



Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

# Newsletter



Founded December 30, 1930

September, 2006



## Scenes from Shelby Hamfest

The rain mostly held off this year - even though early in the week it didn't look promising. The clouds actually made it very comfortable. In the pictures, clockwise from top left: Tim King, AG4RZ shows off his hourly prize he won on Saturday, an Icom 2-meter rig. Please remember to give Tim all the, er, recognition, he deserves. In the

upper right is a beautiful late 1930's homebrew transmitter. A very nice job, I don't think there were any takers. In the lower right are a gaggle of 715 geiger counters left over from the cold war. The most sensitive scale on these is 0.5 rads/hr. If you get any reading at all - basically it means you are going to die. At the lower left new FARC members Dirk KI4PRS and Chad KI4OAX are taking refuge under our tarp for a short rest.

# HAMFEST! SATURDAY, OCT 14

## Club Meeting, Monday September 11, 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. Yes, there really will be a program this time.

**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](http://www.w4nc.com). Club email is to [w4nc@triad.rr.com](mailto:w4nc@triad.rr.com).

Officers for 2006 are:

President: Don Edwards, WS4NC  
[ws4nc@arrl.net](mailto:ws4nc@arrl.net)

Vice-President: Melissa Hall, W4RXG  
[mhall@triad.rr.com](mailto:mhall@triad.rr.com)

Secretary: Megan Hardy, KI4KNM  
[medik286@yahoo.com](mailto:medik286@yahoo.com)

Treasurer: Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO  
[henry@summitschool.com](mailto:henry@summitschool.com)

Newsletter Editor: Don Edwards, WS4NC  
[ws4nc@arrl.net](mailto:ws4nc@arrl.net)

**To join our list server send a blank email to  
[w4nc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:w4nc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)**

All content is Copyright 2006 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](mailto: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.

## Short Circuits

### Blue Ridge Parkway Radio event September 16th and 17th

At our June Meeting we hosted visitors from the Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club, Ray, AB4YZ, and Fred, K4HVB. Ray and Fred discussed the upcoming Blue Ridge Parkway event on September 16th and 17th, from 9AM to 5 PM both days. There will be 17 stations on the air on 40m at selected points along the Blue Ridge Parkway between mileposts 0 and 455.7. Eleven of those stations will be in VA, and the remaining 6 will be in NC. Participants are instructed to operate from their vehicles, as portable set-ups on Parkway property will not be allowed.

The plans are to have single vehicle radio stations at the following locations during the weekend:

Rockfish Gap, Natural Bridge, Apple Orchard Mt, Peaks of Otter, Explorer Park, Devils Backbone, Rocky Knob/Mabry Mill, Groundhog Mt, Fancy Gap, Blue Ridge Music Center, Cumberland Knob, Lynnville Falls, Mt. Pisgah, Cherokee.

W4NC has volunteered to man the Cumberland Knob site and the Linville Falls site. RVARC will be designing a special event QSL card for the event. A special certificate will be awarded for all 17 stations worked. Stations will maintain paper logs to be turned in to RVARC following the event. Contact Henry, W2DZO if you are interested in manning one of the stations.

### FARC at the Warthogs!

FARC was one of the public agencies set up at the Warthogs game. Unfortunately I didn't get a complete list of those who attended or any pictures. I know that Raja KB6MTH, Melissa W4RXG and Henry W2DZO were there and working a number of states and countries.

### Daniel Boone Days August 19, 2006

The Daniel Boone Family Festival is an annual event held in Mocksville, NC. FARC helped with the communications with N0KTY, WS4NC and WA4JZZ turning out among others. Jack, NW50 worked hard to make this event a success. Unfortunately I didn't take any pictures having left my camera in Winston. Doh!



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## Not exactly Ham Radio but . . .

Want to check up on the local traffic situation. The NC traffic cameras can be accessed on line at:

<http://www.ncdot.org/traffictravel/cameras/winston-salem.html>

Thanks to Raja for the tip.

## Oliver Heaviside

ARRL has a neat article, by James H. Seaton, W1FWE on the life and relationships of Oliver W. Heaviside during his life, in their [www.arrl.org/news/features/2006/08/03/1/](http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2006/08/03/1/) area. The article is called "**Oliver Heaviside: Someone We All Should Know**". Includes two photos, one graphic, his obit from *The London Times*, etc.

*John, W4IRE*

## Tower work anyone?

This is a commercial that features two tower workers. I haven't seen it on TV but I love the commercial.

[http://www.pockethercules.com/broadcast\\_detail16.html](http://www.pockethercules.com/broadcast_detail16.html)

## 145.47 Repeater

The 145.47 Sauratown Mountain repeater has not been feeling well this week. Dale took it down on Thursday, September 07 to look into it. In an email Dale tells us:

"It appears to have encountered some interference through the Receiver and was locked up in transmit mode.

