

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Meeting—11 July 2016

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

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The 11 July 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 7:32 pm. He welcomed all attendees, approximately 55, who introduced themselves.

2. Treasurers Report: **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** reported that the club balance was \$5026.29.

3. VEC Info: **VEC Coordinator Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** thanked all of the VE volunteers (**John Kippe-K1PPE**, **Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT**, **Harold Richardson-N4HER** and **Sam Poindexter-KM4LUD**) that helped with the before meeting test session. Congratulations to all four successful candidates listed below.

- a. **Jeffrey A. McKelvey-KM4UPM**, Upgrade to **General**
- b. **Caroline N. Kuebert**, Age 11 and got her Technician Ticket, later receiving a KM4VCO callsign
- c. **Paul Banasik-W4ORO**, Upgrade to **Extra**
- d. **Robert J. McClellan-KM4VCP**, Upgrade to **General**

4. 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. 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 cavaties have been "tuned" and other preliminary work has been accomplished. Additionally, interference "kerchuncking" issues the 145.470 Sauratown repeater were being investigated and tracked.

5. ARES Report: **ARES Coordinator Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT** updated everyone on the Tour to Tanglewood event scheduled for 17-18 September. He still had spaces that needed to be filled for rest areas. Jim reported that a new rest area was being examined for the Saturday event.

6. Member Appreciation: **President Jim Atkins-W4UX** gave a thank you Starbucks gift card to **Brian Kuebert-N4UEZ** for his National Parks on the Air presentation at the June FARC meeting.

7. After Action Review of Field Day: **Darryl Knight-N5WK**, coordinator for this year's 25-26 June Field Day at Hobby Park, thanked everyone who participated in the event. He specifically thanked **Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ** for his help and guidance. **Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ** stated that it was an excellent Field Day, thanked **Don Edwards-WS4NC** and **Steve Patterson-WA3RTC** for the excellent Saturday evening meal and **Mason Matrazzo-KM4SII** for all of the many QSO's he made. **Gene Bowman-WB4MSG** led discussion on feedline and antenna issues, grounding panels, some

feedback issues from CW signals on the 20 meter SSB antenna and the possible need for preamps on receiving antennas. He thanked everyone who helped with antenna work at his home and with setting up antennas at Hobby Park. Finally **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** discussed preliminary scoring results. Preliminary bonus points were 2,280, 3,038 points from 1,519 CW contacts, 428 points from 214 digital contacts, 1,289 points from 1,289 SSB contacts for a preliminary total of 11,790 points.

8. Presentation on "The Science and Art of QSLing": Kent Englebert-K4HKE gave a very detailed and enjoyable presentation on all of the aspects of confirming QSO contacts, both CONUS and DX. He covered the methodology and all of the do's and do not's in both paper, electronic and hybrid QSL methods. Kent showed QSL cards that he had received and talked about the ARRL QSL bureau, direct mail, costs, IRC's no longer being used, QSL managers, Logbook of the World, EQSL, and much more. For any questions or for a copy of his presentation, Kent welcomed attendees to contact him at K4HKE at ARRL dot net.

9. Baofeng Hand Held Radio Winner: Don Edwards-WS4NC presented **Jim Register-KV4SJ** with a new Baofeng handheld radio as winner of this months contest.

10. Miscellaneous Announcements: Kent Englebert-K4HKE stated that he would be working on member name tags. **Steve Patterson-WA3RTC** stated that there would be a meeting at Starbucks on Stratford Road the next night at 7 pm to discuss electronic project building.

11. Adjournment of Meeting: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by many attendees and seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

12. 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, Dave Ramsey-W4OIL, Mason Matrazzo-KM4SII, Henry Smith-W4HHS, Harlan Cobert-KM4TPQ, David McDonald-N5WNB, Jim Marler-KM4HUZ, Jeff Stafford-AC4YN, Sam Poindexter-KM4LUD, Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV, Jeff McKelvey-KM4UPM, Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ, Randy Tompson-NC4RT, Joshua Vogel-KD0PQQ, Jim Register-KV4SJ, Michael Pope-KM4MMH, Ray Purdom-K4ZGV, Les Jongberg-KJ4VYZ, Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL, Chris Rodie-KW4VK, Ben Burton-KM4RAC, Jeff McKelvey-KM4UPM, Bill Starkey-N4WWS, Bob McClennan-KM4VCP, Woody Kenny-KF4PLQ, Raja Chatterjee-KB6MTH, Bob Gusek-NC4RG, Andrew Gusek-NC4AG, Ron Gregoire-W4UDB, Mike Brown-W4LKN, Stan Overby-WA4RDZ, Chuck Small-KM4IVY, Caroline Kuebert-KM4VCO and Brian Kuebert-N4UEZ.**