



Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

# Newsletter



December, 2016

Founded December 30, 1930

## Holiday FARC Meeting and Dinner

The December FARC meeting will be held on the FIRST MONDAY December 5 at the River Ridge Tap House. **Food orders will begin about 6:30pm.** The restaurant is located at 1480 River Ridge Drive in Clemmons near the intersection of US421 and Lewisville-Clemmons Road. This year we may be an overflow crowd so plan on arriving early to get a good seat.

## Mr. President, and pfffft, you wuz gone....

*by Jim, W4UX  
2016 FARC President*

To quote Click and Clack, the Tappet Brothers, "Well, you've gone and done it again." Another year is in the books and what do we have to show for it?



Actually, we have a lot to show for it. Where to begin? Okay, January.

We hit the ground running with the FirstFest bright and early on Saturday, January 9th. Kippe and the ticket crew reported excellent attendance. We sold a lot of equipment that was donated to the club from a local estate. We used the proceeds to buy a new transceiver for a local Boy Scout troop. At the monthly meeting we had Homebrew Show 'N Tell where we had five presentations. Ken Melvin's CW Key and Code Practice Oscillator was voted the best homebrew item. Whew, I'm tired already.

February started slowly but thanks to Henry and crew the club added a nice Hexbeam to our Field Day inventory. We also participated in the NC QSO Party.

Jim Mansfield presented a program on ARES at the March meeting while Dale was busy completing the paperwork for a new Yaesu 2-meter repeater for 04/64.

Kent Englebert presented a prototype for a new member information brochure which was slick. It was later completed

and is a nice asset to recruitment efforts and at our monthly testing sessions.

In May Harold presented a very information program on WSPR. June was a major effort with the WS Hamfest, NPOTA program by Brian Kuebert and Field Day at Hobby Park. I believe Field Day was the best effort by our club in a long time, if not forever. We also celebrated the 85th anniversary of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club.

In July Kent present a nice program on QSL cards while Harold presented a second program, this time on Passive Repeaters in August. Several club members demonstrated the club's capabilities at the Town of Lewisville's 25th anniversary.

September was another full month with the presentation on Buying Used Ham Gear by Mike Atkins and the Tour to Tanglewood, one of our biggest support events, Mason

*Continued on page 3*

## January Homebrew Meeting Show-&Tell

*by Don, WS4NC*

Build something, bring it, tell us about it. Duh! Then wait for the adulation of your peers! 'nuff said.

## First-Fest

January 14 is the FARC winter hamfest. Bundle up and come on out. Bringing some goodies for sale is optional, but always preferred. Details: [http://www.w4nc.com/ws\\_classic\\_hamfest\\_2016.htm](http://www.w4nc.com/ws_classic_hamfest_2016.htm)

## Elections of 2017 FARC Officers

*by Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO  
FARC Nominating Committee Chairman*

No nominations were received from the floor and by acclamation (and a resounding Yea!) the following were elected as officers for 2017:

President- David Shoaf KC4X  
VP- Geoff Rudy KK4MOV  
Secretary- Jim Register KV4SJ  
Treasurer- Kent Englebert K4HKE

Congratulations to our new officers. They deserve all our support for doing a tough job that benefits and supports amateur radio in Forsyth County and the surrounding areas in 2017.

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) and a 444.275 repeater (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 (the Board Meeting) on the 3rd Monday generally at Ham's Restaurant, located in the Thruway Lower Mall on Knollwood Street. 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 <dot> com \*

Officers for 2017 are:

President: David Shoaf, KC4X  
Vice-President: Geoff Rudy, KK4MOV  
Secretary: Jim Register, KV4SJ  
Treasurer: Kent Englebert, K4HKE  
Newsletter Editor: Don Edwards, WS4NC  
Tech Chairman: Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL  
Hamfest Chairman: Open  
Field Day Chairman: Open  
Hospitality Chairman: Open

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We trade newsletters with other clubs, and many clubs are on our mailing list. If your club has a newsletter and would like to trade please send us a copy.

Submissions and inquiries please send to [ws4nc@w4nc.com](mailto:ws4nc@w4nc.com) \*

\*The "funny" email addresses are to confuse the Spam bots. Spam shall be cause of the fall of Western Civilization. Either that or the spork.



## FCC Exams Report and FARC Membership

by, Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL  
VEC Session Manager

Allow me to offer all of you a hearty congratulations on your new Amateur Licenses. I look forward to chatting with you on the air.

**JOELL BARNES KM4YYT  
TED N TANKLERSLEY KM4YYZ T**

For new hams, please complete the information on attached form, if you have not already done so, for a free Membership to the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club (FARC). Mark the form "New Ham - Exam date" Once the form is completed, bring to the next club meeting, or please scan and email to me.

## Amateur Radio License Testing!

Amateur radio testing is available for new applicants as well as upgrades. Exams will be given the 2nd Monday of every month, except December, prior to the FARC regular meeting. The time is 6:30 PM and the place is the Red Cross building on 690 Coliseum Drive in Winston-Salem. Pre-registration is required via e-mail, listing the elements you wish to test for, your phone number and email address. You may pre-register or get additional information via Email to [testing@w4nc.com](mailto:testing@w4nc.com) Attention Dale Mierisch WB9SZL

Please note that candidates wishing to upgrade their license MUST bring:

- A) Their original license for viewing
- B) Two copies of their license, one of which Must be attached to their FCC Form 605.
- C) The Original CSCE and One Copy of their CSCE if they have one.

