

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Meeting—8 August 2016

By Don Edwards (WS4NC) and Terry Brown (AK4D)—Secretary, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

- 1. Call to Order and Welcome:** The 8 August 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 40, who introduced themselves.
- 2. Treasurers Report:** **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** reported that the club balance was \$3849.51 with the majority of Field Day expenses paid.
- 3. VEC Info:** **VEC Coordinator Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** thanked all of the VE volunteers (**Mike Atkins-W4VE**, **Henry Smith-W4HHS**, **Bill Thompson-KK4ZIU** and **Sam Poindexter-KM4LUD**) that helped with the before meeting test session. Dale congratulated Don Durham for getting his Technician Ticket. (Follow Up Secretary Note: Don Durham callsign is KM4VWT)
- 4. Repeater Report:** **Tech Chairman Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** stated that all three of the club repeaters were operational and gave a general description of each. Paging 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 needed preliminary work is about done with **Don Edwards-WS4NC** help. Computer systems needed for repeater operation have been upgraded to Windows 10 over the past month and accessory programs and drivers have been upgraded. Additionally, echolink node issues from a ham in South Africa on the 145.470 Sauratown repeater have been noted are in the process of being corrected.
- 5. ARES Report:** **ARES Coordinator Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT** was not present at the meeting, but his report was read by **Jim Atkins-W4UX**. For the Tour to Tanglewood event scheduled for 17-18 September, Jim needs ten more volunteers. On Saturday, he needs two volunteers for SAG wagons and three for rest stops. On Sunday, he needs three volunteers for SAG wagons and two for rest stops. If you can help, please contact Jim at WA4NOT (at) ARRL (dot) net.
- 6. Member Appreciation:** **President Jim Atkins-W4UX** gave a thank you Starbucks gift card to **Kent Englebert-K4HKE** for his QSL card presentation at the July FARC meeting plus his work on a club membership brochure and making name badges for members that have requested them.
- 7. Presentation on Passive Repeaters:** **Harold Richardson-N4HER** gave a presentation on passive repeaters. Passive repeaters are two antennas either reflective or refractive, that do not have electronics, are back to back, that are setup to provide solid communications from a "dead" communications area to/from a communications repeater.

8. Baofeng Hand Held Radio Winner: Don Edwards-WS4NC presented Sam Poindexter-NI4TG with a new Baofeng handheld radio as winner of this months contest.

9. Miscellaneous Announcements:

a. Name Badges: Kent Englebert-K4HKE stated that he had name badges ready for those who had requested one. If there is an error on the name badge, please let him know. If you need a name badge, please let him know at K4HKE (at) ARRL (dot) net.

b. Madora Blackburn-Silent Key: Madora Blackburn (KC4SZO) passed away Saturday, 30 July at the age of 88. She is survived by her husband of 65 years Spencer J. Blackburn (W4RJR), and two sons, Buddy C. Blackburn and Carl S. Blackburn. A service was held 3 August at Parklawn Memorial Park Mausoleum Chapel.

c. Amos Clark-Silent Key: (Secretary note: This is an after meeting note) Amos Clark-W4ROE passed away on 13 August at the age of 98. He was a founding member of FARC (then named the Winston-Salem Ham Radio Club). He was a key person making it possible for the club's use of the Red Cross building and the maintainer of club generators for many years. He was always known as willing to help others, a true gentleman and was the last of the original club members. He was married 57 years to Mabel Parker until her death in 1995. He is survived by his daughter Suzanne Clark, son Steve Clark. A memorial service was held 20 August in the First Presbyterian Church in Winston-Salem.

c. Arduino Class: Don Edwards-WS4NC stated that the next Arduino class will be held at our meeting room in the Red Cross on Saturday, 1 October at 9 am.

d. Dayton Hamfest is Moving: Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO stated that the Dayton Hamfest was moved. (Secretary add-on note: The Dayton Hamfest has been in the Hara Arena for the past 52 years. The new location is the Greene County Fairgrounds and Event Center in Xenia, Ohio about 16 miles east of Dayton.)

e. Supplement to August Newsletter: Don Edwards-WS4NC stated that a supplement to the August club newsletter will be finished in about a week including information on the Tour to Tanglewood event which is one of the clubs largest public service event.

f. Samuel F.B. Morse Exhibit at Reynolda House Museum of American Art: Ray Purdom (K4ZGV) updated everyone on the Samuel F.B. Morse Exhibit at Reynolda House. An ongoing discussion is being held on the club setting up a special event station at the exhibit. Ray has been in contact with Reynolda House personnel on this.

10. **Adjournment of Meeting:** Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by many attendees and seconded.

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, Kent Englebert-K4HKE, Harold Richardson-N4HER, Catherine Melvin-KM4OCS, Kenneth Melvin-KM4NFQ, Daryl Knight-N5WK, Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO, Bill Kennedy-WD4OTY, John Kipee-K1PPE, Don Edwards-WS4NC, David Shoaf-KC4X, Mason Matrazzo-KM4SII, Henry Smith-W4HHS, Jim Marler-KM4HUZ, Jeff Stafford-AC4YN, Sam Poindexter-KM4LUD, Jeff McKelvey-KM4UPM, Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ, Randy Tompson-NC4RT, Jim Register-KV4SJ, Michael Pope-KM4MMH, Ray Purdom-K4ZGV, Les Jongberg-KJ4VYZ, Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL, Chris Rodie-KW4VK, Bob McClennan-KM4VCP, Bob Gusek-NC4RG, Andrew Gusek-NC4AG, Stan Overby-WA4RDZ, Chuck Small-KM4IVY, Caroline Kuebert-KM4VCO, Mark Gaines-KM4TUK, Wayne Collins-KK4ZHL, Ron Adkins, Bruce Baliff-WB4QCM, David Ramsey-W4OIL, Ron Gregoire-W4UOB, John McKee-WW4DX, Steve Iltis-KM4OCR, Paul Banasik-W4ORO, Andre Maikoo-KM4ECV, David Griffith-WA4MKK and Brian Kuebert-N4UEZ.**