



# Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

# Newsletter



Founded December 30, 1930

September, 2010



Lewis Samuel "Tink" Kanoy  
W4DCW - SK

*Photos courtesy of WFDD*

## Remembering Tink- - with Lots of Electronics Thrown In

*By Wilson Lamb W4BOH*

We have indeed lost an important connection to the past. I knew Tink for as long as I can remember, back at least to first grade (1950 or so). In all that time I never knew him to disparage anyone or to use any bad language, amazing. He was religious, but did not make a show of it.

We all know about his broadcast experience at WSJS and WFDD and many of us know about his missionary comm. work. But did you know that Abe Miller, ex K4IHN now K4MK, worked with him to rebuild Drake and Heath transceivers that had deteriorated in the jungle environment?

All through my childhood, Tink was well known for craftsmanship. He built all his transmitting gear, including a little swing arm VFO to the Millen design in QST. Everything he made looked like it came from a factory, except better. At the same time, he was a good scrounger in the best ham tradition, having been raised in very modest circumstances. I remember when he taught me to strip the vinyl from aluminum transcription disks from WSJS to make small chassis and fittings. A little later, I was able to strip things in the degreasing tank at Piedmont airlines, which could make short work of any sort of dirt or paint. Goodness knows what sort of stuff was in those tanks!

While still in high school, I worked for John Kiger and Jack Dennard, in John's basement. Tink did some moonlighting there too so I got more good training in construction, learning more about 6SN7s than I really wanted. We were building electromagnetic blood flow meters for use in research at Bowman Gray Med.

School. They became a product wanted by other institutions and John and Jack formed Carolina Medical Electronics, which is still in business. I also remember "Swifty" Doc Denison W4OFV. He was famous for having various electronic components in his home refrigerator! <http://www.carolinamedicalelectronics.com/>

Other early Tink memories are from the sunrise Easter service at Home Moravian Church. From early days, the service was so large it needed extensive public address work to cover the square and graveyard and allow everyone to hear the parts of the service remote from them.

My grandfather, Doug Lee, pioneered broadcasting in W-S and provided the PA setup for many years, assisted by his employees and family members. Tink worked alongside Doug, maybe with him in the beginning (early 30s, I think), to supply audio from the service to WSJS, from where it was picked up by NBC and distributed widely. It was before my time, but a lot of the early gear was powered by storage batteries that had to be lugged around to the various equipment locations! Glad I missed that.

WSJS and Doug had quite a bit of equipment that was used every year and not much otherwise. I'll always remember loading that stuff in the various panel and pickup trucks (1936 Chevy) and carrying it to Salem in the predawn darkness, while hearing the brass bands playing their antiphonal music. The routine of inventory, check, setup, and test was well ingrained in me and helped as I went on to much more elaborate field work in later life. Tink was always a calm presence through all this and would explain whatever of his setup I would ask about. Of course the best part, which still makes my mouth water, was the memorable breakfast served in the church basement for band members and workers. Those platters of country ham and scrambled eggs were impressive and delicious, especially when Easter was early and the weather was cold enough to make me turn up my fur collar!

Of course "everyone" was on 75 AM in those days, so I talked to Tink often, frequently getting his advice on the wild and crazy amplifiers I was rigging up. He was always kind and helpful, while expecting me to be sensible and use my brain. He helped me survive several

### September Meeting

The main club meeting will is always 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. The program this month will be "special".

**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](http://www.w4nc.com). Club email is to [info-at-w4nc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.

teenage years working with 3000V power supplies with no cabinets and no interlocks! He even let a teenager drive his much loved '53 Chevy Bel Air! A little later, I did summer relief work at the WSJS transmitter out in Bethabra, where we had the high voltage confined to a screen room. I also helped with the early days of the new station on Robin Hood Rd., or was it Country Club?? Tink would explain all the operations and procedures carefully and expect me to learn them. We had to log every commercial and the books were checked by the FCC engineer who came periodically for both broadcast checks AND ham examinations in the Reynolds High cafeteria.

Jumping way forward, Tink and Ethel decided they had had enough of home care and repair and moved to Salemtown after he really retired. They liked the community there and always told me how well it had worked for them. Of course Tink got permission to put up his tower and beam before signing up! He used them to continue his missionary communications until just a few years ago.

