



PAMLICO SOUNDS

Newsletter of Pamlico Amateur Radio Club

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are back! I am very happy to announce that PARC is climbing its way through the maze of filing forms and reports for our bank, IRS, FCC, and ARRL. There is one more known hurdle and that is insurance, which I am now working on, and hope to have resolved by our October meeting.

Progress, at our first reactivation meeting in June 2011 we had twelve (12) members in attendance, and today we have twenty eight (28) members, which I think is a great accomplishment for such a short period of time. I am hopeful our club will continue to grow, as they say "the more the merrier".

Hurricane Irene has passed, however the devastation and personal suffering she left throughout Beaufort County will continue for many of our neighbors and friends for some time to come. Now is the time for the lucky ones unscathed by the storm to step up to the plate and lend a helping hand to the less fortunate, be it pocket change in a donation jar, cans of food, extra clothing, unwanted but useable furniture or one's personal time. It is all needed and will be greatly appreciated.

I would be remiss not to mention the outstanding job our very own PARC members John Sprouse N4VJJ, as Beaufort County ARES Emergency Coordinator and Net Control stationed @ Beaufort County Operation Emergency Center, Linda Woods AI4MY as Duty Station Operator stationed @ PS Jones School, Cheryl McGuire KJ4RGP as Duty Station Operator stationed @ Washington H.S., and Margaret McGuire KJ4RGO as Duty Station Operator also stationed @ Washington H.S. did, while performing their duties maintaining emergency communications throughout the storm for almost 24 hours. Thank you all, you have performed a great service for Beaufort County, Amateur Radio Emergency Service, and our club.

Severe storms like Irene make one realize how important regular emergency testing and preparations are. Please remember how bad Irene was the next time you hear

about an SET (State Emergency Test), a few hours of your time in emergency training could prove to be most valuable in a real emergency situation.

Let's hope the hurricane season for 2011 has passed, and this fall we will only be raking up leaves.

I wish you all no QRM, no QRN and good DX
73's
Dave
W3DET

Pamlico Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2011

Dave Tabbutt called to order the regular meeting of the Pamlico Amateur Radio Club at 7:06 PM on 9-15-2011 at Zion Episcopal Church, 7322 Hwy 264 East, Washington, NC. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Old Business

- a) 4 newcomers introduced themselves to the group. Dave welcomed them to the meeting.
- b) Dave acknowledged the ARES members who worked during the recent Hurricane Irene emergency. They were: John Sprouse, Cheryl McGuire, Margaret McGuire and Linda Woods. John Sprouse also acknowledged the reports received from various members and other HAMs from the field during the storm which helped the Emergency Operations people.

It was also noted that member Charles Stokes suffered significant damage to his home and radio shack.

- c) Kirk has obtained permission for the ARES group to meet before the PARC meeting. Connie said that they would try to meet at 6:30 before the next PARC meeting.
- d) We are now in compliance with the ARRL membership requirement.
- e) Now that we are ARRL affiliates, it was approved that Dave go ahead with obtaining liability insurance through Hays Co..
- f) The paperwork is still in progress for reinstating our IRS tax exempt status but should be complete before next month.
- g) Frankie and Al are still working on itemizing all club owned equipment.
- h) Kirk completed the research on the club logo at Atlantic Enterprises. They have located the logo file and will be able to print t-shirts for approximately \$9 plus tax each. They can also monogram hats with call signs for a total cost of \$7 plus tax. Kirk will work with them to put together information to place an order for shirts and possibly jackets and hats.
- i) The application for reactivating the club call sign was mailed on 8/19/11, but has not been processed yet.
- j) Treasurers' Report- N/A
- k) Cheryl was able to contact John Pack-Beaufort County Emergency Manager- and he said that he had two events that he would appreciate PARC support on. They are a Bike Ride event

believed to happen in June and a Search & Rescue event in March. The Search & Rescue event is supposed to take place at a Boy Scout camp on the south side of the county. It was decided that support would be from the membership in the newsletter.

New Business

a) Brightleaf Club is having trouble getting enough VEs for their testing efforts. Cheryl proposed that we might be able to help Brightleaf or coordinate testing with them since we have 5 VEs in our membership. It was decided to open communications with Brightleaf to that end. Cheryl will provide Kirk with contact information.

b) Repeater linking-John Sprouse explained in more detail the needs and benefits of linking the Beaufort County repeater with the Columbia repeater net. He has obtained a radio, but still needs an antenna, power supply and coaxial cable all of which will probably cost around \$300. Discussion ensued and the club voted to donate \$200 towards the cost of obtaining this equipment.

c) There is a meeting of the Grifton repeater group –cookout/covered dish on Sunday, if anyone is interested in going. It will be in Carteret County.

