



Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Newsletter



Founded December 30, 1930

January, 2007

January 6 Hamfest

This Saturday January 6 is our "FirstFest" in the parking lot at Summit School. Summit School is on Reynolda Road about a mile east from the Wake Forest Campus. Bring some warm clothes and some tailgating goodies and join us for a fun time. No tables or chairs are supplied so bring your own. We will have nice hot coffee.

FARC "Ham of the Year"

There is one person who is always at as many FARC events as possible. He has served as a past officer of the club, has been a very active person in ARES and can be counted on whenever needed. When ARES was activated this past year for the tragic events involving the two lost boys in Stokes County he was the first to be on the road. I think he has participated in just about every ARES event and I know he has been at every FARC event unless he had to work. (There's that pesky thing in the "Amateur's Code" about not letting ham radio interfere with work and family responsibilities.)

The Ham of the Year has become a recognition awarded by the Club President, although I think that the President should ask for input from others. Since it's inception in the early 1980's it has gone to a distinguished group of hams. In looking back on the last several years and making a list of who was active not just with FARC but also ARES and other amateur events there was one name that was almost always on the list. Dan O'Leary KG4ECI is always available when needed, is always cheerful and is a great person to work with and was awarded the Amateur of the Year award for 2006. Please remember to congratulate Dan when you hear him on the air or see him at the next event.



A smiling Dan O'Leary KG4ECI receives the 2006 "Amateur of the Year" Award.

Thanks to 2006 VP Melissa Hall W4RXG



Vice President Melissa Hall, W4RXG completed her 2nd year as VP and is not returning for 2007. Melissa is also an Assistant NC Public Information Officer for the ARRL and works as a reporter for the Winston-Salem Journal. She is a great asset to the Winston-Salem Journal and has also served both ARRL and FARC very well over the last two years. I especially want to thank Melissa for all her help and work as my VP for 2006. At the December Dinner Meeting I could think of no better thank-you for her service than a fedora with a "Press Card" on it. I had no idea how hard it was going to be to actually find a fedora. Apparently they are making a comeback among a part of the 16-20-something crowd. Who knew? It looks good on her.

Of course past officers are ex-officio members of the "board" and are strongly encouraged to attend business meetings on the third Monday of the month. [Hint hint Melissa.] One thing that Melissa failed to do this year (and I think she can be forgiven for not doing this) was to shoot an attorney in the face while hunting quail. Apparently that is legal only in Texas. Austin KI4KNS was elected in October as VP, Megan KI4--- will be continuing as secretary, as will Henry W2DZO as treasurer.



From this year's dinner. Clockwise from top left: Alice (I'm so cute it hurts!) Chatterjee, James N4HCJ, Henry N4VHK, 'fedoras' Melissa W4RXG, Raja KB6MTH, Terry KC8OEX & Family, Woody KF4PLQ, Austin KI4TNS, Dick W4UW, Fred WB4QXG.

Club Meeting, Monday October 9, 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. The program Monday night will be Special Operations and Tactics Communications Chief Ed Warner.

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 2007 are:

President: Don Edwards, WS4NC
ws4nc@arrl.net

Vice-President: Austin Tindal, KI4KNS
ki4kns@w4nc.org

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**

All content is Copyright 2007 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.

REVIEW OF FARC IN 2006

At our December meeting I made a rundown of the highlights of 2006 for Forsyth Amateur Radio Club and I'm going to repeat this gist of it here. At the end of this month FARC turns 76. That is quite an accomplishment for any organization. There are a lot of people who have contributed to this successful year and I want to congratulate everyone in the Club for contributing to our successes.

December 2005

After months of planning FARC celebrates its 75th birthday with a special event station.

I would like to start off by extending a BIG thank you to all who helped make the W4NC 75th birthday special event station a success. Especially to Henry W2DZO and Gary WA4IAM for their efforts in putting on the vintage stations. Operators were: SSB: Dave, N5WNB; Tim, AG4RZ; Austin, KI4KNS and Ed, KU4BP. AM: Henry, W2DZO. CW: Gary, WA4IAM.