"I hope to have the .47 machine restored in the 48-72 hours, but definitely prior to the Tour to Tanglewood this weekend. FYI - 146.64 is still up as an alternate repeater.

"If anyone has details on when (time) the repeater started to act up, please let me know."

*Dale, WB9SZL*

## Upcoming Hamfests & Other Ham Dates

September 16-17 - VA Wesleyan, Virginia Beach, VA

October 7\* - York County Fairgrounds, Rock Hill, SC

**October 14 - Pfafftown Hamfest**

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 - GreenwoodARS 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 - August 31, 2006

Net Started - 8:30 PM. Net Control - KG4ECI Dan.

Check-ins - 10. Stations were KG4FGC Ken, KE4DTX James, WA4NOT Jim, NA4P Fred, WF4DD WFU Club, N4PAA Carl, WB4QXG Fred, KC4WSK Van, KC8OEX Terry and KG4ECI Dan.

There were two announcements. KG4FGC Ken invited all to stay tuned for the WF4DD Club net that follows the ARES net at 9 PM or the end of this net, which ever is later. Then under his Skywarn EC hat, Ken announced there will be an Advanced Spotter training class at Fire Station #2 in Thomasville on Tuesday, September 26. It is on Highway 109 in Thomasville. More details and directions are on the [www.triadskywarn](http://www.triadskywarn.com) home page.

No EC was available for the ARES meeting.

Formal Session - 11 minutes. Informal Session - 7 minutes. Total Time - 18 minutes.

*N4PAA Carl*

FCAN - August 24, 2006

Net started at 8:30 PM. Net Control station - KG4ECI Dan.

Check-ins: 11. Stations were WA4NOT Jim, N4PAA Carl, NA4P Fred, N0KTY John, KC4WSK Van, NW4O Jack, KI4NHQ Karen, N4MBI Rick, KF4QKR Mike, WB4QXG Fred and KG4ECI Dan.

There was one announcement. NA4P Fred invited all to take part in the WF4DD Net which follows at 9 PM or the close of this ARES net.

N0KTY John handled the ARES meeting. There will be an event "Sunday at the Ballpark" where the EOC will have working groups of First Responders so the public can see what goes on during an emergency. John has volunteers to man an amateur radio station - meeting at 3 PM and manning the station from 4 PM until the event (ball game) is over. Also, John expects to have all the Tour to Tanglewood assignments finalized for the next net. Be sure to check in for your assignment.

Formal session - 14 minutes. Informal session - 5 minutes. Total time - 19 minutes.

*N4PAA Carl*

FCAN - August 17, 2006

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

Check-ins: 15. Stations were WX5AAA Raymond, KG4ECI Dan, KD4JZZ Phil, KG4JWU Steven, N0KTY John, K4GHS Ben, KG4FGC Ken, NA4P Fred, WF4DD WFU Club, NW4O Jack, WA8IHW (formerly KI4FCP) Jack, KI4NHP Boyce, KI4NHQ Karen, KK9DOG Gary and N4PAA Carl.

There was two announcements. NA4P Fred invited all to take part in the WF4DD Net which follows at 9 PM or the close of this ARES net. NW4O Jack mentioned that enough volunteers were signed up for the Boone Family Festival in Mocksville this Saturday, and he would be seeing them at 8 AM in the vicinity of the town square.

N0KTY John handled the ARES meeting. He mentioned the Mocksville event, and how its a good practice to help your neighboring counties so they are more likely to help us in a time of need. The Shelby Hamfest is September 2 and 3, and it is a good place to get anything needed for the next weekend at the Tour to Tanglewood, Sept. 9 and 10. He thanked the WF4DD group for the training sessions after our net.

Formal session - 16 minutes. Informal session - 10 minutes. Total time - 26 minutes.

*N4PAA Carl*

FCAN August 10, 2006

Net Started - 8:30 PM local. Net Control - N4PAA Carl  
Check-ins: 10. Stations were KG4FGC Ken, WF4DD WFU Club, K4GHS Ben, KG4JWU Steven, WA4NOT Jim, KC8OEX Terry, NA4P Fred, KG4ECI Dan, KF4EOD Mike and N4PAA Carl.  
There were two announcements. KC8OEX Terry informed us of a Skywarn Advanced Spotter Training Class that will be Tuesday, 08/29/06 at 7 PM - SKYWARN - at the Red Cross Building. - 511 W. Davie Street, Burlington. **Basic Spotter Training is a pre-requisite** to Advanced Spotter Training so if you have not had the Basic class, skip this class and find a Basic class first.  
NA4P Fred invited all to take part in the WF4DD net that follows the ARES net or 9:00 PM local, which ever is later.  
There was no EC present for the formal ARES meeting. N4PAA Carl reminded all of the Tour to Tanglewood event on Sept. 9 and 10. Volunteers are needed for both days.  
Formal Session - 12 minutes. Informal Session - 10 minutes. Total Time - 22 minutes.

