

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club – January 14 2019

By Stacey MacArthur (W1LLO)
Secretary, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The 14 January 2019 meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club at the Red Cross Building, 690 Coliseum Drive, was called to order by President Sam Poindexter, NI4TG, at 1933 hours. Sam welcomed all attendees, approximately 31, for coming out this evening, and invited each to give their name and callsign.

2. Announcements: Once again the new officers were announced for those who were absent from the December holiday party. Sam Poindexter NI4TG (President), Douglas MacArthur W4STH (Vice President), Kent Englebert K4HKE (Treasurer), and Stacey MacArthur W1LLO (Secretary). Thank you to the outgoing officers for their past service. A reminder that yearly dues are due this month, to please see Kent for payment. If any personal information has changed over the past year, please fill out a form so your information may be updated. Anyone in need of a callsign badge, please see Kent. Thoughts and prayers were asked for Terry Brown who is battling with a health issue.

3. Business Meeting: Sam, NI4TG, reminded everyone about our upcoming business meeting next Monday at Sixty-Six Pizzeria on Frontis Plaza Street, 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.

4. Ham Fest: This January's ham fest overall was a success. We had ticket sales of \$780 which is roughly 150 tickets. Tables sales of \$100, and food donations of \$50 with a total income of \$930. We give \$150 donation to the church for the use of the space as well as food expenses of \$27.30. This gives us a total take away of \$752.70. 156 people also paid their dues at the ham fest, as well as a \$40 donation which came from an antenna sale.

5. Treasurer's Report: Kent Englebert, K4HKE, gave a brief treasurer's report. Our balance in the bank is \$4,992.32. The only major expenditure anticipated at this point is the repeater repair which will most likely be south of \$2000, so we're in pretty good shape. Dues paid at Monday's meeting was roughly \$300.

6. Repeater Update: Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL. 145.470 still has work that needs to be done. The repeater team will arrange a time to go up on the mountain before the next meeting to swap out antennas and apply some filtering. The new System Fusion II repeaters are both in, working great, and are ready to be installed on Baptist. Because of the new repeaters allow both analog and digital on the same frequency, using CTCSS tone decode is an option to mute the digital buzz.

7. AUXCOMM Report: Harlan Cobert, W1HRC, with an explanation of what RACES is and why in the state of North Carolina we are now AUXCOMM (auxiliary communications). ARRL is going to start requiring ICS courses to participate in ARES. Training is always available on the FEMA website. Reminder of the EOC net controller training next month on the 16th of February at the Red Cross Building, 690 Coliseum Drive, beginning at 8am and going until 4:30pm. Late spring in Charlotte, NC (exact time and date to come) is the yearly Auxcomm course. Wednesday Thursday Friday. All day. Signup on NCTERMS (<https://terms.ncem.org/TRS/>). Finally, Harlan gauged the interest of Search and Rescue communications training.

Upcoming public service event. April 6th Hanging Rock state park. Need 6-8 people to run communications for a hiking event. Not an easy hike, relatively strenuous, 5 miles in and out. Please see Harlan for more details.

8. Program: This month's program was show and tell. Folks were to bring in a homebrew project, or something they felt was interesting to show the group. Jim Mansfield, WA4NOT, a Cricket Kit QRP 80m CW transceiver. Bruce Thomson, AD4ET, a PVC portable ham radio station he crafted out of PVC pipe to house radio equipment. Gaff Pearce, W4GYP, his System Fusion hot spot Raspberry Pie Kit. Don Edwards, WS4NC, a 1960s/70s homebrew CB tube transceiver. Jerry Minor, K4GW, a modified Amazon Fire stick as well as various homebrew and kits (including a funny story and a garage door opener). Scott Thomas, KF4I, multiband Altoid tin radios.

9. Adjournment of Meeting: A motion was made and seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

10. Partial List of Meeting Attendees: Below is a partial list of FARC meeting attendees.

Stacey MacArthur W1LLO, Doug MacArthur W4STH, Harlan Cobert W1HRC, Jim Register KV4SJ, Mary McClellan KM4WPO, Sam Poindexter NI4TG, Harold Richardson N4HER, Gaff Pearce W4GYP, Bruce Thompson AD4ET, Marcia Thompson NC4MT, David Ramsey W4OIL, Ed Walbroehl KE4ZFT, Steven Mierisch KG4JWU, Pedro Tomas KN4GKY, Don Edwards WS4NC, Derek Brown WF4I, Terry Good W3NPS, David Shoaf KC4X, Bobby Meier AA9AU, Dale Mierisch WB9SZL, Steve Patterson WA3RTC, Michael Pope K4OLD, Daryl Night N5WK, Neal Pruitt WD4LSS, Van Key KC4WSK, Gary Miller WA4VMC, Jim Mansfield WA4NOT, Jim Bicliski KJ4FIN, Ron Gregoire W4UDB, Steve Weifenbach KN4LKP, Doc Holiday WB4QIZ, Jerry Minor K4GW, Kent Englebert K4HKE, Ron Adkins KM4WPN.