In 10 hours we logged 224 Q's on SSB and 1 on 2m FM. Total stats: 244 SSB, 12 CW, 7 AM, 1 FM, Total: 264 QSO's. eHam.net even posted a link to the newspaper article. We had a numbers of visitors, including one long-lost member from prior to WWII - Al Macklin, K4KKY (ex: W4GXT).

JANUARY, 2006

January 7, 2006 started as a cold morning - but turned into a beautiful day. And a beautiful January FARC hamfest. Our program for January was given by our returning "Desert Doctor" Raja who discussed his recent experiences in Kuwait as a Reserve Navy Doc. Our Special Club Status was renewed (thanks to W2DZO). The contesting group's station at Robert's KG4NEP took some damage from high winds, especially when a tree fell on the guy line of the 40-meter tower. Fortunately the tower stayed up. Victor, KE4EXQ graduated from NC State. In a serious departure of the editor's good taste the Newsletter ran a photo of a couple of "biker chicks". Apparently no one noticed. One of the highlights of the month's club meeting was the excellent refreshment goodies served up by Van KC4WSK - thanks Van.

FEBRUARY, 2006

Just before our club meeting W4NC was toured (mobbed might be a better word) by a throng of Cub Scouts. The program was a goodbye to and review of Western Union and a short DVD of their network system in the early 1950's. N0KTY won the prize, a beautiful brass



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compass, for getting the most answers right on the Western Union quiz. FARC members Tom N4IOZ and Marie KI4DDC Gallagher are named co-editors for the South-East Repeater Association Journal. N4IOZ also took care of making sure our next three hamfests received ARRL Sanction. Treasurer Henry W2DZO booked the Hobby Park for Field Day. Dale WB9SZL make some emergency repairs to 64's autopatch. The NC QSO Party was sponsored again by FARC and thanks to W2DZO's promotion efforts it had the highest participation in history. In the Winston-Salem Journal Brian Mahan was recognized as the winner of the 2005 Homebrew contest, with honorable mentions of KU4BP, AG4RZ and KC4WSK. Ed, KU4BP pointed out the "you know you're a ham if you cringe at spending \$100 for an antenna but will happily spend \$150 to build it yourself." W4WS scored 1.264 million points in the ARRL SSB Contest. Out of all of these accomplishments one of the highlights of the month was the refreshments served by KC4WSK at the February meeting - Thanks Van!

March, 2006

David McDonald N5WNB presented the monthly program on his time at the South Pole. And he brought the South Pole to prove it! At the club meeting a feeding frenzy took place when W2DZO brought about ten Dell computers and goodies to give away. W4UW is looking for his 160-meter transmitter from years ago. Sadly, Norm Byerly, N4ANE became a Silent Key. KG4NEP and WB4MSG were invited to contest at super-station WX3B. KU4BP received cards from countries 298 and 299. Once again Dale W9SZL gave the 64 repeater CPR. Don-Don KT4KB provided some fodder for the Newsletter with some military humor such as "Don't draw the enemy's fire - it annoys the people around you" and "Try to look unimportant - the enemy may be low on ammo." The real highlight of the month was unquestionably Van Key KC4WSK's refreshments provided at the Club meeting.

APRIL 2006

The monthly Club meeting was saved from a fate worse than death (another one of WS4NC's dreary 16-mm technical movies from the forties or fifties) by Ron Bailey AA4S who, showing up at the last minute, presented his experience running CW-mobile - with not one, but two radios. The April 26 Winston-Salem Journal ran an article on Club member Raja KB6MTH as "Desert Doctor". Several Club members including N0KTY attended a statewide ARES meeting. The ARES group also helped with an MS walk at the Fourth-of-July Park in Kernersville AND another MS Walk at the NC Zoo. FARC agreed to cooperate and participate with the Roanoke Amateur Radio Club in the Blue Ridge Parkway Special Event. KU4BP gets his coveted 5-Band DXCC award - with stickers for 12 and 17 meters. Sadly at the Club meeting we held a small auction for some equipment from the estate of Bruce Kerr, W4WFM-SK. One of the most appreciated things that happened that month were the refreshments served by Van, KC4WSK - Thanks Van!

MAY 2006

The monthly program was the planning for the upcoming 2006 FARC Classic Hamfest. The annual pilgrimage was made to Dayton by a big group of FARC members. Clyde Rakes WA4LRE donated his Rohn-45 tower - WS4NC added his Rohn-

45 Tower (in exchange for some Rohn-25). The contest group must be slipping - the planned-for Rohn-45 tower still isn't up at the W4WS site. Dale and others mounted a Dxpedition into the wilds of Stokes County to install a new antenna at the 47 site on Sauratown Mountain site. Treasurer W2DZO paid for our October hamfest site at Pfafftown. Sadly Cobalt's Bar and Restaurant (our after-meeting meeting place [and frequently our before-meeting meeting place]) closed. Assuaging our tears for Cobalt's however were the excellent refreshments served by Van KC4WSK at our monthly Club meeting.

June 2006

Our June program was given by Ray AB4YZ and Fred K4HUB from the Roanoke ARC on plans for the Blue Ridge Parkway Special Event. Of course June is also our annual Big Hamfest - the Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest - which went off without a hitch. Sadly FARC member Ernie AC4FG Brewer passed away in June, as did ED KU4BP Swiderski's dad who was also a ham. W4FDD (the Wake Forest ARC) starts holding nets just after the conclusion of the ARES net on 145.47. ARES supports the 3-Mountain Madness - an MS bike ride. Dale and others are back at the '64 site again applying Band-Aids and ointments to our aging repeater. The last full weekend in June is Field Day and we hold our festivities again at Hobby Park. Megan and Austin (the KI4 - group) make a big hit with their map at Field Day. Cobalt's reopens as Chrome (a biker bar?!) - and is essentially the same place with different people - so we go back to holding our after-meeting meetings there. In a month full of many FARC events one of the highlights was the refreshment served by Van KC4WSK at the Club meeting. Great job - Van.

July 2006

For our program this month we have the DVD of the K3AW Antenna program. It is a little long for a club program but it provides some great insight into how antennas really work. The front page of the Newsletter is a reprint of the Biloxi-Sun Herald with club member Raymond Taber WX5AAA featured. James KE4DTX arranges for us to receive a trailer donated by the state for use as a mobile tower. KU4BP pulls off a great showing in the CQWW VHF contest. W4WS and Robert KG4NEP suffer some lightning damage. The "Moment of Zen" in the FARC newsletter is 'Kip' N0KTY sleeping at Field Day (again). Kippe overcomes his shame and embarrassment by partaking in some of the excellent goodies offered by our House Chairman Van KC4WSK at the July meeting. Great job - Van!

AUGUST 2006

Dick Genaille W4UW presents the monthly program on how acid rain affects antenna insulators. Henry W2DZO causes another feeding frenzy by bringing a big box of good hard drives for the needy. Apparently many in the Club were needy. Our foreign correspondent from Mocksville, Jack NW4O and others provide ARES support for the Daniel Boone Days in Mocksville. Kip N0KTY and Melissa W4RXG setup a booth presenting Ham Radio to the public at a Wart Hogs game. Serving the needy and hungry FARC members after the Club meeting was an excellent offering of refreshments by Van KC4WSK. Thanks Van.

September 2006

September and Labor Day means the Shelby Hamfest and a number of the members made the annual trek. Tim AG4RZ, Dirk KI4PRS and Chad KI4DAX are seen on the cover of the Newsletter resting from their efforts at finding good deals at Shelby. The 47 repeater goes down, no it's back on the air, no wait . . . it's down again, no it's back up, no . . . Dale WB9SZL is commuting frequently into the wilds of Stokes County working on the repeater. ARES was briefly activated to look for two missing Stokes County boys; Dan KG4ECI is on his way when word comes back that the boys have been found, unfortunately the boys had drowned. ARES is back supporting the Tour-To-Tanglewood, ARES Coordinator Kip N0KTY pulls out many hairs successfully working with ham groups in Forsyth, Guilford and surrounding counties to provide 45 hams for the event. The following weekend is the Blue Ridge Special Event where Henry W2DZO, Ron AB4S and Kip N0KTY provide the support promised by FARC. Another busy month for FARC but fortunately our very active members received sufficient sustenance early in the month because of the great goodies that House Chairman Van KC4WSK brought to the Club meeting.

October 2006

Our foreign correspondent in Reidsville, Gary Carter WA4IAM provided the monthly club program. He had a DVD that presented some recently found film footage used by pre-WWII German TV. Even more interesting than the technical details were the insights into German pre-war propaganda. We hold the 2nd Pfafftown Hamfest with a great turnout and at a great location. Yes, 145.47 has more problems causing more grief for Technical Chairman Dale WB9SZL. Local radio personality George Lee (Bowermaster) passed away. The Ham Radio Super Bowl, AKA CQWW-SSB *consumed* the contesting group; but they brought in another world class score. Such an effort would not have happened had it not been for the provisions made for our hungry and starving Club members by our House Chairman Van KC4WSK at the October meeting.

November 2006

The November club meeting is our "Homebrew Show-&-Tell". There were several great entries. I found Tink W4DCW Kanoy's RF-meter (used to zero carrier on older SSB rigs) to be really fascinating - because it was made aluminum salvaged from old transcription disks. Those were the BIG records that the radio industry used for networked programs in the old days before magnetic tape. Tim AG4RZ was back with several goodies, although less than he could have brought. That was probably because I pointed out in the Newsletter that Tim is always building things. That's not to make fun of Tim - that's to encourage everybody else to do likewise. But from the back of the pack comes new member James Kretschmar N4HCJ with a super classy audio amplifier made with classic 1625 tubes. Nice job. Sadly November notes the passing of Dave KE4JHJ Fleming's Dad. By November our members must have been tired out since there doesn't seem to be many other things going on in the FARC. It is to our great relief that long-suffering House Chairman Van Key KC4WSK provides another great supply of goodies and refreshments at the November meeting. Thanks Van.

December 2006

In December we also hold our Dinner Meeting. We have tried many places over the years - but haven't really found anything better than Diamondback Grill. For some reason there do not seem to be many restaurants in Winston-Salem that have adequate banquet rooms. Most we have tried are too big, too expensive, too small, too small *and noisy*, or too something. Although Diamondback is slightly expensive (there are reasonable sandwiches on the menu for those on a budget) it seems to be the very best place we have found that covers both ends of the price spectrum. If you want to go for a truly nice meal Diamondback is really the place, the quality of food is five star. It would have been nice though if Van KC4WSK had stepped up to the plate and paid the bill, but I guess we can forgive him this one month of the year. Seriously, Van I was not making fun, you have done a super job and I want to make sure it is acknowledged by everyone. Thanks for all your great efforts Van. And I think you have been voted House Chairman for life!

FARC Repeaters

At the November FARC board meeting we worked out a plan to transition to new equipment for all of our repeaters. The old Motorola units have served us well but it is time to move on. The plan at this point is to test the usability of new Yaesu transceivers. If the tests go well 145.47 will be shifted to new equipment first, probably sometime in February.

Lost and Found

John Kippe N0KTY is missing two headsets from field day. One is a Radio Shack pair and the other is a new Heil headset bought at this year's Dayton. It was a sad Kippe at CQWW this year without his headset. The thinking was that they had been packed away with the club gear from Field Day. All of that has been gone through and they didn't turn up. Please check your field day stuff and see if John's headsets were accidentally packed away with your stuff.