And what of Ethel? She was always a solid presence in Tink's world, being a good mother and helpmate in all activities of the family. She had a ham ticket, when they took some study and 13 WPM code, but didn't talk a lot. She was also a good financial manager and Tink always credited her with keeping their money in order and managing their investments. She was always patient with a somewhat mouthy kid who often visited with little or no warning, often giving him something to eat, if just a hotdog. Tink always mentioned her whenever I visited him after she was gone, always telling how she was the best thing to happen to him and how he missed her. And please remember the two fine children, Diana and Jake, dearly loved by their parents and mentioned in every conversation between Tink and me.

I'm sorry I didn't know Tink was having trouble. I saw him just a couple of months ago and he was fine, just having a little trouble with balance. We talked extensively about several topics, including his childhood and some of our activities over the years. He was completely there, with a great memory and no loss of connection to the present. It's great that he got to enjoy his cottage and community and not have a long period of infirmity! I hope I can do as well.

Hopefully we can all take something from Tink's example and incorporate more of his great character into our daily lives. He would consider that the greatest legacy he could leave.

*73, Wilson*

Tink was a very cool and enthusiastic speaker as well, I met him thru FARC and It was my privilege to meet him. We can only hope to be as well thought of.

*Robert, KG4NEP*



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## Also Remembering Tink

*Don WS4NC*

It is difficult to express the sadness I felt when I first heard the news that Tink had passed away. Tink's obituary is listed elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Tink is the first Forsyth Amateur Radio Club member I remember meeting - I thought it was a few years earlier but digging through old documents corrected my bad memory. It was August 27, 1970. A group of us had formed a ham radio club in Davie County - the Davie County Amateur Radio Klub - yes, Klub with a K. Our newsletter was the DARK Beacon. I remember campaigning against the K but I was outvoted. I still have a box full of old newsletters, photos and notes. A gaggle of us came over to visit the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club which was then meeting in the Goodwill Industries building. Tink gave the program that night on highlights of his 23 years working with missionaries in Honduras. That was 23 years then in 1970.

We asked Tink to come to Mocksville and give the program for us on October 5 and as always Tink was gracious and generous with his time. I had hoped to find a photo of Tink in the box of memories but sadly it wasn't there. (Even then I had a camera with me everywhere I went. There were some photos of me in at 17 in the box I would like to burn - can you spell D-O-R-K?)

Tink was a first-class gentleman and a superb engineer; with his pleasing and friendly personality he made a lasting impression on everyone he met. Tink worked with early broadcasting at WSJS in Winston-Salem but is best remembered as the engineer that put Wake Forest University's WFDD on the air - and he retired as WFDD's engineer many years ago. Tink will also be long remembered for his exceptional work relaying medical messages and phone-patches almost daily for decades from Central America doctors to Wake Forest Medical School and NC Baptist Hospital physicians. He was an author for QST in the late 1940s - his article on station power switching from the 1940s even stands the test of time as an excellent and memorable introduction to relay logic. Tink accomplished much for Forsyth Amateur Radio Club. He built the console that houses our radio equipment - it is a superior piece of craftsmanship. He helped put up the original tower at the Red Cross.

Tink's wife Ethyl, also a ham W4HUF, passed away some years ago. There is a picture from 1993's Field Day of Tink and Ethyl in the last issue of the Club Newsletter. Ethyl brought several memorable items to club dinners - one I remember was bread-and-butter cucumbers (not pickles). There were so good I still remember them - as was typical Ethyl pshawed my compliments and seemed surprised that anyone would notice. Making not just good but memorable food from inexpensive ingredients is a rare talent.

Tink and Ethyl never sought recognition for their accomplishments yet they both had profound, highly positive and significant effects on many, many lives. If you haven't heard the WFDD interview with Tink please go to [www.wfdd.org](http://www.wfdd.org) website and click on Voices and Viewpoints while it is still available.

