

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club – 8 June 2020

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

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The 8 June 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 47, for joining us this evening.

2. Announcements: Earnest Mauldin (KI4SYU) passed away recently due to Covid-19. Earnest was often heard on the 146.820 repeater most mornings. We wish his family well. Earnest's memorial service has been made available on YouTube at <http://Youtu.be/BpwkPhs5vWw> for those interested. As a reminder, 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. Next Month's presentation will be by Marv Hoffman (WA4NC) who is the new NC section manager for the ARRL.

3. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kent Englebert (K4HKE) gave a brief treasurer's report. Our balance in the bank is \$3,634.42. The insurance payments have been made which was our only major expense. The tower rental for the repeater is due and will be paid ASAP.

4. Testing and Repeater Report: Dale Mierisch (WB9SZL) presented the testing and repeater report. The hospital is inaccessible for the time being due to Covid-19 so there will be no work done on the 146.64 or 444.275 repeaters. The 145.47 repeater up on the mountain is up and running well. The EchoLink node is being switched between 145.47 and 147.315 as needed and is operational.

5. Program: This month's program was the annual Field Day preparation presentation and report by Henry Heidtmann (W2DZO), Stacey MacArthur (W1LLO), and Harold Richardson (N4HER). Due to Covid-19, Field Day is being conducted differently than previous years. The biggest change being that members have been encouraged to operate from home. The Field Day committee has prepared a document outlining the changes and challenges for this year, as well as operating procedures for those new to Field Day and N1MM. Look for the final document soon via email, newsletter and on the website.

6. Auxcomm/Ares: Harlan Cobert (W1HRC) presented the Auxcomm report. The Auxcomm group will be having their monthly Zoom meeting on the 16th. This meeting will be at 8pm to allow extra time. There will be no on-air net. Hospitalizations due to Covid-19 have dropped for the county, and many of those hospitalized have been released. The numbers of confirmed cases continue to rise, some of which is due to the increased availability of testing. There have been threats against cellular systems, mainly targeting 5G infrastructure, due to the unfounded belief that 5G spreads Covid-19. These are non-credible threats and there is no expectation of action. It is the beginning of hurricane season and we have already had three named storms. This is looking to be a highly active season.

7. Business Meeting: Sam (NI4TG) reminded everyone about our upcoming business meeting next Monday via Zoom. The meeting starts at 19:30. The link is presented in the monthly newsletter and can also be requested via email at [info\[at\]w4nc.com](mailto:info[at]w4nc.com)

8. Adjournment of Meeting: A motion was made and seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 2033.

9. 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, Jim Bielski KJ4FIN, Van Key KC4WSK, Harlan Cobert W1HRC, David Shoaf KC4X, Kent Englebert K4HKE, Bruce Bailiff WB4QCM, Michael Pope K4OLD, Judson Davis KG4OHQ, Jim Register KV4SJ, Terry Brown AK4D, Bob McClellan W3AVB, Mary McClellan KM4WPO, Steve Iltis KM4OCR, Bruce Thompson AD4ET, Marcia Thompson NC4MT, Geoff Rudy KK4MOV, Andy Brinkley NC4AB, Doc Holiday WB4DOC, David Jones KN4VBT, Ken Kayser K2KXK, Mike Mahan KB4WJA, John Canup KM4HVB, Bill Kennedy WD4OTY, James Mansfield WA4NOT, Michael Culbreth W4CZJ, Jim Atkins W4UX, Carl Brown N4PAA, Daniel Ferguson N4TKI, Terry Farrell AC4HP, David Peterson KK4GAF, Wayne Collins KK4ZHL, Doug Spriggs W4DCS, Mason Matrazzo KM4SII, Henry Heidtmann W2DZO, Ron Gregoire W4UDB, Terry Good W3NPS, Lou Mayer KK4NUB, Brian Kuebert NZ4N, Caroline Kuebert KM4VOC, Steven Mierisch KG4JWU, and Fred Overstreet WB4QXG.