Small Rotor Wanted

Looking for a small rotor for 2 VHF/UHF beams. (11.3 ft and 28 ft. in length) Total weight of the two without the mast is 15 pounds. Combined windload is 2.63 sq. feet. Mast size will be 1.250"

Ed KU4BP

Cushcraft ARX-270 Ringo Ranger

Dick Genaille W4UW has a dual band 70cm/2M Ringo Ranger for sale. \$25.00 Call Dick at 765-4697.

Upcoming Hamfests & Other Ham Dates

January 6 - Winston-Salem Firstfest, Winston-Salem, NC

January 13 - Greenwood ARS Hamfest, Greenwood, SC

January 8 - FARC Club Meeting

January 15 FARC Business meeting

June 9 - Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest, Dixie Classic Fairgrounds, Winston-Salem, NC

Renewal Time - 2007!

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: _____

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State & Zip: _____

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Do you want your Newsletter by:

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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 _____

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

Forsyth County ARES Reports

November 2, 2006

Net started - 8:30 PM. Net Control - KG4ECI Dan. [Net on 146.64 due to failure of 145.47].

Check-ins - 8. Stations were K4GHS Ben, KG4FGC Ken, WF4DD WFU Club, KC8OEX Terry, KC4WSK Van, NA4P Fred, N4PAA Carl and KG4ECI Dan.

There was one announcement by KG4FGC Ken that the WF4DD net will be at 9 PM or immediately following this net on the 146.64 repeater this time.

No EC was available for the ARES meeting.

Formal Session - 10 minutes. Informal session - 5 minutes. Total time - 15 minutes.

November 9, 2006

Net started - 8:30 PM. Net Control - N4PAA Carl. [Net back on 145.47 after repairs.]

Check-ins - 13. Stations were KG4ECI Dan, K4GHS Ben, KG4FGC Ken, N0KTY John, KC8OEX Terry, NA4P Fred, WF4DD WFU Club, KI4PNL Shane, KC4WSK Van, KI4NHP Boyce, KI4NHQ Karen, KF4PLQ Woody and N4PAA Carl.

There were two announcements. KG4FGC Ken announced that two Skywarn basic spotter training courses will be held at the Forsyth Emergency Management building in Winston-Salem on Nov. 13th. The first class will be from 2 to 4 PM. The second class will be from 7 to 9 PM. The short notice is because the class did come about quite suddenly. NA4P Fred announced that the WF4DD net will be held at 9 PM or after this net on the 145.47 repeater.

N0KTY conducted the ARES meeting. He thanked the WF4DD organization for their training nets that are held following this ARES net and invited everyone to take

part in that net. He also reminded us that winter weather will be with us any time now and to keep our equipment ready to go in case of an activation. Formal Session - 15 minutes. Informal session - 3 minutes. Total time - 18 minutes.

November 30, 2006

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

Check-ins - 9. Stations were KG4FGC Ken, WF4DD WFU Club, KF4EOD Mike, WA4NOT Jim, N4PAA Carl, KC8OEX Terry, NA4P Fred, KF4PLQ Woody and KG4ECI Dan.

There were two announcements by KG4FGC Ken. The Triad Skywarn primary repeater - 147.225 - is operational again and now requires an access tone of 82.5 Hz. If you have heard it and couldn't get into it, set the new 82.5 Hz access tone and you should be operational again. The second announcement was that Winter Awareness Week will be Dec. 3 to 9. The NOAA All Hazards Radio System will be broadcasting special winter related information all week. A different topic will be covered each day.

No EC was available for the ARES meeting.

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

December 7, 2006

Net started - 8:30 PM local. Net Control - KC8OEX Terry.

Check-ins: 17. Stations were WX5AAA Raymond, KF4PLQ Woody, KF4ILN Robert, KG4FGC Ken, KE4DTX James, KF4EOD Mike, WA4NOT Jim, WB9SZL Dale, NA4P Fred, N4PAA Carl, KC4WSK Van, WF4DD WFU Club, KI4LJG Robert, KI4NHP Boyce, KI4NHQ Karen, WA8IHW Jack and KC8OEX Terry.

