

October Meeting

Police Communications
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**Proposed
Changes to the
By-Laws**

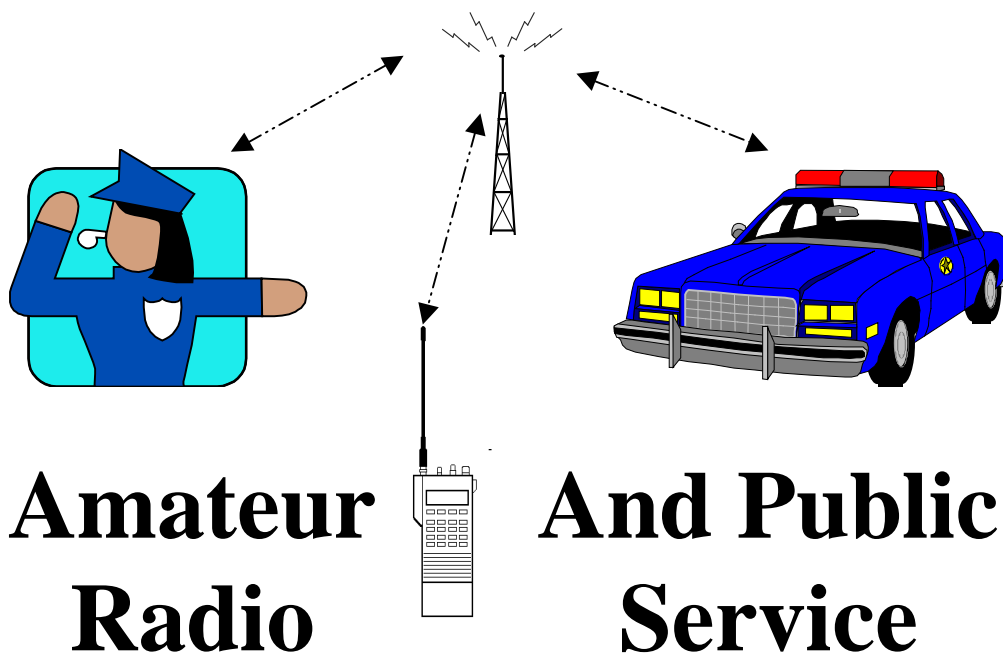
The proposed changes affect terms limits for Secretary and Treasurer and dues.
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Elections

Want to run for office?
Want to nominate someone? It's that time!
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**Amateur
Radio**

**And Public
Service**

**Part II
Amateur Radio and the Police Department**

Last month, Chief John Frank, from the Howard County Fire Department, told us about Howard County's detailed plans for Y2K, and how those plans apply to any other wide-spread disaster. We also learned that amateur radio has a significant role in those plans.

This month we'll learn about public safety communications from the perspective of the Police Department. Hams have a role to play here, as well. As trained communicators, we are already used to reporting accidents and road hazards. Did you know that you could volunteer for the Police Auxiliary and put your communications skills to further use? All this, and more, will be covered by a representative from the Howard County PD.

Remember, we'll be meeting in Room 401 of the Gateway Center on Columbia Gateway Drive. Take Rt. 175 to Gateway Drive, then south on Gateway to the Gateway Center building, which will be the first building on the left. There's plenty of room, so please feel free to bring a friend.

Club By-Law Changes

As was discussed last month, the Board of Trustees is proposing two changes to the by-laws:

- Remove the three term limit from the offices of Treasurer and Secretary.
- Make the mailed copy of the newsletter a \$5 membership option, in lieu of including it with the basic dues.

These two proposed modifications were read at the September membership meeting and will be read again this month. They will appear on your ballot in November. Your comments are welcome.

1999 CARA Elections

Elections for the CARA Board of Trustees will be held in November. If you would like to run for office, or would like to nominate a candidate, please contact our Election Committee Chairman, Bob Nauman, WA3VUQ. You may reach Bob at 410-465-7415 or via rlk001@home.com.

RACES

The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

The week of 12 through 19 September was quite interesting for our RACES members. The monthly RACES COMEX was held on Tuesday, the 14th. In lieu of a field exercise,

we met with Emergency Management personnel at the EOC to discuss various topics and receive an update on antenna placement at fire stations and shelters sites throughout the county. A tour of the County's Central Communications facility including the 911 center followed the meeting. RACES members in attendance were W3CCI, K3EF, W1TRT, WA3WZX, and WA1QAA.

Shortly after noon on Thursday, the 16th, Howard County Emergency Management notified RACES Officer WA1QAA that the EOC would be activated at 1230 hours. Howard County Emergency Management also activated RACES, and we were asked to provide RACES support at the EOC. At that time, the County estimated that, barring any unforeseen circumstances, RACES operations would be needed into the evening hours. However, if conditions worsened and shelter operations were required, RACES was asked to also provide communications between opened shelters and the EOC.

