

Smoke Signals

Volume 17, Issue 5 June 2014
The Newsletter of Charles County Amateur Radio Club

Meetings & Nets

First Friday- Monthly meeting at 7 PM/1900 hrs Charles County Rescue Squad meeting room 2 Calvert Street, LaPlata, MD 20646

Net-Tuesdays 8PM - KA3GRW repeater in LaPlata: 443.700+, with a PL tone of: 179.9

Weekly (Saturdays) social gathering for breakfast 0745AM Maries Diner 6325 Crain Hwy, La Plata, MD 20646

Second Tuesday MEMA COMMEX with the RACES team at Charles County EOC, 7:30PM (7:00PM for setup and briefing)

How to Contact Us:

PO BOX 169, La Plata, MD 20646

Web: <http://k3smd.org>

President: Rob Hoyt robhoyt32@yahoo.com

Vice-president: Mike Tackish pmtackish@comcast.net

Secretary: Clifford Owen cliffowen@teppodama.com

Treasurer/membership: Bob Davidson, rdavidson@aceweb.com

Activities: Spencer Johnson, spencer.johnson@netsync.com

Training Officer Bob Curran flyingham@verizon.net

Secretary Emeritus: Bill Palmer KE3RE

Smoke Signals is published monthly as the newsletter of the Charles County Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Items to be published in the Smoke Signals should be submitted by the Sunday before the first Friday of the month. Email submissions are most efficient msack@verizon.net or mail to Michelle Sack PO Box 1182 Waldorf, MD 20604. Permission is granted to reprint.

Activities:

Field Day (FD) on June 28-29, 2014. That will also be the main topic at our meeting on Friday June 6, 2014 at the Charles County Rescue Squad facility. Remember we start at 7:00 p.m. Talk-in if needed on 443.700+ (PL 179.9). So please come to the meeting with the list of what you will provide to support the event. Bridge Bob W1BJC has secured the necessary authorization to use the pavilion at the park.

International **SW Disaster Test** being conducted on June 4-5:
<http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?431731-International-SW-Disaster-Test> 73 Bob KB3KOW

Bob KE3GG has sent out a notice to all VE's announcing our next **test session on June 7, 2014**. Registration time is 9:00 am with testing to start at 9:30 a.m. Waldorf West Library

Project:

AIR POWER ANTENNA SHOOTER
BUILT BY KB3UYZ

I became tired of trying to (1) throw a line in the trees, and (2) use the Sling Shot method, (danger to neighbor's and me when the lead weight bounced back.) After doing some research on the internet, and viewing several plans I came upon the air power shooter designed by WC5M. Made minor modifications caused by changes in parts, and my own personal ideas.

To build your own you will need the following parts:

24 - 30 inches of 1 1/4" Schedule 40 PVC

12 inches of 3" Schedule 40 PVC

1 each 3" PVC Schedule 40 end cap

1 each 1" Sprinkler Valve (Orbit model 57101P) (bought at Lowes)

1 each automotive tire valve model 41600-M (bought at True Value)

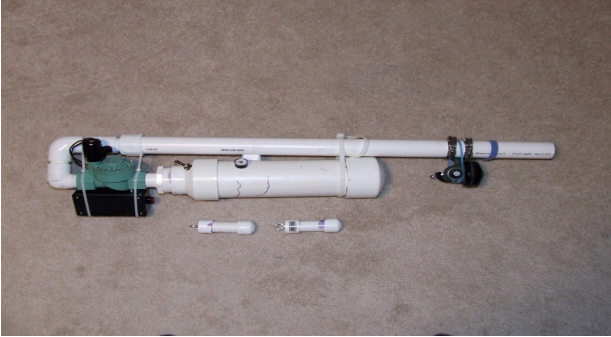
- 1 each pressure gauge (McMaster-Carr 38105K51)
- 1 each Radio Shack project box
- 1 each SPST Momentary Pushbutton Switch 275-0612 (Radio Shack)
- 2 each 9v Battery Snap Connectors 270-0325 (Radio Shack) and
- 2 each 9v batteries (I use Duracell)
- 10) 1 each 3 x 2 DWV Reducer Coupler PDWVRMK (Ferguson Enterprises)
- 11) 1 each 3 PVC S40 SOC Cap P40SCAPM (Ferguson Enterprises)
- 12) 1 each 2 x 1 PVC S40 FTG X Bush P40SFBKG (Ferguson Enterprises)
- 13) 1 each 1 inch close nipple threaded both ends
- 14) 1 each 1 inch PVC 90 degree elbow (threaded on one end smooth bore on the other)
- 15) 1 each 1 inch PVC 90 degree elbow (smooth bore both ends)
- 16) 1 each 1 inch X 1-1/4 PVC (male threaded to smooth bore on 1-1/4 end)
- 17) PVC primer & cement
- 18) 2 each 3/4 inch slip caps (True Value)
- 19) 2 each 3/16 x 1-3/4 eye bolts
- 20) 2 each 3/4 inch caps
- 21) Teflon tape
- 22) 6 inches of 1" PVC (for 2 small connectors)
- 23) Fishing reel (mine was one I used over 56 years ago)
- 24) Fishing line
- 25) 2 #28 clamps (to hold fishing reel on)
- 26) 6 inches of 3/4 PVC to make shooting weight

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27) Some type of tire pump



I wanted to encourage everyone to consider joining the **ARRL**. If you are new to the hobby &/or not currently a member, you are missing out on some great information. I have been & continue to enjoy membership. Please give them a look at [www@arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org). You'll be glad you did! Mike KA3GRW

From: Bill Edgar, N3LLR – ARRL Director, Atlantic Division:
Please accept this as my personal invitation to you to attend the 2014 ARRL National Centennial Convention, July 17-19 in nearby Hartford, Connecticut. Advance registration recommended, do so by visiting ARRL2014.org

This is an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to come together with other members and friends as we celebrate the very best of the ARRL and Amateur Radio. Registrations have been received from all 50 states and 22 countries. This will be a CELEBRATION to remember!

