



Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Newsletter



Founded December 30, 1930

February, 2005

Winston-Salem Winter Hamfest

Rockin'success!

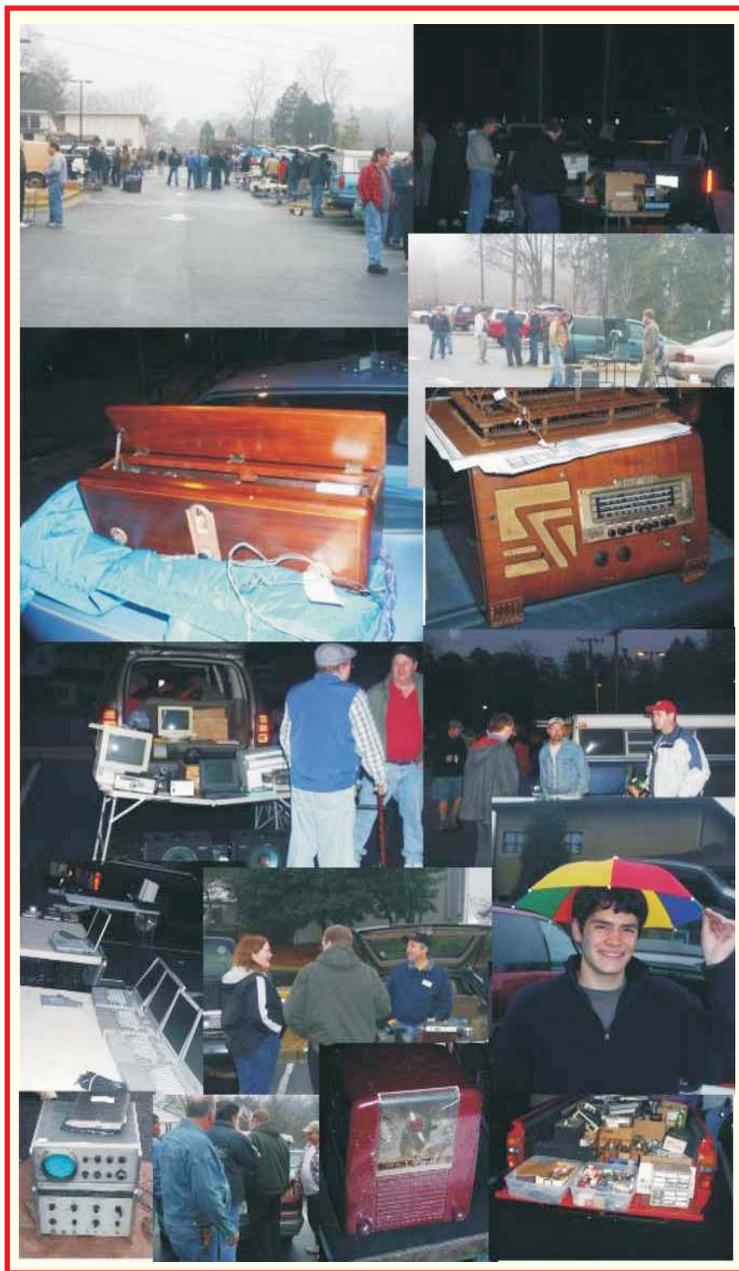
Hi, all.....Thanks to everyone who came out to the 2005 Winston-Salem FirstFest Swapfest Hamfest Computer and Electronics Fair (WSFFSHCEF).

A lot of folks came out, had a swell time, some stuff was bought and sold, and the club made a little bit of cash. Surprisingly, the weather was just misty, for the most part..... except several heard me wonder aloud if my feet were ever going to be warm and dry again (they are, thanks for asking!)

Now, if only I had known Hams were slacking off on eating donuts....

Hope to see you in JUNE for the "classic" hamfest, over at the fairgrounds. Although it isn't a "lock," we're already setting our sights on NEXT JANUARY. Before that, even, there is a really well-founded rumor that there might be something afoot for October!