For new hams, please complete the information on the FARC application (usually the last page of the Newsletter), if you have not already done so, for a free Membership to the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club (FARC). Mark the form "New Ham - Exam date". Once the form is completed, bring to the next club meeting, or please scan and email to me.

Exams are offered before the FARC meeting (2nd Monday at the Red Cross) and start at 6:30 PM in room 109 at the Red Cross building. You are Encouraged to arrive early at 6:20 PM

Preregistration is strongly suggested at info <at> w4nc <dot> com. We try to accommodate walk-ins if we can.

Our biggest challenge continues to be encouraging upgrade candidates to bring a copy of their license to exam sessions. Effective July 1, 2016, upgrade candidates forgetting copies of their license, will be dismissed and invited to bring their license copy to next month's exam session. A copy of your license must accompany the application to the FCC. Any missing copies unfortunately delays the entire license process for all exam candidates. Bring your original license, if you have one, two forms of ID, \$12.00 and successful completion forms (CSCE's - if any).

## How to print a copy of your FCC License

by Don, WS4NC

1. Go to:  
<http://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp>
2. Search for your call sign.
3. Click on your call sign
4. Click on the ADMIN tab
5. Click on "Authorization -- Licensee"
6. Your reference copy license will open in a PDF file for printing or saving.

# Mr. President

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Matrazzo presented our October program on his trip to Washington in support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act and the club participated in the CQWW SSB contest.

In November Don Edwards presented a very informative program on test equipment and setting up a home repair shop. This was the first program using new equipment for streaming our club meetings live, thanks to Henry.

But more exciting stuff is coming down the pike next year. Weather Spotter training is scheduled and a big project around Samuel F. B. Morse is brewing at the Reynolda House thanks to Ray Purdom and could be really big for the club. Stay involved and keep up the great work.



Intrigued? Go to <http://www.dashtoons.com/>

## November Program Test Equipment

by Don, WS4NC,

Thanks to all who texted or emailed me about the program. I hope I answered all the questions, but I'm not always "Johnnie-on-the-spot" about getting to all my emails quickly. If I missed something it was not intentional. OK, I admit it ran really long, but I did warn you. The slide presentation will be available in a week or so for those who requested it.

The main point is that new, and often fairly inexpensive equipment can be bought for not much more than some of the used gear that shows up at hamfests. Sometimes it even costs less and does more. Always go for quality if you can. but if your budget will not support it there really are options. Primarily plan ahead. If you try to do it all in one purchase they will not only be expensive but you will probably buy some of the wrong items. It pays to plan ahead.

If money is a problem and you are starting with little or nothing, first plan ahead. What is it that you want to accomplish? Map out your ideas and when you see something that meets your needs it may be time to pounce.

The usual first piece of equipment should be a good multimeter. On the high end of the standard meter, a Fluke 115 runs about \$180, shown at right. It includes a VoltSense function that will indicate if AC voltage is present without using probes. That is a "killer" application, if you'll pardon the pun.



The Fluke might be a budget buster but one of the cheap Chinese-made meters on eBay are an option. The VC97 runs about \$30, including shipping, shown at left. They are made by several manufacturers I believe, but they look alike, and the quality and accessories may vary. There are other models, this is just one I bought to see what they

are like. They do come over "on the sloooow boat" however so be warned. Usually 2 to 2 1/2 weeks, but perhaps as long as 5-6 weeks. Their end-point accuracy seems very good but their linearity may not be perfect, at least on the one I checked. That should not be a problem for almost everything ham related.

Used Fluke meters do often show up at hamfests but they don't last long. The Fluke 77 is getting a bit old now, I think I acquired my first in the late 1980s and it is still going strong. There are others, Beckman is one that is good. Frequently the current fuse (there are usually two) may be blown. All meters require great care on the current scale. Basically be careful with any

*Continued on the next page*

used meter but current scales are not used often so even if it is bad the meter might be a bargain. Both the Fluke 117 and the VC97 come with capacitance and frequency counter functions. The VC97 adds hfe (transistors) and temperature along with a thermocouple so that might be a plus.



There is still a need for analog meters for many purposes, mainly when you try to peak or null a circuit, a digital meter can be vexing to read peaks and nulls. Setting amplifier bias currents are also a good use and using a digital meter here may make you pickier than you need to be. Almost any old VTVM is

good for peak and nulls - you just want to see that the signal is about the range needed. Among the best of the old VTVMs is the B&K (my opinion) shown at the top above, but RCA Volt-Ohmyst are as good, or better and popular. One version of the RCA is shown at left, there were several models, all just about as good but the later ones would be preferred. Even the Heathkits and Eicos are usually very serviceable. Two versions of the Heathkit are shown below.



The Simpson 260 multimeter is a workhouse and is still the portable analog meter standard, and it is still made. Some version of this meter has been in production for at least 65 years. Check [www.simpson260.com](http://www.simpson260.com) for information. Collectors may make the hamfest ones seem pricey. If you are serious about getting one, try to see the inside and also check for function. Battery corrosion can be a big killer. Also mechanical and electrical abuse may have damaged either the circuitry or the meter and it may not be obvious so be careful.



