



Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Newsletter



FARC NOW 81! Founded December 30, 1930

December, 2012



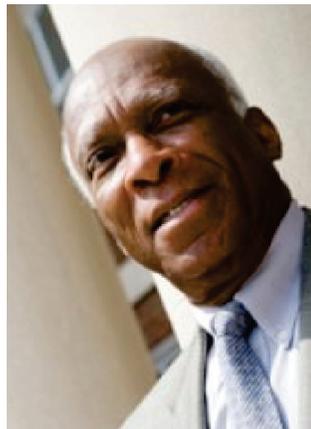
Bringing the club meeting to you.

Every 2nd Monday of each month.
7:30 PM EST

w4nclive.com

WB4SWS-SK

The Rev. Dr. Cedric Rodney, who spent more than 40 years on the faculty at Winston-Salem State University, has died.



Dr. Cedrick Rodney WB4ZWS-SK. Picture courtesy of WXII.

WSSU Chancellor Donald Reaves made the announcement Wednesday morning. "Dr. Rodney left his mark on WSSU and was a positive influence and counselor for many of the students who have been on this campus over the years," Reaves said in a statement. "From offering the innovation at football games, convocations and commencement to his keen intellect and commitment to WSSU, his presence will be missed." Arrangements are incomplete.

Rodney became WSSU chaplain in 1969 and retired in October of this year. He had a brief retirement in 1992 and started the Gray lecture series after his return. The series continues to bring in renowned national speakers.

Rodney also was the first full-time pastor at St. Philips Moravian Church in Old Salem. He helped

DECEMBER MEETING

December Meeting CHANGE IN DATE

This year, our Christmas dinner will be at Big Shotz in Clemmons, on **TUESDAY, Dec. 11**, at 7:00pm. Unfortunately, Mondays were all booked, so we had to take Tuesday instead. I look forward to seeing all of you and your families, as we celebrate the club accomplishments for 2012. Big Shotz is located off of River Center Drive, behind Rite Aid in Clemmons. It is just off 421, so it isn't hard to find.

restore the original church, which is now the oldest standing African-American church in the state.

From 11/21/2012 Winston Salem Journal

Memories of Cedric

Don,

Thanks very much for sending me this. Cedric was an old friend. I met him in Lew Elias' General Class course over at Forsyth Tech. I visited him at home on a few occasions. He was from Guyana; I always kidded him about being from Devil's Island (the penal colony off the shore of that country). I will miss him.

I hope that you and Don will keep me informed as others that I may know pass away. I will always feel bad that I didn't hear about Steve Sallee until long after his death; else I would have visited him in the hospital as I had a few times before.

Derek, WF4I

Don,

Thank you for letting me know about Cedric. If at all possible, I want to attend the service. Please keep me informed. I have frequently run into him at the YMCA and have enjoyed our lengthy chats. The last time I saw him seems like about a month ago. He wanted to attend our meetings, but he had stopped driving at night.

TerryAK4D

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) & 444.275 (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.com.

Officers for 2012 are:

President: Tim King AG4RZ

Vice-President: Jerry Minor K4GW

Secretary: Don Edwards WS4NC

Treasurer: Henry Heidtmann W2DZO

Newsletter Editor: Don Edwards, WS4NC

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

80-Meter Dipoles?

Don WS4NC

Recently got a request for my take on how to put up a 80-meter dipole tuned exactly on 3.9 MHz. This is what I've used in the past after putting up dipoles and then taking them down and cutting a little - then back up - then down *ad nauseum* trying to get the thing to tune where I wanted it. The idea is not new to me, but it seems the smartest way to avoid going up and back down again too many times.

The formula is $468/(\text{freq.}-\text{in-MHZ})$. $468/3.9 = 120$ feet. That is for the length from end to end - you will feed it in the middle leaving 60 feet on each end. In the real world it will resonate somewhere other than where you want it to.