*Thanks,
"73" de Tom N4IOZ*



License Exams

The Forsyth Amateur Radio Club continues to offer license exam sessions on the FIRST Saturday of EVERY month at the American Red Cross Chapter House, 690 Coliseum Drive, in Winston Salem. More details inside this Newsletter on page 2.

Club Meeting, Monday, February 14, 2005

We will meet, as usual, on the 2nd Monday of the month at 690 Coliseum Drive in the Red Cross Building at 7:30 PM sharp in Room 09, but come early, say, 7:00-ish, to "hob-nob" with your fellow hams. This month the program will be about the Military Affliiate Radio Service aka MARS.

Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc is a non-profit (IRS 501(c)3) North Carolina corporation for the promotion of Amateur Radio, and for the education and training of hams and the general public primarily in Forsyth County, North Carolina.

FARC was originally incorporated as the Winston-Salem Radio Club on December 31, 1930 and has been in operation ever since. We currently maintain a state-of-the-art ham station in the basement of the Red Cross, 690 Coliseum Dr., Winston-Salem, NC and also maintain two 2-meter repeaters, 146.64 (100 Hz tone) and 145.47 (100 Hz tone).

FARC has a general membership meeting with a program on the 2nd Monday of every month at the Red Cross building, 690 Coliseum Drive in Winston-Salem. The club conducts its main business meeting (sometimes called the Board Meeting) on the 3rd Monday generally at the same location. This is where most of the club's business is conducted and all attending members have a vote. All club members are strongly encouraged to attend the business meeting. For more information about FARC mail us at FARC, Inc., PO Box 11361, Winston-Salem, NC, 27116; call 336-723-7388; or visit our web site at www.w4nc.com. Club email is to w4nc@triad.rr.com.

Officers for 2005 are:

President: Tom Gallagher, N4IOZ
n4ioz@triad.rr.com

Vice-President: Melissa Hall, W4RXG
mhall@triad.rr.com

Secretary: Robert Whitaker, KG4NEP
kg4nep@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO
henry@summitschool.com

Newsletter Editor: Don Edwards, WS4NC
ws4nc@arrl.net

To join our list server send a blank email to
w4nc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

All content is Copyright 2005 by Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc, unless otherwise noted. Permission is given to reproduce for non-commercial purposes provided proper credit is given. If you would like to help support the newsletter with an ad, please contact Don Edwards (email: ws4nc@arrl.net). Ad deadlines are 7 days before the end of the month. Rates are \$50 for 12 months. *Cheap!*

We trade newsletters with other clubs, and many local clubs are on our mailing list. If your club has a newsletter and would like to trade please send us a copy.

Calls Heard (@ the January Meeting)

2005 got off to a roaring start (in spite of the dead bands) with a great crowd at the January meeting! Logged in were Dan, KG4ECI; Steven, KG4JWU; Henry, W2DZO; David, N5WNB; Fred, WB4QXG (in cognito); Carl, N4PAA; Tink, W4DCW; Melissa, W4RXG; Don, WS4NC; Jeff, AC4YN; Tom, N4IOZ; John, N0KTY; Cedric, WB4ZWS; Dick, W4UW; Wally, K4UAS; Benny, REACT; Rick, N4MBI; Robert, KG4NEP with Alexis and Alex; Donald, KT4KV; Jim, WA4NOT; Tim, AG4RZ; Gene, WB4MSG; Van, KC4WSK; Woody, KF4PLQ; and Brownny, KG4FNN. Also present was a wide-eyed young visitor, Lydia and her father, who toured W4NC and were invited to WS4NC for the next weekend's NAQP operation.

Messages from MARS

Not the planet!

The program for the February meeting will be Gary Howell, AAT4CH, who is a member of N.C. Army MARS. Gary will explain what MARS is all about. It should be an interesting program and we look forward to seeing you at the Red Cross Chapter House on Feb. 14.