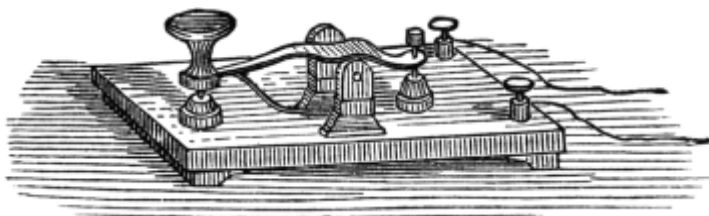
Speciality items here would be a tweezer meter for SMD work and any of the various "pen" type meters. Both use the little round silver batteries so if you have one you might want to stock up on replacement batteries. My favorite tweezer meter is shown at the top of the next column.



Modern bench meters are a little on the luxury side but used ones are often available at a decent price. If you have the money go with Rigol for a new meter but they start around \$470. Above is the basic Rigol bench meter. On the used side are all kinds of HP, B&K, Fluke and other meters. Newer is of course better, but many bargains show up with these. I have bought used older Fluke bench meters for as little as \$20. Many have internal batteries, generally NiCads in the older meters and you will almost certainly have to replace them. If you can live without the battery capability they can be a good deal, but buying new batteries will run your costs upwards of a new handheld. Be very careful replacing NiCads with different batteries, especially lithium because charging circuits are different. The fire hazard is real. If you do replace the batteries disable the older charging circuits. As with any used gear, check for function if you can first. By all means, if you have money to burn go with a new Keysight meter but you are in the kilo-dollar range and up.

Yes there are other options, these are the main ones that came to mind while I was preparing this. Next month I will try to cover another test equipment area.





carefully curated his ideal installation. He walked the halls of the museum, selecting Old Master paintings for his composition, then painstakingly copied the paintings and “installed” them in the virtual gallery. He also included several figures, including himself, in the center, instructing a young woman, and his good friend James Fenimore Cooper, the American writer, shown with his family. The resulting monumental canvas—six feet by nine feet—was both an example of Morse’s erudition and skill and a tool of instruction for American viewers who did not have access to Renaissance and Baroque paintings.

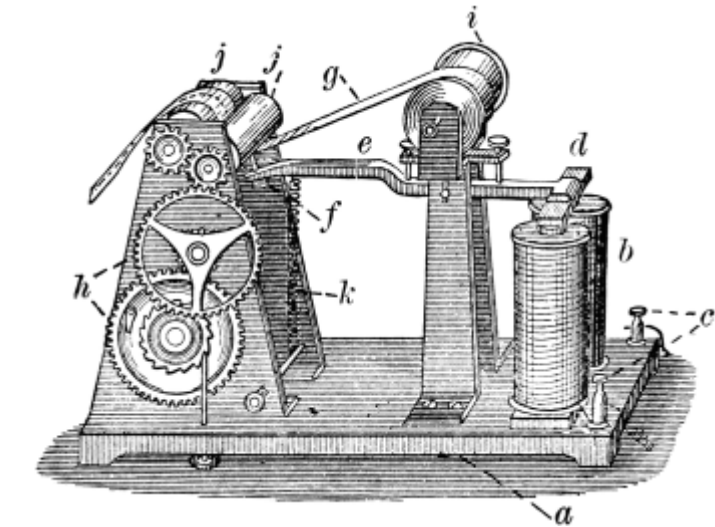
Morse, highly curious and well educated, was as interested in science and literature as he was in art. While returning to United States by ship in 1832, he conceived the idea for the machine that would become the telegraph, even making a crude prototype on board. From then on, technological inventions would occupy him more than art. The disappointing public reception of the Gallery of the Louvre in New York and Connecticut likely contributed to his decision to abandon painting. Today, the painting is recognized as a key work in the development of American art.

In many ways, however, the painting and the telegraph demonstrate Morse’s interest in a single subject: the transmission of knowledge. Morse created the Gallery of the Louvre to instruct American audiences about important works of art. He created the telegraph to communicate information quickly and across great distances. The painting thus serves as a bridge between old modes of communication and new technological tools that heralded the information age. The painting also addresses complex themes such as the relationship between art and science, literature and theater, geography and mapping, artistic practice and the establishment of the canon, invention and technology, and religion. Reynolda’s exhibition of the painting, called Samuel F.B. Morse’s Gallery of the Louvre and the Art of Invention, will include Morse’s epic painting, as well as early telegraph machines, books, and prints to explore these themes as well as to consider the history of the transmission of information.

**[Editor’s note: Thanks to Ray Purdom for being FARC Liaison for this event. FARC is working with Reynolda House with some very special plans for this event. More will be in future Newsletters as the plans become finalized.]**

## How FARC Will be Involved

There will be more about this in future Newsletters as plans are being firmed up. Right now there is a plan for a special event station, CW only, on two dates. While I can hear some of our better CW operators groaning right now, you guys need to get on board. If possible, we might want to do a repeat of the Tonight Show event where CW and cell phone texting is done. Yes that would put a couple of people on the spot here. Also we might want to do a repeat of Morse’s first message relay between Baltimore and Washington - but we probably use the Tara Museum in Chicago and/or Smithsonian and Winston-Salem. And there are some other fairly big plans. This promises to generate a lot of media interest, even the Smithsonian is involved.



## Samuel F.B. Morse’s 'Gallery of the Louvre' and the Art of Invention

EXHIBITION DATES:  
Friday, February 17, 2017 - Sunday, June 4, 2017

Reynolda House Museum of American Art will welcome an American masterwork for this exhibition, Samuel F.B. Morse’s Gallery of the Louvre (1831–33). Created when the artist was living and working in Paris, the painting represents the famed Salon Carée in the Musée du Louvre. Morse spent months painting in the Louvre. Rather than faithfully representing the paintings that were hanging in the gallery, however, Morse

## Upcoming Programs

by Harold, N4HER  
and Geoff, KK4MOV

The main FARC meeting night is always the **Second Monday night** at the Red Cross Building on Coliseum Drive with the meeting starting at 7:30 PM. FCC testing is usually available, please preregister at info <at> w4nc <dot> com. Examinees should plan on arriving at 6:20 PM.

