

Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Newsletter



Founded December 30, 1930

July & August, 2010

June Winston-Salem Hamfest Report

Wow! A great well-attended event. We more than made our budget. It was good weather, good goodies, good friends! Pictures below and left: 1. Bob KJ4IC 2. Dave KJ4OIL 3. Eric WK4CW, 4. ARRL Rep. Bill N2COP and President Terry AK4D 5. Jim W4UX



6. Goodies! 7. Bryce KE4ZFN and Ed KU4BP 8. Don-Don KT4KV 9. Gene WB4MSG 10. Woody KF4PLQ & Henry W2DZO 11. Carl N4PAA 12. Part of the overflow area. 13. Wilson W4BOH 14. Another goodie! 15. Phil KD4JZZ 16. A young Ham-let. I didn't get his name but the photo was too cute not to use. 17. George (He does exist!) Lamb N4ROT 18. NCQSO Instate Club SSB Winners W4APP (with DOGGY voicing his approval at the bottom) 19. Part of the inside view.

August Meeting

The main club meeting will always be the 2nd Monday of the month (August 9) and is held at the Northwest NC Red Cross Chapter House on 610 Coliseum Drive in Winston-Salem. The meeting will start at 7:30 PM and should run to about 9 PM. Arrive early to get a good seat and to hobnob 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 336-245-5740; or visit our web site at www.w4nc.com. Club email is to info-at-w4nc.org.

Officers for 2010 are:

President: Terry Brown, AK4D
(Formerly KN4BA)

Vice-President: Eric Bowen, KJ4DLS

Secretary: Tom Gallagher, N4IOZ

Treasurer: Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO

Newsletter Editor: Don Edwards, WS4NC

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

All content is Copyright 2010 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.



A happy looking Jacob KJ4VGT tolerates a foony-looking Mr. Heidtmann W2DZO (one of his teachers) at the Winston-Hamfest.

Ham Radio License Testing

13-year-old **Jacob Weinberg KJ4VGT**, pictured above, who passed his technical license in May now has some competition. 12-year-old **Emily A. Combs KJ4WOA**



(pictured right) passed her tech exam in July. Congratulations also to **Richard Weinberg KJ4VYQ** (Jacob's dad), **Joshua Abraham KJ4VYR**, **Jonathan Jarrett KJ4VYS**, and **April Russell KJ4VYT** who passed their tech tests and to **Walter Cline KI4XX** who passed his General exam at the Winston Hamfest.

Amateur radio testing for new applicants as well as upgrades will be given the 2nd Monday of every month, except December, prior to the FARC regular meeting. All test participants are invited to attend the meeting. The time is 6:30 PM and the place is the Red Cross building on Coliseum Drive in Winston-Salem. Pre-registration is required via e-mail, listing the elements you wish to take and your phone number. You may pre-register or get

dBj Radio & Electronics, LLC
404 Edwards Place
Jamestown, NC 27282
336-430-9087

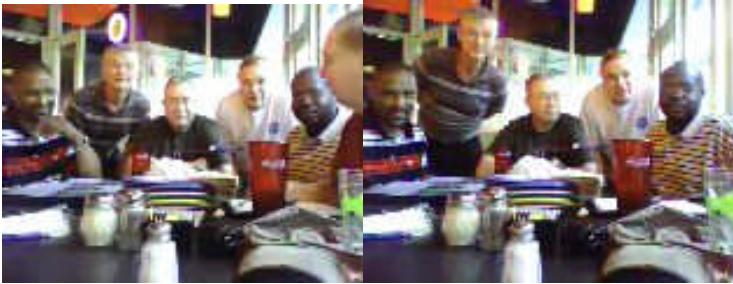
"For all your radio, cable & accessory needs" **secure credit card transaction**

www.dbjre.com

additional information via e-mail to info -at- w4nc.org, attention Dale Mierisch WB9SZL. Replace -at- with the usual symbol. Other dates/times will be published as we schedule them.

