, we experienced a bit of a problem in our cross band operation. To help volunteers with the equipment set up and especially the setup of the cross band operation, a test configuration was set up at the 911 Center for the shelters. As we've learned in the past, what is easy at the 911 Center becomes difficult at the shelters. Use of the Kenwood TM-D700's (cross band or otherwise) is still a challenge, but if we keep working at it, I think we'll see the advantage of using the mode with the HTs in the kits. We will continue to setup a test configuration at the 911 Center before each volunteer departs for the shelters. The next emergency shelter test will be scheduled for Mid March 2014, and we'll try to get the Virginia EOC in Richmond to participate. **Please try to attend if you can.** We always need as many trained volunteers as we can get when activated by the County.

Public Service and Emergency Communications Trailer

We continue to make progress on the ESARC emergency communications trailer. We've installed 2 antenna mounts on the tongue of the trailer, 2 power supplies, coax, 2 antennas with 2 pushup masts, and

2 desktop computers donated by the Eastern Shore Community College. We'll eventually get software loaded for operating the HF radios, the HF and VHF TNCs, and Field Day logging. We still need a couple of 12 VDC power supplies, VHF & UHF radios, HF antennas, and stenciling on the sides of the trailer. Thanks to Eric Dodge (WA2AIC) for developing an ESARC logo. The graphics really look good. Doug Jones and Jeff Terwilliger of the Department of Public Safety have given the Club a really nice 10 ft. by 10 ft. tent to use with the trailer.

Following is an accounting of the trailer project so far:

Communications Trailer Account

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cash Contrib</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Fran Kubick	100.00	
Al Dunahoo	150.00	
Franklin Young	20.00	
via Dunahoo		(93.45)
via Sterling		(85.96)
Add'l Club Budget authorized	1,000.00	
SUBTOTALS	1,270.00	(179.41)
BALANCE		1,090.59

Other contributions; materials and/or labor

Davis	Build out physical station
Sterling	Wiring for power; mat'ls & labor
Ertle	Power supplies; Marine SSB radios; Ant. Tuner
Dunahoo	Coordination; Antennas & mounts; logo prep
Dodge	coax, fittings; logo prep
Accomack County	Trailer, lumber, generators, pwr supply, tent
ESCommun. College	2 used (tower) computers

We still could use donations for the carpeting, and a plethora of reference books, connectors, switches, wire and connection cables. I keep a list of things we need. **SEE LIST AT THE END OF THIS DOCUMENT**. If you've got something you'd like to donate to the trailer installation or operation, please give it to any board member or email me and we'll get it from you, and we'll make sure it gets installed.

When completed, the plan is to set up the trailer in a Field Day type operation and invite the Club membership and DPS to come see what was accomplished and operate the station. One thing we discussed at the meeting was HF resources: we will try for the following with the 4 HF radios we

currently have: Put one M710 in the 911 center and one in the trailer to handle digital traffic; pull the Clubs 840 out of the 911 center, and add the clubs TS570, both for the communications trailer/field day. During Field day we'll most likely also have Johns "big" radio from the college.

We'll continue to look for additional recommendations on what is the best way to set up the trailer, and what equipment is needed. It's a fun Club project, **so get involved and help get the trailer ready for operation.**

Also in the spring, and prior to actual Field Day (June 28-29), we'll plan to use the trailer for the March of Dimes assistance we expect to give; and the Chincoteague Seafood Festival, if we're invited back to help there.

PAST EVENTS – none to report on

Other BUSINESS, OLD AND NEW

Club Website – *K4BW.org* (Steve Simpson et al)

With several members taking responsibility for individual web-pages on our site, the website is up to date, with continuing projects to add photos, and other information deemed useful. **Have a look!!** Thanks Steve for facilitating this work, and thanks to the other contributors – messrs Buckley, Dunahoo and Dodge!

Club Shirts, Jackets and Caps (Chesser)

Herman has submitted our first order, and will maintain a small stockpile of T-shirts and caps. If you are interested in any of the three types of shirts, windbreaker jacket or caps – all in yellow and with club logo, Embroidered with name and call sign or not – please contact Herman. (He will have to accumulate orders in batches in order to continue to get a good price. Thanks Herman.