Adjournment

Dave Tabbutt adjourned the meeting at 8:07 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Linda Woods, AI4MY Secretary / Treasurer.

Minutes approved by: David Tabbutt, W3DET President.

Heathkit's Amateur Radio Plans Taking Shape

09/14/2011

Heathkit Educational Systems hopes to reenter the Amateur Radio market by the end of 2011. Back in August, Heathkit [announced](#) its return to the kit business and actively solicited suggestions. The response from Amateur Radio operators convinced Heathkit to develop several Amateur Radio products.

Ernie Wake, director, Marketing/Sales, told the ARRL:

“When we made the announcement on our [web page](#) about a month ago we had no intention of entering the Amateur Radio kit market. The response was really overwhelming, exciting and scary. The scary part is that the brand name has so much loyalty that we don’t want to disappoint the people who have such fond memories.

“We are working on developing a few Amateur [Radio kits](#). Initially, the kit line will include a few ‘accessories’ like kits for a Dual [Watt Meter](#), Antenna Tuners and the Cantenna. Once we are a little more ‘settled’ I think we will develop a QRP receiver. We won’t rush to market just to get there. We want to develop a line of kits in the tradition of Heathkit. I’m hoping to have one-two kits by the end-of-the-year.” Printed with permission from ARRL.

FCC Upholds \$17,000 Forfeiture Order to Tennessee Ham

TAGS: Apparent Liability, Communications Act, willfully

09/21/2011

In March 2009, the FCC issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL) in the amount of \$17,000 to David Edward Perka, KA3PRB, of Lewisburg, Tennessee. The FCC alleges that Perka “willfully and repeatedly violat[ed] section 301 of

the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, by operating without a license in the Maritime Radio Service and willfully violat[ed] Section 333 of the Act by maliciously interfering with the United States Coast Guard on the International Distress, Safety and Calling Channel in Annapolis, Maryland.” Perka, who admitted to the findings, requested a reduction in the forfeiture amount, based on his inability to pay, but in a Forfeiture Order released by the FCC on September 21, 2011, the Commission refused to lower the amount.

In April 2008, agents in the FCC’s Columbia Office determined that Perka operated on Marine Channel 16 (156.800 MHz), the International Distress, Safety and Calling Channel for stations operating in the Maritime Radio Service. According to the Forfeiture Order, even though Perka is a licensed radio amateur, he does not hold a license to operate in the Maritime Service. “The unauthorized transmissions on April 6, 2008 consisted of Perka making threatening statements to the USCG,” the FCC stated in the Forfeiture Order. “Perka later admitted to FCC agents that the transmissions on April 6, 2008 were intentionally transmitted to harass the USCG. The unauthorized transmissions on April 7, 2008 consisted of tones from a Dual-Tone Multi-Frequency (DTMF) keypad.” In March 2009, the FCC issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL) in the amount of \$17,000 to Perka

In determining whether it should lower a Forfeiture Order, the FCC -- as required by Section 503(b) of the Communications Act -- takes into account “the nature, circumstances, extent and gravity of the violation and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay and other such matters as justice may require.” The FCC has determined that, in general, gross revenues are the best indicator of an ability to pay a forfeiture. The NAL specifically stated that a cancellation or reduction based on inability to pay will not be considered unless the petitioner provides either federal tax returns for the most recent three-year period, financial statements prepared according to generally accepted accounting practices or some other reliable and objective documentation that accurately reflects the petitioner’s current financial status.

The FCC considered Perka’s response to the NAL, but because he did not dispute any of the findings in the NAL, the FCC found that Perka “willfully and repeatedly violated Section 301 and willfully violated section 333 of the Communications Act. “The only documentation Perka submitted was a single unemployment check from the State of Maryland dated April 6, 2009,” the FCC noted. “Enforcement Bureau staff provided Perka an additional opportunity to submit documentation in support of his request for a reduction based on an inability to pay. Although we have evidence that Perka received the letter, we have not received a response. We therefore have no basis for assessing Perka’s financial situation and find that a forfeiture in the amount of \$17,000 is warranted.” Printed with permission from ARRL.

FOR SALE

If anyone wishes to sell any radio equipment we can have a FOR SALE section in the newsletter. Just let me know.

GENERAL

If anyone has any suggestions, good or bad about the newsletter please let me know so we can improve the newsletter. If anyone would like to put a comment in the newsletter just send it to me at n4arw@suddenlink.net.

BIRTHDAYS

The Club wishes Happy Birthday to Cheryl Buck, KF4DSQ, and Dave Tabbutt, W3DET, for the month of October. If I missed anyone I apologize. I do not have everyone’s birth month.