The FARC Business Meeting is on the Third Monday of the month at Ham's Restaurant (where else?) at Thruway Shopping Center at 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

Thanks to Don, WS4NC for his presentation on Test Equipment and a home workshop at the November meeting.

**December 5, 2016 Note it is the FIRST MONDAY!** Our Annual December Dinner Meeting at River Ridge Tap House in Clemmons. There will be NO FCC exams and the meeting starts earlier than usual. Details in the next Newsletter.

**January 9, 2017 Annual Home Brew Show-&-Tell.** Be building something for showoff. We moved this to a little later in the year because much building goes on in the late fall and winter months and this gives a little more time and it gives the new VP a little extra time to get programs planned for the next year.

**February 13, 2017** Brandon Dunstan from the National Weather Service from Raleigh will be here to run our bi-annual Basic Weather Spotter/SKYWARN training. This is a highly attended program with lots of visitors. Tentative plans are to start at 7 PM. Plan on arriving early to get a good seat.

**Other programs in the planning stage.** One I can't mention right now because it is not confirmed will be a repeat of a Blockbuster Event with national interest, there will be guests from around NC.

## Special Event: Mark Twain

11/28 - 12/4

Members of ARRL Headquarters staff will be on the air as W1T, November 28-December 4, in honor of Mark Twain's 181st birthday.



The Mark Twain House and Museum in Hartford, Connecticut.

On November 30, Twain's actual birthday, the Mark Twain House and Museum in Hartford, Connecticut has granted permission for a special event station to be set up in the front yard of the house from 9 AM until 4 PM EST (1400-2100 UTC).

Born in Missouri in 1835, Twain lived in Hartford from 1874 to 1891 and wrote many of his greatest works during that time, including The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, and A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court.

"We are so excited to have our neighbors at ARRL with us on Mark Twain's 181st birthday!" said Betsy Maguire, Manager of

Living History at the Mark Twain House and Museum. "This is a rare treat for the Museum staff, our visitors and, hopefully, many amateur operators across the country who make contact with the station. As a lover of the science and technology of his day, Samuel Clemens would definitely approve of a 'special event station' on the grounds of 'the loveliest home that ever was.'"

W1T activity on November 30 will be exclusively from the Mark Twain House and Museum; all other W1T activity during the week will be conducted from other sites, as ARRL staff time permits. All bands and modes will be considered, including satellite operation. A special W1T QSL card will be available to commemorate the event. Complete information is available on the W1T listing at qrz.com.



## Treasure Hunt

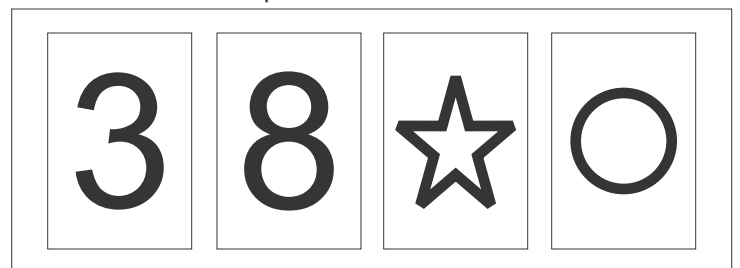
OK, the blue Baofengs are done, no more. So there are no curly brackets hidden somewhere in this Newsletter. All entries since the contest began are going to be dropped in the big drawing drum along with any additional December entries (so that gives you one more chance to win). A Jetstream 2-meter/440 radio was purchased at the Orlando hamfest just for this event. Good luck to all and thanks for participating.

## How About a Monthly Quiz Instead?

In the picture below are four cards. Each has a number on one side and a shape on the other, I am going to pose a statement and ask you to select two cards that will come closest to proving or disproving that statement.

The statement is: "Every odd number has a star on the back." Now which two cards will you pick that will come closest to proving or disproving this? By the way, less than 10% of the population will get this right.

The answer will be in next month's Newsletter along with the explanation why this is related to ham radio. The only prize given will be mental stimulation. I don't know that I have enough subtle quizzes related to ham radio to run a year but I'll see what I can come up with.



Members of the North Country DX Association (NCDXA) will be active the entire month of March 2017 from several different locations in Alaska, Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Greenland using all NCDXA “RST” fixed station calls **KL7RST, VY1RST, VE8RST, VY0RST** and **OX7RST** to further promote Amateur Radio in northern North America. This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual **special event** with the addition of OX7RST, more rovers and fixed stations, new QSLs and certificates! All modes 6-160 meters and WARC bands are permissible. SWLs are welcome to participate. The object is to work or log (SWL) as many NCDXA “RST” stations as you can from their different locations. To participate you need to work each “RST” station only once per their QTH, band and mode. No cross band, cross mode or remote operating allowed. **Portable rover “RST” Stations** will also participate. Some of the portable stations are:



**KL7RST/KL7, VY1RST/VY1, VY1RST/KL7, VE8RST/KL7 and VE8RST/VY1 etc.** Watch the DX spots as we plan to have stations on from a Canadian research station near the North Pole on Ellesmere Island, a diamond mine in NWT, an Alaskan bush school, an OM/YL team from Nuuk, Greenland and many other cities up north large and small.