*N4PAA Carl*

FCAN August 3, 2006

Net Started - 8:30 PM local time. Net Control - N4PAA Carl  
Check-ins: 8. Stations were KG4JWU Steven, KG4FGC Ken, KF4EOD Mike, NW4O Jack, NA4P Fred, WF4DD WFU Club, KC8OEX Terry and N4PAA Carl.  
There were two announcements. NA4P Fred invited all to stay for the WF4DD net that follows the ARES net or 9:00 PM local, which ever is later. NW4O Jack is seeking volunteers to help the Davie County ARES group provide communications between the Mocksville Chamber of Commerce officials running the Daniel Boone Family Festival. It will be Saturday, August 19 from about 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM. You can work a morning shift, afternoon shift, or all day. Contact Jack at [NW4O@arrl.net](mailto:NW4O@arrl.net) for details.  
There was no EC for the formal ARES meeting. N4PAA Carl reminded the net that the Tour to Tanglewood is September 9 and 10 and volunteers are still needed and welcome.  
Formal Session- 18 minutes. Informal Session- 11 minutes. Total time - 29 minutes.

*N4PAA Carl*

FCAN July 27, 2006

Net Started 8:30 PM local time. Net Control station - K3AEB Kelly.  
Check-ins - 16. Stations were KG4ECI Dan, K4GHS Ben, KG4FGC Ken, WF4DD WFU Club, KF4EOD Mike, N0KTY John, NW4O Pack, WB4QXG Fred, N4PAA Carl, KC8OEX Terry, KI4GIC Terrel, KE4DTX James, KG4JWU Steven, W4EVA Joe, N4SEW Ann and K3AEB Kelly.  
There were two announcements. NW4O Jack requested volunteers to help the Davie County ARES group with the communications at the Daniel Boone Family Festival in Mocksville on Saturday, Aug. 19. KG4FGC Ken invited us to join the WF4DD net that follows the ARES net at 9:00 PM or the conclusion of the net.  
N0KTY John presided over the ARES meeting. The Tour to Tanglewood is September 9 and 10. Volunteers are still needed. John pointed out the storms lately have been very local in their destructive nature; with a town like Walnut Cove being essentially shut down by a storm that didn't bother the surrounding communities. We need to be ready for anything, just in case we are called on to operate from shelters, etc, for a small area.  
Formal session - 22 minutes. Informal session - 9 minutes. Total time - 31 minutes.

*N4PAA Carl*

## Meeting Minutes

### FARC - Club Meeting Minutes- 14AUG06 Megan Hardy- KI4KNM - Secretary

Call to order at 7:36.

Member Greetings and Announcements

Henry has two dozen 200-300 MB hard drives that need good homes. Contact Henry if interested.

Kelly is looking for an antenna for indoor HF use, and also needs information regarding the requirements for obtaining a MARS license.

Jack provided information about the 250th Daniel Boone Anniversary Family Festival to be held Aug. 19th in Mocksville. He needed one operator for half a day. John Kipee volunteered.

John Kipee needs volunteers for the Tour to Tanglewood, Sept. 9th and 10th. Contact Kipee if available.

Phil let us know that Raymond Taber, WX5AAA, is back in the area after leaving the Gulf Coast and is hoping to begin attending club meetings soon.

'Pitch in to Prepare' night with the Winston Salem Warthogs will be Aug. 27th. Report time is 3:00 for those that are signed up to assist.

W4NC received a highway sign trailer as a donation by James, KE4DTX. The club hopes to recondition the trailer and put it to use as a base for a mobile antenna.

Program - Dick Genaille - "The Effect of Acid Rain on Antennas" Very informative, Dick. Well Done!

Business - Treasury Report - The treasury is well into the black and the club in within budget.. We are within \$72.00 of where we were this time last year.

Technical Committee - 64 and 47 are both up and running. 64 had a loose connector that has since been repaired. 440 is a work in progress, however it is difficult because of the lack of a manual or any technical assistance.

Education Committee - Austin is working on adjusting things for the new material.

House Committee - No new news.

We were informed that there will be a program next month, however, as seems to be Melissa's custom, the contents remain a surprise.

