

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Business Meeting--17 February 2015

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

1. Attendees: Eight attendees: Terry Brown-AK4D, Don Edwards-WS4NC, Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO, Steven Mierisch-KG4GWU, Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL, Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT, Via Echolink--Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ and Eric Bowen-WK4CW. Note: two attendees came in after closure of net, Gene Bowman-WB4MSG and Michael Crepeau-N3MDC.

2. Call to Order: Due to cold weather conditions and icy roads, this was a net meeting on the 164.640 repeater. The net meeting was called to order by FARC treasurer Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO at 1900 hours. Jerry Minor, K4GW, who could not attend the net meeting had sent out an email listing of discussion items for the meeting. Henry announced that he would follow the list.

3. Meeting Topics:

a. Treasurers Report: Henry Heidtmann stated that the club balance had not appreciably changed since the last report, but that were some membership renewals that had not been added. He also stated that the DB-224 antenna had been ordered for the Sauratown Mountain repeater upgrade work.

b. Future Meeting Topics:

March: Verification of the 9 March Skywarn presentation was requested. Terry Brown stated that he would handle this via email with the presenter, Brandon Donstan with the Raleigh NWS. Followup Note: Brandon did confirm that the 9 March presentation was still on his schedule.

April: A presentation on DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) remains scheduled for the 13 April meeting by K4NWJ, Nathan Jackson.

c. ARES Report: Although there were no official requests, Jim Mansfield requested that everyone monitor the 145.47 repeater and the Stokes 679 repeater for assistance requests during the nights and other inclement weather conditions. Jim reminded everyone about the Thursday night ARES net at 2030 hours, local time, on the 145.47 repeater. He stated that the net control this coming Thursday night would be Fred-NA4P and Ken-KG4FGC. He also requested that everyone checking into the ARES net on the first Thursday of each month do the combination of low power coupled with a high gain antenna. This was in preparation for alternative power situations.

d. ARDUINO: Don Edwards stated that 14 March would be the next Arduino workshop but would confirm that date with Bob Gusek. Don noted the high level of interest in Arduino and that anyone (including non-FARC members) would be welcome in the workshops.

e. VHF Duplexers: One email agenda item stated Jerry Minor knew a person who had four VHF Duplexers that he may want to sell them. Jerry wanted to explore if one or more of these was needed for the FARC repeaters.

Jerry stated in his email that he could contact that person for pricing if Dale-WB9SZL stated they were needed. Dale stated that he would contact Jerry for details. More information was needed before he could determine a possible need.

f. Need For Filters in FARC Hamshack: A second email agenda item was on Gene Bowman stating the need for two filters for the FARC hamshack. Gene had stated that the filters were approximately \$600 each and there would be a need for club members to vote on purchasing those. Don Edwards stated that Gene was listening into the net but could not transmit. Don stated the need for additional information on filter specifications and pricing. Gene was able to access the repeater after the adjournment of the net meeting. He will do more checking and this can be an agenda item at the March club meeting.

g. Silent Key-Walter Cline-KI4XX: A third email agenda item was on the passing of club member Walter Cline-KI4XX. The obituary was scheduled to be in Wednesday's (18 February) copy of the Winston-Salem Journal. Follow up note. Below is a listing of Mr. Cline's Obituary:

CLINE WINSTON-SALEM Walter McKinley Cline Aug. 6, 1938-Feb. 15, 2015
Mr. Walter McKinley Cline, 76 of Ernest Lambeth Road, passed away Sunday, February 15, 2015 at his home. He was born in Winston-Salem on August 6, 1938, the son of Otto McKinley and Velma Elgin Cline. Following the death of his parents as a child, he spent his early years at the Methodist Children's Home. He was a US Navy veteran and was a member of New Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church. Walter was a retired Mechanic-Specialist at R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. His interests were many and he enjoyed woodworking, gardening, hunting, fishing, collecting train sets and writing Sy-Fy novels. He was most proud of his hobby and FCC licensure as a Ham radio operator with an Amateur Extra Rating. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Bobby Ray Cline, and sister, Ann Marie Cline Booth. On June 3, 1962 he married the love of his life, the former Barbara Tesh who survives him of the home. Also surviving are a son, Shawn M. Cline and fianc,e Ronda Tilley of Winston-Salem; his grandson Mayson Cline, of Rural Hall, sister, Nancy Cline West and husband Roger of Maryland, and his niece, Marsha Booth McKay of California. Funeral services will be on Thursday at 2:00p.m. at New Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church with Dr. Bob McLawhorn officiating Burial with military honors provided by the Military Burial Honor Guard Inc. will follow in Parklawn Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends at the church one hour prior to services. The family suggests that memorials be made to New Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church, 6408 Friendship-Ledford Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27107 in Walter's memory. Online condolences may be sent to www.jcgreenandsons.com

