

Minutes of the Board of Directors Business of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club - 17 April 2017

By Jim Register (KV4SJ)
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, 17 April 2017 at Ham's Restaurant, 367 Lower Mall Drive, Thruway Shopping Center, Winston Salem. The meeting was called to order by FARC President David Shoaf, K4CX, at 1935 hours. He welcomed all meeting attendees.

2. Meeting Attendees: The 18 meeting attendees were Steve Patterson-WA3RTC, Terry Brown-AK4D, Sam Poindexter-NI4TG, David McDonald-N5WNB, , John Kippe-K1PPE, Gene Bowman-WB4MSG, Harold Richardson-N4HER, Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV, Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO, Ray Purdom-K4ZGV, Jeff Stafford-AC4YN, , Michael Pope-K4OLD, Don Edwards-WS4NC, Jim Register-KV4SJ, Kent Englebert-K4HKE, David Shoaf-KC4X, Daryl Knight-N5WK, Harlan Cobert-W1HRC.

3. Club Website: Jim Register, KV4SJ, reported that the new server for the club website has been secured, and that he and Terry needed to get together on actually uploading the files to the server and verifying that everything is working correctly.

4. Club Trailer: Harold Richardson-N4HER, reported that his plan was to pick up the trailer sometime during the week and get the new wheels and tires put on, and then let Jim Atkins deal with procuring the jacks and getting them installed. David McDonald-N5WNB has already installed the new sign.

5. Field Day: Daryl Knight-N5WK checked on background information for the Field Day preps. Generators – one belongs to the club, and one belongs to Harold Richardson-N4HER. Public information table pamphlets – we use leftovers from the hamfest. GOTA station – Discussed getting Mason Matrazzo-KM4SII to run that or-?? Publicity – Melissa Hall-W4RXG will make sure it gets in the newspaper, but we'll need to send her an email.

We'll need to invite various officials and be sure to get pictures. We usually get Red Cross, Salvation Army, and ARRL officials as well as Dan Besse, the councilman for the area, for the event. Youth participation should be up this year, as the local Scouts camp has been shifted away from the Field Day weekend.

Gene Bowman, WB4MSG, has another commitment and will not be available this year for Field Day. We will need to check the number of rigs available, since Gene won't be able to bring his. We will need to collect his coax to connect the antennas and see about setting up receive antennas for the 80 meter rigs. Harold offered to use his trailer to store the coax.

We need to inventory rigs, antennas, coax, headphone amps (and power supplies), and headphones to make sure we have everything. One of the things that was mentioned was having enough operators to keep the rigs running overnight so we can keep the contact rate up. We were hampered on 80 meter CW and 20 meter sideband because we didn't have enough people to cover overnight.

Daryl also discussed whether we wanted to remain a 9A classification. Don suggested that there would probably be a lot more competition if we ran 5A. 7A might work. Harold commented that the space we have fits well for 9A – we don't really have room for many more stations.

Food for the participants was also discussed – whether to get catering, with-its, etc. Don has cooked the sides for years, but he will not be able to do it this year. Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO offered to get quotes for catering for 80 people – with and without setup and cleanup. Moved and seconded for Henry to get quotes.

6. Reynolda House Samuel Morse exhibit: Ray Purdom, K4ZGV, discussed plans for the club's participation at the Community Day event at Reynolda House on April 29. We are scheduled to be operating from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. Ray would prefer to be ready at 10:00 am, which means getting there about 9:00 am, and operating until 4:00 pm.

Ray and Dave have reserved the gazebo, which has power and will be dry. We would probably have two stations, one CW and the other phone. We would probably use the vertical that Ray Purdom, K4ZGV, provided for the CW again, and a 40m dipole for phone. Mason will be operating phone for some of the time.

Kent Englebert, K4HKE, reported we have received three more QSL card requests, for a total of 17, with SASEs from N4M contacts. Ray Purdom, K4ZGV reported we have permission to use the Samuel Morse painting as the backdrop for the card.

7. ARES Events: Harlan Cobert, W1HRC, announced several upcoming events. On May 28th there will be what they are calling the Grand Fondue Bike Rally in Pilot Mountain area. He still needs a couple of people. We will need a number of vehicles, two with CB capability. There will be 3 rest stops, so that's another six folks. This will be an all-day event. More information to come at the May club meeting.

On Sept 16 and 17 will be the Bike MS aka Tour to Tanglewood, needing about 24 people this year. Harlan will be having a second meeting with them on Wednesday the 19th for further discussion. They want to make some changes in how they do things. Specifically, instead of putting a ham with a sag driver, the ham can use their own vehicle and the organizers will provide bike racks (unless it is a pickup truck). We will still have to put radios with mag-mount antennas into some vehicles donated (loaned?) to the event by Modern Chevrolet.

8. Forsyth County EOC Antennas: Some general discussion about whether the antennas had been installed and tested yet. David McDonald-N5WNB asked about where the antennas actually are, as he does go up and service wireless antennas on that building and may be able to check them out. We waited for Harlan to get there from his meeting.

9. June Hamfest: Henry reported he will be there Friday for the load-in, and Saturday morning. The price is going up to about \$250; we may want to look at moving before it goes up again. Steve Patterson, WA3RTC, will be doing coffee again. John Kippe, K1PPE and Jeff Stafford, AC4YN will sell tickets again. We'll need 4 to 6 people for parking.

10. Programs for next month: Harlan Cobert, W1HRC, will discuss the upcoming ARES events, June will be the hamfest, July Geoff Rudy, KK4MOV, will do presentation on radio and Scouting and the National

Jamboree. Geoff reports we are open after that, but Harold and Charlie have expressed interest in doing programs. Geoff would like to hear David McDonald talk about some of his trips to Antarctica. Mason has said he will do a short presentation about his trip to Iceland.

Harlan said to be careful going home – wild turkeys have been flying into vehicles recently – one went into the windshield of the vehicle in front of him on the way to the meeting – the patrolman said it was the 6th one this week.

11. Adjournment of Meeting: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and meeting was adjourned at 2031 hours.