

Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club – 10 August 2020

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

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The 10 August 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 51, for joining us this evening.

2. Announcements: The December meeting will be hosted on Zoom. This will be held in a similar format to the in-person December meeting as there will be no presentation, and will go over yearly reports, and awards. The January meeting is the annual show and tell. Zoom will be an excellent format to show off projects people have working on throughout the year. Get your notes together and be prepared.

3. 2021 Officers: As per the bylaws, July was the month to begin looking for nominations of officers to transition beginning January 2021 and for the next two years. A nominating committee was formed to ask for volunteers for new officers. John Canup (KM4HVB) - Chair, Ken Kayser (K3KXK), Harold Richardson (N4HER), Don Edwards (WS4NC), Stacey MacArthur (W1LLO) made up the committee. They have been working and are close to a decision on nominations.

4. Club Bylaws: There have been a few minor changes in wording for the bylaws. The bylaws were reviewed and approved some months ago, but it was felt a few changes and updates were needed. Indemnification of officers, wording on liabilities, availability of officers, etc. There has been an additional legal review by the lawyer and the final version had been posted on the website for public review. A vote was called to approve this final version of the bylaws, seconded and passed.

5. Field Day: Henry Heidtmann (W2DZO) gave a short report on Field Day. We had 27 total active hams participate via the Zoom conference for Field Day this year. Of those 27, 23 submitted logs to the ARRL under the Forsyth ARC club name. Of those 23, 17 sent the summary email received from the ARRL to the FieldDay@W4NC.com email address. The received preliminary score was approximately 17,500 points and over 5000 contacts as a group, with the final score to be reported by the ARRL in the December issue of QST.

6. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kent Englebert (K4HKE) gave a brief treasurer's report. Our balance in the bank is \$2,844.85, with no major expenses foreseen for the rest of the year. We have around twice as much as anticipated from previous years and thank you to those who get their dues in early during the first part of the year as it really helps.

7. Auxcomm/Ares: Harlan Cobert (W1HRC) presented the Auxcomm report. The North Carolina department of emergency management for the first time did a state-wide Auxcomm activation due to the threat of Hurricane Isaias. An email went out to all individuals who have completed the required training and are registered with the Auxcomm system. Luckily, the need for deployment did not occur. Last week a Zoom meeting was held for "Just in Time" WebEOC training. All Auxcomm members are encouraged to complete this training. Another session is being planned prior to the on-air training activity to be held on the 12th of September from 1300 – 1600.

8. Testing and Repeater Report: Dale Mierisch (WB9SZL) presented the testing and repeater report. Repeaters are up and running well. The Vagabond net has been using the 145.47 repeater for their sessions. Reports of static on the 147.315 or 145.47 repeaters, so if you hear any static or interference please email WB9SZL@triad.rr.com to report. The hospital is still 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 EchoLink node is being switched between 145.47 and 147.315 as needed and is operational. W4VEC sessions are to be cancelled until the end of October, with most session managers cancelling sessions to the end of the year. Please keep an eye on the W4NC.com website for updates on testing. W4VEC has issued a statement that there will be *NO* remote testing authorized by management.

9. Program: This month's program was by Cezar Trifu (VE3LYC) on IOTA (Islands on the Air). Cezar has traveled to islands all around the world for DXpeditions and is frequently featured in issues of QST, including the recent August 2020 issue.

10. Upcoming Meetings: Sam (NI4TG) reminded everyone about our upcoming business meeting next Monday via Zoom, as well as the weekly Tech Talk every Wednesday night. These meetings both start at 7:30. The links for all meetings are listed on the front of the most recent newsletter.

11. Adjournment of Meeting: A motion was made and seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 2123.

12. 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, Van Key KC4WSK, Harlan Cobert W1HRC, David Shoaf KC4X, Kent Englebert K4HKE, Bruce Bailiff WB4QCM, Michael Pope K4OLD, Jim Register KV4SJ, Terry Brown AK4D, Bob McClellan W3AVB, Mary McClellan KM4WPO, Ken Kayser K2KXK, John Canup KM4HVB, James Mansfield WA4NOT, Michael Culbreth W4CZJ, Jim Atkins W4UX, Wayne Collins KK4ZHL, Doug Spriggs W4DCS, Ron Gregoire W4UDB, Terry Good W3NPS, Lou Mayer KK4NUB, Steven Mierisch KG4JWU, Mark Gaines KM4TUK, Keith Thomas KA4JAH, Dick Hattaway W4PID, David Nicholson N2AWE, Wayne Ashworth W4HG, Gene Bowman WB4MSG, Peter Van Houten N4PVH, Neil Foster N4FN, Jerry Minor K4GW, Richard Hall K7RLH, Mark Scott K4MV, Cezar Trifu VE3LYC, Jim Bielski KJ4FIN, Andy Brinkley NC4AB, Marcia Thompson NC4MT, Bruce Thompson AD4ET, Henry Heidtmann W2DZO, Mason Matrazzo KM4SII, Mike Mahan KB4WJA, Fred Overstreet WB4QXG, Tim Yarbrough KF4HHG, Steve Iltis KM4OCR, Doc Holliday WB4DOC, and Terry Farrell AC4HP.