The March meeting will be representatives from the Winston-Salem Wing of the Civil Air Patrol. They will put on a demonstration for us.

73s, Melissa Leonrd Hall W4RXG

Vice President

Communications Headquarters - SK

This is an excerpt from an email from WB2RHM:

"There was an article in the Nov 2004 issue of the SERA Journal stating that CH had moved to a new address, had a new phone number, and were in the process of getting a new web site. All references to their old address, phone number, or web pages would lead to 'addressee unknown', 'number disconnected' or 'page not found'."

Today, Tom Nicholls (W4NCU) and I called SERA to ask about their story and to ask for a phone number or address for the 'new' Communication Headquarters. We were told, by the SERA person, that after 45 days at their 'new' location, CH permanently went out of business with no intention of resuming business again."

Ben Antanaitis - WB2RHM

News from Raja in Kuwait!

Raja has started a blog (that's a web-log for those that don't know - it's like a personal journal - but everyone can read it). It is called "Tales from the Sand" and is available at this address:

<http://desertmedicine.blog.com/>

It is great reading and a source of inspiration. Raja can also read comments (as can anyone else) that you leave on the site. While I can't publish it, I have Raja's real mail address for anyone who would like to send real, genuine mail or a package.

License Exams

The Forsyth Amateur Radio Club continues to offer license exam sessions on the FIRST Saturday of EVERY month (includes holidays!) at the American Red Cross Chapter House, 690 Coliseum Drive, in Winston Salem. This is across the parking lot from the Arts Council Theater ("Little Theater"). Examinees need: Photo ID, ORIGINAL and COPY of all documents (License, CSCEs, anything else submitted for exam credit), Social Security Number, and fee of \$12. Registration begins at 8:30 AM. Exams begin at 9:00. Please arrive before 9:00 because if you aren't there we might leave!

Grady White - SK

Published in the Winston-Salem Journal on 1/27/2005:

Grady Calvin White

Mr. Grady Calvin White, 77, died Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2005. He was born Aug. 14, 1927, in Forsyth County, the son of Calvin M. and Fannie (Whittington) White. Mr. White had served in the Army National Guard and as a reservist for the U.S. Army for more than 11 years. He retired from Lucent Technologies, formerly Western Electric and AT&T after 42 years with the federal-systems division. Mr. White was a member of Mineral Springs Baptist Church, American Red Cross and I.O.O.F. lodge of Winston-Salem. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Helen S. White of Winston-Salem; son Michael G. and wife Lisa White; granddaughter, Michelle White; and grandson, Jack White, all of Lexington, S.C.; and brother, David White of Pfafftown. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28, 2005, at Hayworth-Miller Silas Creek Chapel. Burial will be at Forsyth Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 7 to 9 tonight at the chapel. Memorials may be made to the American Red Cross, Northwest North Carolina Chapter, 690 Coliseum Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27106.

"Please, No Slashed Zeros"

By Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL HQ
(From the PVRC Newsletter)

Folks, please do not use the "cute" character that you think makes the number Zero in a call look like a "slashed zero". They two characters are not the same and are not interchangeable. Computers read them as two separate things, which means they get sorted and stored as a different call and may get overlooked. If you can, please help spread this to other reflectors and newsletters. It will help us serve you better.

[Editor's note Dan is not referring to the TrueType fonts that many of us use in Windows applications to make zeros more readable on the screen, but to the ASCII slashed-zero character that can be produced under DOS by pressing the ALT key and entering a character number from the numeric keypad. Apparently some people have been using these in their Cabrillo logs, and messing them up in the process. You really have to go out of your way to substitute these characters for the regular ASCII zeros, and Dan's point is simple please don't!]

Sunami Halts DX Operation on Remote Indian Island

From QRZ.com

An article in Sunday's Washinton Post, page D01 describes how long time World DXer Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI just happened to be in the middle of a DX-pedition to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands when the devastating tsunami hit the area.

