

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Meeting—13 June 2016

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

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The 13 June 2016 meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club at the Red Cross Building, 690 Coliseum Drive, was called to order by **President Jim Atkins-W4UX**, at 7:34 pm. He welcomed all attendees, approximately 55, who introduced themselves.

2. Treasurers Report: **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** reported that the club balance was \$5397.73.

3. 11 June Hamfest Report: **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** thanked everyone who helped with and attended the Saturday, 11 June club hamfest. The number of hamfest tickets sold was 191 and the net profit after expenses was \$803.34. Henry also thanked the Vagabonds for the \$200 donation to the club and Raja Chatterjee-KB6MTH for his donation of \$500. **David Shoaf-KC4X**, Hamfest Chairman, also thanked everyone for their help on both Friday and Saturday.

4. VEC Info: **VEC Coordinator Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** thanked all of the VE volunteers that helped with the test sessions and gave the results of the test sessions held during the Saturday Hamfest and prior to the Monday meeting, results below.

a. Upgrades and New Licenses Obtained from the 11 June Hamfest VE test session:

- 1. Travis M. Crawford-KM4TEY, Upgrade to General**
- 2. Timothy K. Eanes-KM4UPL, New Technician**
- 3. Clifford Davis-KM4IJP, Upgrade to Extra**
- 4. Ira D. Baker, Jr-KM4TPP, Upgrade to Extra**

b. Upgrades and New Licenses Obtained From the 13 June Monthly VE Test Session:

- 1. Mark F. Gaines-KM4TUK, Upgrade to General**
- 2. Ronald J. Gontero-KM4TUM, Upgrade to General**
- 3. Charles C. Rodie-KW4VK, Upgrade to Extra**
- 4. Jeffrey A. McKelvey-KM4UPM, New Technician**
- 5. Paul M. Banasik-KM4TUI, Upgrade to General**
- 6. William L. Fischer-KM4TUJ, Upgrade to General**
- 7. Mason W. Matrazzo-KM4SII, Upgrade to General**
- 8. Michael A. Pope-KM4MMH, Upgrade to General**

5. Repeater Report: **Tech Chairman Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** stated that all repeaters were operational but lockup issues have been noted with the 146.64 repeater requiring additional work. This issue is being worked upon. Dale reported that the new Yaesu System Fusion Repeater for the 444.275 repeater system at Baptist Hospital was in his possession and would be installed after the repeater cavities have

been "tuned" and other preliminary work has been accomplished. Dale also reported that Echolink is now operational on the 146.64 repeater and thanked the Red Cross for their help on resolving issues. Dale talked about repeater communications, how to do QSO's and sources of information for local repeaters.

6. Field Day: Darryl Knight-N5WK, coordinator for this year's 25-26 June Field Day at Hobby Park, reminded everyone about the need for participation and a sign-up sheet for radio operation shifts was circulated among meeting attendees. **Gene Bowman-WB4MSG** gave an update on antennas to be used at Field Day and asked for volunteers to help with preliminary work Friday morning at Hobby Park and antenna setup on Saturday morning, the 25th. The frequencies of 146.55 MHz and 446.025 MHz for VHF and UHF frequencies to be used for Field Day communications were discussed. (Secretary Note: Please consult the minutes of the 20 June business meeting for more detailed information on Field Day).

7. ARES: Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT updated everyone on the upcoming 17-18 September Tour to Tanglewood (T2T) MS fund raiser bike event that club members provide radio communications for. He stated that he would be attending a MS meeting prior to next Monday nights club business meeting. He encouraged everyone to sign up to help with the T2T event this year. Jim updated everyone about the hand held radios donated by Summit School to the club that had been reprogrammed with key frequencies for local amateur radio use. He asked that anyone interested in what frequencies were programmed in the radios to email him. Jim also reminded everyone of the ARES net each Thursday night at 2030 hours on the club Sauratown Mountain repeater.

8. National Parks on the Air Presentation: Brian Kuebert-N4UEZ gave a presentation on his recent experiences at Moore's Creek Battleground National Park on Memorial Day Weekend which was part of the ARRL celebration for the National Parks. Prior communication and coordination with Park staff helped tremendously in getting set up. The station consisted of an IC-7000, tuner, battery power and a dipole antenna. This was a family affair with Brian's Dad Ed-K5EK and daughter Caroline (an aspiring Technician) helping make contacts. Brian, Ed and Caroline made 147 contacts, mostly from the US, but also from France, Haiti, Ireland and Canada. The goals of the National Parks on the Air are promote the capabilities of Amateur Radio to the general public and also promote the NPS Centennial and the heritage of the National Park System through Amateur Radio. For more information on National Parks on the Air, consult the ARRL website at: <https://npota.arrl.org/>

9. Baofeng Hand Held Radio Winner: Don Edwards-WS4NC presented **Paul M. Banasik-KM4TUI** with a new Baofeng handheld radio as winner of this months contest.

10. Adjournment of Meeting: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by many attendees and seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:46PM.

11. **Partial List of Meeting Attendees:** Below are the names of FARC member attendees who signed the attendance sheet. **Jim Atkins-W4UX, Van Key-KC4WSK, Steve Patterson-WA3RTC, Kent Englebert-K4HKE, Tony Poindexter-KW4OQ, Harold Richardson-N4HER, Catherine Melvin-KM4OCS, Kenneth Melvin-KM4NFQ, Daryl Knight-N5WK, Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO, Terry Brown-AK4D, Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT, Gene Bowman-WB4MSG, Bill Kennedy-WD4OTY, Jerry Minor-K4GW, John Kipee-K1PPE, Don Edwards-WS4NC, David Shoaf-KC4X, Bruce Sanspree-N4ZDR, David Peterson-KK4GAF, Dave Ramsey-W4OIL, Mason Matrazzo-KM4SII, Henry Smith-W4HHS, Harlan Cobert-KM4TPQ, David McDonald-N5WNB, Edwin Needham-AF4XC, Jim Marler-KM4HUZ, Jeff Stafford-AC4YN, Sam Poindexter-KM4LUD, Gary Miller-WA4VMC, Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV, Dave Larson-KM4RAB, Jeff McKelvey, Bill Thompson-KM4ZIU, Mark Gaines-KM4TUZ, Bill Plyler-W4EH, Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ, John Isley-KM4OUZ, Randy Tompson-NC4RT, Jonathan Sharp-KM4RAD, Joshua Vogel-KD0PQQ, Jim Register-KV4SJ, Michael Pope-KM4MMH, Ray Purdom-K4ZGV, Marcia Thompson-KE4ZDS, Bruce Thompson-AD4ED, Jim Sarfert-N3LBJ, Les Jongberg-KJ4VYZ, Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL, Chris Rodie-KW4VK, Paul Banasik-KM4TUI, Bill Fischer-KM4TUJ and Brian Kuebert-N4UEZ.**