*Dale Mierisch WB9SZL
Session Manager - Forsyth Amateur Radio Club
1-336-766-9675*

The Bob's-Eye View



Through the wonders of technology Bob KJ4IC, even though he was physically in New Jersey, attended the Board Meeting on July 19 at the Mellow Mushroom on 4th Street. "How?" you may ask. Through the wonders of Skype and the internet. WS4NC used a netbook and connected to the city provided Wi-Fi connection. Bob used a laptop on his end in NJ. There rest is magic, or at least technology. We may have to refer to Bob in the future as "Electric Bob" or "Bob Headroom". Although we tried mightily the next Monday the planets were not properly aligned (meaning the city Wi-Fi wasn't working). Pictured above are two "Bob's-Eye Views" from the Mellow 'Shroom. Pictured are Maurice (WK4CW's brother-in-law), Terry AK4D, Don WS4NC, Dale WB9SZL and Eric WK4CW. Other attendees were Steve, Tom N4IOZ, and Raja - by telephone. Amazingly the technology worked rather well but hearing above the noise of the restaurant was a bit of a problem.

Hurricane Season is Here

The Atlantic hurricane season could be the busiest since 2005, when Katrina and Rita caused massive destruction along the same part of the Gulf Coast now struggling with the largest offshore oil spill in US history, government scientists with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) said last week. According to NOAA's predictions, the 2010 season may spawn as many as 23 named tropical storms, including up to seven major hurricanes. The Atlantic hurricane season began Tuesday, June 1 and runs through November 30.

"This year's hurricane season is forecasted to be a busy one, with a strong chance of a major hurricane making landfall in the US," said ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Mike Corey, W5MPC. "I would encourage all amateurs in hurricane-prone areas to take part in any planning, drills or exercises, have your go-kits in order, review your local plans, make sure your home and family are safe and be ready if called upon. We here at ARRL Headquarters are already making plans to assist amateurs in the field if and when needed this season."

From ARRL

ARES Announcements

Eric WK4CW

ARES Report August 2010

Hello once again from your ARES EC. Hope everyone has been trying to stay cool during the periods of extreme heat and humidity we have been experiencing lately. It's always good to review hot weather precautions during periods such as this to make sure everyone stays cool and safe. I am currently looking for volunteers for the Tour to Tanglewood coming up September 25 and 26th. I will need about 12 operators on Saturday and 10 on Sunday. Contact WK4CW to sign up or for more info. The have changed the course route this year and the current map of the course can be viewed at www.w4nc.org/ares. Also, we have a new Assistant EC for Forsyth County. Jim Mansfield, WA4NOT, has agreed to fill in for Bob, KJ4IC, who has moved out of the area. Jim is a good ham with lots of emcomm experience and we welcome his expertise. Thanks to Jim for picking up the spot. Tom Gallagher, N4IOZ, has put forth well spent effort in creating a web page for Forsyth County ARES. It can be viewed at www.w4nc.org/ares. It is our official page and will list upcoming activities and events for our ARES group as well as general info. Also, we are looking for operators that would like to serve as primary or alternate net control stations for the ARES net on Thursday evening. Feel free to contact WK4CW for more info or if you would like to volunteer and we'll get you set up. There have been questions about NIMS so hopefully the following will help clarify some...