*Don WS4NC*

## Lewis Samuel "Tink" Kanoy

*Winston-Salem Journal*

KANOY WINSTON-SALEM - Lewis Samuel ("Tink") Kanoy, 93, of Salem towne Moravian Continuing Care Retirement Community died Tuesday, August 31, 2010. Mr. Kanoy was born to Jacob Frank and

Bertha Jane (Williams) Kanoy on March 9, 1917 in Winston-Salem. He was an active member of Fairview Moravian Church. He was station engineer for WSJS for 29 years and station engineer for WFDD-FM of Wake Forest University for 11 years until his retirement in 1981. He served in the Navy in World War II. He held amateur radio call W4DCW since 1934. Survivors are a son, Jacob Steven Kanoy of Seven Lakes West, NC; three grandsons, Steven, David, and Brian; two great-grandsons, Chase and Owen; a daughter, Diana Kay Kanoy of Fort McCoy, FL; and a sister, Mary Edwards of Winston-Salem. His body is willed to the Wake Forest University School of Medicine Anatomical Bequeathal Program for use in education or scientific studies. A Memorial Service will be held in Fairview Moravian Church, 6550 Silas Creek Parkway on Tuesday, September 7, 2010 at 2 p.m. by the Rev. Scott Venable and the Rev. Linda Browne. Family will receive friends after the Service at the Church. The family requests memorials may be made to the Endowment Fund at Salem towne Moravian Continuing care Retirement Community or to Fairview Moravian Church Missionary Chapter, 6550 Silas Creek Parkway. Online condolences may be made to [www.salemfh.com](http://www.salemfh.com).

## 9-1-2010 Lewis Samuel 'Tink' Kanoy Dies at 93:

*By Kathryn Mobley  
WFDD*

Lewis Samuel 'Tink' Kanoy devoted his life to connecting people through radio technology. He died yesterday morning in his home at Salem towne. He was 93.

He was born in Winston-Salem March 9, 1917. He weighed about five pounds and his father gave him the nick-name, 'Tink'. Tink grew up as radio technology was developing. He worked thirty years at WSJS prior to and after World War II. His passion for this form of communication drew him to share his expertise with 88.5 WFDD, the then student-run radio station at Wake Forest University. In the early 1970's, he became the station's first full-time chief engineer and he kept it on air 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. He also played a significant role in increasing the station's signal power to 36,000 watts to service 32 counties in the Piedmont.

Tink was also a ham radio operator and a devoted Moravian. He combined these passions to assist Moravian missionaries in South America and in other remote areas of the world. He'd use ham radios to connect missionaries to friends and family in the states and with doctors in Winston-Salem. This radio-bridge aided missionary doctors as they treated patients.

A memorial for Lewis Samuel 'Tink' Kanoy will be held at Fairview Moravian Church, Tuesday, September 7 at 2 p.m.

*(Courtesy of [www.wfdd.org](http://www.wfdd.org))*

## Tink Kanoy, W4DCW

*By Richard Hauser, K4SOX*

(Reprinted from the July, 2008 FARC Newsletter) For fifty years Ethel and Lewis "Tink" Kanoy lived in this home just off Polo Road before moving to a Winston-Salem retirement home in 1993. My father owned a grocery store nearby and I came to know Mr. Kanoy as the radio engineer at the AM and later the FM station to which we listened in Winston-Salem. Lewis was kind enough to have me to his house to listen to the wonderful National short wave



receiver which he demonstrated. This was near the end of the war and as I was about age 14 in the 1944-45 era. In his radio room upstairs was the amateur radio transmitter with its copper coils and the balanced line to his dipole antenna with the 6-inch spacers swinging out to the rear of the house. Lewis also built other transmitters to furnish for stations in Nicaragua to serve the Moravian Missionaries. I do not recall if he personally went to set up the stations in that area or if it was done by others. I understand Lewis "Tink" Kanoy is donating his home station amateur equipment to the Winston-Salem Club.

About two years earlier, maybe 1942-43 Mr. Barton, a neighbor Lewis would recall as a plasterer by trade, helped me build a cat whiskers' crystal receiver that I thought was magic to listen to on earphone with no power. Probably most of the long-time club members also recall building the one or two tube battery AM sets in those days.

After college in 1954, as were most, I was drafted for two years into the US Army. My meager knowledge of electronics allowed me to go for six months to the Signal School at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey and Sacramento Signal Depot. Many years later I obtained an amateur license although I am not very active.

What prompted me to write this was reading the June 2008 QST article Recruiting New Hams' relating to Jupiter, Florida VEs bringing in 118 new hams in 2007. This article made me reflect on Mr. Kanoy and Mr. Barton and how their kindness helped to arouse curiosity regarding radio in myself and others.