For your convenience, we’ll upload our logs to ARRL’s LotW. Full color QSLs are

available via K7ICE bio on QRZ.com. Optional full color certificates are also available (email JohnKL7JR@gmail.com for details) for working/hearing any of the “RST” stations. QSL manager **K7ICE**.

**SPECIAL EVENT DURATION:** March 1 through March 31, 2017.

**SPECIAL EVENT EXCHANGE:** NCDXA “RST” stations send signal report and QTH (ie- 5x7 Anchorage, 5x9 Whitehorse etc.). Receiving stations should send signal report and state, province or country.

**SPECIAL EVENT CERTIFICATES:** Beautiful full color certificates are available via K7ICE for: **Level 1...** Work any of the NCDXA “RST” stations. **Level 2...** Work all of the RST fixed stations (KL7RST, VY1RST, VE8RST, VY0RST and OX7RST). **Level 3...** For RST operators and those stations contacting them. **RST ops** work as many stations as you can, and all **others** to work as many RST stations, fixed/rover or portable as they can. Count 1 point for each QSO. All certificates will be emailed in pdf format. Thanks in advance for your DX spots!  
73 de “Yukon John”, KL7JR

NCDXA “RST” stations are on Facebook. Check out the hams you worked and learn about them! <https://www.facebook.com/North-Country-DX-Assoc-K7ICE-1717462798496577/>

# North Carolina QSO Party

February 26, 2017 - 1000 EST to 2000 EST

*Sponsored by the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society*

Enjoy The Carolina Weekend Again!

Full details at <http://www.rars.org/ncqsoparty/>

A whole weekend of Carolina fun for State QSO Party fans! Work counties for both parties and be eligible for a fabulous BBQ dinner having both North and South flavors. See South Carolina QSO Party for details. The Carolina Weekend synergy was well received in 2016 so make plans to participate in BOTH!

While we're on the subject of making plans, you can report your intent to operate via the email reflector (details on the web page), or on the County Activity web page.

## Quick Start Guide

Stations in NC contact as many other stations as possible. Stations outside NC contact as many NC stations as possible. Bonuses for working W1VOA, NI4BK, W4DW, NC4QP, anyone in Graham or Anson County.

County abbreviation list here:

<http://www.rars.org/ncqsoparty/data/uploads/logging/nc-counties.pdf>

NC stations work out-of-state contacts one time per band and mode. Others outside of NC work in-state contacts once per county, band and mode. (You may work a station on 20CW and again on 40CW, for example.) Club, Expedition and Mobile operations are allowed (and encouraged!). There are separate categories for QRP, Low, and High power.

## Battleship North Carolina

One of our perennial bonus stations is NI4BK. Ever wonder what it's like to operate from the Battleship North Carolina? Here's a link you might enjoy:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZY6haEeNPOg&feature=youtu.be>

The pictures are from the youtube video on operating from NI4BK, The Battleship North Carolina. Communication center caretakers and equipment restoration are by the Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club.



Westinghouse Model TDE transmitter, 300 - 18,100 kc, 125 watt CW, 30 watt AM phone, placed in service 9/25/44. The TDE was brought back online 5/30/2006 by "Mac" McCullough, one of the ship's original CW operators. Signal report was 579, with a hum. "But they all do that."





# Calendar of Upcoming Ham Events Hamfests, Special Events, Contests, Club meetings, etc.

By Don WS4NC

[Ed. Note: Newly updated. There really isn't one source to find this information and putting this together requires digging across various club newsletters, NC ARRL Section newsletter (thanks Karl!), QST, CO and other sources. If you know of a correction or something that should be here please send it to ws4nc <at> dwepe <dot> com. With your help I can make this a more useful list including events in NC, GA, VA, SC and TN.] \*non FARC event - confirm with event sponsor.

## HAMFESTS:

**January 14, 2017: Winston-Salem FirstFest**, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Winston-Salem, NC, [http://www.w4nc.com/ws\\_classic\\_hamfest\\_2016.htm](http://www.w4nc.com/ws_classic_hamfest_2016.htm)

**March 10-11, 2017: Charlotte Hamfest**, Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, Concord, NC, <https://charlottehamfest.org/>

**March 25, 2017: Charleston, WV Hamfest**. Charleston Civic Center, 9AM - 2 PM, table reservations: Rick Cummings WV8RC, [rickwv8rc@gmail.com](mailto:rickwv8rc@gmail.com), 336 610-6404

**April 15, 2017: Catawba Valley Hamfest**, McDowell Amateur Radio Association, Morganton, NC, <http://cvhamfest.com>

**April 15, 2017: 45th Annual RARSFest/ARRL Roanoke Division Convention**, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Raleigh, NC, <http://www.rars.org/rarsfest/>

**April 28-29, 2017: 2017 SVHFS Conference**, Southeastern VHF Society, Charlotte, NC, <http://svhfs.org>

**September 1-3, 2017: 61st Annual Shelby Hamfest/ARRL North Carolina State Convention**, Shelby Amateur Radio Club, Shelby, NC, <http://www.shelbyhamfest.org>

