

Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Newsletter



Founded December 30, 1930

April & May, 2006

Oh baby, it's cold outside!

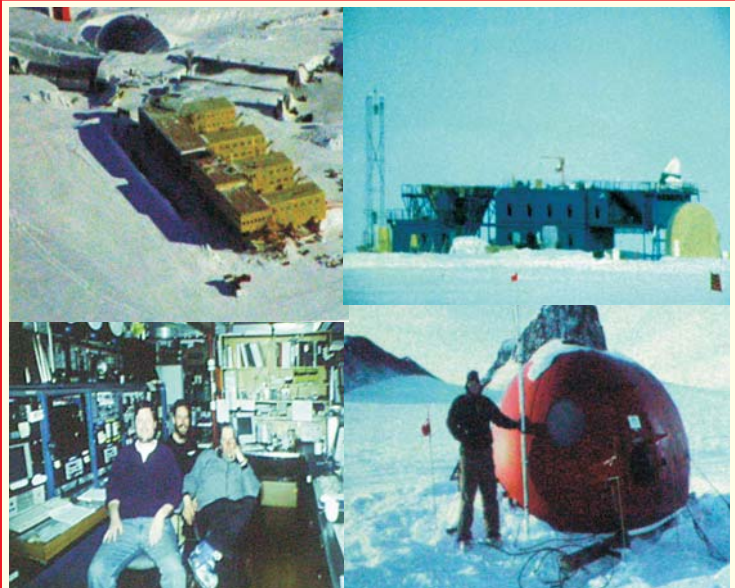
David McDonald presented a captivating program on life at the South Pole. He brought lots of pictures and even the south pole itself. Ok it was a replica of the brass marker, not the actual marker that is placed on the pole every year. Since Antarctica is mostly ice, especially at the south pole - the exact spot wanders from year-to-year.



A select few are allowed to winter-over at the pole. The main purpose is for research. David was one of those few, and lived a ham's dream working with the communications systems. But if something goes wrong there isn't really a way out. During the winter this may be one of most isolated places on earth. It certainly is one of the coldest. A rare and hot summer day is about 7 degrees F, that's MINUS 13 degrees C. Average is about MINUS 57-degrees F. One advantage for a ham though is that it is easy to determine which way is north.



Front and back of the replica of the brass marker that was placed on the South Pole in 2000. On the back side are the signatures of those who wintered-over that season..



HF Antennas

- Rombics
- Conical MonoPoles
- Yagis
- G5RV
- Wide Band Folded Loop Dipole

Black Island

- McMurdo's Communications Hub
- HF Rx Antennas
- Satellite Link
- Sent Back to McM via Microwave

Top left: Admundson-Scott South Pole station, top right: South Pole Station, middle-left: the Comms Center where David worked, middle right: a warm-up shelter. Warm-up is a relative word - this is just to get out of the wind. Bottom left: Antennas in use at the South Pole. Bottom right: Black Island is the main communications link to McMurdo.

HAMFEST! SATURDAY, JUNE 10

Club Meeting, Monday May 8, 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
ws4nc@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
ws4nc@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.

SHORT CIRCUITS

THERE'S NO REASON FOR IT,

it's just our policy.

I saw this sign in a shop many years ago and thought this was funny. At least in concept. Anyone who has worked in a large corporation or served in the military knows the routine. Don't ask why, or you'll be sorry.

Well - at the Raleigh Hamfest I thought about this sign again. Raleigh did not seem well attended this year. There was much space left in the building without tables. Gas shock may have contributed to the poor attendance.

I was walking to one of the back doors with a large heavy box. My truck was on the other side of the door, not 20 feet away. I was accosted by one of the sponsoring club members and told that no one was allowed to go through the doors. Reasoning was useless. I had to carry 50 pounds about 400 feet to the front of the building, then over about 50 feet and then another 420 to get to my truck.