The NIMS courses are required by the state for any paid or volunteer personnel including hams that have the likely hood of interacting with any served agency, especially in crisis mode. This does not include hams that only want to participate in public service events like bike races. The state requirement is the minimum for all ARRL reps. and they are encouraged to adopt those requirements for their own counties. Here in Forsyth County, ARES will have two divisions. Hams who take the four NIMS courses will be certified as RACES members and will be some of the first deployed if the need arises. Those that wish not to take the course can and still will be registered as ARES members, but in an emergency they will basically be involved in areas where contact with served agency personnel is limited or non-existent. It is up to each's own the extent to which they want to be involved but be it red tape or not, that's just what the are requiring now. And I know we are just volunteers. I feel the ARES/RACES idea leaves room for everyone to be involved. The database is only for the state to know who to call in the next Hurricane Floyd. You can take NIMS and not register in the database and still be a RACES member, the state just won't call you for deployment elsewhere. Nor can anyone show up at some EOC or shelter after a disaster and expect to help without having some type of proof of being certified. That helps to alleviate the Katrina effect. I would like to get the core folks who want to be RACES certified done by this time next year and for those that wish not to, they can help where possible; it's always appreciated!

Anyone having questions about our ARES group or would like to volunteer for upcoming events, feel free to contact me at wk4cw@arrl.net or 336-231-4182. ARES net Thursday evenings 8:30 p.m. on 145.470.

The first Thursday of every month will be "Emergency Power Night" on the Forsyth County ARES Net. All stations are asked to check in using emergency power setups and this will give stations a once per month opportunity to check out their equipment in

Continued from page 3
emergency power mode.

ARES Reports

May 13, 2010 - Forsyth County ARES Net Report

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

Check ins - 12. Stations were W4KG Steve, KE4TSY Ray, KE4MOY Mike, KG4FGC Ken, WK4CW Eric, KJ4IC Bob (via EchoLink), W8LWX John, NA4P Fred, WF4DD WFU Club, WB9SZL Dale, KJ4TGY Barry and N4PAA Carl.

There was no traffic this evening.

NA4P Fred announced that the WF4DD net will start at 9 PM or at the conclusion of this net tonight.

Our EC - WK4CS Eric held the ARES meeting. The weather has been HOT and he gave some tips on coping with the heat. The FARC meeting is this coming Monday night - program by WB9SZL on EchoLink. The next big event is the Tour To Tanglewood on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 25 and 26. The event will have new routes this year - check them out on the ARES web page at www.w4nc.org/ares. Eric invited anyone interested in being a net control station on this net to contact him. He also got in a plug for the FEMA courses that are being required for participation in big state and federal ICS controlled events. Details are also on the ARES web page. Contact Eric at WK4CW@arrl.net to volunteer for net control duties or for the Tour to Tanglewood.

Formal Session - 21 minutes. Informal Session - 8. Total time - 29 minutes.

June 10, 2010 - Forsyth County ARES Net Report

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

Check ins - 11. Stations were W4KG Steve, KG4FGC Ken, WF4DD WFU Club, WA4RDZ Stan, WA4NOT Jim, N4IOZ Tom, WB9SZL Dale, KC8OEX Terry, KC4WSK Van, WK4CW Eric and N4PAA Carl.

There was no traffic this evening.

KG4FGC Ken announced that the WF4DD net will start at 9 PM or at the conclusion of this net tonight.

Our EC - now WK4CW Eric held the ARES meeting. He recognized the volunteers for the Three Mountain Madness event and thanked everyone for making it another successful event. Eric didn't have to mention it but the weather has been HOT! He also introduced the new Forsyth County ARES web site - developed by N4IOZ Tom. You can check out the new site at www.w4nc.org/ares. Don't forget the FARC Hamfest this Saturday at the Home Economics building area of the Dixie Classic Fairgrounds - use Gate 9. Eric's new e-mail address for additional information is wk4cw@arrl.net.

Formal Session - 18 minutes. Informal Session - 9. Total time - 27 minutes.

June 17, 2010 - Forsyth County ARES Net Report

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

Check ins - 15. Stations were W4KG Steve, WK4CW Eric, AK4D Terry, KG4FGC Ken, KJ4ENM Ed, WA4NOT Jim, WB9SZL Dale, KE4ZFN Bryce, KJ4CDM Frank, K4GHS Ben, W4RJR Spencer, KG4ECI Dan, NA4P Fred, WB4QXG Fred and N4PAA Carl.

There was no traffic this evening.