There was one announcement - NA4P Fred announced the WF4DD net will follow the ARES net or start a 9 PM local, which ever is later.

There was no EC available for the ARES meeting.

Formal Session - 16 minutes. Informal Session - 11 minutes. Total time - 27 minutes.

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

December 12, 2006

Net Started - 8:30 PM local. Net Control - N4PAA

Check-ins: 17. Stations were NA4P Fred, KI4QCN Tim, N5WNB David, KE4DTX James, WX5AAA Raymond, K4GHS Ben, KF4EOD Mike, WA8IHW Jack, KI4NHP Boyce, KI4NHQ Karen, KF4ILM Robert, KC8OEX Terry, WF4DD WFU Club, KE4JZZ Phil, KG4FGC Ken, WB4QXG Fred, and N4PAA Carl.

There was one announcement - the WF4DD net will follow the ARES net or start a 9 PM local, which ever is later.

There was no EC available for the ARES meeting. Net Control reminded all FARC members of the Christmas dinner meeting to be held at the Diamondback Grill on Avalon Road - same place as last year. Activities get underway around 6 PM.

Formal Session - 14 minutes. Informal Session - 15 minutes. Total time - 29 minutes.

December 14, 2006

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

Check-ins - 10. Stations were KG4FGC Ken, WF4DD WFU Club, KC8OEX, N4PAA Carl, NA4P Fred, KC4WSK Van, N0KTY John, WA8IHW Jack, WX5AAA Raymond and KG4ECI Dan.

There was one announcement - the WF4DD net will follow the ARES net or start at 9 PM local, which ever is later. The topic this evening will be the "red phone". N0KTY John conducted the ARES meeting. Our Net Control was congratulated on receiving the Ham of the Year Award at the Christmas Meeting. We were also reminded to keep our equipment ready for anything - even using the battery backup to jump start a truck with a dead battery. There are other uses for backup power supplies than running radios during a power outage.

Formal Session - 12 minutes. Informal Session - 5 minutes. Total Time - 17 minutes.

December 28, 2006

Net Started - 8:30 PM local. Net Control - N4PAA

Check-ins: 11. Stations were WX5AAA Raymond, KG4ECI Dan, KG4JWU Steven, KC8OEX Terry, KC4WSK Van, K4GHS Ben, KF4EOD Mike, NA4P Fred, WF4DD WFU Club, WD4DLP Darren, and N4PAA Carl.

There were two announcements - NA4P Fred announced that the WF4DD net is

on holiday break and will resume on Jan. 11, 2007. KC8OEX Terry announced that bricks are on sale for a sidewalk at a renovated area at the intersection of Trade and Liberty Streets in downtown Winston-Salem. Terry suggested that we consider purchasing a brick for either FARC or ARES or both. Bricks are \$100 and can have three lines of text with limits on the letters per line and total number of characters.

There was no EC available for the ARES meeting. Net Control reminded participants that it pays to check out your emergency equipment periodically to make sure it works, as a deep cycle battery that is to be power for radios in emergencies and power for a camper trailer in non-emergencies was dead, even though it was only 6 months old. Just because it is new doesn't mean it works like it should. Check your equipment.

Formal Session - 19 minutes. Informal Session - 6 minutes. Total time - 25 minutes.

N4PAA Carl

Editor's Corner

Whew! There's been a lot going on lately in ham radio. Some of the national news would start with the restructuring of the HF bands. I didn't publish the NC nets list this month because I know there are going to be a lot of changes. Another big news item is that the FCC dropped Morse Code as a requirement. As one person eloquently put it - "it's not the class of the license, it's the class of the amateur that makes the difference." That stirs up a big hornet's nest of opinion but the decision is made and let's go on.

One big item for FARC is that we are starting a rebuild of the Club's repeaters. The old Motorola units have served us well but it is time for a change. We have ordered some new rigs (Yaesu FT 1802/M and are exploring the use of them as replacements. If they work out - the first units will likely go on the air in February.

All for this month!

73, Don WS4NC