Enforcement of silly rules is not a hallmark of FARC Hamfests. We even help our vendors unload and reload. I wonder if that has something to do with why FARC Hamfests are growing?

DESERT DOCTOR

The Wednesday, April 26 Winston-Salem Journal had a nice article about our own Dr. Chattergee, AKA Raja, KB6MTH and his service at Camp Arifjan in Kuwait. Included with the article was a picture of Raja's wife, Dr. Aimee Watkin and 3-year old Alice (she's so cute!)

We are very proud of Raja and his service. The article was written by Melissa Hall, W4RXG.



Raja, KB6MTH taken at the MS-walk at the North Carolina Zoo. Raja helped out with the ARES communications during the walk.

THE 2006 NC QSO PARTY

The NC QSO party results are finalized. We had a record number of entries this year. The official announcement of winners will be made in next month's Newsletter. The main awards are being made and some will be presented in person at the Dayton Hamfest. Certificates will be mailed about the same time.



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March Meeting

At the March meeting we had a special program from Ron Bailey, AA4S. Ron runs CW-mobile and is very active in our NC QSO party. Not only can he run CW while driving, he also keeps two radios running. Wow!

Field Day Arrangements

Please mark your calendars for Field Day. It will be held again at Hobby Park. We always have a cookout for all the club members and families. June 24 and 25.

June Hamfest

June 9, the night before our June 10 Hamfest, is scheduled to be a 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.

Meeting Minutes

FARC - Club Meeting Minutes - March 13, 2006

Call to order at 7:35 PM.

Member greetings and misc. member requests.

A request was made by John Kippe, N0KTY for operators for an MS Walk on April 29, 2006, and for a bike rally on June 3. Contact John if interested in helping.

The initial program that was planned was canceled due to a sudden illness. We were fortunate enough to have new FARC member Ron Bailey, AA4S, give quite a spontaneous recap of his NC QSO Party adventures, complete with audio tape and a picture album of all 100 county-line markers in North Carolina. Well done, Ron!

Business Meeting

Education: The mislaid FARC disk has been recovered and Austin, KI4KNS is tentatively planning a Technician Training program for August/September.

Treasury: QSL cards have been ordered and paid, along with all other monthly bills. Expenses are within budget.

Hamfest: The Pfafftown site has been reserved for the October 14 Hamfest. The club will be able to gain access after 8 PM on October 13.

House committee: no new business.

The program for April has been planned. David McDonald will be talking about his time at the South Pole.

Several Club members will be making a trip to Maryland March 29 and 30 to participate in the multi-multi effort of WX3B.

Repeater updates: The controllers were swapped out on the 64 repeater. The receiver is not working properly on the 440 machine, but repairs are in the works.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

*Megan Hardy,
KI4KNM - Secretary*

FARC - Board Meeting - March 20, 2006

Call to order at 7:40.

We have received a letter calling for assistance from the New Orleans Radio Club. The letter and call for donations from individual club members will be presented at the April meeting.

The current membership list was discussed. Any conflicts with attending members were resolved.

Those people whose emails were being bounced have been removed from the email list and placed back on the US Mail list.

Treasury Report: The treasury is comfortably in the black.

Misc. News: An amateur radio club in Virginia is sponsoring a Special Event Weekend honoring the Blue Ridge Parkway in September. There will be 15 manned overlooks along the Parkway in Virginia and they are requesting assistance with manning the overlooks in NC. They will be using a special 1X1 call with designators for each overlook.