The article's headline reads Wave of Destruction, Wave of Salvation - Ham Radio Operator on a Chance Visit to a Remote Indian Island Becomes a Lifeline

By Rama Lakshmi
Special to The Washington Post
Sunday, January 2, 2005
PORT BLAIR, India

The story tells how Prasad was at first knocked off the air by widespread power outages only to get back on from the hotel lawn under portable generator power. Improvising and finding some means to get on the air has long been the hallmark of ham radio operators helping during disasters. At this point she was no longer a DX-pedition but rather an important emergency communications resource for an area devastated and left with no power, no phone, and no water.

Quoting from the Washington Post's story, "On Monday morning, she marched into the district commissioner's office and offered her services. 'What is a ham?' he asked her. After she explained, he let her set up a radio station in his office, and a second one on Car Nicobar, the island hit hardest."

Prasad and the other DX-pedition operators have been on the air handling health and welfare traffic for both the residents and also on behalf of foreign tourists that were on vacation there when the tsunami hit the area.

She is credited with being the hub for relief communications among officials. At first contact with her husband, home in New Dehli, he wanted her to come home. She was quoted by the Post as saying, "I told him that as a ham radio operator, I have a duty in times of disaster."

To operate away from their home station, hams in India must go through an elaborate bureaucratic process to get permission. Now she hopes her work in the aftermath of the tsunami will ease the path for other hams in India.

Here is an online link to the complete story, although you will have to go through a simple "register" page to see the story if not already registered with the paper.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A41861-2005Jan2.html>

*Rayford Machen KV4K
Port Orchard, WA*

FCC Chairman Powell Resigns

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 21, 2005--FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell [announced](#) today that he'll step down, effective "sometime in March." Powell's resignation comes just one day after President George W. Bush's inauguration for a second term in the White House. Nominated by former President Bill Clinton, Powell--whose father is Secretary of State Colin Powell--joined the FCC in 1997. He became its chairman



FCC Chairman Michael Powell announced he will resign in March. The big question to most hams is how will his replacement respond to BPL?

two days after President Bush was sworn in for his first term in 2001. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, called Powell's performance "a deep disappointment" after some initial optimism. While the League is not unhappy about Powell's departure--especially given his unabashed cheerleading on behalf of the FCC's broadband over power line (BPL) initiative--there's also concern about whom President Bush might call upon to replace him.

"It's no secret that we thought Chairman Powell was going entirely in the wrong direction on BPL and dragging the other commissioners and FCC staff along--willing or not--because he was, after all, the chairman," Sumner said. "A new chairman might be a chance for a fresh start."

Last October when the FCC adopted new Part 15 rules for BPL, Powell called it "a banner day." While conceding that BPL will affect some spectrum users, including "all those wonderful Amateur Radio operators out there," the chairman implied that the FCC must balance the benefits of BPL against the relative value of other licensed services.

Powell listed the Commission's adoption of BPL rules among the "[policy highlights](#)" of his tenure. "Broadband to power plugs would lower prices, expand deployment," the chairman's list of accomplishments asserts.

Possibilities to replace Powell include the other Republican members of the five-member FCC--Kathleen Q. Abernathy, a staunch BPL supporter, and Kevin J. Martin. Speculation also has been raised about various candidates outside the commissioners. "We look forward to the opportunity to work with the new chairman, whoever that may be," Sumner said.

Powell, in his announcement, said it was "with a mixture of pride and regret" that he informed the president of his decision to step down.

"Having completed a bold and aggressive agenda, it is time for me to pursue other opportunities and let someone else take the reins of the agency," he said. "During my tenure, we worked to get the law right in order to stimulate innovative technology that puts more power in the hands of the American people, giving them greater choices that enrich their lives."

The chairman said the seeds of the Commission's policies under his leadership "are taking firm root in the marketplace and are starting to blossom." He cited the increased use of

Powell - continued from Page 4

cell phones, digital TV and other digital technology "increasingly connected anytime, anywhere by a wide variety of broadband networks."

"Our children will inherit this exciting future," Powell proclaimed, adding that he looks forward to spending some time with his wife and two sons "before taking up my next challenge."

As FCC chairman, Powell also has been in the forefront of enforcing the Commission's rules on indecency, largely through imposing huge fines on violators. He also supported changes in media ownership rules that permitted even greater concentration in the ownership of broadcasting outlets.

Powell's formal resignation announcement followed widespread reports in the media that he would be leaving. *Communications Daily* said the chairman's last day would be March 10.

The Newsletter Hamfest:

House for Sale (with towers!):

934 Franklin Street 3br/2ba, with wired shop outside, patio, hot tub, remodeled kitchen & both baths 50' and 60' towers negotiable. \$149,500. Convenient downtown location in historic West Salem.

Henry, W2DZO 336-761-8223



If walls could talk! Lots of ham history happened here at 934 Franklin St. It will be missed by all who visited. But it can be yours and continue that fine ham tradition. The towers and antenna are negotiable along with a fine "kiva" for the ham equipment.

TOWERS & HARDLINE

Fifteen sections, total 150 feet with 12 inch face looks like Rohn BDX but is guyed tower. Very good shape no rust. Base section has flanges with 7/16-inch holes for J-bolts to mount. Top section has nice heavy plate with hole thru middle. Guy points are made into appropriate sections. I think it is a Trylon tower but I am not sure. Asking \$650.00. Rohn 25G: Four 10-foot sections. Good and straight. No rust. Seven 10-foot sections, good, straight, very lite surface rust. Two 10-foot sections damaged. Would make fine base section. One 8-foot top section, good condition Asking \$500.00.

Rohn 6N, three 20' sections 4-foot face. Very good condition. One 18-foot section. Had to be cut off for removal! Otherwise in excellent

shape. Top section has a platform. You could mount other tower like 25-45G in top to extend height. This is a very strong (BIG!) tower. It was used for small doppler radar. Perfect for large array like 80m beam. Asking \$1,500.00.

I also have several pieces of hard line I have taken down. 7/8-inch, 1-1/4-inch and 1-5/8-inch diameter. It is in lengths over 200' some 275'. I also have the connectors. Every piece will be checked with the TDR before I sale it. Im looking to sell it, not get rich off of it. \$0.75-1.50 per foot by size.

I also have hardline connectors from \$20.00 - \$75.00 by size. If you should wonder why you should use hardline - just checkout the db loss per 100' compared to RG-213.

If you're interested you can reach me by e-mail or or call!! Delivery can be arranged within 50 miles or so. But pick-up is desired!

KG4NEP, Robert L. Whitaker Jr.
336-997-6896
kg4nep@yahoo.com

Hi, I am looking for a used hand held transceiver that works good. There may be someone in the club that is selling one.

Gail, 725-3499

Equipment for Sale: Ten-Tec 227 antenna tuner; Bird Wattmeter; MFJ 949C antenna tuner; Swan WM-1500 wattmeter; Ten-Tec keyer paddle; A&A Engineering 20-meter QRP transceiver; B&W 550A coax switch, Small Wonder Labs 40-meter QRP transceiver w/ audio amp; Vibroplex Bug No. 168864; Heil Operator headset; Astron RS-35M Power Supply; The Morse Machine MM-3 w/book and pwr supply; QRP or FD padded carrying case; Mirage B1016 2-meter amplifier (10 in - 160 out); Micronta multimeter; various coax cables w/ connectors installed; Vibroplex Bug no 171146; MFJ paddle and keyer model 422B-X; MFJ Versa Tuner III model 962B w/ manual; Micronta battery tester; the Power Station (portable 12-V gel cell); Ten-Tec model PM1 transceiver; Hobbico expanded-scale voltmeter for batteries; Lafayette Dyna-Com 23 handheld CB; CW audio filter; Heathkit VTVM; AEA PK-88 Packet controller; Zenith video cassette recorder; JVC Phono turntable; Brother electronic typewriter; 3-element Hygain 10, 15 and 20-meter Beam; 4-element 10-meter beam, 8 or 10-element longjohn wide-spaced 2-meter beam; 435-mHz beam; Butternut 4BTV 10, 15, 20 and 40-meter vertical; Ten-Tec Omni 6 HF rig; Icom IC251A all-mode 2-meter transceiver; Ten-Tec Scout with plugins for 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 meter bands; and 2 TV antennas.

Val Valentine, K4JO, Heritage Woods, 3812 Forestgate Dr., Winston-Salem, NC 27103 336-768-4469

Upcoming Hamfests

Feb TBD	Richmond, VA
March 6	Kinston, NC
March 12-13	Charlotte, NC
April 17	Raleigh
May 20-22	Dayton, Ohio
May 21	Williamston,
May 28*	Durham, NC
June 11	Winston-Salem, the BIG June Hamfest
June 25-26	Field Day

* Date is not confirmed. List is courtesy of the SERA Repeater Journal.

ARES Net

Just a reminder, please join us on the Forsyth County Ares Net Thursday evenings at 8:30 p.m. on the W4NC repeater, frequency 145.47 Mhz.

73, John, N0KTY

Forsyth Emergency Coordinator

Jan 6 2005 Net Report

Net started 8:30 PM local - N4PAA Carl was net control. Check-ins - 11. Stations were KI4FCP Jack, K4GHS Den, WD4DLP Darrin, KG4FGC Ken with WF4DD (WFU Club), KG4NTB Gary, NA4P Fred, WB4QXG Fred, KC4WSK Van, WA4NOT Jim and N4PAA Carl.

Announcements - 1. KG4FGC reminded the net of the impending cold front passage that evening which did produce some damaging weather later that night.

Traffic - 0.

There was no EC present, so the meeting was limited to dates for the Spring MS Walk - April 16th, comments of the FARC Swapfest and the dates of local Hamfests. Formal net was 13 minutes, informal was 7 minutes: total time was 20 minutes.

N4PAA - Carl

Jan 20, 2005 Net Report

Net started at 8:30 PM - N4PAA was net control. Check ins - 9. Stations checking in were KG4FGC Ken with WF4DD, the WFU Club station, N0KTY John, KG4NTB Gary, KE4JHJ Dave, WA4NOT Jim, KF4EOD Mike, WB4QXG Fred and N4PAA Carl.

There were no announcements and no traffic.

Both N0KTY John and KE4JHJ Dave took part in the ARES meeting, with the main topic being the predicted winter storm for the weekend. We were reminded to take the necessary steps to be ready for whatever weather came our way.

Formal Session duration - 15 minutes.

Informal Session duration - 5 minutes.

During the informal session I found out that the "carrier only" station during the regular net check ins was WB4QXG Fred. His rig doesn't work on high power, and he accidentally had it set to 'high'. KF4EOD also checked in during the informal session.

N4PAA Carl

Help with an Old Radio?

Tom Gallagher received the following email: "I got your name and email address from the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club website, in hopes that you can direct me to someone who may be able to help with repairing an old 'tube' radio. The radio is an early 1950's Opus Telefunkun radio with reception for many international bands. It worked fine up to some years ago, but since will not turn on, or give any indication that it has power.

My research through the yellow pages and Internet has not turned up anybody locally who repairs such radios. The appearance of this radio is excellent, and I would very much like to have it operating again. Any help in referring me would be most appreciated."

Thank you,

Dennis Newman

caljrn@triad.rr.com

760-3320 (home - nights)

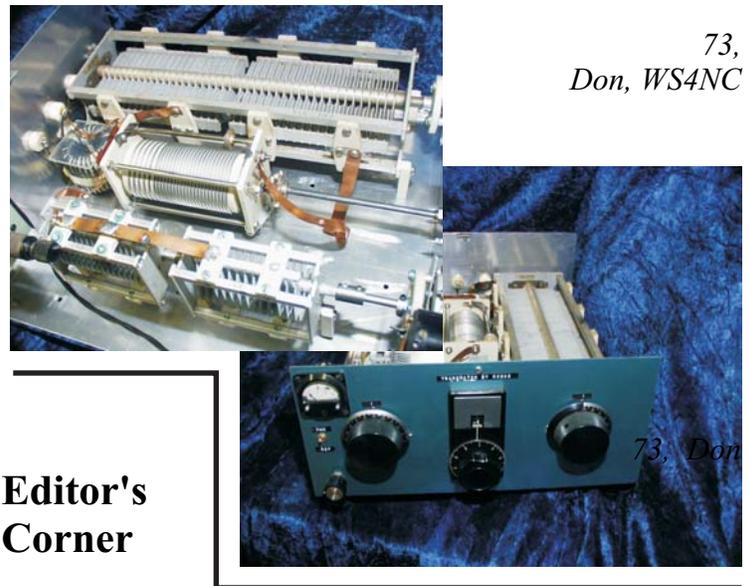
747-7001 (day -work)

Hey! Go build something!

This month I'd like to show off someone else's handiwork. Last June at the "Classic" Winston-Salem Hamfest I saw a home-built Trans-Match sitting on one of the tables on Friday night. It received a number of covetous looks from many hams. The next morning I cornered the owner as he walked into the building.

This month I want to show off the talented handiwork of Wally, K4UAS. The pictures below really don't do justice to the workmanship. The cover is removed to show the inside. All the components are top notch. The coil is silver-plated. And the balun, which I'm sure Wally made, has three toroids instead of the usual 2 for more power handling. The capacitors have National velvet-vernier drives and they move like silk. Needless to say this is a keeper. I left my other tuner with the W4WS station - but this baby is staying home with me.

Thanks Wally. I'll be sure to give it a very good home.



73,
Don, WS4NC

73, *Don*

Editor's Corner

How about sending Nan-Nook (aka Raymond, WX4NCC) an email. His email address is boredcat@cdeg.net - I'm sure he'd like to hear some news from the sunny south. And Raymond, how about some pictures from the frozen tundra?

I'm still playing with the layout of the Newsletter some. This may be it's final form. Or not. For information to make it into the Newsletter, I need submissions no later than the morning of the 4th Monday of the month. Email me at ws4nc@arrl.net with any submissions. Just plain text is all that's required, most formatting will be redone to match the Newsletter's form anyway. Pictures can be most any form, but jpg's are probably best. Pictures need to be of the highest resolution possible.

Renewal Time - 2005!

Thanks to all who sent in renewal forms. Just in case you missed it or forgot here's the form again. (And this way I also don't have to come up with another page for the Newsletter.) If you received this by US Mail then your expiration date is listed on the other side of this page in your address just to the left of your call. If you do not want your phone numbers published in the club directory please put an X after the number. It's as easy as counting to 5!

1

Call: _____ Over 65? Y N

Name: _____ Call _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State & Zip: _____

Home#: _____ ()

Work#: _____ ()

Cell#: _____ ()

Email: _____ ()

Member ARRL? Yes No

4

Main Members Dues	\$ _____
Over 65 or Student = \$12, Under 65 = \$24	
Family Members @ ½ Price	\$ _____
(\$6 or \$12)	
Donation	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

5

**Mail this page
along with a check to:**

**Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
PO Box 11361
Winston-Salem, NC 27116-1361
336-723-7388**

2 Do you want your Newsletter by:

email USMail Both
(Email saves us money! USMail is expensive!)

3

Other family members who are also hams can be full members of FARC for ½ the Main Members dues (covers 1 or more - same price) provided only on newsletter is mailed by USMAIL (email is OK).

Other family members who are hams:

#1. Call _____ Name _____
email _____

#2. Call _____ Name _____
email _____

#3. Call _____ Name _____
email _____



Don't let this be you! All this poor Ham did was forget to renew his FARC Dues.