1. Recruiting New Hams, Albert Moreschi II, AG4BV, June 2008 QST, pages 69-70.

## Ham Radio License Testing

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 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*

## Basic and Advanced SKYWARN Classes in Greensboro

*Richard L. Howell - AE4RH*  
*AEC Triad SKYWARN*  
*Randolph - Guilford County*

We have just scheduled two SKYWARN classes, one BASIC and one ADVANCED class, for the Greensboro area to be held on October 13th and 14th respectively. Class details are below and flyers to help advertise the classes are attached. Individuals do not have to attend the BASIC class on the 13th in order to attend the ADVANCED class on the 14th as long as they have had a BASIC SKYWARN class in the last couple of years.

October 13, 2010, 7pm - 9pm  
BASIC SKYWARN

October 14, 2010, 7pm - 9pm  
ADVANCED SKYWARN

Location: Hinshaw United Methodist Church (Fellowship Hall)  
4501 High Point Road, Greensboro, NC. The complete physical location of the church is: Hinshaw United Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall, 4501 High Point Road, Greensboro NC 27405. Located between the intersections of Groomtown / Hilltop Road AND Merritt Drive. Any questions may be directed to me at AE4RH@aol.com and I will answer them as soon as possible.

## Report of the 2011 Officer Nominating Committee of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

To the President:

The nominating committee has met for the purpose of drafting a slate of officers for the 2011 calendar year. In addition to your appointed chair Bob Gates, KJ4IC, the committee consisted of Don Edwards, WS4NC; Eric Bowen, WK4CW; Tom Gallagher, N4IOZ; Dale Meirisch, WB9SZL; and yourself (ex-officio), Terry Brown, AK4D.

The committee approached the current roster of officers, who all agreed to continue in their nominal positions. The nominees therefore are: President: Terry Brown, AK4D; Vice-President: Eric Bowen, KJ4DLS; Secretary: Tom Gallagher, N4IOZ; Treasurer: Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO

The nomination of Mr. Heidtmann is contingent on ratification by the club membership of an amendment to the FARC Bylaws permitting the treasurer to serve more than two consecutive terms in that office.

The slate thus composed, the committee submits this report and, unless further action is made necessary by nominations from the floor, stands ready to disband.

*Submitted to the President and Board 16-August-2010.*  
*Tom Gallagher,*  
*2010 FARC Secretary*

## ARES Announcements

*Eric WK4CW*

Hello once again from your ARES EC. 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](http://www.w4nc.org/ares). Please check out our ARES webpage courtesy of Tom N4IOZ - It can be viewed at [www.w4nc.org/ares](http://www.w4nc.org/ares). Feel free to contact WK4CW for more info or if you would like to volunteer and we'll get you set up.

Anyone having questions about our ARES group or would like to volunteer for upcoming events, feel free to contact me at [wk4cw@arrl.net](mailto: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 emergency power mode.

## ARES Reports

*By Carl, N4PAA*

### Aug. 5, 2010 - Forsyth County ARES Net Report

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

Check ins - 20. Stations were KJ4OIL Dave, N4EY Steve, KJ4SXH Ron, KJ4IC Bob, KA4JRL Jason, WA4RDZ Stan, KF4HHG Tim, W4KG Steve, WS4NC Don, N4PAA Carl, KC8OEX Terry, WB9SZL Dale, KC4WSK Van, KE4TSY Raymond, KJ4ENM Ed, KE4ZFN Bryce, KJ4VYU Dave, KJ4UFG John and WK4CW Eric.

There was no traffic this evening.

The WF4DD Net is on summer break this month.

Our EC - WK4CW Eric held the ARES meeting. The FARC meeting is this coming Monday with the program being the continuation of WB9SZL Dale's presentation on Echolink and the club repeaters. The **Tour to Tanglewood is Sept. 25 & 26** with a new format this year - the entire event starts and ends at Tanglewood both days. Eric still needs volunteers to help with it. He also reminded us to work on the NIMS certifications, which will be required to help with any major events conducted under the NIC system. He also put out a request for new net control stations for this net. He also reminded us its hot and to look out for afternoon thunderstorms that are producing local wind damage in the area.

Formal Session - 23 minutes. Informal Session - 21. Total time - 44 minutes.