Hamfest: It was decided that the public will be allowed in the fleamarket area only at 6 AM. The building will not open until 8:00 AM. Building vendors will be allowed in the building after 8 PM on Friday and 6 AM on Saturday. A separate dealer ticket will be made to distinguish vendors from the general public. A flat fee of \$50 will apply to the food vendors.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

*Megan Hardy,
KI4KNM - Secretary*

Upcoming Hamfests & Other Ham Dates

May 6 - Upstate SC Hamfest, Spartenville, NC
May 13 - Rockingham Co. Hamfest, Eden, NC
May 13-14 East Carolina Antique Radio Club, Greenville, NC
May 19-21 - Dayton Hamfest, Dayton, OH
May 20 - Roanoke ARS Swap Fest, Williamston, NC
May 27 - Durham Hamfest, Durham, NC

June 3 - Atlanta RC Hamfest, Atlanta, GA
June 3 - Pig Pickin' / Tailgate, Franklin, VA
June 10 - Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest, Winston-Salem, NC
June 24-25 - ARRL Field Day

July 8 - Firecracker Hamfest, Salisbury, NC
July 15 - Midsummer Swapfest, Cary, NC
July 29 - WCARS Hamfest, Waynesville, NC

August 5 - Roanoke Valley Hamfest, (Vinton) Roanoke, VA
August 12 - 8th Annual CFARS Swapfest, Fayetteville, NC

September 2-3 - Shelby ARC Hamfest, Shelby, NC
September 16-17 - VA Wesleyan, Virginia Beach, VA

October 7* - York County Fairgrounds, Rock Hill, SC
October 14* - Watauga ARC Swapfest, Boone, NC
October 15* Hamfest, Maysville, NC
October 28* - Sumter ARC Hamfest/Computer Fair, Sumter, SC

November 11 BEACHFest, ARRL State Convention, Myrtle Beach, SC
November 19 - JARSFEST, at American Legion, Benson, NC

December 2 - Farmers Market GAARC Swapfest, Gastonia, NC

January 6 - Winston-Salem Firstfest, Winston-Salem, NC
January 13 - Greenwood ARS Hamfest, Greenwood, SC

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 March 9, 2006

Net started at 8:30 PM. Net Control station - N4PAA Carl

Check-ins: 14. Stations were K3AEB Kelly, KF4EOD Mike, KG4ECI Dan, K4GHS Ben, N0KTY John, N4MBI Rick, NA4P Fred, WF4DD Wake Forest Club, KG4JWU Steven, KC8OEX Terry, KI4KNS Austin, KI4KNM Megan, WD4DLP Darren and N4PAA Carl.

There was no traffic or announcements.

The ARES meeting was conducted by N0KTY John. There are two events that have requested communications assistance from ARES. The first event will be the MS Spring Walk, to be held on Saturday, April 29 at the Fourth of July Park in Kernersville. Details of this event were not available at this time. The MS folks have not finalized their plans for this new venue for the Spring Walk. The other event is a charity bicycle rally event to be held Saturday, June 3, mostly in Stokes County. A total of 13 operators will be needed to properly cover the event. Volunteers can contact John on the repeaters, by phone at 336-969-4461 or e-mail at fancie@alltel.net. John also pointed out that the weather is shifting more into the spring storm season, but not to count out a last winter storm yet.

Formal session - 16 minutes. Informal session - 14 minutes. Total time - 30 minutes.

N4PAA, Carl

FCAN Report March 16, 2006

Net started at 8:30 PM. Net Control station - N4PAA Carl

Check-ins: 8. Stations were K3AEB Kelly, KF4EOD Mike, KG4ECI Dan, W2DZO Henry, N0KTY John, KC8OEX Terry, WB4QXG Fred and N4PAA Carl.

There was no traffic or announcements.

The ARES meeting was conducted by N0KTY John. The list of Spring events requesting communications help is growing. The MS Society is having an event at the NC Zoo near Asheboro on April 1 that can use 4 operators. The local MS walk will be April 29 at the Fourth of July Park in Kernersville. This event needs 7 or 8 operators. The last event is a charity bicycle rally event to be held Saturday, June 3, mostly in Stokes County. A total of 13 operators will be needed to properly cover the event. Volunteers can contact John on the repeaters, by phone at 336-969-4461 or e-mail at fancie@alltel.net. John mentioned that the weather people were predicting a winter like mix of weather for this coming Monday and Tuesday, so remain ready for both winter storm events and spring storm events.