h. Tech Chairman Report: Dale Mierisch reported that the FARC repeaters were up and operational. Another email agenda item from Jerry Minor was extending the Sauratown Mountain repeater work out until April for the tower work and pricing on the new tower sections. Dale stated that he would work and coordinate with Mike Adkins-N4VE and WXII on this.

i. Yaesu Program: Another email agenda item was The Yaesu DR-1X/System Fusion Digital Repeater program which was described, voted for and approved by the Board and Members at the 9 February club meeting. Dale Mierisch stated he was working on the repeater request to Yaesu and should be able to order the repeater at the conclusion of the net meeting. There was some potential confusion on where the Yaesu repeater board would be used and if SERA coordination was needed. He would talk with Jerry Minor about this.

j. Contact from the Family of Wayne Stanley-W4RDG: Henry Heidtmann reported that he had been contacted by Mike Stanley, son of Wayne Stanley-W4RDG-Silent Key, about donating his ham radio equipment to FARC. Henry stated that he would secure and bring the equipment to the next club meeting. Don Edwards stated that he had written a profile article for the February 2002 FARC newsletter on Mr. Stanley who was an expert in electrical filters. Followup note. Mr. Stanley's obituary from 24 May 2013 appears below:

Wayne Joseph Stanley, 85, of Winston-Salem, died Thursday at his home following a lengthy illness. Mr. Stanley was born June 26, 1927 in Somerville, Massachusetts. After graduating high school in West Haven, Connecticut, he enlisted in the United States Navy during World War II, and was honorably discharged in 1946. He received a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Yale University in 1955, and upon graduation began working at Western Electric on Lexington Road. He retired from Bell Laboratories in 1988, returning to Winston-Salem to be close to friends and family. Mr. Stanley was a loving and devoted husband and father. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Sue Wilson Stanley, of the home; a daughter Sharon Stanley Kittrell, and son-in-law Malcolm Kittrell, of Fayetteville, GA; a son, Michael Stanley, and daughter-in-law Donna Stanley, of Chapel Hill, NC a grandson, Robin Kittrell, of Atlanta, GA; and two granddaughters, Jennifer Stanley, of Durham, NC; and Ellen Stanley, of Raleigh, NC. The family will receive visitors at Hayworth-Miller Funeral Home at 3315 Silas Creek Parkway, on Saturday, May 25, 2013 from 4-6 PM. A graveside memorial service will held in Buena Vista, VA at a future date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Salvation Army, Winston-Salem Area Command, 130-A Stratford Court, Winston-Salem, NC 27103. Online condolences may be made at www.hayworth-miller.com.

k. Dead Battery in Generator at Red Cross: Don Edwards mentioned that he had checked the club generator at the Red Cross and that the battery was dead as it had not been used recently. He stated he would check into getting a trickle charge system for the battery. Henry Heidtmann stated that there used to be a trickle charger in the club shack.

4. Meeting Adjournment: With no additional agenda items or discussion, the net meeting was adjourned at 1942 hours.

TASKERS--Some from the net meeting, some carry-over:

1. Gene Bowman and others--Discuss and seek filter box(s) approval at March meeting, total cost approximately \$1200.

2. FARC Board Members and others--Continue work on club meeting agendas/topics for May thru November, ie, Salisbury Fox Hunt contact, older member contact.
3. Dale Mierisch, Mike Adkins and others--Determine what tower and other components are needed for Sauratown repeater repair/upgrade. Coordinate visits with WXII and others.
4. Dale Mierisch and others--Continued coordination and work on Baptist Hospital repeaters.
5. Dale Mierisch--give Don a writeup on the donated 220 equipment by 31 March.
6. Dale Mierisch--determine if there is a need for the VHF duplexers.
7. Dale Mierisch--get DR-1X repeater request to Yaesu.
8. Don Edwards--Recon on trickle charger for battery on generator at Red Cross.