The event is being held at the Connecticut Convention Center in downtown Hartford, -where we'll host all of the convention activities. A free shuttle connects many of downtown hotel options

On Thursday, July 17th, the ARRL Centennial Convention will feature all-day training tracks (advance registration is required). These workshops will be led by the top national-level trainers and experts in Amateur Radio. On Friday, July 18th, and Saturday, July 19th, the convention will feature a huge exhibit hall and 70+ hours of forums and special presentations. FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ will give the keynote address at the Centennial Banquet on Friday night (over 600 have registered already!), and Nobel Prize Winner, Joe Taylor, K1JT, will speak Saturday at noon.

ARRL Headquarters in nearby Newington is rolling out the red carpet for all convention attendees. Shuttle buses will run attendees to ARRL HQ (about 15 minutes away) for tours of the main administrative building, grounds & antenna farm, and W1AW—the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station. If you've never visited 225 Main Street, now's your chance!

Bring the entire family! We have tours planned on Friday and Saturday for spouses, companions or any family members who

might not be interested in attending the convention activities. On Friday, a tour is planned of the Mark Twain House and Harriet Beecher Stowe Center; On Saturday, a visit to the Wadsworth Atheneum—the oldest public art museum in the US. These tours require convention registration. The Connecticut Science Center is next door to the convention center—and is offering half-price admission to all convention registrants and their families throughout weekend.

There's so much planned I can't begin to cover it all here. Please visit the official convention registration site to review the entire agenda: ARRL2014.org
Let's make history! See you in Hartford! 73 de Bill, N3LLR

An interesting article and kind of scary for ham radio operators as we look to the future. It is interesting to note that in the article it is mentioned that there were several public hearings on this law but practically nobody came out to speak up.
http://azdailysun.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/rancor-over-coconino-county-s-ham-radio-ban/article_a9db2320-d03b-11e3-b7f4-001a4bcf887a.html

73, Bob, KE3GG

Good news! I received the following message from Cliff, N3FI, informing me that the **W3BPT repeater** has been restored to operation and is available for use.

From Cliff: "We have a "construction" coordination for the W3BPT (146.85) repeater. It is up and operating now at the Radio Station Road location. It is currently using 5A (156.7) for both RX and TX TSQ (CTCSS)."

A hearty thanks and big tip of the CCARC cap to Cliff and Mike, KA3GRW, for all of their hard work and perseverance in dealing with both the electronic and administrative challenges encountered while giving the W3BPT repeater a second life. 73, Art, AA3RT

MANASSAS **HAMFEST** Amateur Radio, Computer & Electronics Show Sunday, June 8, 2014 Prize Drawings & Interesting Programs (Prince Wm. County Fairgrounds) 10624 Dumfries Road, Manassas, VA 20112-2720 (Route 234) TALK-IN 146.97- 442.200+ D-Star 442.5125+ Online Admission, Tailgating, Vendor Tables Sales and Information at www.manassashamfest.org

Member News:

Bill KE3RE says to pass along a hearty hello to everyone and he'll make it out to a meeting when he is able. In fact, I'm hoping he can come out to Field Day (FD) for a little bit. It would be nice to hear, watch and take pictures of him making contacts! I can't wait and FD is almost upon us. Bill said he has a few follow-up appointments coming up, so everyone keep them in your prayers for a speedy recovery. Bill enjoys visitors. They said he needs

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more visitors and all are invited. Katie is on FB, email is catwilpalm@verizon.net and their cell number is (301) 904-0496.

Patrick Hinman (KB3UYZ) continues his road to recovery. I think it's not happening soon enough for Patrick but some stuff you just can't rush.

Tim Velasquez KB3OSF, was admitted to the Charles Regional Medical Center (CRMC) 5/23/14. His illness has required surgery and he is in Room 3228 (3 South). Melissa KC3CEH asked that I pass this along to everyone. Please keep Tim, Melissa and family in your prayers. Cliff N3FI & Mike KE3GRW visited. Tim & Melissa His surgery has left him in a lot of pain. He'll be a bit recovering. I'm not sure just when the Doctors think Tim will be well enough to go home but I'm sure Tim is pretty close to ready if you ask him! He was laughing along with us at some points in the conversation-a painful prospect- Sorry Tim, we tried to contain ourselves! He would like to have visitors if you're in the area, please drop by for a minute and say hi.

Mike Sack KB3FQE is home. Though he had a scare/hospitalization at the end of April beginning of May...he was able to attend training & has a new service dog -Heidi VII.

Wayne Michael Abernethy WB3AEQ SK (May 10, 2014) Please continue to keep the Abernethy family in your prayers.

