

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Meeting—10 August 2015

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. He welcomed FARC members and visitors to the meeting, approximately 40 total. Each person in the room introduced themselves stating their name and callsign.

2. Announcements/Club Business:

a. Treasurers Report: Approximately \$2850.85 club balance was reported by treasurer **Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO**.

b. Repeater Status: **Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL**, stated that all three club repeaters were operational and that the echolink nodes were operational on the 146.640 and the 145.470 repeaters. Dale reported that the 146.64 repeater at the top of Baptist Hospital was the new Yaesu repeater. A pager interference issue with the Yaesu repeater is still being investigated. Also being examined is an issue that will stall out the repeater if an analog and a digital radio accessed the repeater at the same time. Dale also stated that the Sauratown Mountain repeater, 145.470, maintenance with new tower installation would be done in September timeframe when cooler fall temperatures are expected.

c. VE Test Session Report: **Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL**, head volunteer examiner thanked **Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT**, **John Kippe-K1PPE**, **Kent Englebert-K4HKE** and **Mike Atkins-N4VE** for helping with the testing procedure. Dale congratulated three successful candidates:

William J. Kennedy, Jr-KM4MMG--Technician License

Michael A. Pope-KM4MMH--Technician License

Francis A. Lansing--KM4CBQ--Extra License. Congrats. Huge accomplishment!!!

d. ARES Report: **Jim Mansfield, WA4NOT** gave an update of the upcoming Tour to Tanglewood, a major Multiple-Sclerosis fund raising event with 1400 riders. He was anticipating working with 11 SAG wagons, three control vehicles and operators needed at rest stops. He needed 17 operators each day and he had 23 of 32 slots filled. Jim also reported that the Goldwing riders would be using CB channel 1.

e. Arduino Discussion: **Bob Gusek-NC4RG** pointed out that the next scheduled Arduino class would be on 29 August and emails would detail needed items. **Jerry Minor-K4GW** thanked Bob for his efforts in making the classes a success.

f. Nomination Committee: **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** announced the formation of the Nomination Committee that would be looking for those interested in being club officers starting January 2016. Members of the

Nomination Committee are **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO**, **Don Edwards-WS4NC**, **John Kippe-K1PPE**, **Harold Richardson-N4HER**, **David McDonald-N4WMB**, and **Jim Adkins-W4UX**.

g. Newsletter Prize: **Don Edwards-WS4NC** talked about the possibility of a prize given to attendees at each months meeting who had read the monthly newsletter in detail and who had located answers and clues to key questions. Don explained that this would be discussed further in the following Monday night's business meeting and there would be the possibility of a special prize at the December dinner meeting. **David Ramsey-KJ4OIL** was the winner for this month's drawing.

h. 2016 Field Day Needs: **Gene Bowman-WB4MSG** restated the need for volunteers for the 2016 Field Day preparation, including people familiar with putting up the same antenna each year and the need for team captains for each band.

i. Other Announcements: **Jerry Minor-K4GW** pointed out some privacy concerns with Windows 10 and reminded everyone of the Shelby Hamfest. He also informed everyone of the W4DXCC convention in Tennessee on 25-26 September.

3. Main Presentation: **Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV** gave a great presentation on his efforts to get permission and operational permits to operate ham radio aboard a cruise ship to Bermuda during the Field Day time frame and also while in Bermuda. **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** then talked about his experiences getting operating privileges in Antigua and Barbados. Both presentations demonstrated the differences in laws from country to country, things to do and things not to do!!

4. Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by **David McDonald-N5WMB**, seconded by many and agreed to approximately 2049 hours.

5. Meeting Attendees: Below are the names of the meeting attendees who are listed on the sign-in sheet or otherwise recognized:

Don Edwards-WS4NC; Terry Brown-AK4D; Jim Register-KV4SJ;; Gene Bowman-WB4MSG; John Kippe-K1PPE; Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL; Tony Poindexter-KD4MMQ; Harold Richardson-N4HER; Jim Atkins-W4UX; Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT; Jerry Minor-K4GW; Van Key-KC4WSK; Sam Poindexter-KM4LUD; Michael Pope; Andrew Gusek-NC4AG; Bob Gusek-NC4RG; Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV; Steve Patterson-WA3RTC; David Ramsey-KJ4OIL; Don Culbertson-KM4LSF; Jeff Lansing-KM4BON; Frankie Lansing-KM4CBQ; Ellis Sanspree-N4ZDR; Jeff Stafford-AC4YN; Daryl Knight-N4WK; Randy Thompson-NC4RT; David McDonald-N5WMB; Gary Miller-WA4VMC; Fred Overstreet-WB4QXG; David Shoaf-KC4X; Kent Englebert-K4HRE; Jim Marler-KM4HUZ; David Lambe-K4ICK; Todd Jarvis-KO4LJ; Tang Davy and Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO.