



Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Newsletter



Founded December 30, 1930

February, 2006

New SERA Journal Editors

Congrats are in order for fellow FARCer Tom Gallagher N4IOZ and YL Jean Marie Gallagher KI4DDC on their being named co-editors-in-chief of the Southeastern Repeater Association Journal. Hats off to the two of you!

HELP!

We are going to be visited by a gaggle of Cub Scouts at our next Club meeting. We will need a couple of volunteers to meet at the Red Cross at 6 PM to operate the Club station and give the Cubs a tour. Avoid the rush and volunteer before I call you!

January Winston-Salem Hamfest

It was a cold and frosty morning . . . And this years January Hamfest was another winner. Below are some photos of the fun.



THE 2006 NC QSO PARTY

The NCQSO Party sponsored by FARC is February 26. Please help out this year by operating. Full rules and details are on page 4.

More about our 75th Birthday Party

Soapbox comments from those who worked W4NC:

"Happy 75th" Mike Hess N3EAQ

"Many thanks for the contact on your Special Event Station. I look forward to your card and certificate. I would like to wish all of you the very best 2006 and beyond." Larry Dubois, VE6LMD

"Great signal into New Jersey. Congratulations on your 75th anniversary in a great hobby." John Nashmy, Sr., N2EVD

"Congratulations on 75 years! It was great fun to work Gary on 40 meters. Thanks for putting forth this effort. See you at "FirstFest" on January 7th." John Covington, W4CC

"Best wishes to the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club on it 75th anniversary." Andy Forsyth, AF3I

"Congratulations on your anniversary. Keep up the good work." C.J. Wolff, W7CJW

"Thanks for the Special Event contact." Don Gillette, WN4DEM

"Congratulations on your 75th anniversary." Mike Shaffer, KB3MMI

"Good luck with the Special Event." Dave Samsell, W3LOW

"Pleased to meet you, Austin. Best wishes for another 75 years for the club" Rich Weil, KWØU

Continued at the top of next page

HAMFEST! SATURDAY, JUNE 10

Club Meeting, Monday February 13, 2006

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.

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 2006 are:

President: Don Edwards, WS4NC
w4nc@arrl.net

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

Secretary: Megan Hardy, KI4KNM
medik286@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO
henry@summitschool.com

Newsletter Editor: Don Edwards, WS4NC
w4nc@arrl.net

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

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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.

Special Event, continued from Page 1

"Thanks for the contact and congrats on the 75th anniversary of the club. Best of health and ham radio on 2006." Bob Carr, K2DNU

"Hi Ed, Happy 75th birthday to Forsyth FARC. Thanks for the QSO." Mike Kassner, KD7WTO

"Thanks for the nice QSO when you were having your Special Event. Best wishes." Bill Tise, W4TXL

"Good luck on next 75 years." Mike Stone, KE5FNU

"Mini tnx, Tim! Congrats on 75 yrs for your club there! Happy Holidays! Agnes Reynolds, NA3H

"Congratulations!" Ed Eichhorn, KA2DIT

"Tim, hope your Special Event went well." Rich Embleton, KB3DAI

"Tim, congratulations on 75 years of the W4NC station. Good luck on the event." Jim Bowen, WA1PWK

"Thanks for the QSO from your SE Station 75th anniversary of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club. Happy Holidays!" Jim Jirousek, KCØRPC

"Tnx Ed for the contact during your Special Event 75th birthday of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club. Hope to work you again." Bob Booe, WBØFKS

"Tks for the contact on your club 75th birthday. Merry Christmas to everyone." Spencer Blackburn, W4RJR

"Happy 75th birthday to your club!" Roger Kofler, K7DDG

"Congrats on the 75 years. Hope the event went well." Dave Catalano, N8KQS

"Tnx for a QSO from the 75th birthday of the F.A.R.C." Rich Slutz, KB8GAE

"Tnx for the contact Tim. Hope u had fun. CU agn. All the very best." Neil Vince, KA7JAS

"Glad to QSO and QSL your 75th birthday FARC." Dick Utter, KC2CN

"Congratulations on 75 years." Bob Busch, WD4BKD

Submitted by Ed Swiderski, KU4BP

ALINGO Radios
APP Anderson Power Products
KMA ANTENNAS
Radio & Electronics, LLC dBj Jamestown, NC
CommScope Coax Cable
OPEIK
www.dbjre.com
dBj Radio & Electronics, LLC
404 Edwards Place
Jamestown, NC 27282
336-430-9087
"For all your radio, cable & accessory needs" **secure credit card transaction**

Mileposts from Club Members

Corrected from last month! Robert, KG4NEP: Good job Robert, KG4NEP for finishing 2nd in USA in WPX SSB 3.7 Mhz. Points 485,688; QSO's 696; WPX's 354.# 1 in USA was ahead of him by 300,000 points and #3 was behind him by about 325,000 points. (hey - I can't even remember my own call - Ed.)

Gary Carter, WA4IAM

Rumor has it that Gary has acquired a Raytheon RA-250 AM broadcast transmitter. (I haven't seen photographic evidence yet, but then Gary did ask me to take photos. Unfortunately I wasn't available on the Saturday it was moved, so I guess it's my fault. - Ed.)

From the Winston-Salem Journal, Monday January 26, 2006:

The Forsyth Amateur Radio Club recently recognized several radio amateurs for their activities:

Brian Mahan, 10, of Winston-Salem won the annual electronic-project competition sponsored by the club. The contest included entries from all ages and was judged by the members of the club. Brian has completed one stage of a receiver under the supervision of his father, Mike Mahan, KB4WJA, and is now completing the project on his own. He is a fourth-grader at Our Lady of Mercy School.

Ed Swiderski, KU4BP, of Winston-Salem was one of the people honored for operating station W4NC on the 75th anniversary of the Winston-Salem Amateur Radio Club, which was the direct precursor of the club.

Tim King, AG4RZ, and Gene Bowman, WB4MSG, both of Pfafftown, were cited for their work on a special antenna project. The antenna was designed and built in response to a request by Lt. Cmdr. Arjun Chatterjee, KB6MTH, and was deployed in support of medical-evacuation operations in the Persian Gulf Region.

Van Key, KC4WSK, of Tobaccoville was recognized as the Radio Amateur of the Year. In addition to being on the club's board of directors, he also uses his amateur radio skills as a volunteer in the disaster-relief unit of the Men's Ministries of the N.C. Baptist State Convention.

The club's officers for 2006 are Don Edwards, WS4NC, president; Melissa Leonard Hall, W4RXG, vice president; Megan Hardy, KI4KNM, secretary; and Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO, treasurer.

AT W4WS

The contesting group's (our sub-Club?) contest station located at Robert's, KG4NEP QTH took a beating during January's winds. A big (24-inch diameter) tree fell across the one of the guys on the 75-foot tower holding up the 40-meter beam. Fortunately, it hit close to the anchor point so the tower did not come down. However, there is some damage to the tower. Also one of the elements on the 40-meter antenna was bent. The rest of the antennas fared much better, which used to mean that they basically aren't high enough or big enough.

Short Circuits:

Hamfest Sanctions

Thanks to Tom Gallagher's 3 emails with Gail Ianonne of the ARRL, all the forthcoming three FARC Hamfests (June, October, and January) have received sanction approval from Roanoke Director Bodson (three emails). Tom thanked her (three emails) and she said "your welcome" (three emails) - for a grand total email count of nine between Gail and Tom and probably six or nine more between her and Dennis.

No trees were killed in this process, however a large number of electrons were terribly inconvenienced.

Field Day Arrangements

Arrangements for Hobby Park are done and paid courtesy of our Club Treasurer, Henry, W2DZO.

June Hamfest

Once again the night before our June 10 Hamfest, June 9th is fireworks at the warthogs game. Those of us helping to set up will get a treat again. Please note - that we can NOT get the building until 8 PM that Friday because it is being used for another event.

Elkin Hamfest

The Elkin Hamfest as such will not take place, but there will instead be a tailgate at the Elkin Airport on Saturday, February 25th. The airport is 1.7 miles east of I-77 on CC Camp Road (Exit 85).

Sauratown Mtn. Webcams

This morning I was sent the link to this site - Triad Haze Cam. There are two real-time cameras are on top of Sauratown Mt. in Stokes Co. There are two views - one of the Blue Ridge Mts. and the other of Pilot Mt. Be sure to toggle "on" the landmarks. Enjoy! Derek, WF4I

You might be a Ham if . . .

You know you're a ham when you cringe at the thought of spending \$100 dollars to buy an antenna but will spend \$150 to build it yourself. *Ed KU4BP*

QSL Card Checking

KU4BP can check cards for the following: WAS, 5BWAS, WAZ, CQDX and Worked all NC.

The Newsletter Hamfest

Thirty-year collection of QST. Excellent condition, by Wally Bernath, 336-725-0176. Located at 158 Buckingham Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27104-4118

MFJ-259 Antenna Analyzer with manual and AC wall cube. \$175 or BO. Ed KU4BP

Dell Computers: At the next meeting I'll have about 10 Dell Dimension 600Mhz towers with 128MB of ram/keyboard/mouse- no monitors- win2K OS (you'll probably want to re-load them with your choice of OS)-Super cheap to good homes. 73, Henry W2DZO

More Newsletter Hamfest on page 4

Model Trains? Any model train related items that are taking up space and looking for a new home? Brandy and I have recently become interested in model railroading, and are building a small layout here at home. If you have any model train stuff you want to part with, let me know....Thanks!!! *Tim King,AG4RZ*

FOR SALE (Call John Huffman at 725-3432 if interested.)

TRANSMITTER TUBES:

- (2) 866 mercury vapor rectifiers
- (1) 813 with socket
- (1) 304-TL with socket and filament transformer
- (1) 304-TL
- (10) JAN 1625

FILTER (choke) made by Collins Radio Co.

Inductance 4. hy, at 0.3 ampere, (max.)
 Part No. 678-0008-00;
 also 6317-D metal-stamped on case.
 SIZE: 4 1/2" x 4" x 5 1/2" Weight: 5.0 pounds.
 MOUNTING CTRS: 4 3/4" x 2 1/2"
 Two mounting flanges, 3 holes in each flange.

Upcoming Hamfests

The **ELKIN Hamfest**, Feb 25--- It will be at the ELKIN air port ---- I-77 N, Exit 84 east on cc camp rd. It will be 1.7 miles on right side

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 EC

FCAN Report Jan. 19, 2006

Net started at 8:30 PM. Net Control station - N4PAA.
 Check-ins: 6. Stations were KG4ECI Dan, KG4FGC Ken, N0KTY John, KD4WNU Josh, KG4JWU Steven and N4PAA Carl.

There was no traffic or announcements.
 The ARES meeting was conducted by N0KTY John. He reminded us that while we were currently enjoying spring in the middle of January that we need to remember it really is the winter season. We should be prepared for the usual winter events like ice storms, etc.

Formal session - 8 minutes. Informal session - 4 minutes. Total time - 12 minutes.

N4PAA, Carl

FCAN Report Jan. 10, 2006

Net started at 8:30 PM. Net Control station - N4PAA.
 Check-ins: 9. Stations were KG4ECI Dan, KF4EOD Mike, WB9SZL Dale, WO8L Rick, KS4YN Terri, KK4KK Pete, K4GHS Ben, K3AEB Kelly and N4PAA Carl.

There was no traffic or announcements.

No EC was available for the ARES meeting. The predicted high wind and rain for the coming weekend was mentioned, and participants were reminded to keep their gear in good order and their auxiliary power sources ready to go.

Formal session - 10 minutes. Informal session - 8 minutes. Total time - 18 minutes.

N4PAA, Carl

THE 2006 NC QSO PARTY

Time/Date: 1700 UTC Feb.26 through 0300 UTC Feb.27 (10 hours)

OBJECT: Out of State stations work as many NC stations as you can. You may work stations once per each band/mode combination for QSO points. Work NC mobiles again as they change counties for QSO points.

NC fixed stations work as many NC counties, States, Canadian provinces and DXCC countries as you can.

NC mobile stations work from as many NC counties to as many NC counties, States, Canadian provinces and DXCC countries as possible.

EXCHANGE: Callsign, QTH (NC county, State, Canadian province or DXCC country)- Use of 59 or 599 is optional and will not influence your score! Be sure to stick to the official county abbreviations downloadable below.

SUGGESTED FREQS: CW - 3.540, 3.740, 7.040, 7.140, 14.040, 21.040, 21.140, 28.040, 28.140; PHONE - 3.860, 7.260, 14.260, 21.360, 28.360. No 160, 6 or 2 meter QSO's for QSO party credit. ALL CW CONTACTS MUST TAKE PLACE IN THE CW PORTION OF EACH BAND! 100 Watt power limit for all QSOS.

LOGGING: Logs must be kept showing Sent UTC, Band, Mode, Sent County/QTH, Call worked, Rcvd County/QTH, Points and New Multiplier #. Number each new multiplier as worked. IN-STATE PARTICIPANTS- ONLY 1 DXCC MULTIPLIER IS ALLOWED. DO NOT COUNT YOUR OWN COUNTRY or North Carolina FOR MULT CREDIT. For example, You may work EA1XXX for a multiplier, but you may not claim anymore DX mults after that one. You may still work DX for QSO credit. NC mobiles please keep logs in order of NC county worked from. Summary sheet and multiplier list available for download below. SUMMARY SHEET WITH CATEGORY MUST BE SENT WITH EMAIL OR PAPER LOG SUBMISSION. Any requests, questions or comments please contact Henry- W2DZO at henry@summitschool.com.

SCORING: QSO - 2 points for each Phone QSO, 3 points for each CW QSO, 3 points for each NC mobile (either mode and again as they change counties, only once per county). Multipliers - NC stations multiply QSO points by total of different NC counties, states, Canadian provinces and 1 multiplier for working at least one DXCC country. Out-of-state stations multiply QSO points by total number of different NC counties worked(max 100). Bonus - 50 points each for working Cherokee (Mountains) OR Dare (Coastal) counties; 150 POINTS FOR WORKING BOTH. 50 points each for working W4NC OR W4WS; 150 POINTS FOR BOTH. NC mobiles add 100 bonus points for each county from where at least one QSO was worked.

Add bonus points after all calculations.

AWARD CATEGORIES - Plaques will be given for first place in the following 9 categories. Certificates will be issued to state/regional winners, and 2nd/3rd place at the discretion of the Contest Committee.

SINGLE OP/IN STATE - Fixed operating location.

MOBILE/IN STATE - Operation from a motor vehicle capable of transmission while moving.

CLUB/IN STATE - At least two operators using A VALID FCC ISSUED CLUB CALL. Club competition must have only one transmitted signal at a time, no band change limit. We hope to generate more club operation, hence promoting amateur radio as a group organization.

SINGLE OP/IN STATE/QRP - Single operator using no more than 5 watts.

SINGLE OP/OUT OF STATE - As above

MOBILE/OUT OF STATE - As above

CLUB/OUT OF STATE - As above

SINGLE OP/OUT OF STATE/QRP - As above

MOST NC MULTIPLIERS - The station, in state or out, with the most NC counties contacted.

Members of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club may participate for the Club award only.

LOGS: Logs and summary sheets must be postmarked by April 1, 2006 to NC QSO PARTY c/o Henry Heidtmann W2DZO, 8812 Merry Hill Court, Clemmons, NC 27012. Results will be posted on the FARC website by May 15. Logs may be emailed to henry@summitschool.com. Entry MUST include full log and a summary sheet stating

Renewal Time - 2005!

Yes - it's that wonderful time again - time to renewal your FARC dues.

\$24 a year for regular - \$12 a year for over 65 or student.

Call: _____ Over 65? () Y () N

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State & Zip: _____

Home#: _____ ()

Work#: _____ ()

Cell#: _____ ()

Email: _____ ()

Do you want your Newsletter by:

() email () USMail () Both

Other family members who are also hams can be full members of FARC for 1/2 the Main Members dues (covers 1 or more - same price) provided only one newsletter is mailed.

Other family members who are hams:

#1. Call _____ Name _____

email _____

#2. Call _____ Name _____

email _____

#3. Call _____ Name _____

email _____

NC-QSO Party Rules, Continued from page 4

call, category, claimed score with bonuses. Logs should be in any standard logger format, including Cabrillo. You may download the summary sheet below and mail it, or simply open it in a text editor, fill it in and rename it yourcall.sum and attach it in the email. Be sure to attach your log (as yourcall.log) and summary (yourcall.sum)- do not place the log or summary in the body of the email. Be sure your category is marked clearly on both the summary sheet and log!

NCQP NOW FULLY SUPPORTED BY WRITELOG!

CHECK OUT NEW NC QSO PARTY SOFTWARE AT

WWW.N3FJP.COM

Help us continue to make the 2006 North Carolina QSO Party one of the most exciting state QSO parties on the air!

From the W4CC's ARRL Monthly News

In my columns I have discussed many facets of Amateur Radio, but there are two which are most responsible for the general public's awareness of us: antennas and disaster communications. While antennas are a sore subject for some, our role as backup communicators has time and again proven important to our communities.

Hurricanes and ice storms are the largest (but not the only) hazards we face in North Carolina. The ice storms in December 2002 and February 2003 caused power outages for well over a million people, myself included, for many days.

Hurricane Isabel caused power outages for many weeks for those in the northeast part of the state. Hurricane Ivan caused flooding and landslides in the west. No part of our state is immune from severe weather.

Are you ready? To answer yes, you must make sure that:

1. You are personally prepared for disaster.
2. You have regular contact with your county ARES EC.
3. You and your EC have identified specifically how you can help.
4. You have prepared to do so.

All of the items on the list are dependent on the first. Even those who are well-prepared for disaster can't anticipate everything; and if you have not prepared at all, then chances are you will not be able to help with Amateur Radio communications, you will be dealing with personal issues instead.

I like to be prepared for disasters for three reasons: so I am as safe and comfortable as possible, not a burden on relief efforts, and able to help with disaster communications if we are needed.

I have more information on personal disaster preparedness in an article I recently revised:

<http://www.ncarrl.org/ares/prepare.html>

Regular contact with your county EC is important also. How often is regular? Well, certainly often enough that he would remember who you are. Registering for ARES once and never following up means you are out of the picture pretty soon. At the very least, as an ARES volunteer you are expected to contact your EC at least once a year, let him know the status of your station, and exchange contact information (which changes more rapidly than ever these days).

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

W4CC's Monthly ARRL Section Report, Continued

The better your EC knows you, the better you both will be able to determine where you fit in. Your interests, capabilities and availability will change over time - this will affect where you fit in, so keep your EC posted.

Disaster communications is not limited to shelter and EOC deployment, there are lots of ways to serve before, during and after a disaster activation. For example, hams who work in public safety are otherwise deployed during a disaster, but can help with equipment maintenance, training or other "before" tasks. If your home station can operate during a disaster, you can serve as a net control without leaving your home. The possibilities are too numerous to list here, but keep in mind that almost everyone has something to contribute.

Once you have identified how you can help, make sure you have prepared to do so (especially if it is a "during" task). If something happened NOW, do you know how quickly you could be ready to go? Test your equipment periodically. Participate in drills and training so you will know what to do. If you are in charge of making coffee, then clean the coffee pot!

Even after all this preparation, there will be some disasters for which we are simply not needed. Remember that we are a backup communications resource, and if regular communications continues to work, our deployment may be brief or not at all. This will be a disappointment once your adrenaline gets going, but if it happens accept it with grace and leave a good impression behind. Keep in mind that this is presently the most positive manner in which the general public is exposed to what we do - make sure you are a good ambassador for Amateur Radio. We don't really train for this, but probably should.

Silent Keys: Don Coeyman, W4RRK of Greensboro; Joseph Homovec, WA4ENZ of Raleigh; and Monroe Kennedy, WB4VKK of High Point.

Upcoming Hamfest: Charlotte, Saturday and Sunday, March 11-12. A gun show in the building next door bought out the parking lot, so parking is FREE this year! There will be an ARRL booth and forums, and lots of other things to do. I hope to see you there.

The NC QSO Party will be on February 26th. More info can be found at: <http://www.w4nc.com>

*ARRL North Carolina Section
Section Manager: John M. C Covington, W4CC*

Editor's Corner

For information to make it into the Newsletter, I 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.

73, Don, WS4NC

Moment of Zen

Voices from Heaven Department

In an MSNBC article called: Particle Beam Weapons Almost Ready for Battle

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/10805240/page/2/>

"By tuning the resonance of a laser onto Earth's ionosphere, you can create audible frequencies. Like some boom box in the sky, the laser-produced voice could bellow from above down to the target below: "Put down your weapons."