

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Meeting—11 August 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 1937 hours with approximately 35 members attending, listing at the end of the meeting minutes. Attendees were welcomed.

2. Announcements/Club Business:

a. Treasurers Report: Henry Heidtmann stated that the club balance was \$3049.42. All Field Day bills had been paid as well as Marsh Insurance covering both liability and approximately \$30,000 in property. Covered FARC property is now up to date. Henry also stated that the club auction at the July meeting of surplus and donated equipment raised \$669.

b. FARC Club Station as a W1AW Centennial QSO Party Station: Henry Heidtmann thanked Jim Atkins for getting the FARC club radio station scheduled as a ARRL Centennial QSO Party station. FARC club station, W4NC, will become W1AW/4 on Monday, 22 September from 5pm to 10pm and will use the 40 meter band for contacts. Henry invited everyone to participate.

c. Repeater Status: Dale Mierisch stated that all three club repeaters were operational. However, Echolink was only functional on the 145.470 repeater. Efforts were continuing to get Echolink functional on the 146.640 repeater.

d. Purchase of New Repeater Antenna and Phasing Harness: Jerry Minor and Dale Mierisch led discussion on the purchase of new antenna and phasing harness to replace existing equipment on Sauratown Mountain. Jerry Minor stated that the board voted to give Dale a ceiling of \$1000 to purchase replacement equipment and requested that meeting attendees affirm this decision. Motion was made, seconded and affirmed on the purchase. Dale stated that the equipment was available from CommScope/Tessco Antenna Systems with antenna and phasing harness priced at \$650, shipping cost of \$150. Additional discussion was held on the need to also replace the tower system on Sauratown Mountain, a purchase outside the \$1000 purchase previously discussed.

e. VE Test Session Report: Dale Mierisch thanked the VE's who helped with the test session prior to the club meeting, Jim Mansfield, John Kippee and Mike Aiken with Don Edwards and Henry Heidtmann as standby's. Dale stated that three of the four test takers succeeded.

f. ARES Report: Jim Mansfield updated everyone on a net control operator schedule change for the ARES net on Thursday night at 8:30pm. Jim then discussed the Tour to Tanglewood, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, 27-28 September. He has gotten 12 volunteers for the Saturday shift, but needs a total of 19. He has also gotten 9 volunteers for the Sunday shift, but needs a total of 18. He also discussed the new leg from Concord to

Tanglewood and is coordinating with the Cabarrus ARC for assistance, so far one volunteer. Jim will also contact ARC's in Davie County, Yadkinville, Stokes County. The China Grove repeater might be needed for communications in the Concord to Tanglewood leg.

g. House Bill 49-69, Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014: Jerry Minor and Terry Brown led discussion on House Bill 4969, The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014. Two letters were prepared, one going to Representative Virginia Foxx and the other to Representative Howard Coble asking for their support of this bill. Club members were asked to sign the letter going to their representative.

h. Arduino Class: The Arduino class/session will be held this coming Saturday with Bob Gusek being the lead.

3. Meeting Main Topic: The main meeting topic was on Fox Hunting, originally scheduled for outside, but moved inside due to rainfall. Reasons for doing a fox hunt were discussed and two "foxes" were demonstrated. Meeting attendees with hand held radios demonstrated how to locate the "fox". Harold Richardson demonstrated how to use a locator antenna on his hand held radio.

4. Attendance Sheet: Meeting attendees were:

Don Edwards-WS4NC,	Terry Brown-AK4D,
David Shoaf-KC4X,	Judson Davis-KG4OHQ,
Les Jongberg-KJ4JYZ,	Dave Lambe-K4ICK,
Jim Atkins-W4UX,	Mike Atkins-N4VE,
Alan Simmons-KF4JHY,	Harlen Hawks-KM4BFV,
John (Jack) Hanley-KM4AFY,	Gary Miller-WA4VMC,
Steve Patterson-WA3RTC,	Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT,
Wayne Collins-KK4ZHL,	Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL,
Wendy Barber-guest,	Jim Register-KV4SJ,
Van Key-KC4WSK,	John Kippee-K1PPE,
Jerry Minor-K4GW,	Wayne Collins-KK4ZHL,
Steven Mierisch-KG4JWU,	Gary Tan-VA3YUM,
George Lamb-N4ROT,	Raymond Taber-WX5AAA
Harold Richardson-N4HER,	Dave Ramsey-KJ4OIL
Gene Bowman-WB4MSG,	Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO
Dennis McClure-N4DSM,	Michelle McClure-KM4AFZ
Troy Brown-KK4RYZ,	Doug Rice-KJ4IGQ