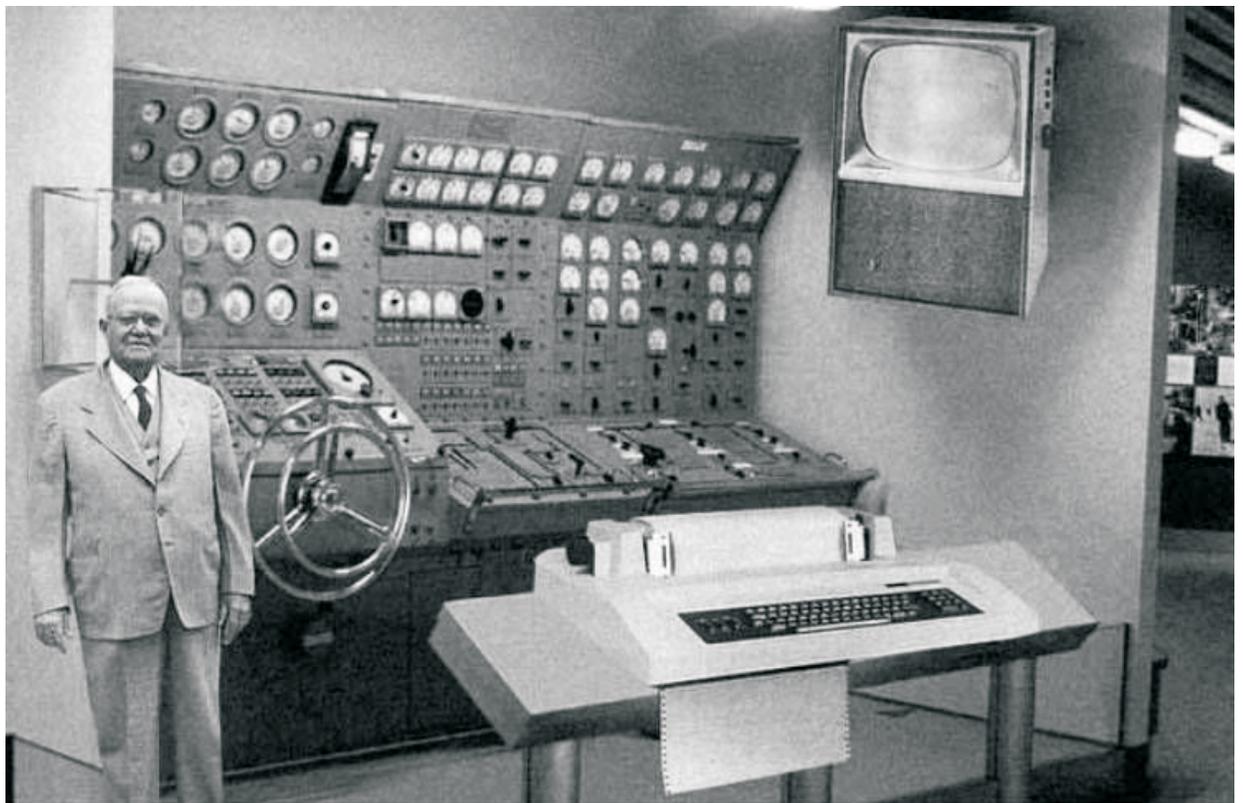
Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
PO Box 11361
Winston-Salem, NC 27106-1361
336-723-7388

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Moment of Zen

Thanks to both Hal Garrison, W4RNU, and to Melissa Hall, W4RXG who both forwarded this to me.

I want to know what the BIG wheel is for. If you look closely there's not just one, but two big wheels. I guess that replaces the mouse. From Popular Mechanics in 1954.



Scientists from the RAND Corporation have created this model to illustrate how a "home computer" could look like in the year 2004. However the needed technology will not be economically feasible for the average home. Also the scientists readily admit that the computer will require not yet invented technology to actually work, but 50 years from now scientific progress is expected to solve these problems. With teletype interface and the Fortran language, the computer will be easy to use.