KG4FGC Ken announced that the WF4DD net will start at 9 PM or at the conclusion of this net tonight.

Our EC - WK4CW Eric held the ARES meeting. He reminded us of the new ARES page at www.w4nc.org/ares and that we can find all the details of the FEMA training that is being required for participation in state and federal ICS events. He again thanked N4IOZ Tom for his work on that site. Don't forget the ARRL Field Day coming up June 26 and 27 - held at Hobby Park. The official event is from 2 PM Saturday to 2 PM Sunday - but the set-up and tear down take place before and after the official event.

Eric informed us the KJ4IC Bob Gates has departed the area for northern New Jersey to look after his father. Bob did a lot of behind the scenes ARES work and those duties have been passed on to WA4NOT Jim.

Formal Session - 22 minutes. Informal Session - 9. Total time - 31 minutes.

July 15, 2010 - Forsyth County ARES Net Report

Net Started - 8:30 PM. Net Control - KC8OEX Terry.

Check ins - KJ4ENM Ed, W4KG Steve, K4HED Kelly, WK4CW Eric, KJ4IC Bob (EchoLink from NJ), W8LWX John, WB9SZL Dale, N4PAA Carl, KJ4UZU Clint, NA4P Fred, WF4DD WFU Club, KJ4SEN Chris, KF4EOD Mike, WB4QXG Fred, W4RJR Spencer, KJ4IGQ Doug, AK4D Terry, KJ4CDM Frank, KF4QKR Mike and KC8OEX Terry.

There was no traffic this evening.

NA4P Fred announced that the WF4DD net will start at 9 PM or at the conclusion of this net tonight.

Our EC - WK4CW Eric covered the EchoLink presentation given by WB9SZL Dale at Monday's FARC meeting - and pointed out that this is how KJ4IC is checking in from his new QTH in northern New Jersey. The presentation will be continued at next month's FARC meeting due to an internet outage at the Red Cross building - and a lack of time. The Tour to Tanglewood will be on the weekend of Sept. 25 and 26 this year. Volunteers should contact Eric. He needs help on either or both days.

The main meeting topic was on personal safety during ARES activations - for both yourself and your family. He covered many useful topics to help with our planning. He also reminded us again that the NIMS courses 100, 200, 700 and 800a will be required for any Federal NICS controlled events. You can get details of this training at the new ARES web site, www.w4nc.org/ares or by contacting Eric at wk4cw@arrl.net.

Formal Session - 31 minutes. Informal Session - 15. Total time - 46 minutes.

July 22, 2010 - Forsyth County ARES Net Report

Net Started - 8:30 PM. Net Control - WK4CW Eric.

Check ins - 20. Stations were WA4NOT Jim, W4KG Steve, KG4FGC Ken, WF4DD WFU Club, AK4D Terry, KJ4UZU Clint, KJ4IC Bob (from NJ via EchoLink), KF4HHG Tim, KC8OEX Terry, WB9SZL Dale, WB4QXG Fred, N4PAA Carl, KA4JRL Jason, KG4JWU Steven, KE4ZFN Bryce, KC4WSK Van, W8LWX John, KG4ECI Dan, KF4EOD Mike and WK4CW Eric.

There was no traffic this evening.

KG4FGC Ken announced that the WF4DD net will start at 9 PM or at the conclusion of this net tonight.

Our EC - WK4CW Eric started the net by reminding us that it is HOT! We should check on elderly neighbors, pets, and stay cool as possible. Tropical Storm Bonnie was mentioned and we should keep track of it as it heads into the Gulf of Mexico.