One note was added prior to adjournment - Kipee is requesting assistance operating at Linville Falls during the Blue Ridge Bonanza on Sept 16th and 17th. Contact John Kipee if available.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23.

**Board Meeting Minutes - 21AUG06  
Megan Hardy - KI4KNM - Secretary**

Call to order at 7:20.

The Pfafftown Hamfest will be held on Oct.14, 2006, and the ad has been placed in SERA.

A postcard mailing will go out prior to the Hamfest.

'Pitch in to Prepare' will be held at the Winston Salem Warthogs game on Sunday, Aug. 27. Flier for the Hamfest will be distributed at the game. Operators are to report at 3:00.

Programs - Gary Carter will present on German broadcast television during WWII, either in September or October.

W4NC received a request for a link exchange on our web site from USRepeaters.com. A vote was put to the board, and the request was granted.

The Blue Ridge Bonanza will be held Sept 16 and 17. Everything has been organized and settled for this event.

The Tour to Tanglewood will be held Sept. 9 and 10. We have enough operators to cover both days, as long as no one encounters conflicts. The Greensboro club is putting operators in the SAG wagons and W4NC is providing operators for the tour officials and rest stops.

Don has in his possession a substantial amount of "junk" that he will be auctioning on eBay. The proceeds will be split with the club, and anything not won will be sold at the Pfafftown Hamfest.

W4NC has received a highway sign trailer as a donation. The trailer is currently at Robert's, and when reconditioned, will work great for a 30ft antenna. It needs to be stripped and painted, and the board discussed several different routes to go about having this done.

The topic of new officers for next year was brought up. Some of our current officers are serving their second consecutive term, the limit with W4NC. Henry will head up the nominating committee and chose Dan, Melissa, Austin, and Megan to serve on the committee with him.

Diamondback Grille has been secured for the holiday party, which will be on the second Monday in December.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10.

*Megan Hardy - KI4KNM - Secretary*

**Excerpt from August ARRL Monthly NC Section News**

Checking into our section nets and handling traffic is fun and helps prepare you for the next emergency. In addition to the many local VHF/UHF nets, there are seven HF nets to choose from and all welcome newcomers:

- 7:45am, 3.926MHz: Carolina Morning Net (SSB)
- 6:30pm, 3.923MHz: North Carolina Evening Net (SSB)
- 7:00pm, 3.573MHz: Carolinas Net - Early (CW -- 20-22wpm)

- 7:00pm, 3.908MHz: Coastal Carolina Net (SSB)
- 7:30pm, 3.923MHz: Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES Net -- SSB)
- 8:00pm, 3.695MHz: Carolinas Slow Net (CW, 8-10wpm)
- 10:00pm, 3.573MHz: Carolinas Net -- Late (CW, 15-18wpm)

With all those choices why not try at least one? With little or no traffic handling experience you can still partake in the excitement and learn how to take and pass traffic from some of the best in the state. It is very worth while and easy to learn as well. There are no tests, just check in and listen, or just listen for a few nights and check in when you feel comfortable. I would also like to thank all the net regulars that are there every day and night passing traffic on one of the many state nets.

**UPCOMING PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS**

- October 7 & 8: 2006 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test
- October 21 & 22: Scouting Jamboree On-The-Air

*ARRL North Carolina Section  
Section Manager: Tim B. Slay, N4IB  
[n4ib@arrl.org](mailto:n4ib@arrl.org)*

**Heard on the air . . .**

My better half and I were sitting in the living room and I said to her, "Just so you know, I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

So, she got up, unplugged the ham rig and threw out all my beer.

**Late-Breaking News  
2006 CQWW VHF - All Final 3830 Claimed Scores**

NOTE: This list is NOT a list of submitted logs received by the contest sponsor. It is based solely on the claimed scores posted to the 3830 reflector via the web forms available at the 3830 Score Web Page shown below.

**All Hilltopper QRP**

Call	QSOs	Mults	hr	Score	Club
KF0Q	188	92	5:59	19,044	Northern Lights Radio
KV1J	116	61	6	7,198	YCCC
<b>KU4BP/4</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5,454</b>	<b>Carolina DX Assn</b>
K4JSI	49	39	6	2,379	
NOJK	3	3	2	9	

Looks like Ed, KU4BP is looking very good - the results will not be announced for some yet though.

**Editor's Corner**

That's all for this month. You know - I would be *thrilled* if someone would submit an article for the newsletter. The close is usually the week with the last day of month.

*73, Don, WS4NC*

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Winston-Salem, NC 27106-1361  
336-723-7388

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## **MOMENT OF ZEN**

This is an undated photo of antenna work taken from the top of the World Trade Center North Tower obviously before 9/11.