HOWARD RACES operations commenced shortly after 1315 hours local time when WA3WZX arrived at the EOC. He was relieved by KF3BO at 1700 hours. W3CCI, W1TRT, and W3GJN volunteered to support EOC or shelter operations, if needed. Throughout the course of the afternoon and early evening hours, several other RACES members checked in on 147.135.

EOC operations were supported until shortly after 1800 hours local time when RACES was asked to secure. Fortunately, weather conditions did not necessitate opening of shelters, and hence RACES shelter communications were not required.

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The EOC was deactivated shortly after RACES operations were secured. Sincere thanks to all who participated, or stood by awaiting assignment during the course of the afternoon and early evening hours. At the conclusion of our operations, HOWA RACES received warm thanks for assistance from our Director of Emergency Management.

A few miles away, the situation was very different. We were very fortunate to have escaped the more serious consequences of Floyd. The Baltimore County EOC and RACES were activated at 0930 hours, and their first shelter was opened shortly thereafter. Cecil, Anne Arundel, Somerset, Wicomico, St. Marys, and Montgomery County RACES organizations were activated for varying periods of time during the hours of Thursday and Friday. At 1340 hours local time, 3920 kHz plus or minus 3kHz was established, at the request to the FCC from the Section Emergency Coordinator, as a voluntary communications emergency frequency for handling emergency traffic in the Maryland – District of Columbia (MDC) area. This request was made in support of ongoing RACES operations throughout MDC, particularly in our Eastern Shore counties.

All RACES/ARES members and other licensed amateurs interested in emergency or public service communications are invited to join our RACES/ARES net the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 1930 hours local time on the 147.135 repeater. RACES Communications Exercises (COMEXs) are held on the second Tuesday of the month from 1930 to 2030 hours. If you would like to participate with us in the COMEX, please contact Mike/WA1QAA on the net, by email at bamcc@erols.com, or by landline at 410-799-0403. We would enjoy the presence of

your station in our nets, exercises, and activations.

73, Mike WA1QAA

CARA News

1999 Hamfest

Does lightning ever strike twice in the same place? Rain does! For the second year in a row, we suffered through a chilly, rainy hamfest Sunday, with the expected effect on attendance. Last year we made a small profit. This year we lost a little money.

This was despite the fact that we had enough indoor space to accommodate our usual number of vendors plus most of the tailgaters.

The grand prize, a Kenwood Dual Band H/T, was won by John King, KB3WK.

Publicity Chairman Needed

Perhaps we would have had a better turn out at the hamfest, had we had more publicity. To that end, the club is looking for a Publicity Chairman.

The primary task is to place public service notices in the local newspapers to announce our club activities. For the Hamfest, the role includes placing ads in the local papers, announcements in the national electronic hobby magazines, and getting public service announcements read on the local radio and TV stations.

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Not much work, all in all. Are you interested? Please call Bob Scarburgh, at 410-465-2415, or Dave Prestel, at 410-203-9432.

Meeting Location

Don't forget that we have moved the meeting location to Room 401 of the **Gateway Center** on Gateway Drive. The Gateway Center is the first building on the left, at 6751 Gateway Drive, which runs south off of Rt. 175, just west of the I-95 exit.

From The Prez...

The 1999 Hamfest is now history. I especially want to thank Dave, W8AJR, for the effort he made to coordinate all the activities necessary to put on a hamfest. The only problem this year, again, was the weather. It seems as though when Dick Frank chaired the hamfest, we had perfect weather. Since Dick has moved, the weather has been less than perfect. Maybe CARA might want to consider flying Dick and Dionne back to Maryland just for the hamfest and bring their good weather with them!!! It might be a good investment. If any member wound up with any items that don't belong to them, please let Dave, W8AJR, know so he can coordinate returns to the proper owners or custodians.

At the last meeting, the Chief from Emergency Management (Fire and Rescue) gave an informative view of how Howard County has, and is still, preparing for the turn of the century. I don't think that a lot of us realized how much effort and coordination has already been done in preparation. Maybe a lot of CARA members don't know that our club emergency program falls in the area of Emergency Management

and that is the reason we are allowed on the County's tower for repeaters.

Please plan to attend the monthly breakfast get-together on the second Saturday of the month! Give me a call (410-465-2421) to let me know you will attend. This way, I have an idea of how many will be there so I can notify the restaurant in advance and they will have enough tables reserved for us.

That's all for now.