Here's how I would do it. I would cut the antenna a little long, put it up temporarily, then measure the actual frequency where it resonates. If you multiply the actual resonate frequency times the total distance of the temporary antenna you will get a new number near to, but not exactly, 468. Use the new number and divide it by 3.900 MHz. That should resonate very close to 3.900 MHz.

The reason 468 doesn't work out exactly in the real world is that there are all kinds of objects near the antenna that detune it. The ground conductivity and distance from the ground affect it and all the metal objects near it detune it. Putting up a test antenna and then calculating a new number will bring you much closer to the desired frequency in your space. Not all of those detuning effects are exactly linear but this should be very close.



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FCC Testing

by Dale, WB9SZL

Last Testing Session:

DWIGHT SPRINGTHORPE KK4LYT E
GEOFFREY C RUDY KK4MOV G
WILLIAM W STARKEY KK4LNX G
WILLIAM S MILLIKEN III KK4MOW G

Dwight, William, Please note that the FCC error in your call (KK4LVT is being corrected to KK4LVJ) is in processing now. Please note that the FCC error in your call (KK4LNX is being corrected to KK4LNM) is in processing now.

Dwight, Bill, Geoffrey, Steward,

Allow me to offer all of you a hearty congratulations the on your New Amateur licenses, and Amateur License upgrades. I look forward to chatting with each you on the air.

New FCC Testing: There is not a scheduled testing session for December. 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
FARC VEC Session Manager
1-336-766-9675*

Monday Nights

The FARC main Club meeting is always on the second Monday of the month at the Red Cross except in December. The FARC business meeting is open to all and is on the third Monday of the month and is held at Old Staley's restaurant at 2000 Reynolda Rd at 7-ish PM.

Business meeting: The business meeting is held on the third Monday night. In the past we have held the meeting at Old Staley's on Reynolda Road, but they are closed for renovations and under new management. Nothing is settled for November but we will likely meet at La Carettas across from the Red Cross. The meeting starts at 7-ish and usually runs about an hour and a half. We have tried holding it at the Red Cross but the overwhelming choice of those who are present is that they would prefer somewhere where we can have food and drinks. The attendance at the third Monday business meeting is anywhere from about 6 to as many 15 people. All are invited - we would love to have to move to a dedicated meeting room.

Fourth Monday

by Don WS4NC

The fourth Monday has been the contesting group but we aren't as consistent as we once were. I ran a idea past Henry (our Contestor-in-Chief) and he didn't shoot me so I'm going to throw this out for discussion. There are several people who have expressed interest in QRP and building stuff. We did meet last year on first-Mondays at my old office on Vargrave Street but that sadly is now gone to make way for a new Goodwill. I would like to get some interest back in the QRP/Builders group but the 1st Monday is not good for me (the Newsletter has to get out then). How about it? I don't know where we can meet but if you are interested let's get together and talk about it at the November meeting.

Forsyth County ARES Net Reports

*by Dan O'Leary KG4ECI
AEC/Net Manager*

ARES Net Report for 01Nov2012

Net Control Station: WS4FC (op KG4ECI)
Check-ins: WA4NOT, KG4FGC, WD4LSS, NA4P, WF4DD, WB9SZL, WB4QXG, WA4ZKI, KE4ZFN, KJ4ENM.
Topics: WA4NOT gave a re-cap of the recent standby net prompted by Hurricane Sandy; a brief explanation of when the ARES specific courtesy tone is used.
Training: None.
Traffic: None.
Net time: 20:30-20:58.

ARES Net Report for 08Nov2012

Net Control Station: WS4FC (op WK4CW)
Check-ins: WA4NOT, KG4ECI, AF4XC, KG4FGC, WF4DD, KJ4ENM, WB9SZL, NA4P, N4PAA, WA4ZKI, KF4EOD, KA4JRL.
Topics: WA4NOT announced there will not be an ARES net on Thanksgiving; discussion of the S.E.T. Nov 10.
Training: None.
Traffic: None.
Net time: 20:30-21:05.