## CONTESTS:

11/26/16 CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Nov 26 to 2400Z, Nov 27  
12/1/16 NRAU 10m Activity Contest 1800Z-1900Z, Dec 1 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 1 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, Dec 1 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, Dec 1 (Dig)  
12/2/16 ARRL 160-Meter Contest 2200Z, Dec 2 to 1600Z, Dec 4  
12/3/16 TARA RTTY Melee 0000Z-2400Z, Dec 3  
12/3/16 Wake-Up!QRP Sprint 0600Z-0629Z, Dec 3 and 0630Z-0659Z, Dec 3 and 0700Z-0729Z, Dec 3 and 0730Z-0800Z, Dec 3  
12/3/16 TOPS Activity Contest 1600Z, Dec 3 to 1559Z, Dec 4  
12/4/16 Ten-Meter RTTY Contest 0000Z-2400Z, Dec 4  
12/4/16 SARL Digital Contest 1300Z-1600Z, Dec 4  
12/10/16 ARRL 10-Meter Contest 0000Z, Dec 10 to 2359Z, Dec 11  
12/16/16 AGB-Party Contest 2100Z-2400Z, Dec 16  
12/17/16 OK DX RTTY Contest 0000Z-2400Z, Dec 17  
12/17/16 RAC Winter Contest 0000Z-2359Z, Dec 17  
12/17/16 Croatian CW Contest 1400Z, Dec 17 to 1400Z, Dec 18  
12/17/16 Stew Perry Topband Challenge 1500Z, Dec 17 to 1500Z, Dec 18  
12/25/16 RAEM Contest 0000Z-1159Z, Dec 25  
12/26/16 DARC Christmas Contest 0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26  
1/1/17 SARTG New Year RTTY Contest 0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1  
1/1/17 AGCW Happy New Year Contest 0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1  
1/7/17 WW PMC Contest 1200Z, Jan 7 to 1200Z, Jan 8  
1/7/17 ARRL RTTY Roundup 1800Z, Jan 7 to 2400Z, Jan 8  
1/7/17 EUCW 160m Contest 2000Z, Jan 7 to 0700Z, Jan 8  
1/8/17 DARC 10-Meter Contest 0900Z-1059Z, Jan 8  
1/8/17 Midwinter Contest 1000Z-1400Z, Jan 8  
1/14/17 North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z, Jan 14 to 0600Z, Jan 15  
1/15/17 NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW 0630Z-0830Z, Jan 15  
1/15/17 NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB 0900Z-1100Z, Jan 15  
1/21/17 LZ Open Contest 0000Z-0400Z, Jan 21  
1/21/17 Hungarian DX Contest 1200Z, Jan 21 to 1200Z, Jan 22  
1/22/17 North American QSO Party, SSB 1800Z, Jan 21 to 0600Z, Jan 22  
1/27/17 CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW 2200Z, Jan 27 to 2159Z, Jan 29  
1/28/17 REF Contest, CW 0600Z, Jan 28 to 1800Z, Jan 29  
1/28/17 BARTG RTTY Sprint 1200Z, Jan 28 to 1200Z, Jan 29  
1/28/17 UBA DX Contest, SSB 1300Z, Jan 28 to 1300Z, Jan 29

1/28/17 Winter Field Day 1700Z, Jan 28 to 1700Z, Jan 29

## NEARBY HAM CLUBS AND MEETINGS:

**\*\*Quarterly QCWA Meeting** usually April, June, September and December. See the website for details. Locations varies. ALL members and guests are welcome! Wearing your Ham badge is encouraged. Always a good program. QCWA Chapter 126 Weekly Net: 3.826 MHZ, 8:45AM each Saturday morning. The next Piedmont Chapter 126 meeting will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2016 at the Best Food Cafeteria in Siler City, NC. ALL members and guests are welcome! Our meeting room will be in the Steakhouse. Go into the Gift shop and take an immediate right opposite the cash register. Wearing your Ham badge is encouraged. Directions: the Best Food Cafeteria is at 220 East 11th Street, Siler City, NC, telephone number is 919-742-2475 and located on Highway 64 about 1.9 miles West of the intersection with Highway 421, and right across the street from Marsh Auto Parts. When: Plan to arrive at 11:30AM to socialize, dinner at 12Noon, business and program at about 12:45 PM. Board members are requested to arrive at 11 AM. Program: The program will be by chapter member Jack Emerson, W4TJE on "The W4TJE Adventures: Activating Summits on the Air."

**1st Tuesdays Durham FM Association:** Meets for Dinner (optional) at 6:00pm and the business meeting and program at 7:00pm. We are meeting at Bullock's BBQ, on 3330 Quebec Drive in Durham. For more info on each meeting, check <http://www.dfma.org/>

**1st Tuesdays Davie County Amateur Radio Club:** This may not be accurate. Last info I had was from Kris, KB4MB that "they are 'slightly' active, but basically there is a small group of 2m guys, and a few HF guys and that is it. Maybe 6-10 members at this point?" Doyle, KM4BGJ advises that "The last meeting was in August at the Harmon Masonic Lodge located at 3229 Ray T Moore Rd. Yadkinville, NC 27055 at 7:00 pm. We will be looking forward to this meeting. The club gained several new members on Field Day and also had a new Ham get their ticket on Field Days." Contact Doyle at doyle5362 <at> yahoo <dot> com

**2nd Mondays: The Orange County Radio Amateurs** meet at 1900 at the Orange Count EOC in Hillsborough.

**2nd Tuesdays: Raleigh Amateur Radio Society General Meeting** on second Tuesday of each month, Location: Ridge Road Baptist Church, 2011 Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC, 27607. Time: People begin arriving at 7 PM, The meeting officially begins at 7:30 PM. RARS also meets for a monthly dinner on the first Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. Dinner begins at 6:30 PM. Next Dinner at Golden Coral, 6129 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh 27612.

