

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Meeting—9 June 2014

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

1. Call to Order and Welcome: Meeting was called to order by President Jerry Minor, K4GW, at 1935 hours with approximately 35 members attending. Attendees were welcomed and introduced themselves. Jerry stated that the meeting would primarily be a review, reports and recommendations of the recent hamfest and then a discussion on the upcoming Field Day operations.

2. Announcements/Club Business:

a. Cedric Rodney Scholarship Award: The scholarship award went to Dylan O'Leary (KJ4GJD) and Jackson O'Leary (KK4DOL).

b. Financial Report: FARC Treasurer Henry Heidtmann was not present at the meeting, but Jerry Minor reported the club balance from the May meeting was \$1715.75. This amount did not include recent club renewals of \$384. Also not included in the balance was revenue from the hamfest of about \$700. The club had \$824 in revenue including table rent of \$20, \$19 in donations. Expenses were \$49.20 for coffee and food and \$75 for room rent. The Vagabonds also donated \$200, again not included in the reported club balance.

c. Equipment Adjustment on Insurance Policy: at the last business meeting, the board voted to remove the Yaesu FT-920 from the club insurance policy but replace it with the recently purchased K3.

d. Name Badges: Don Edwards asked club members to put their name and callsign on a tablet being circulated through the room if they had not gotten a new name badge.

e. Upcoming Program Topics

1. July: The July meeting would be a presentation by a college student on a weather balloon that has a arduino board using surface mount techniques. The balloon transmits data, audio and video to a ground station.

2. August: Jerryl Sears will do a FARC club history

3. September: Don Edwards, WS4NC, announced there were two options for the September program, circuit boards and how to make them OR surface mount electronics. Vote preference was for circuit boards.

4. October: John Dazo will give a presentation on towers. October will also have some club election activity.

5. November: Homebrew

6. December: FARC Holiday dinner meeting which includes families. The dinner meeting will be at River Ridge Taphouse Restaurant (formerly Big Shotz) in Clemmons. This year, the dinner meeting will be the first Monday in December due to a scheduling conflict with the restaurant.

f. Hamfest Report: David Shoaf, KC4X, reported that the hamfest was a success and thanked everyone for helping.

g. Field Day Planning: Doc Holliday, WB4QIZ, is in charge of getting operators and equipment organized for Field Day, 28-29 June. He announced that the Stokes County radio club will be joining FARC for Field Day. Field Day will be at Hobby Park just off of West Clemmonsville Road. The FARC Field Day is just one of 1,146 registered Field Day locations across the US. Doc stated he had 17 volunteers already registered, either being operators and/or also providing computer and radio/antenna equipment. He asked for more to sign up and a list of names and equipment was being generated. He stressed that teamwork was needed, one operator assisted by a log operator. Also needed was the ability to network the computers for log cross-checking using the same software. Don Edwards, WS4NC, announced a picnic supper for Saturday at 6 pm, family invited to attend. Don also stressed that Field Day is an emergency preparedness exercise with a contest atmosphere. The GOTA station was also discussed. David Shoaf announced that he had a list of equipment needed from last year's Field Day, including power cords, head phones, ropes, antennas, radios, etc.

h. Arduino Project: Don Edwards announced that a date has not been picked for the class. The first shipment of arduino equipment from China has come in, but other equipment will be coming in. If anyone is interested in doing the arduino project that did not originally sign up, there are possibilities of still participating in the class. Bob Gusek, NC4RG, stated that he would set up material that someone could take and do the arduino project on their own, including pictures and step by step instructions.

i. ARES Report: Jim Mann, WA4NOT, gave the ARES report.

1. Temporary change in the training schedule on the Thursday night ARES net: This Thursday, WF4DD would do the training instead of the third Thursday.

2. ARES Public Service Work: Jim reported that the ARRL is currently emphasizing a public service identity instead of an emergency identity for ARES since 80% of ARES work is public service. 19% is disaster service and roughly one percent is true emergency service.

3. Tour to Tanglewood: The Tour to Tanglewood is scheduled for 27-28 September with an estimated 1600 riders. The Saturday route is eastern and the Sunday route is on the western side. Amateur radio operators needed for this event are 18 hams each day to occupy either static or mobile operation. Plans are to use the 145.47 repeater.

j. VEC Testing: Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL, had two sessions in tonight's testing, three people in the first session and one in the second. He thanked the VE's for helping out. Successful candidates along with callsign and license grade are listed below.

John Hanley, Jr--KM4AFY--General
Francis (Frankie) Lansing--KM4CBQ--Technician

Dale reported that Frankie is six years old and is most likely the youngest person to do testing at the FARC test sessions.

Dale also reported on the results of the test session at the Hamfest and thanked VE's for helping out there also. There were three test takers and two were successful. Successful candidates along with callsign and license grade for the hamfest test session are listed below.

Thomas Brown, Jr--KM4CBG--Technician
Harlan Hawks--KM4BFV--upgrade to General after getting the Technician three weeks ago.

k. Repeater Status: Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL, gave a tutorial on repeaters, the location of the three FARC repeaters and on echolink. Repeater maintenance will be done this summer, hopefully in one trip, working on phasing harness and fixing what is broken.

l. Stokes County Radio Club: Dennis McClure, N4DSM reported on work that he and Troy Brown, KK4RYZ, had done recently, growing the ham radio community by starting training classes and getting new hams on the air and creating a new club in the Stokes County area. Dennis talked about the AMRRON net and the American ReDoubt website, both focusing on living off the grid, the survivalist movement, disaster preparedness and setting up communications so that information can be passed down if normal phone and cell phone lines go silent. He announced that the Stokes club has had two nets. The next net will be on 19 June at 1930 hours for about an hour, repeater to be announced via Facebook. The 444.75 is the primary planned repeater to be used but is currently down, so the 147.045 repeater most likely will be used. Their next club meeting will be 25 June at the King Library. Jerry Minor talked about ready.gov, a similar website, on disaster preparedness.

m. Mike Atkins: Mike Atkins, N4VE, asked people to call him if anything special was needed at Field Day. He could not help on the Friday preparedness, but planned to be there Saturday and Sunday.

3. Adjournment: Jerry Minor adjourned the meeting at 2040 hours.

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

FARC MONTHLY MEETING ATTENDANCE SHEET FOR 9 June 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	Steven Mierisch	KG4JWU
Don Edwards	WS4NC	TERRY BROWN	AK4D
Rud Taber	WX5AAA	Bob Gusek	NC4RG
Geoff Rudy	KK4MOL	PAVID SHAAF	KC4X
ALAN SIMMONS	KF4JHY	ANDREW GUSEK	NC4AG
Hatlen Hawks	KM4BFV	Steve Patterson	WABRC
GARY MILLER	WA4VMC	Bill Staley	N4WWS
DAVE LAMBE	K4ICK	DAVID McDONALD	NS4WNB
BRUCE Sanspree	NYZDR	Jeray Mann	K4GW
DOUG RICE	KJ4IGQ		
Jeff Lansing	Ku4BON		
Frankie Lansing			
DAVID DOMBROSKY	KK4ZUA		
Michelle McClure	KM4AFZ		
JENNIS MCCURE	N4DSM		
John (SACK) HANLEY	KM4AFY		
TROY BROWN	KK4RY2		
Phil Nunn	Kd4jzz		
Van Key	KC4WSK		
Jim Atkins	W4UX		
DANO	KG4ECI		