

**Minutes of the Board of Directors Business Meeting, Forsyth
Amateur Radio Club—16 May 2016**

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

- 1. Call to Order and Welcome:** The monthly Board of Directors Business Meeting, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, was held on Monday, 16 May 2016 at Ham's Restaurant, 367 Lower Mall Drive, Thruway Shopping Center, Winston-Salem. The meeting was called to order by **FARC President Jim Atkins-W4UX**, at 1930 hours. He welcomed all meeting attendees.
- 2. Meeting Attendees:** The fifteen meeting attendees were **Jim Atkins-W4UX, Harold Richardson-N4HER, Terry Brown-AK4D, Don Edwards-WS4NC, Gene Bowman-WB4MSG, Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ, David Shoaf-KC4X, Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV, Daryl Knight-N5WK, Jerry Minor-K4GW, Jeff Stafford-AC4YN, Steve Patterson-WA3RTC, John Kippe-K1PPE, Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT and Kent Englebert-K4HKE.**
- 3. Treasurers Report:** **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO**, FARC Treasurer, could not make the meeting, but had communicated that the club balance was the same as the previous week at the main club meeting, \$4147.32.
- 4. Club Welcome Packet:** **Kent Englebert-K4HKE** stated he was still developing a three-fold brochure describing the club, club activities, club mission and a listing of club experts and officers. He also stated the need for an "elmer" meeting, maybe twice a year, where one of the club experts could help budding hams and maybe do a "how-to" presentation such as how to do solder connections on a PL-259 or how to best set up the center section of a dipole. This idea was well received by meeting attendees.
- 5. FARC 85th Birthday Ideas:** **Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ**, led discussion on how to celebrate the club's 85th birthday year. Ideas of a cake and a small banner at both the 11 June hamfest at Summit School and also at the 25-26 June Field Day were discussed. **Don Edwards-WS4NC** would explore banner and cake vendors and costs for each.
- 6. Lewisville 25th Year Special Event Station:** **Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV**, led discussion on Lewisville's 25th year and asked if a special event station could be set up on Saturday, 13 August, the weekend of activities celebrating this event. **Jim Atkins-W4UX** and **Terry Brown-AK4D** volunteered to man the FARC club table at this event, informing attendees about amateur radio and also running the special event station. **Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ** volunteered to get the special event callsign. (Follow-up note: Special Event callsign will be N4C and N4C/25)
- 7. Field Day:** **Daryl Knight-N5WK**, Field Day Captain, stated that the list of antenna captains and radio operators had grown, but more were needed. **Gene Bowman-WB4MSG** had a preliminary but evolving listing of captains and operators covering UHF/VHF and HF bands. The GOTA

station is all set except for a watt meter that could be picked up at the Dayton Hamfest. Discussion was held on both initial and secondary tree lines to pull up and hold antennas and coax that would be needed. One concern was the grass height at Hobby Park. Grass last year was about a foot tall, but it was mowed the day before Field Day. **Daryl Knight-N5WK** stated he would check the grass and get in touch with Park personnel to make sure it was mowed this year. The Saturday evening meal was discussed. **Don Edwards-WS4NC** stated that the BBQ would be provided. Also needed were buns, slaw, drinks, beans, banana pudding, cups and plates. Other items discussed were checking the club trailer and mast, palettes for generators, banana connectors to plug onto coax disconnected for lightening protection, barrel connectors and 75 ohm stranded center coax for matching section (**Jerry Minor-K4GW** will provide both coax and barrel connectors), ground rods, and seven to eight head phones with splitters for each SSB rig. **Harold Richardson-N4HER** will provide eight headset amps for each SSB station so that each of the two operators can adjust the volume to their liking. **Don Edwards-WS4NC** was asked if he was bringing a 2 meter/440 radio to Field Day. This was affirmed. A final item discussed was spraying Hobby Park on the Friday before Field Day weekend with insect repellent to ward off mosquitoes and other insects.

8. Hamfest Update: **David Shoaf-KC4X** updated everyone on the Saturday, 11 June club Hamfest to be held at Summit School from 7AM to about 11:30. He had a listing of those who could help for the Friday 5-6PM load-in and Saturday ticket sales, parking and other duties. David stated that door prizes were being collected and several vendors were expected to be there including AC-DC. If he could not be there, **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** had previously stated that he would provide a site diagram of table locations for cleanup after the hamfest. Flyers had been prepared advertising the hamfest and would be handed out at the Dayton and other hamfests. Discussion was then held on whether VE testing would be held at the Hamfest. Both **John Kippe-K1PPE** and **Terry Brown-AK4D** stated that they could help as VE's. **Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** would be consulted on this to see if he was available to serve as VEC and if he knew of anyone who was interested in a testing session. See item 9 below. (Secretary after note: A VE test session will be held at 10:30AM at the Hamfest. Pre-registration will be required for any test participants. Send email to testing@w4nc.com.)

9. Backup VE Coordinator: Discussion was held on the difficulty and procedures needed to provide a backup to **Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** as the club VEC. **Jim Atkins-W4UX** was going to send Dale an email asking if this was possible and what steps are needed.

10. ARES Report: **Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT** stated that he had just come from a Tour to Tanglewood MS meeting and updated everyone on some event personnel changes. The Tour to Tanglewood event is scheduled for the weekend of 17-18 September and may have 1000 to 1500 riders.

11. Repeater Update: (Secretary note: this was an update from **Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** recently received. Dale could not attend the business meeting).

a. 444.275 Repeater: Dale reported that the Yaesu DR-1X that will replace the club 444.275 MHz repeater at the top of Baptist Hospital has arrived and can be installed one week after the UHF Cavities are "tuned to 444.275-XMT and 449.275-RCV".

b. 146.640 Repeater: The 146.640 MHz repeater on the top of Baptist Hospital is operating ok, but encountering some interference which needs tracking down. The Echolink server is still not working due to the changes in the router ports made by the Red Cross internet provider. A correction to this issue is ongoing.

c. 145.470 Repeater: The 145.470 MHz repeater on Sauratown Mountain is operating properly.

d. Dayton Hamfest: Dale reports that he will be going to the Dayton Hamfest and will be looking for some items to enhance the clubs repeaters. Items include a 440 MHz UHF receiver for repeater control and will allow phone lines to be disconnected, a 440 MHz UHF link receiver for the Satellite receivers and a LDG Voter system to support Satellite receivers for the 145.470 repeater.

12. Adjournment of Meeting: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by **Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT**, seconded by **John Kippe-K1PPE**, affirmed by all and meeting was adjourned at 2043 hours.