

Draft Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club - 20 November 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, 20 November 2017 at Sixty Six Pizzeria, 3440 Frontis St, Winston Salem. The meeting was called to order by FARC President David Shoaf, K4CX, at 1930 hours, welcoming all meeting attendees.

2. Meeting Attendees: The 15 meeting attendees were David Shoaf-KC4X, Harold Richardson-N4HER, Sam Poindexter-NI4TG, Pedro Tomas-KN4GKY, Jim Register-KV4SJ, John Kippe-K1PPE, Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO, Jerry Minor-K4GW, Ron Gregoire-W4UDB, Harlan Cobert-W1HRC, Don Edwards-WS4NC, Terry Brown-AK4D, Dan O'Leary KG4ECI, Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV, Doc Holiday-WB4QIZ.

3. January Hamfest Equipment Auction: A list of the donated equipment and suggested prices has been posted on the website. Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO, has volunteered to serve as auctioneer yet again.

4. Upcoming Programs: Our January program will be homebrew. We don't have a February program yet, but Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO, and Raja Chatterjee, KB6MTH, may be able to talk about their time operating at Gitmo. Harold Richardson, N4HER, can run a soldering class, and Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL, might do a program on our repeaters.

5. Survey Feedback: Geoff Rudy, KK4MOV, reported on the survey results from November's club meeting. Harold's programs held great appeal, as well as Charlie's. Simple antenna building classes, including dipoles, are of interest. There was also a request for Dale to give a session on the club repeaters. The sweet spot for program length seemed to be about an hour. We may do a more involved survey later.

6. Field Day Results: Doc Holliday, WB4QIZ, reported seeing our Field Day results in QST, gratified that we were #1 in 9A category. Doc wanted to commend the club for its first-place showing with 3559 QSOs. Terry AK4D informed that info is on the W4NC website. He called the ARRL about FT8 and was told there is a good chance we would be able to use FT8 for Field Day 2018. Discussion followed about using FT8 in 2018. Olivia was mentioned as a good mode as well.

7. Field Day 2018: David, KC4X, began a discussion for Field Day 2018 by announcing that Daryl Knight, N5WK, has agreed to coordinate setting up the stations and operator scheduling. David suggested we have three teams working on the antennas. One team would shoot the lines for pulling up the antennas, a second team would come behind pull the antennas up, and a third group would roll out the coax, starting from the top of the hill this time. As each team completed its task, the members could split up to assist the other teams. David also suggested that the 80M dipole down in the valley could be saved until last, as the band won't open up until later in the evening anyway. John, K1PPE, reminded that we should check SWR each time we put up an antenna.

8. Bylaws Committee: Terry Brown, AK4D, reported working hard for several hours that morning majorly reworking the document before sending it out. Don Edwards, WS4NC, is currently working on that document to further improve it, so we are making progress.

9. Christmas Dinner Meeting: Don, WS4NC, has confirmed with Mi Pueblo that we have the room for the dinner meeting on the second Monday, December 11 at 6:00 pm. The awards are either done or nearly done - Don has to get some frames. David will have his Presidential tie on.

10. ARES® Report: Harlan Cobert, W1HRC, reported that we had 18 people attend the ICS training; he expects to run the class again sometime after the summer hamfest. He expects to run another ECOMM net controller class in the spring. The fall class had seventeen people. There will be no ARES® net on Thursday since it is Thanksgiving. Harlan also asked if the ARES® go-box will be ready for FirstFest so we can use it there. Don, WS4NC, said he should have it ready by then.

11. Hamfest Facilitators: David Shoaf, KC4X, again asked for volunteers for facilitators for the Jan 6 hamfest so all the load doesn't fall on the club members who are sponsoring us at the church.

12. Tower Work: Discussed the Nov 25 tower work to put up an antenna for the upcoming relocation of the 145.47 repeater. All volunteers were reminded to bring hard hats and climbing harnesses. Scheduled meetup at 11:00. We will take down an existing antenna and put up a new one.

Discussion of moving the repeater and rack space
Don offered to donate a 5 ft rack.

13. Adjournment of Meeting: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and meeting was adjourned at 2014 hours.