ARES Net Report for 15Nov2012

Net Control Station: WS4FC (op KG4ECI)
Check-ins: WA4NOT, KG4JWU, KB6MTH, KJ4ENM, KG4FGC, KF4EOD, WB9SZL, WA4ZKI, AF4XC, KE4ZFN, KC4WSK, KA4JRL.
Topics: WA4NOT gave a de-brief of the recent Simulated Emergency Test (part 2) and simplex check; requested suggestions for future simplex tests in Forsyth County.
Training: None.
Traffic: None.
Net time: 20:30-20:52.

Red Barn Data Center

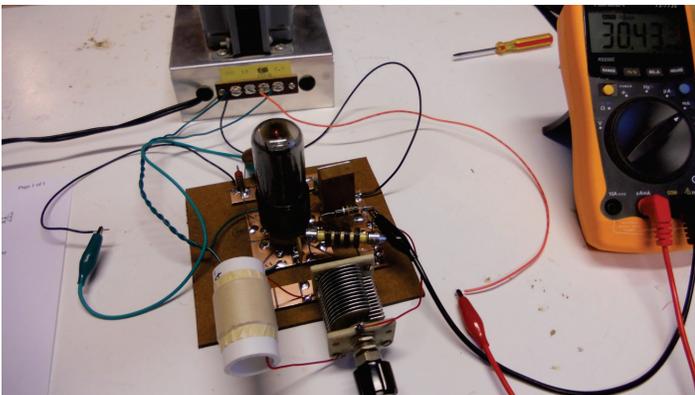
by Catherin Pitts

The story of Andy Pitts and the Red Barn Data Center is nearing completion as a book. Before going to print, it must be sent off for copyright, then find a printer etc. It is my guess that it will be printed in late December or early January. I have no idea what the price will be, but it should be reasonable. Just to get an idea of how many to have printed, let me know if you are interested in buying a copy. No obligation -- just an interest.

RBDC was the first to bring the Internet to NC in 1994. This is history. email me at cwp@cwprbdc.com

The Buffalo are Still Roaming . . .

I received an email from our westernmost member, James AE7AX in Wyoming. James is always building the most interesting projects.



Don: Sorry I cannot make it to the November meeting with a homebrew project !! Today I've been tinkering around with a 6V6 oscillator that works great ... does not even chirp. Draws 30ma at 250 volts. My plan is to make a 40 meter CW transmitter with a 1625 amplifier section, and have it ready to use for ARRL "Straight Key" night 31 DEC 2012. More to follow.

James K.
AE7AX

P.S. The deer and the antelope are still playing ... and the buffalo are still roaming!!

Editor's Corner

First, my bad. I made a big booboo in the SERA ad for the January Hamfest. I forgot to change the year and left it in 2012. I had wanted to share the blame by pointing out how it has passed around but I didn't send out a copy for checking. I don't think it will increase our attendance for last January, and maybe a few people will come to this January to rub my nose in the very public booboo.

Don't forget there is NO 2ND MONDAY MEETING in December - it is the 2ND TUESDAY AT BIG SHOTZ IN CLEMMONS!

The Newsletter is a little short this month. My computer crashed (corrupting a very important file with it!). Ultimately I just bought new guts so it's a new machine in an old box. Not really my planned Christmas gift for myself, or the way I wanted to spend a week of my time. I'll run some photos of the November meeting in January. Thanks for all that brought something to Show-&-Tell. Tim, as usual, blew us all away with his projects - especially the XY laser cutter. (Warning: Don't look into laser beam with remaining eye.) Yes it was BRIGHT - and that was the laser from a CD writer. Steve KG4JWU brought one of his projects. Jim WA4NOT had a really nice 2-meter portable beam that would be a great club project. Henry W2DZO and Gene WB4MSG (cheated a little) and brought the club's new K3 - which was a couple of nights assembly work - nice job guys!

And a big thanks to Scot Meloun N4MYM for his generous donation of his old HF station which will go towards our new K3's.