Bob Scarburgh, KC3EV

Antenna Supplies

We have antenna wire and feedline left over from our antenna building program and are making available to the members at cost. Contact Dave Prestel, (W8AJR) at (410) 203-9432 or dprestel@sprintmail.com.

450? Twinlead	\$.19/foot
Stranded Cu Wire	\$.15/foot
RG/8X Coax	\$.16/foot
PL-259 w/adapter	\$1.50 each

If you want to build your own J-pole antenna, of the type that we built at the meeting, the directions, courtesy of Alan, N3AC, are available upon request.

Dave Prestel, W8AJR

Don't Forget!

- **Elections**
- **ARES / RACES Nets**
- **New Meeting Location**
- **Come to the Meeting!!!**

Club Information

Repeaters (K3CUJ)

147.135 / R+ Net repeater. CTCSS: **156.7 Hz**
147.39 / R+. Open autopatch ("*" to activate, "#" to clear) and direct dial 911
448.275 / R- CTCSS: **156.7 Hz**
449.475 / R-. Autopatch and direct dial 911

Mailing Addresses

Club Business

CARA
P.O. Box 911
Columbia, MD 21044
CARA@QSL.net

Newsletter

c/o Dave Prestel W8AJR
10160 Tanfield Court
Ellicott City, MD 21042
dprestel@sprintmail.com

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Officers and Chairpersons

Officers:

President..... Bob Scarborough..... KC3EV H: 410-465-2421 rscarburgh@aol.com
Vice-president..... Dave Prestel W8AJR H: 410-203-9432 dprestel@sprintmail.com
Secretary..... Dan Goulette N3LDC..... H: 410-796-2587 danjanis@connex.net
Treasurer..... John Pinkston W3GJN..... H: 410-531-3450 jpinksto@erols.com
Member-at-large.... Tim Titus W1TRT H: 410-730-8420 w1trt@aol.com
Past President Larry Russo K3TFU H: 301-725-2840 lrusso@erols.com
Trustee..... Alan Chedester N3AC H: 301-596-6543 alanc1@juno.com

Committee Chairpersons:

Elmers..... John Pinkston W3GJN..... H: 410-531-3450 jpinksto@erols.com
Field Day..... Alan Chedester N3AC..... H: 301-596-6543 alanc1@juno.com
John Pinkston W3GJN..... H: 410-531-3450 jpinksto@erols.com
FAR Rep Tim Titus W1TRT H: 410-730-8420 w1trt@aol.com
Hamfest..... Dave Prestel W8AJR H: 410-203-9432 dprestel@sprintmail.com
Newsletter Dave Prestel W8AJR H: 410-203-9432 dprestel@sprintmail.com
Publicity Vacant
Social Gloria Goldman H: 410-997-3838 artg@home.com
Technical..... Dave Prestel W8AJR H: 410-203-9432 dprestel@sprintmail.com
T-MARC Rep..... Dave Prestel W8AJR H: 410-203-9432 dprestel@sprintmail.com
VE Testing..... Bob Scarborough..... KC3EV H: 410-465-2421 rscarburgh@aol.com
Youth Education Dave Anderson WA3WZX..... H: 410-465-8557 dranderson@juno.com
Youth Group..... Vacant

ARES / RACES:

ARES Ed Wallace K3EF..... H: 410-465-0042 k3ef@aol.com
RACES..... Mike Carr..... WA1QAA H: 410-799-0403 bamcc@erols.com

Activities

Club meeting: the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Gateway Center, on Columbia Gateway Drive, off Rt. 175, near I-95. . Monitor net repeater for directions.

On-the-air net: Net repeater at 8:30 p.m. each Tuesday except for meeting night.

On-the-air ARES net: Net repeater at 7:30 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month.

On-the-air RACES exercise: Net repeater at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday each month.

CARA breakfast: 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month, at Jilly's Restaurant in the Enchanted Forest Shopping Center. If you wish to attend, contact Bob Scarborough (KC3EV).

Executive board meeting: Held monthly. Contact Bob Scarborough (KC3EV) for the time and place. All members are welcome.

CARA on the World Wide Web: Visit us at <http://www.qsl.net/cara/> for the latest "hot tips" and electronic edition of the newsletter.

CARA's November 1999 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2 ARES/RACES NET CARA net	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 RACES COMEX CARA net	10	11	12	13 Breakfast at Jilly's
14	15	16 ARES/RACES NET CARA net	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 CARA net	24	25 Thanksgiving	26	27
28	29	30 CARA meeting				
		Dates to Remember: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARES/RACES Nets on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays • CARA Elections in November 				

Columbia Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 911
Columbia, MD 21044

**Don't Forget Our New
Meeting Place!**

Room 401
Gateway Center
6751 Columbia Gateway Drive

First Class Mail