**2nd Mondays Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.** at the Red Cross Building on Coliseum Drive. FCC Exams are offers starting at 6:20 PM (please preregister at info <at> w4nc <dot> com.) Meetings start at 7:30 PM with a program on various ham related topics.

**2nd Mondays Rowan Amateur Radio Society** at the Rowan County Rescue Squad Building at 1140 Julian Road. Monthly meetings usually begin at 7:00 PM local time, except for the July and December meetings which are "dinner" meetings and thus start a little earlier, usually beginning about 6:00-6:30 PM. Programs may include equipment demonstrations, movies, guest speakers, or just open discussions on radio. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting. <http://www.rowanars.org/>

**3rd Mondays Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Business Meeting.** Open to all FARC members and interested visitors. We meet at Hams Restaurant (how appropriate!) located in Thruway Lower Mall starting at 7PM.

**3rd Mondays(?): Guilford Amateur Society** usually held at Tex & Shirley's Restaurant in the Friendly Shopping Center on Pembroke Rd. 6:00 PM to eat, 7:00 PM to meet. Verify the dates at <http://www.w4gg.org/>

**4th Mondays(?): Guilford Amateur Radio Association** Eat at 6:30pm and the meeting is at 7:15pm. Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, 6108 West Market St., Greensboro, NC 27409. Verify the dates at <http://www.w4gso.org/>

**1st Saturdays(?): Tri-County Amateur Radio Club**, Thomasville: Breakfast at 8:30 am on the first Saturday of each month at the Denny's in Thomasville, 103 Sedgehill Drive (map it). For more details see: <http://nc4ar.org/us/page.php?2>

**Last Mondays: Stokes County Amateur Radio Society SCARS** <http://k4stk.com/index.html>

Continued next page

**Knightlites QRP Club** <http://www.knightlites.org/> Meets in Cary. See website for details.

**Briarpatch Amateur Radio Club** - Next club meeting in 2015 is ? ; the meeting will be held at TCRH. Meetings and FCC Test Sessions Test sessions are held at the Twin County Regional Hospital in Galax, VA unless otherwise announced. <http://galaxbarc.tripod.com>

## Ham Radio Parity Act

If you hadn't sent your letter to Washington it is still not too late, but time is almost out. Read the detail on page 12. ARRL once again is calling on its members to urge their US Senators to support the Amateur Radio Parity Act (H.R. 1301) when it comes up in the Senate during the "lame duck" session of Congress that adjourns in mid-December. The House of Representatives approved the bill in September, but if the Senate does not follow suit, the bill will die, and the entire process will have to be repeated. ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, who chairs the ARRL Board's Legislative Advocacy Committee and has been heavily involved in efforts to move H.R. 1301 forward, said today, "The clock is ticking!"

## Amazon Smile Program

Do you buy stuff from Amazon? If you do there is a way for FARC to earn a little money here. Go to the Amazon Smile link below and register and select Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchases to FARC. It costs you nothing more, but it benefits the club. Anything you order has to be ordered from the Amazon Smile link – if, after you register, you forget to order through the smile program it will usually remind you. Again it costs you nothing more. Amazon is supporting legal 501c(3) organizations through this program. Thanks to Raja, KB6MTH for pointing this out. [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)

## 2 Exciting DXpeditions

**BOUVET ISLAND ACTIVATION PLANNED** – Three proven and experienced DXpedition leaders and a large team of operators have announced plans to activate Bouvet Island (Bouvetøya), the #2 most-wanted DXCC entity in late 2017 or early 2018. For further information, see <http://www.arrrl.org/news/bouvet-island-activation-planned> (source: ARRL website)

**POLISH DXER 3Z9DX REPORTED READY TO RETURN TO NORTH KOREA ON A MOMENT'S NOTICE** – Following a surprise "demonstration" operation from North Korea last December, Dom Grzyb, 3Z9DX of Poland, is waiting for the call that will allow him to return to the #1 most-wanted DXCC entity for another brief activation. For further information, see <http://www.arrrl.org/news/polish-dxer-3z9dx-reported-ready-to-return-to-north-korea-on-a-moment-s-notice> (source: ARRL website)

## Help! Early FARC Records

by Don, WS4NC

Just in case it isn't obvious I am trying to locate as much old history of FARC as I can find. The club was originally called the Winston-Salem Amateur Radio Club. Sadly most all of the early records were lost in a fire in the club shack around 1960. If you have any early records of FARC we would appreciate either the donation of those or at least the opportunity to copy them. Sadly the first thing a family throws out after a ham dies is the paper work - I've been told directly by one family that "that was just old ham radio papers and work papers - no one is interested in that trash." Well, I for one am very interested in that trash.