Slate of Officers for 2014

Currently, the only nominations for Officers are for the current serving officers. However, members are invited to submit additional nominations for club officers for our fiscal-year March 2014-2015. President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer. **Please submit your nominations, together with any comments about your nominees to either Dempsey Bruton, President, or Eric Dodge, Sec'y Treasurer before Feb 28th.** YOU MAY NOMINATE YOURSELF!

ARRL Field Day (June 28-29)

There has been from time-to-time talk of relocating Field Day to other than Parksley, (1) for variety sake, and (2) to be exposed/available to a greater audience, ie – at a potentially "busier" location for more public participation, one of the goals of Field Day. Ideas have included Chincoteague, Wal-Mart, Dept of Public Safety parking lot. Others have suggested "if it ain't broke, don't fix it."

As previously indicated, we will conduct a "dry-run" use of the trailer prior to Field Day, since we expect to use the trailer and our new generators for Field Day. This dry-run will be held at the Parksley location, because of our familiarity with the site, but at the time of the dry-run we will take special note of what our needs would be for another site, after further learning how we will be using our trailer/generator resource.

Please bring your thoughts with you to the annual meeting/banquet in March, or share them before that with Al Dunahoo or any club officer.

Upcoming Events

Shelter Test - 911 Center - mid March 2014

Next Club Meeting- includes the Annual Club Banquet, tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 19, 2014; Eric and Diane will investigate options in the coming weeks

Frost-fest Ham show –Feb 1, Richmond, Va. see: <http://frostfest.com/wp/>

Ham Licensing – Next license test session is scheduled for 9:00 am Saturday, February 8, 2014 at the ESCC, room A47, stay tuned to website and Face Book page

March of Dimes Walkathon; early May

Chincoteague Seafood Festival – tbd

ARRL Field Day – June 28-29. (always the 4th full weekend of June, just like last year; ie - not necessarily the *last* full weekend)

Breakfasts – (third Saturday of the month, 8am, Sage restaurant in Onley. Next Club Breakfast is scheduled for 8 am Saturday, January 18, 2014)

Club Net, every Monday evening @ 8:30 EST. 147.255/147.855 MHz, PL 156.7(Accomack), 162.2 (Mappsville), 151.4 (Craddockville); and 444.300/449.300 MHz PL 156.7 (Accomack).

Meeting adjourned at 20:10

Respectfully submitted, and 73, Eric Dodge, WA2AIC

Following - next page - is THE LATEST Trailer Needs Inventory. If you can contribute any parts listed below, please contact Al Dunahoo at W0ADD@VERIZON.NET .

Come on folks, you gotta have some extra stuff lying around – we'll recognize you!!

ESARC Project: Public Service and Emergency Trailer

Member donation of items to complete project

Item	Qty needed	Remarks
12 VDC Switching Power supplies Astron SS-30M or equal	3	
HF watt/SWR meter	2	
VHF/UHF watt/SWR meter	2	
PL-259 connector	many	
SO-239 connector	many	
Mini UHF male to SO-239 connector	many	
2.1 mm power connector	many	
DB-9 male connector with back shell	many	
DB-9 female connector with back shell	many	
6 pin mini den connector	many	
Signalink USB TNC	2	
Headsets with or without mic	4	
Dual band 80M/40M Dipoles	2	
Antenna wire	200 ft	
Dipole insulators	many	
3/16" Dacron rope	200 ft	
10 ft. RG-213 coax jumpers	4	
RG-213	pieces totalling 50 ft	

Roll of electricians tape	many	
External speakers	2	
2 conductor 3.5 mm mini phone jack	many	
Shielded 2 conductor speaker wire	25 FT	
Microphone hangers	many	
VHF/UHF antenna & ground plane parts	4	
HF/VHF/UHF dummy load	2	
ARRL operating manual	2	< 3 years old
ARRL Handbook	2	< 6 years old
ARRL VHF Handbook	2	< 6 years old
ARRL Antenna Handbook	2	< 10 years old
AC lightning and surge protectors	4	
RF lightning protectors (Poly Phasers) bulkhead mount	4	
AC power strips	4	
115 VAC 20" Box fan	2	
12VDC power cable with E-type or K,M4 type fuse holders	many	
12 VDC Kenwood T-type power connectors, male and females	many	
Misc Cat-5 cables	many	
Carpet 6X12 w/padding	1	
250 watt soldering iron	1	
Roll of solder and tin of flux	1	