### Aug. 12, 2010 - Forsyth County ARES Net Report

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

Check ins - 20. Stations were WA4NOT Jim, WK4CW Eric, KJ4SXH Ron, KJ4IC Bob, KJ4VYU Dave, W4KG Steve, N4EY Steve, AK4D Terry, W8LWX John, WB9SZL Dale, KC8OEX Terry, WA3RTC Steve, WB4QXG Fred, KE4ZFN Bryce, KA4JRL Jason, N4IOZ Tom, KJ4UFG John, KF4EOD Mike, KE4TSY Raymond and N4PAA Carl.

There was no traffic this evening.

KC8OEX announced that a friend of his from W VA became a SK and that he was sending a card in behalf of the FARC Club and ARES.

Our EC - WK4CW Eric held the ARES meeting. The weather remains HOT and he gave some tips on coping with the heat. 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. **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](mailto:WK4CW@arrl.net) to volunteer for net control duties or for the **Tour-to-Tanglewood**.

Formal Session - 27 minutes. Informal Session - 18. Total time - 45 minutes.

### Aug. 19, 2010 - Forsyth County ARES Net Report

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

Check ins - 16. Stations were KJ4SXH Ron, KG4ENV Tim, WK4CW Eric, KG4FGC Ken, KF4EOD Mike, W8LWX John, N4IOZ Tom, N4PAA Carl, WB4QXG Fred, KE4ZFN Bryce, KJ4WIKI Richard, AK4D Terry, KA4JRL Jason, KJ4UYR Janice, KJ4TGY Barry and KC8OEX Terry.

There was no traffic this evening.

The WF4DD net is on summer break this month.

Our EC - WK4CW Eric held the ARES meeting. The weather has turned rainy with heavy afternoon thundershowers in localized areas. Just because there isn't a Skywarn net active, if there is severe weather in your area, contact the NWS at Raleigh at the number you were given at Skywarn spotter

training classes. 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](http://www.w4nc.org/ares). Eric invited anyone interested in being a net control station on this net to contact him. He reminded us of 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](mailto:WK4CW@arrl.net) to volunteer for net control duties or for the Tour-to-Tanglewood.**

Formal Session - 18 minutes. Informal Session - 12. Total time - 30 minutes.

### Aug. 26, 2010 - Forsyth County ARES Net Report

Net Started - 8:30 PM. Net Control - N4IOZ Tom.

Check ins - 15. Stations were KJ4VYU Dave, KJ4SXH Ron, WK4CW Eric, WA4NOT Jim, W4KG Steve, KJ4IC Bob, N4EY Steve, N4PAA Carl, KC8OEX Terry, KG4FGC Ken, KF4EOD Mike, WB9SZL Dale, KG4HTR Michael, KJ4ENM Ed and N4IOZ Tom.

There was no traffic this evening.

NA4PFred 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 welcomed N4IOZ Tom as a new alternate net control station for the ARES net. Eric said he has the minimum number of operators for the **Tour-to-Tanglewood** but would like a few more for back-up and additional coverage. The Hurricane season is getting warmed up with several in the Atlantic headed west. The one headed this way is Earl and we should be aware of their projected tracks. **Contact Eric at [WK4CW@arrl.net](mailto:WK4CW@arrl.net) to volunteer for net control duties or for the Tour to Tanglewood.**

Formal Session - 20 minutes. Informal Session - 13. Total time - 33 minutes.

## FARC/ARES Reunion on the Air

Quick - what was your ARES number in 1993? I can't remember either. There was a time when the ARES net was so popular it took an hour just to get everybody checked in. So many that we had to check in by number. According to one list that has been unearthed by the FARC Archaeology Division there were 200 assigned numbers in 1993. Yes, some of you young whipper-snappers weren't around then, so you didn't have one.

FARC will celebrate its 80th official birthday this December 30. The club was actually around before 12/30/1930 but that was the incorporation date. Interestingly December 30 being a Thursday is also an ARES night. **Tentatively** that date has been picked to try and bring out as many of the old gang as can be rounded up. We might move it to another week since many people may be on vacation. Obviously you don't have to have been around then to participate - all are welcome. We might even assign more ARES numbers. We'll discuss it Monday night at the FARC meeting.

## QRP Meetings on the First Monday

*By Don WS4NC*

There are all kinds of reasons for not building stuff today. It is easier to just buy something. In real terms the costs are much lower today - electronics is anti-inflationary. To build you have to find the parts. They are easy to order but it does take some digging through on-line catalogs. Then there is the minium order. Taking apart junked gear isn't what it used to be. I built a lot of stuff from discarded TVs in the 1960s and 1970s. It's still doable today - one chap in England built a QRP transmitter from only the parts in a discarded compact fluorescent bulb. I think more of that can be done but it is a challenge identifying the parts and unsoldering them - many parts are the size of fleas today. And beside most of these parts are pennies new.