Formal session - 11 minutes. Informal session - 8 minutes. Total time - 19 minutes.

N4PAA, Carl

FCAN Report March 16, 2006

Net started at 8:30 PM. Net Control station - N4PAA Carl

Check-ins: 8. Stations were K3AEB Kelly, KF4EOD Mike, KG4ECI Dan, W2DZO Henry, N0KTY John, KC8OEX Terry, WB4QXG Fred and N4PAA Carl.

There was no traffic or announcements.

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Formal session - 11 minutes. Informal session - 8 minutes. Total time - 19 minutes.

N4PAA, Carl

FCAN Report March 30, 2006

Net started at 8:30 PM. Net Control station - KC8OEX Terry

Check-ins: 9. Stations were KG4ECI Dan, N0KTY John, KI4KNS Austin, N4PAA Carl, NA4P Fred, WF4DD WFU Club, KF4PLQ Woody, WS4NC Don and KC8OEX Terry.

There was no announcements. There was one piece of traffic, but the recipient station wasn't available.

The ARES meeting was conducted by N0KTY John. John announced that the MS Walk in Asheboro was covered for this weekend. Then he reminded us that the local MS walk will be April 29 at the Fourth of July Park in Kernersville. This event still needs 7 or 8 operators. The last event is a charity bicycle rally event to be held Saturday, June 3, mostly in Stokes County. A total of 13 operators will be needed to properly cover the event. Volunteers can contact John on the repeaters, by phone at 336-969-4461 or e-mail at fancie@alltel.net. Also, the spring storm season is with us again, and we should pay attention to forecasts of storm systems. This week marked the anniversaries of the two worst tornado outbreaks in North Carolina history, and this is a good record not to break.

Formal session - 13 minutes. Informal session - 10 minutes. Total time - 23 minutes.

N4PAA, Carl

FCAN Report April 6, 2006

Net started at 8:30 PM. Net Control station - N4PAA Carl.

Check-ins: 12. Stations were KG4ECI Dan, KI4AVJ Wayne, N0KTY John, KF4EOD Mike, KG4JWU Steven, KE4DTX James, NA4P Fred, WF4DD WFU Club, WB4QXG Fred, KC8OEX Terry, KG4FGC Ken and N4PAA Carl.

There was no announcements. There was one piece of traffic, exchanged between NA4P Fred and KG4FGC Ken concerning an informal update on required FEMA training for any amateur radio operator who plans on helping during a FEMA run disaster event - like Katrina last year.

The ARES meeting was conducted by N0KTY John. He reported that the MS event at the NC Zoo in Asheboro was well covered this past weekend and thanks were extended to those involved. He reminded us that the next local MS walk will be April 29 at the Fourth of July Park in Kernersville. This event still needs operators. The following event is a charity bicycle rally event to be held Saturday, June 3, mostly in Stokes County. A total of 13 operators will be needed to properly cover the event. Volunteers can contact John on the repeaters, by phone at 336-969-4461 or e-mail at fancie@alltel.net. John mentioned that we were lucky with the storms that passed through last Saturday morning, and to remain ready in case our luck runs out.

Formal session - 15 minutes. Informal session - 7 minutes. Total time - 22 minutes.

N4PAA, Carl

FCAN Report April 20, 2006

Net started at 8:30 PM. Net Control station - KC8OEX Terry

Check-ins: 14. Stations were KG4ECI Dan, KG4FGC Ken, WA4GTS Tom, KE4DTX James, KI4KNS Austin, N0KTY John, KG4NEP Robert, WS4NC Don, N4PAA Carl, NA4P Fred, WF4DD WFU Club, KI4KNM Megan, KF4QKR Mike and KC8OEX Terry.

There was no announcements. There was one piece of traffic, exchanged between NA4P Fred and KG4FGC Ken concerning an informal session on messages and their modes of transmission according to FEMA training.