The Tour to Tanglewood will have a new format this year. The event will start and end at Tanglewood Park both days, so the routes will be new to everyone. Saturday will be in Forsyth and Davidson Counties while Sunday will cover new ground for the Tour across the river in Yadkin County. Eric still needs volunteers for this event of both Saturday September 25 and Sunday the 26th. He also repeated that the state ARES is requiring all members who want to work at NICS events to have their FEMA certifications for the 100, 200, 700 and 800a classes. You can find this on line at training@fema.gov. Eric put out a call for more stations to try their hand at being net control for this ARES net. Contact Eric at WK4CW@hotmail.com for more info on being a net control operator or to volunteer for the Tour to Tanglewood.

Formal Session - 25 minutes. Informal Session - 26 minutes. Total time - 51 minutes.

July 22, 2010 - Forsyth County ARES Net Report

Net Started - 8:30 PM. Net Control - WK4CW Eric.

Check ins - 17. Stations were WA4NOT Jim, W4KG Steve, KJ4SXH Ron, KA4JRL Jason, KF4HHG Tim, KG4JWU Steven, N4IOZ Tom, W8LWX John, WB9SZL Dale, WB4QXG Fred, N4PAA Carl, KJ4UFG John, KJ4UYR Janice, KC4WSK Van, NA4P Fred, KG4FGC Ken and WK4CW Eric.

There was one item of traffic from N4IOZ Tom passed to WK4CW Eric to be relayed into the National Traffic Net later tonight..

Our EC - WK4CW Eric started the net by covering the upcoming Tour to Tanglewood that will be all day Saturday Sept. 25 and most of Sunday Sept. 26. The ride will be different this year in that the entire event is based at Tanglewood. Check out the new ARES page at www.w4nc.org/ares to see the new routes. Most of Sunday's ride is on the west side of the river - which hasn't been done before. Volunteers are needed for both days. The FARC meeting will be on Monday Aug. 9 with the program being a continuation of the EchoLink operation. He also repeated that the state ARES is requiring all members who want to work at NICS events to have their FEMA certifications for the 100, 200, 700 and 800a classes. You can find this on line at training@fema.gov. Eric put out a call for more stations to try their hand at being net control for this ARES net. Contact Eric at WK4CW@hotmail.com for more info on being a net control operator or to volunteer for the Tour to Tanglewood.

Formal Session - 32 minutes. Informal Session - 22 minutes. Total time - 54 minutes.

FIRE!

Tom, N4TL
n4tl2@yahoo.com

Please make sure everyone in your families know what to do in case of a fire. This includes knowing where the various utility turn off switches and valves are.

My daughter and her husband bought a house across and up the street from my wife and I a few months ago. Tuesday night at 6:30 PM she came to our house to pick up our grandson. A thunder storm was over head and at 6:45 the power went off and on for a second. So I turned off the TV and computers. At 7 PM or so lightning hit a tree behind my daughter's house. The fire department personal said the lightning went down the root system and into the house via one of the under ground connections. Probably the gas pipe to the stove. The Stove caught on fire. Fortunately the neighbor across the street from the house saw the smoke and called 911. He then came to our house and told us about the fire. My daughter and I ran over there and could see the fire in the kitchen through the back window. The kitchen window was blown out. I put water on the fire with a garden hose until the fire department came. Which was very quick. The fire was contained in the kitchen. The smoke and heat damage is everywhere. The fire department pulled down all the dry wall in the kitchen. They were making sure all of the fire was out. They also removed almost everything from the kitchen and threw it out the back windows. The next day I looked at the damage. It was so hot in the house that the venetian blinds in the bonus room started to melt. That room is the farthest from the fire. The whole interior of the house is covered in black soot. My son in law was at a meeting and came home when my daughter called him.

The good news is no one was hurt. The kitchen and contents of the house can be replaced. My daughter, son in law and grandson will be staying with us while their house is fixed. The insurance person and a contractor looked at the house on Thursday.

