

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club – 13 April 2020

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

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The 13 April 2020 meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club was called to order by President Sam Poindexter (NI4TG) at 1930 hours. The meeting was held on Zoom video conferencing software due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sam welcomed all attendees, approximately 62, for joining us this evening.

2. Announcements: During the virus emergency plans have changed almost daily. A thank you to Terry Brown, Don Edwards, Harold Richardson, Stacey MacArthur, and Harlan Cobert for keeping things organized. Shop and technical talk meeting scheduled on Zoom weekly on Wednesday nights at 7:30. This gives people a chance to socialize while everyone is stuck inside. Please see Don's email for the invite link. If anyone hears of any club member or family member that has fallen ill, please let Don Edwards (WS4NC) or Stacey MacArthur (W1LLO) know. We would like to support these folks and send them well wishes.

3. 90th Anniversary: The club's 90th Anniversary celebration is still on even though the pandemic has thrown a wrench into the works. There are still opportunities for Hams @ Home events where any club member may use the W4NC/90 callsign from their home location for a set time period. Please contact a club officer if you would like to participate.

4. Gift Cards: The monthly board meeting normally meets at 66 Pizza and Grill every month. Since the pandemic has caused many businesses to close or only offer curbside pickup and delivery, many have fallen on hard times. To help, we are purchasing gift cards from 66 Pizza as a group to be used later. If you would like to participate and purchase a gift card for yourself, please send \$25.00 via PayPal to treasurer@w4nc.com. Please include a little extra to cover the transfer fee or send it by "Sending to a friend" option rather than "Paying for an item or service". In the notes comment how many and what it's for. The cards may be mailed or picked up when we can meet again. Cards can also be used for food at the board meeting.

5. Field Day: Henry Heidtmann (W2DZO) gave an update on field day. This pandemic has changed the way we have had to do many things in the past month or so; Field day is no exception. Even though it's still a couple months out we must be ready to change our operating to meet the situation. Operators must follow their states mandates, and if the distancing restrictions have not been lifted by June, the ARRL has advised stations to operate from home using 1D or 1E stations. (commercial power and emergency power respectively). These stations may then be submitted under a club group name. This could be an opportunity to test our emergency operating skills which is what Field Day has always been about. More details in the coming months.

6. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kent Englebert (K4HKE) gave a brief treasurer's report. Our balance in the bank is \$4921.24. Only major expense forthcoming will be lawyer expenses in connection to the bylaws.

7. Testing and Repeater Report: Dale Mierisch (WB9SZL) presented the testing and repeater report. Testing has been suspended for the moment due to the pandemic until July 1st, 2020. Still waiting on

information on remote testing. The hospital is inaccessible for the time being so there will be no work done on the 146.64 repeater until later. Filters are still being investigated to prevent the interference problem. 145.47 is up and running well as well as the EchoLink node. EchoLink is up for the 147.315 repeater.

8. Program: This month's program was a COVID-19 update and presentation by Harlan Cobert (W1HRC). Multiple telephone resources have been established for COVID-19 information. That number to dial for the state is **211**. The county information line is **(336) 582-0800**.

9. Business Meeting: Sam (NI4TG) reminded everyone about our upcoming business meeting next Monday via Zoom. The meeting starts at 7:30. The link will be distributed via e-mail.

10. Adjournment of Meeting: A motion was made and seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 2030.

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

Don Edwards WS4NC, Stacey MacArthur W1LLO, Sam Poindexter NI4TG, Harold Richardson N4HER, Dale Mierisch WB9SZL, Steve Patterson WA3RTC, Mark Gaines KM4TUK, Henry Smith W4HHS, Jim Bielski KJ4FIN, Van Key KC4WSK, Harlan Cobert W1HRC, Wayne Yankee KO4BUD, David Shoaf KC4X, Kent Englebert K4HKE, Bruce Bailiff WB4QCM, David Nicholson N2AWE, David Ramsey W4OIL, Henry Heidtmann W2DZO, Michael Pope K4OLD, Ron Gregoire W4UDB, Ron Adkins KM4WPN, Steve Weifenbach W3SAW, Dick Hattaway W4PID, Fred Overstreet WB4QXG, Steve Mellen K2MLN, Nick Hunter KN4UOL, Daniel Ferguson KO4CTO, Terry Good W3NPS, Mark Scott K4MV, Judson Davis KG4OHQ, Charles Small KM4IVY, Jack Rowe K4OZ, Jerry Brown W4LKN, Jim Register KV4SJ, Andrew Gusek NC4AG, Terry Brown AK4D, Wayne Collins KK4ZHL, Bon McClellan W3AVB, Mary McClellan KM4WPO, Jonathan Sharp KM4RAD, Steve Iltis KM4OCR, Bruce Thompson AD4ET, Marcia Thompson NC4MT, Ben Wasilauskas K4GHS, Wayne Ashworth W4HG, Lou Mayer KK4NUB, Geoff Rudy KK4MOV, Brian Harrison KN4R, Andy Brinkley NC4AB, Doc Holiday WB4DOC, David Jones KN4VBT, Roy Terwilliger W4LLZ, Peter Van Houten N4PVH, Ken Kayser K2KXX, Mike Mahan KB4WJA, John Canup KM4HVB, Bill Kennedy WD4OTY, Brian Kuebert NZ4N, Trip Owens N4NTO, Bryce Lambeth KE4ZFN, Thomas Hickey N4TUG, Gene Bowman WB4MSG.