

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Business Meeting—15 December 2014

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

1. Attendees: Thirteen attendees: Jerry Minor-K4GW, Terry Brown-AK4D, Don Edwards-WS4NC, Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO, Bob Gusek-NC4RC, Andrew Gusek-NC4AG, John Kippee-N0KTY, Jim Atkins-W4UG, Harold Richardson-N4HER, Gene Bowman-WB4MSG, Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ, Steve Patterson-WA3RTC and Mike Atkins-N4VE.

2. Call to Order: Meeting, at Oscar's Grill, 3348 Robinhood Road, Winston-Salem, was called to order by Vice-President Jim Atkins at 1939 hours.

3. Meeting Topics:

a. Future Meeting Topics: The need for a trained spotter class in 2015 was expressed. Terry Brown stated that he would contact the Raleigh NWS to explore this.

January: The first club meeting of the year will be Homebrew.

February: Possibility of a Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) presentation by K4NWJ, Nathan Jackson.

b. Red Cross Restructure: Jerry Minor gave information on the Red Cross restructuring. In North Carolina, the Red Cross reportedly will be divided into an east section with 53 counties and a west section with the remaining 47 counties. Several positions within the Red Cross had been either eliminated, moved or combined. Additionally, there is a possibility that some Red Cross building locations could be moved into a single location. Jerry stated he would call Jennifer Franklin with the Red Cross to find out what this means with the building where we meet and where our shack is located. Follow-up Note: Jerry received an email from Edward Runte, Chief Administrative Officer with the NC Red Cross stating that the Red Cross has no plans to close "our" building in the immediate future.

c. FARC Firstfest Hamfest: The FARC Firstfest hamfest will be held on 10 January at Summit School. Jerry Minor stated that David Shoaf will be again be the event organizer but was sick tonight and could not attend the meeting. David will be contacting club members after Christmas Day and will get the hamfest organized and work slots filled. Although an ARRL sanctioned hamfest, John Kippee mentioned that Firstfest was not listed in QST. Jim Adkins stated that Firstfest is in the ARRL online calendar. Discussion was made on the time lead needed (about six months) needed to ensure that a hamfest will be in the published QST hamfest calendar and the need for a club member to do this. Jim Adkins had contacted ARRL and had received the ARRL sanction package. In future years, the FARC President or Vice-President will contact the ARRL in January to schedule the June (current year) and January (following year) hamfest dates to ensure that both the January and June hamfests will be published in QST. Don Edwards stated that he will send out an email possibly also with the January club newsletter reminding everyone of the Firstfest Hamfest.

d. FARC Club Seal: Discussion was held on getting a club seal. It is needed primarily for some documentation, typically presentation documents.

e. NC QSO Party: Henry Heidtmann read a letter he received from RARS on the 2015 NC QSO Party asking if FARC wanted to support a contest reward costing \$45. Motion was made Bob Gusek to do this, seconded and passed.

f. Arduino Class: Bob Gusek stated that next Arduino class will be on 24 January, location to be announced, possibly at Don Edwards new office building. Harold Richardson mentioned the cost of parts for the class, cost reduced if a large order is made.

g. Field Day: Henry Heidtmann asked if Hobby Park will be needed for the 2015 Field Day. Answer was yes and Henry will acquire needed permits.

h. FARC Holiday Party 2015: Henry will call and reserve the River Ridge Taphouse side meeting room for the second Monday in December 2015 for the holiday party.

i. IRS Filings: Henry announced that as club treasurer, he is ready to do the 501(c)3 IRS filings.

j. Membership Renewal Notices: Terry will be sending out about 300 membership renewal notices. Estimated cost will be approximately \$200 to \$250. Don Edwards will help with organizational and printing efforts.

k. FARC Club History: Jerry mentioned the need for a meeting on club history. This needs to be further explored and some of the older members contacted for info.

4. Meeting Adjournment: Motion was made, seconded and meeting was adjourned at 2010 hours.