Field Day

Call Used: W4NC GOTA Station Call: W4WS
 ARRL/RAC Section: NC Class: 5A
 Participants: 22 Club/Group Name: Forsyth ARC
 Power Source(s): Battery
 Power Multiplier: 5X
 Bonus Points:

Description	Points
100% Emergency power	500
Media Publicity	100
Set-up in Public Place	100
Information Booth	100
W1AW Field Day Message	100
Site Visit by invited elected official	100
Site Visit by served agency official	100
Youth participation	
Youth operators=1	
Youth participants=1	20
GOTA Bonus	0
Submitted via the Web	50
Total Bonus Points	1,170

Score Summary:

	CW	Digital	Phone	Total
Total QSOs	346	83	594	
Total Points	692	166	594	1452
Claimed Score				7,260

Submitted by:
 HENRY HEIDTMANN, W2DZO

We may have set something of a record for degrees F/Total QSOs or something like that. Actually it was fairly cool under the shelter at Hobby Park. Next year there is some discussion about entering in a new class - from an Emergency Operations Center (AKA - The Red Cross). We could have a covered dish supper in 09. There would be AC and no lugging of gear from the RC to Hobby Park. Let your opinion be known - nothing is decided yet. Pictures from Field Day 2010:



Field Day 1993:

Welcome to the Wayback Machine Mr. Peabody. A long, long, long time ago and a galaxy far, far, far away - we held Field Day at Miller Park. This was the infamous 60-foot wet noodle affair where we tried to stand up 60-feet of PVC. The club had spent many meetings (and a few extra meetings) building a direction-switching series of inverted-Vs for each band. Lots of relays, lots of wire, along with a few nay-sayers who said "you can't stand-up 60-feet of PVC!". We actually did get 40 feet up in the air - thanks to the 30 feet of automatic lights on the generator loaned to us by Ingersol-Rand! Even then it was a Keystone Cops operation. And we made no contacts for hours - until someone noticed that the mic gain was on zero.



Last Month's Club Meeting

Dale WB9SZL gave a great presentation on using Echolink. The only problem was that the internet was down in the building that night. Dale will be back this month to finish that presentation - hopefully the



Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
PO Box 11361
Winston-Salem, NC 27106-1361
336-245-5740

The Pfafftown Hamfest

Saturday October 9, 2010
8AM - 12 Noon



internet will be working this time. Don't forget November is Homebrew Show-&-Tell. Allan Pandit brought his Function Generator to the last club meeting (picture page 5). We have someone to give Tim a little competition in November now that James AE7AX (ex-N4HCJ) has moved to

Wyoming. In the picture above young Master Eli attends the July Club meeting. Eli is the Harmonic of Tim AG4Z and the Grand_Harmonic of Gene WB4MSG who are carefully watching over him.

Looking for Past FARC Members

We are looking for information on the two following past FARC members. First is **John Elliott Rutherford**, there is a picture of him with other FARC members around 1939. The second is **Fred Slipsanger WA4ZZ, ex-KQ4WD** who died perhaps 5 years ago. The family of both these hams are looking for any information you may have. If you remember these hams please email WS4NC <at>dwepe.com.

Vagabonds Make Donation to FARC

At the right Bryce presents a check to FARC for \$250 for maintenance of the 145.47 repeater. Accepting is Terry AK4D President of FARC. The Donation was presented at the Winston-Salem Hamfest.

Go Bags - Is Yours Ready?

"I wish I'd been more prepared." [Don't say that after. Later this year there will be a program discussing Go-Bags, what needs to be in them and a chance to show how prepared your are.] Visit the Preparedness Section on redcross.org: www.redcross.org/getprepared There, you'll learn the three steps to preparedness: Put together an emergency preparedness supply kit. Make a plan for what your family will do in the event of an emergency. Be informed of the disasters or emergencies that could occur in your area. We can't know for sure what could come our way. But one thing's absolutely certain: there's no such thing as "too prepared." Take a look at our Emergency Preparedness Section today: www.redcross.org/getprepared By getting prepared for emergencies, you'll help save the day for your family. Wishing you a safe and happy summer,

*Joe Becker
Senior Vice President,
Disaster Services American Red Cross*

