NEW AND REINVigorATED PROGRAMS
PUT EMPHASIS ON CLUBS

Considered to be the glue which brings Amateur Radio operators together in communities, clubs are getting new and reinvigorated support from ARRL. Recently, the monthly club newsletter called ARRL Club News was revived. In it are announcements and tips designed to offer suggestions for programs and projects to make club activities more exciting. To sign up for the newsletter, go to your member profile on ARRL’s website and click on email subscriptions. A new column now appears in QST called Club Station. Like the monthly club newsletter, Club Station is dedicated to keeping club officers and members up to date on items which enhance club meetings and events.

Perhaps most exciting is the revised club commission program. Hams who join or renew ARRL membership can now do it through their ARRL affiliated club, and the club receives a higher commission than in the past. New applicants or those rejoining ARRL after a three-year or more absence can help their club earn $15.00 per new member. Renewing members will help contribute $5.00 per ARRL membership to the club. The former commission was a flat $2.00 each for both new and renewing members. “The new commission program is a three-way Win-Win-Win combination for members, clubs and ARRL”, notes Roanoke Division Director Dr. Jim Boehner, N2ZZ. Club officers can find out more about the program and the form to receive commissions at: www.arrl.org/affiliated-club-benefits/

Stirring considerable excitement too is The ARRL Foundation’s Club Grant Program. Thanks to a generous donation from Amateur Radio Digital Communications, a California non-profit, clubs can apply for grants ranging from a few hundred dollars up to a maximum of $25,000. The first round of applications is now closed, but applications for the second round can be filed up to October 1. A full explanation of what programs and projects are eligible and how to complete an application package can be found at ARRL’s website at: www.arrl.org/club-grant-program. Several YouTube videos are also available which explain how to apply. Just search for ARRL Club Grant Program.
The prestigious TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC) is coming this year to the Roanoke Division in Charlotte. Long known and respected in the Amateur Radio community for its research and discussion on leading edge digital communications, the TAPR conference draws presenters and attendees from across the globe. Paper and presentation topic areas will include software defined radio (SDR), digital voice, digital satellite communication, digital signal processing (DSP), HF digital modes, adapting IEEE 802.11 systems for Amateur Radio, Global Positioning System (GPS), Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS), Linux in Amateur Radio, AX.25 updates, Internet operability with Amateur Radio networks, TCP/IP networking over Amateur Radio, mesh and peer-to-peer wireless networking, emergency and homeland defense backup digital communications in Amateur Radio. Presentations are for all levels from beginner to advanced.

TAPR is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization of amateur radio operators who are interested in advancing the state of the radio art. The initials stand for “Tucson Amateur Packet Radio” but today the organization is much broader than that. Long ago TAPR became an international organization, and while the organization still supports packet radio, its areas of interest have expanded to include software defined radio, advanced digital modulation methods, and precise time and frequency measurement.

Hilton Charlotte Airport is hosting the 2022 ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC) and is now offering special room rates for the DCC at $99 per night. The special room rate is good until August 15, so make your reservations ASAP online by clicking here or dialup 1-800-445-8667 and ask for the “Digital Communications 2022” rates.
Congratulations to the 126 clubs and groups who listed their Field Day locations on the ARRL FD Locator webpage. The breakdown across the Roanoke Division was:

- **North Carolina** 53
- **South Carolina** 17
- **Virginia** 42
- **West Virginia** 14

In addition to Field Day travels by your elected ARRL officials, the following ARRL appointees visited Field Day sites on behalf of the League. Our thanks to them:

Roanoke Division Asst. Director Dan Henderson, N1ND; NC Asst. Section Manager for Youth Dave Price, K4KDP; SC Technical Coordinator Brad Humphries, AE4VJ; SC Public Information Coordinator Gordon Mooneyhan, W4EGM; VA Affiliated Club Coordinator Mike Aimone, WA8AHZ; VA Asst. Section Manager Ed Gibbs, KW4GF; VA Asst. Section Emergency Coordinators Wayne Rogers, N1WR, and Terry Buzzard, KA8TNF.
NOMINATIONS FOR 2022 ROANOKE DIVISION SERVICE AWARD COMING UP

The Roanoke Division Service award—the division’s most prestigious accolade—will be seeking nominations later this year. Now is the time to begin thinking about worthy candidates who meet the spirit of the award. First presented in 1968, fifty-four Roanoke Division ARRL members have been honored by their peers for the contributions they have made for the betterment of Amateur Radio as a whole and for the operators who live in the four states of the Roanoke Division. Because of COVID restrictions which curtailed many hamfests and club meetings, the award was suspended for 2020 and 2021. After a two year absence, there are many deserving ARRL members who merit recognition. Nomination forms will be available later this autumn on the division’s website at: www.arrl-roanoke.com, where you can also learn more about the award and see a list of past winners.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

Saturday, August 6
Roanoke Hamfest
Colonial Avenue Baptist Church
4165 Colonial Ave.
Roanoke, VA 24001
Talk-In: 146.985 PL 107.2
Roanokehamfest.org

Sunday, August 7
71st annual Berryville Hamfest
Clark County Fairgrounds
890 West Main Street
Berryville, VA 22611
Talk-In: 146.82 PL 146.2
Berryvillehamfest.com

Saturday, August 13
Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society Swapfest
Cumberland County Shrine Club
7040 Ramsey St. (US Hwy 401 N)
Fayetteville, NC 28301
Talk-In: 146.91 PL 100.0
www.cfarsnc.org

Saturday, August 13
Tri-State Amateur Radio Association Annual Hamfest
New Baptist Church
610 28th Street
Huntington, WV 25701
Talk-In: 146.76 PL 131.8
www.qsl.net/w8va

Saturday, August 20
W4CHR Chester Tailgate & Hamfest
New Life Baptist Church
1044 Columbia Road
Chester, SC 29706
Talk-In: 145.31 PL 167.9
www.w4chr.com

Friday-Sunday, September 2-4
Shelby Hamfest
ARRL NC Section Convention
Cleveland County Fairgrounds
1751 East Marion Street
Shelby, NC 28150
Talk-In: 146.88 No PL Tone
Shelbyhamfest.com

Saturday, September 24
Lexington Hamfest
Farmers Market Flea Market
366 Livestock Market Road
Lexington, NC 27292
Talk-In: 146.91 PL 107.2
www.w4par.org

Saturday, October 1
Rock Hill Hamfest
ARRL SC Section Convention
Covenant Presbyterian Church
1830 Celanese road
Rock Hill, SC 29730
Talk-In: 147.03 PL 88.5
www.ycars.org