The ARES meeting was conducted by N0KTY John. There is a state wide ARES meeting this weekend - details at www.wakeares.org and coinciding with the Raleigh Hamfest. He reminded us that the next local MS walk will be April 29 at the Fourth of July Park in Kernersville. The following event is a charity bicycle rally event to be held Saturday, June 3, mostly in Stokes County. A total of 13 operators will be needed to properly cover the event. Volunteers can contact John on the repeaters, by phone at 336-969-4461 or e-mail at fancie@alltel.net. John commented on how dry it has been and the outbreaks of wildfires. We should keep prepared for anything, just in case our assistance is requested for events like big fires on mountain land.

Formal session - 15 minutes. Informal session - 18 minutes. Total time - 33 minutes.

N4PAA, Carl

More Short Circuits -

KU4BP - rumor has it that Ed, KU4BP has fulfilled a 12-year goal. He has received his 5-Band DXCC Plaque on April 27. And along with it will be endorsement for 12 and 17 meters, so it's 7BDXCC! Way to go Ed.

Rockingham County Hamfest - Rockingham County will hold their 2nd annual Hamfest and Computer Show on May 13, 2006. They have a special webpage located on their Club Website with more information on the Hamfest and also a downloadable flyer and pre-registration information at

<http://www.rcarc.com/hamfest2006.html>

In short, this Hamfest will be held May 13, 2006 from 8:00AM to 3:00PM at the Liberty Baptist Church located just off Hwy 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There will be several main prizes lined up and working on a number of hourly prizes as well. Food will be served on location. We will offer both indoor and flea market area on a first come, first serve bases.

Norman Byerly, N4ANE - SK

It is with deep regret that we note the passing of Norm Byerly, N4ANE. Wayne was a saint of a person and will be missed by, but most especially by those in his family. Norm brought a warm grace to all whom he met and was an inspiration to everyone. The following obituary is reprinted from the Winston-Salem Journal.

Norman Creth Byerly

The Rev. Norman Creth Byerly, 83, of Winston-Salem passed away on Wednesday, March 15, 2006, at Forsyth Medical Center. He was born Aug. 28, 1922, in Forsyth County to Wiley C. and Catherine Nelligan Byerly. The Rev. Byerly was a member of Advent Moravian Church and served his country in the U.S. Army during World War II in the European Theater. He was a retired Moravian minister with 51 years of service, serving at Macedonia Moravian in Advance, Hopewell Moravian and Hope Moravian in Winston-Salem and Mount Bethel Moravian in Cana, Va. He also served as interim pastor at a number of other churches. After his retirement, he wrote a devotional book, *My Personal Devotions and Bible Guide*. His hobbies were woodworking and amateur radio. Surviving are his loving wife of 59 years, Helen C. Byerly, of the home; three sons, the Rev. Wayne Byerly and wife Pat of Bethania, the Rev. Tim Byerly and wife Wanda of Mount Airy and David Byerly and wife Gina of Pfafftown; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 18, at Advent Moravian Church, with the Right Rev. Lane Sapp and the Rev. Dan Conrad officiating. The Rev. Byerly will lie in repose at the church 30 minutes before the service. Burial will follow in the church graveyard. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. today, March 17, at Hayworth-Miller Silas Creek Chapel. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Advent Moravian Church, 1514 West Clemmons Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27127, or The Gideons International, P.O. Box 5811, Winston-Salem, NC 27113.

Published in the Winston-Salem Journal on 3/17/2006.

Editor's Corner

All for this month! See you Monday night.

73, Don, WS4NC

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MOMENT OF ZEN

A photo that Ed, KU4BP sent me. I'm not sure what year this is, but I guess it's about 5 or 6 years ago. Henry, W2DZO, Don, WS4NC (that's me!), Bill Patterson, KC4RGB, and Ed, KU4BP all waiting to go into the Dayton Hamfest. Dayton is May 19 through May 21 this year. Can't wait!

