

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Meeting—10 October 2016
By Terry Brown (AK4D)—Secretary, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The 10 October 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 60, who introduced themselves.

2. Treasurers Report and Holiday Dinner Report: FARC Treasurer **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** was not present at the meeting, but had given the treasurers report to **Terry Brown-AK4D** who reported the club balance to be \$3801.67. Terry also passed on a reminder from Henry about the 6pm Monday, 5 December FARC Holiday dinner meeting at the River Ridge Tap House. The restaurant is located at 1480 River Ridge Drive in Clemmons near the intersection of US421 and Lewisville-Clemmons Road.

3. VEC Info: VEC Coordinator **Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** thanked all of the VE volunteers that helped with the test session held before the main meeting. Congratulations to all three successful candidates listed below.

- a. **Mary L. McClennan-KM4WPO**, Upgrade to General
- b. **Stan E. Dillon-K4RCA**, Upgrade to Extra
- c. **Michael K. Thorn-KM4OCN**, Upgrade to General

4. Repeater Report: Tech Chairman **Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** stated that two of the three club repeaters were operational but lockup issues have been noted with the 146.64 repeater requiring taking it down for repairs. Dale gave an overall description of the club repeaters to newcomers and also discussed the ongoing work to get alternate internet capability to the Baptist Hospital repeaters.

5. ARES Report: ARES Coordinator **Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT** stated that the club had 245 successful communication operator hours in the Tour to Tanglewood event held 17-18 September. Jim also talked about APRS capability locating participating club members at club sponsored events and a goal for next year will be for all club volunteers to have this capability via either smart phone app or via radio with this capability.

6. Reynolda House Samuel FB Morse Exhibition: **Ray Purdom-K4ZGV** gave an update to the club participation at the upcoming Samuel FB Morse Exhibition at Reynolda House. Ray indicated that Reynolda House is trying to get some of the Morse equipment from the Smithsonian Museum for the exhibit and the club could help with organizing the display of Morse Code Keys. He indicated that there will be a Media Day on 16 February with the exhibit opening day the next day. He will be looking for CW operators and will be preparing a write-up for the club newsletter.

7. Nomination Committee: Elections for all four club officer positions (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) will be held at the club November meeting. **Jim Atkins-W4UX** updated everyone on the results of the nomination committee. A nomination committee consisting of **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO**, **Terry Brown-AK4D**, **Jim Atkins-W4UX**, and **David McDonald-N5WMB** have found club members who are candidates for all four club offices for calendar year 2017. The candidates consist of **David Shoaf-KC4X** for club **President**, **Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV** for club **Vice-President**, **Jim Regiser-KV4SJ** for club **Secretary** and **Kent Englebert-K4HKE** for club **Treasurer**. In addition to the candidates listed above, the floor will be also be opened for nominations to be from the floor prior to voting.

8. Scout Jamboree on the Air: **Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV**, reminded everyone about the upcoming weekend being the Boy Scouts Jamboree on the air and encouraged everyone to make a QSO with the scouts who would be working on Merit Badges.

9. Presentation by Mason Matrazzo-KM4SII on His Washington, D.C. Trip: **Harlen Cobert-W1HRC** introduced the main presentation speaker **Mason Matrazzo-KM4SII**, talking about Mason's growing love and participation in ham radio and what led to Mason and his family being invited to Washington, D.C. to meet with House of Representatives Virginia Foxx and Senators Burr and Tillis. Mason's main mission in Washington, D.C. was to represent the club and to educate the elected members of Congress on the Amateur Radio Parity Act and what the passage of the bill would mean to him and other amateur radio operators. Mason's powerpoint presentation was entitled "KM4SII—Amateur Lobbyist". Mason enthusiastically told meeting attendees about each detail of the trip to Washington, D.C. and his meetings with Representative Foxx and Senators Burr and Tillis and also his chance meeting with former Senator Robert Dole. After his meetings and giving elected officials and their staffs a one page fact sheet on amateur radio and the benefits of the Amateur Radio Parity Act, he was encouraged to hear that both Senators were supportive of the Amateur Radio Parity Act.

10. Baofeng Hand Held Radio Winner: **Don Edwards-WS4NC** presented **Scott Garrison-KM4LDR** with a new Baofeng handheld radio as winner of this month's contest.

11. Harold Richardson-N4HER surgery: **Jim Atkins-W4UX** requested that club members keep **Harold Richardson-N4HER** in their thoughts as he was having surgery and could not attend the meeting.

12. CQ World Wide SSB Contest: **Don Edwards-WS4NC** indicated that the club shack would be open for anyone interested operating in the CQ World Wide SSB contest the weekend of 29-30 October. Don will be sending out an email to club members on this.

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