

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club - 10 September 2018

By Jim Register (KV4SJ)
Secretary, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The 10 September 2018 meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club at the Red Cross Building, 690 Coliseum Drive, was called to order by President David Shoaf, KC4X, at 1938 hours. David welcomed all attendees, approximately 53, for coming out this evening, and invited each to give their name and callsign.

2. Treasurer's Report: Kent Englebert, K4HKE, had to work, so David, K4CX, gave a brief treasurer's report. Our balance in the bank is roughly \$3,600.99, which does not include two generous donations we got this evening. The Vagabond Ragchew Net normally gives \$200 to us and \$150 to Jerry to support the backup repeater; Jerry graciously gave his \$150 to us.

3. Bylaws Committee Report: Terry Brown, AK4D, reported the status of the updated bylaws. The final version of the club bylaws has been presented to club president David Shoaf, KC4X. This is the first update since 1991, and it spells out what the club is all about, types of membership, dues, elected officers, types of meetings (regular and business) and what constitutes a quorum for each. It also specifies the makeup of the board of directors and duties for each office, committees, coordinators, chairs, and most important, club trustee and regulations concerning the trustee. The updated bylaws specify the parliamentary authority, the process for amending the bylaws, and finally, the process for dissolution of the club, if it should ever happen.

Terry thanked the members of the bylaws committee: Don Edwards WS4NC, Henry Heidtmann W2DZO, Geoff Rudy KK4MOV, Jim Register KV4SJ. Terry was reminded to include Terry Brown AK4D in that group.

The updated bylaws will be posted on the web site in a few days for members to review.

David Shoaf, KC4X, thanked the committee for their service, and reminded those present that the vote on the bylaws will be at the October meeting and members must be up to date on their dues to be eligible to vote.

4. AUXCOMM Report: Harlan Cobert, W1HRC, discussed the upcoming Tour to Tanglewood, expected activities dealing with hurricane Florence, and training requirements.

Tour to Tanglewood:

- Coming up on September 22 and 23.
- We need four more radio operators. We were one shy and we lost another three to medical issues. If you have a Technician license and a handheld radio, you are good to go for this event.
- Need a couple of people to operate the Super SAGs, which are fifteen passenger vans.
- The ARES page on the club website has the signup link where you can verify that you have signed up or look for a gap you can fill. If you can help, please do.

- Harlan stressed the importance of supporting the ride, as it is one of the larger rides they do in the Carolinas. Last year, this particular ride brought in over \$802,000 of the Bike MS total of \$1,400,000 in the Carolinas.

Hurricane Florence:

- Harlan is getting daily briefings at the EOC; if he is unavailable, he will ask someone else to attend in his place. Harlan then outlined the location and process for accessing the EOC.
- Harlan may get deployed to the coast as part of the Forsyth County Incident Management Team, but if he does, AUXCOMM still needs to operate here. Harlan asked that anyone WebEOC qualified let him know tonight, so you can step in and serve as the senior operator at the EOC in case he gets deployed. Each shift would need a senior and at least one additional operator.
- EOC activation is very possible as early as late Thursday or early Friday.
- AUXCOMM is currently in an Alert phase. It is time to complete your household hurricane preps and double check that your radio equipment is all in working order, batteries charged, chargers handy, antennas good, etc. Recently at a public service event, the net controller showed up with an HT that lasted ten minutes before the batteries died. Make sure our stuff is operational.
- Florence is expected to track through High Point as a Category 1, weakening to a tropical storm by the time it hits Winston Salem, where it is expected to stall. That means substantial rain (7 - 20 inches) and wind for an extended period of time. This will cause flooding, downed trees, and loss of power.
- Starting Tuesday night at 8pm, we will stand up a nightly AUXCOMM net for briefings. The nightly net will continue as long as necessary.

Training:

- ECOMM Net Controller Course - November 10th 9am until 4 pm. There will be a lunch break. All you need is an amateur radio license - the ICS certs are not required for this. Morning will be going through scenarios, teaching what has to be done, including the documentation, and creating a communications plan. Harlan did one the other night for the Dixie Classic Fair - took about twenty minutes, but it included all players - law enforcement, fire, EMS, etc. Afternoon will be exercises - be split into three-person teams.
- If you haven't taken the ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800 courses, please do - they are available online. <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-100.b>
- ICS-300: If you have the ability and would like to be the senior operator at the EOC, please take the ICS-300 class. This is a three-day long classroom-only course.
- DHS AUXCOMM Course: This 3-day course will be offered again next year, and you are encouraged to apply for and take it. It is held annually at the Charlotte Fire Academy. Enrollment is limited to 30 people. The state normally pays for the hotel; your expenses would be travel each way, breakfast and dinner each day. Lunch is provided.

5. Program - Satellite 101: Philip Jenkins, N4HF gave a program on operating with and through amateur satellites. The handout is available here:

http://www.w4nc.com/files/SATELLITES_YOU_MAY_BE_ABLE_TO_HEAR-WS.pdf

The presentation is available on YouTube at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hiSY61BcV1A>

6. Business Meeting: David, KC4X, reminded everyone about our upcoming business meeting next Monday at Sixty-Six Pizzeria on Frontis Plaza Drive, right near the new Academy Sports. The meeting starts at 7:30; we get there between 6:00 and 7:30 to eat, and hang around until 9 or so.

7. Florence 8pm Brief: Harlan, W1HRC, gave an update. The track forecast has moved north and east, so Florence should pass between us and Greensboro. We will still get 7 - 12 inches of rain and plenty of wind. Harlan reminded everyone that he needs two people with WebEOC training to go in for the briefings and EOC standup in case he gets deployed.

8. Adjournment of Meeting: A motion was made and seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 2057 hours.

9. Partial List of Meeting Attendees: Below are the names of FARC meeting attendees.

Harold Richardson N4HER, Mary McClellan KM4WPO, Stacey MacArthur W1LLO, David Shoaf KC4X, Doug MacArthur W4STH, Harlan Cobert W1HRC, Jerry Minor K4GW, Terry Brown AK4D, Kent Englebert K4HKE, Jim Register KV4SJ, Steven Mierisch KG4JWU, Henry Heidtmann W2DZO, Jeff Stafford AC4YN, Pedro Tomas KN4GKY, Bill Kennedy WD4OTY, Daryl Knight N5WK, Dick Moss KF4ML, Ken Melvin KM4NFQ, Cathy Melvin KM4OCS, Rick McCullough KN4OWZ, Mike Brown W4LKN, Sam Poindexter NI4TG, David O Nan KM4PDA, John Canup KM4HVB, Linda Worland KW4UD, Ken Worland KW4UC, Gaff Pearce W4GYP, Linda Worland KW4UD, Ken Worland KW4UC, Gaff W4GYP, Tim Yarbrough KF4HHG, Bonretta Yarbrough, Aubrey Johnson KN4OXC, Philip Jenkins N4HF, Logan Weddle KN4MZR, Brian Kuebert N4UEZ, Sparky Ramey KE4TES, Lou Mayer KK4NUB, Steve Patterson WA3RTC, Steve Weifenbach KN4LKP, Steve Mellen K2MLN, Mary DePuy KN4LKO, Judson Davis KG4OHQ, David Ramsey W4OIL, Mark Gaines KM4TUK, Mary McClellan KM4WPO, Van Key KC4WSK, Mike Vernon W4MAV, Michael Pope K4OLD, Geoff Rudy KK4MOV, Terry Good W3NPS, Ken Kayser K2KXK, Bobby Meier AA9AU.