But then there is the mechanical-equipment issue. Certain items like metal sheers and benders are not in everyone's basement. Most people have a drill but a drill press is nice. Some holes are best done with a small milling machine or with metal punches. Ordering small quantities of sheet metal is sometimes an issue. Circuit board is great to work with but really needs a sheer to cut straight enough to make small enclosures.

And then there is test equipment. Most hams accumulate small pieces of test gear but precision test gear is expensive. (See rule 9!)

All of the above are reasons not to start a project. I have an offer to help fix all those things. We will start having the first Monday of the month - the QRP meeting - at my new shop at 1925A Vargrave St. All of the problems above are addressed. Small items like resistors and filter/bypass caps are available

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

in quantity as well as small transistors and many ICs. Even ferrites/torroids. Circuit board by the pound almost. Tubes, if that's your thing, are around 70,000 and growing. I might get grumpy about really big sheets of sheet metal (aluminum is up 4X in the last few years) but making small cabinets is not a problem. And I have a number of small cabinets and ideas for cabinets.

If you are short of ideas there are hundreds of books available. Most of the Doug Demaw books are here (rare now as they are out of print). And many ARRL publications - including multiple ARRL and other handbooks both old and new. There are two shelves of books of schematics of everything you can imagine. There are also many electronics reference and antique books back to at least 1916. Math books to make your head spin. An entire shelf of tube references. I'm very touchy about my books - they don't leave the building but we can copy things. I would like to see them used.

Right now I don't have everything set back up from the move. It was a bigger job than I realized. But I am getting there. I moved from a small 16X24 space and many storage lockers to a 2200-sq.-foot facility (and fewer storage lockers). It's still too small, but it will fit. I do a moderate amount of consulting work some that might have to come first if there is a schedule conflict. My personal goal with all this Junque is to open an internet parts store and sell it all out in 3-5 years and then retire. I'll keep the books. My goal behind pushing the QRP group is to get FARC members back to building things again - there is no better way to learn. I think you just need a kick (that applies to me too). Here's the kick. This is a limited time offer, as they say. We'll see how it goes. If you want to participate sign the sheet Monday night at the FARC meeting - that's the only way.

### QRP Rules (subject to revision):

1. You must be a dues-current member of FARC - this is a FARC project.
2. The group is limited in size - six would be about right - we might could push that to ten possibly. There will be a sign-up sheet Monday night. The sign-up sheet rules - first on first in.
3. You must have an *identified* project in mind with a schematic and a plan.

We then pick the parts from there for your *identified* project. I'll donate the inexpensive parts. Expensive parts will be as you accomplish things - to encourage you to get things done. (This isn't just a run on my Junque Boxe.) To ease your conscience if necessary there will be a \$ donation box - just to add to the Junque - this is not required but available.

4. It's not just limited to working in my shop - you also must do some work outside the shop.
5. None of my tools, books or test equipment will leave the shop. Especially the books.
6. You will probably need to get and bring your own soldering iron and small hand tools. I have a few but not enough for a group. Speciality tools are probably there.
7. Your mama doesn't work here - clean up after yourself. Put everything back where you got it.
8. Power tools only with supervision and safety goggles. One power tool you are always authorized to use is the vacuum cleaner. And brooms - they are human powered.
9. I will assist you with test equipment setups. I don't want you to transmit into a \$20,000 signal generator or modulation monitor. That would not make me happy. There are scopes (up to 600 Mhz) and network analyzers (up to 18 Ghz) and spectrum analyzers (up to 22 Ghz) and lions and tigers and bears, oh my. It's older gear but it's calibrated and works well.
10. How about repairing stuff? Well this is to encourage building things. We'll handle repairs on a case-by-case basis. I'm not fixing your junk - but I may let you do that- see item 9.
11. To keep my insurance agent from having an aneurysm - you need to sign a waiver accepting personal responsibility for yourself and absolving me, FARC and God from your, mine and others stupidity. I know that personal responsibility is a new idea. I hope I don't regret this - please help me not regret this.

## Homebrew Show-&-Tell is the November Meeting!