

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Meeting--12 May 2014

By Terry Brown (AK4D)--Secretary, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by President Jerry Minor, K4GW, at 1934 hours with approximately 35 members attending.
- 2. Welcome:** Jerry Minor started the meeting welcoming all attendees. All attendees introduced themselves.
- 3. Treasurer Report:** Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO, reported the club balance to be \$1715.75.
- 4. VEC Testing:** Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL, had six folks testing. Dale expected to get the new Technician testing pool soon and that the new pool of question was being evaluated by the VEC program. He thanked the VE's for helping out. Successful candidates along with callsign and license grade are listed below.

Jeff Lansing--KM4BON--Technician
James Wilkens--K4KWC--General
Alfred Williams--KM4BOK--Technician
Edward Leffette--KM4BOL--Technician

- 5. Repeater Status:** Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL, reported that all repeaters were up but commented on the crackling experienced using a low power signal on the 145.47 repeater due to issues with the phasing harness. Dale hoped to get up there soon in the summer season to work on these issues. Until then, he suggested increasing output power to minimize crackling. Dale reported progress on getting Echolink working on the 146.64 repeater.

6. Miscellaneous Club Business:

a. Field Day: Doc Holliday, WB4QIZ, talked about Field Day (28-29 June) needs, about 20 operators. Doc stated he was in charge of the event and wanted anyone who could work to put their name down on a sign up sheet and if they could work Saturday or Sunday or both. Jerry Minor reminded everyone that we would have next month's meeting to discuss plans for Field Day. Question was posed on if club members needed to bring rigs to help out. Eight meeting attendees indicated they could bring a rig if needed. Gene Bowman asked that if anyone was bringing a rig, that they also bring an antenna for their rig.

b. Minutes of Past Business Meeting: Terry Brown stated that minutes of both club and business meetings will start appearing in club newsletter. A summary of the last FARC business meeting was then presented focusing on maintenance and repairs on the clubs antennas, coaxes, and hamshack.

c. Antenna and other Maintenance at the Red Cross: Henry Heidtmann gave a detailed presentation on work that was done. Jerry Minor thanked everyone for helping out with this effort.

d. Hamfest: Henry Heidtmann reminded everyone about the upcoming hamfest on 7 June at Summit School. David Shoaf, hamfest manager, thanked everyone for making last January's hamfest a success and would be asking club members for help making the June hamfest another success. Jerry Minor asked members to hand out "business" cards advertising the hamfest and those were distributed to members.

e. License Testing: Jerry Minor welcomed and pointed out Dennis McClure and thanked him for getting folks to last months VEC testing.

f. Club Member Application Letters: Terry Brown had sent out about 130 letters to former club members. Each letter contained a two page description of what FARC is about and the advantages of being a club member along with a member application form. Name badges and hamfest info were included. Also in the envelope was info on the Cedric Rodney Scholarship where equipment would be presented at the upcoming hamfest.

g. Arduino Project: Jerry reminded everyone that if they had an interest in the Arduino project, to fill out the form and orders for parts would be going out in a few days.

h. New Net on Sauratown Repeater: Dennis McClure, N4DSM, talked about a new net starting up on the Sauratown Repeater on 22 May. The 444.75 is the primary planned repeater to be used but is currently down, so the 147.045 repeater will be initially used. The new net would be more about personal disaster prepping but would not try to be an ARES net. The format of the net was still being designed, but would focus on shared ideas on disaster preparedness. For clarification, Jerry Minor stated that the repeater being used is the W4SNA repeater. Dennis stated that the first and third Thursday of every month just before the Amaron (?) net at 7 pm. This is a precursor to forming a new amateur radio club in Stokes County.

7. Presentations:

a. Digital Modes by Harold Richardson, N4HER: Gave a great description of what is needed for digital communications, hardware interfacing and advantages of digital communication modes.

b. Remoting Ham Radio by Doc Holliday, WB4QIZ: Doc demonstrated a method of logging into a remote ham radio transceiver using my.remote.hamradio.com/console and then how to make contacts. First cq contact was with UI8U in Siberia. There was a \$99 one time fee for using this service and afterwards, 15 cents per minute of use after a few 30 minute first use.

8. Adjournment: Jerry Minor adjourned the meeting at 2100 hours.

9. Attendance Sheet: Meeting attendance sheet is below. Not all signed.

FARC MONTHLY MEETING ATTENDANCE SHEET FOR MAY, 2014

VISITORS: If you are visitor, welcome to our Club. If you would like to become a member then fill out one of the attached applications and see our treasurer Henry Heidtmann W2DZO. If you are from out of Forsyth County and would just like to get news and events about FARC then fill out one of the applications and give it to our secretary Don Edwards, WS4NC.

MEMBERS: If you wish to update your email address, mailing address or other information then fill out an application with the new address and give it to the Newsletter/Secretary Don Edwards, WS4NC.

NAME	CALL	NAME	CALL
David Ramsey	KJ4OIL sat/sun		
TERRY Brown	AK4D		
DOUG RICE	KJ4IGQ		
DAVE LAMBE	KHICK	SAT/SUNDAY	HF (no mt.) & ZM
DAVID McDONALD	N5WNB		
Steven Mierigch	KG4JWU		
Herold Richardson	N4HER	Sat/Sun	Vert Ant Go Box HF - 440wtr
Jim Atkins	W4UX	SAT/SUN	
Doc Holliday	WB4QIZ	Sat/Sun	
DAVID SHOAF	KC4X	SAT/SUN	
GEOFF RUBY	KK4MOV	Sat/Sun	
Lis Jongberg	KJ4JYz	SAT/SUN	
RANDY TOMPSON	N4RT		
GARY Miller	WAAVMC	SAT-Sun	15 meters ssB
Bruce Sampson	N4ZDR		
Phil Nunn	Kd4jzz		
Randy Ranson	W4PSF		
Gena Bowman	WB4MSG	SAT-SUN	15 meters CW
Bill STARKEY	N4WWS	SUN 2-4 pm	
Steve PATTERSON	W4RTC		
DON EDWARDS	WS4NC	SAT-SUN DEPENDS ON WORKSHEET	
DENNIS MCLURE	N4DSM		
MICHELLE MCLURE	KM4AFZ		
HENRY HEIDTMANN DAVID	W2DZO	SAT + SUN	40 CW
Ray Purdon	K4ZGV		