## DAYTON HAMVENTION!

The biggest gathering of hams in the world, really. It is in May. The Dayton will be undergoing some exciting changes this year in moving to a new and larger location. Now in the planning stages the FARC group is looking for 24, that's TWENTY-FOUR, to go with us next year. We have about 20 spots filled already. The plan is to have a 24 passenger bus with a professional driver who will chauffeuring us around Dayton, to the new location and to dinner. The bus is a nice modern, air-conditioned and bathroom equipped vehicle so it will be a great ride. The cost should be around \$260 for tickets, some booth space, being chauffeured around Dayton area and rooms; basically everything except for your food. We leave Thursday morning around 8 AM and will arrive back in Winston-Salem Sunday night. We stay at the University of Dayton in the dorms, 2 to a room and 6 in one suite so we save a lot on the cost of the rooms. We will travel out to one of the better restaurants in Dayton Friday night and we will take a walking tour of Dayton's Oregon district one night. Other excursions are possible. We have to reserve rooms this month so this is subject to our getting this many rooms. And we need to fill ALL the seats. If you haven't been to an event like this is your opportunity. Payment (non-refundable unless someone takes your place) will be due around February. If you are interested see Henry, W2DZO ( [hgheidtmann@gmail.com](mailto:hgheidtmann@gmail.com) ). We need commitments very, very soon.

# QSL Blast from the Past

by Don, WS4NC

This month is something a little different than a QSL, the NCQSO party got me to thinking about a different ship. Years ago I was in California for a business trip. I and two others, non-hams, played hooky one day and went looking for the sights. We came upon the Queen Mary, now an exhibit and bought tickets for a tour. I insisted that we had to find the radio room, not knowing it was even accessible. My co-workers were less enthused. Wow! Not only was it open but it was in operation. Not by commercial operators but by members of the Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach. IF you had a copy of your ham license with you operation was allowed and if a minimum number of contacts were made then you would (eventually) receive a certificate in the mail. I dug into my wallet and was so glad to find a license copy, stashed there long ago with the thought it might be useful one day. While my co-workers waited, somewhat impatiently, I made the required number of contacts. Reproduced here is a copy of my certificate.

As a teenager I thought the job of shipboard radio operator would be THE dream job. Sadly that didn't happen, partly because my CW skills then were not up to that level. Even today, they aren't. Plus I had other interests. And it was probably a good thing as technology slowly did away with both that job and the prestige that went with it. But it was a nice dream of a life far away and visiting distant ports. I suppose the day-to-day was actually a little more drudgery than the dream suggested. But still . . .

A picture of the radio room is shown below and is very much like I remember it. Operation was a thrill and dreams of long ago came back.

The RMS Queen Mary sailed the North Atlantic from 1936 to 1967. She was the flagship of the Cunard-White Star Line until she was replaced by the Queen Elizabeth in 1946. In the 1930s she and the Normandie competed for the fastest ship title averaging speeds in excess of 30 knots. By the 1960s not only was she too expensive to renovate, she was too expensive to operate and she retired to Long Beach, California.

She is a beautiful ship and recalls the glory days of the week-long sail from England to the US and a world that moved a little slower and with more style and luxury than today. The design is mostly Art Deco and is very much like pre-WW1 ships, a criticism



Picture credit above and below: By RMS\_Queen\_Mary\_Long\_Beach\_January\_2011.jpg: David Jones from Isle of Wight, United Kingdom derivative work: Altair78 (talk) - RMS\_Queen\_Mary\_Long\_Beach\_January\_2011.jpg, CC BY 2.0

of the day, but in my mind a plus now. There is a mural aboard that shows the two main routes, summer and winter. The winter route was moved more to the south to miss icebergs, a good idea after April, 1912. The radio call was GBTT.

Sadly Nate Brightman, K6OSC, called the "spark" behind W6RO, the Amateur Radio station aboard the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California, died on October 29. He was 99. Thank you Nate for what you did - operating W6RO was a great experience.

She operates today as a hotel (yes, you can stay aboard), as a museum and the radio room is still in operation on certain days. Should you find yourself in Long Beach, go visit her. Better yet, go to Wilmington and visit the Battleship North Carolina first. The Battleship North Carolina is a different experience and certainly less luxurious and less panache, but she is closer and the Azalea Coast Radio Club will thank you for it.



# Amateur Radio Parity Act

*from Karl Bowman, W4CHX  
ARRL NC Section Manager  
and ARRL*

On September 13th, ARRL members received the following email (slightly edited) from our Division Leaders, Dr. Jim N2ZZ and Bill N2COP: "...Amateur Radio needs your help. Please take a few minutes to read through this entire email, which will shape the future of Ham Radio. This past Monday, an important first step in antenna relief took place as the US House of Representatives passed HR 1301 The Amateur Radio Parity Act. The bill now goes to the US Senate for a vote, and that's where we need your help. By now you should have received an email from ARRL asking for you to click on a safe hyperlink and enter your zip code, which will automatically send letters to your state's two U.S. Senators asking for their vote for the Parity Act. If HR 1301 passes the Senate, it will then go to the President for his signature and will become law.

Please help us in the effort. It takes only a few minutes. Please go to this linked website and follow the prompts:

<https://arrrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>

As elected officials of the ARRL, we are permitted only reach out to Members. However, the use of this Rally Congress web link can be used by anyone who desires to support this legislation. This is the first federal antenna relief measure in 31 years since the FCC issued the PRB-1 ruling. If it becomes law, the Amateur Radio Parity Act will permit licensed Amateur Radio operators to set up an effective outdoor antenna in neighborhoods and subdivisions with antenna restrictions. Trade industry data suggest that up to half of all Hams live in Home Owner Association (HOA) regulated housing. Furthermore, upwards of three out of four new housing units are covered by homeowner restrictions. Antenna restrictions have been an impediment to operation for many radio operators, so please take a few minutes now to

generate letters to your U.S. Senators in support of HR1301.

Remember who will benefit from this legislation, in addition to those that are currently impacted: 1) older Hams who downsize or relocate to smaller housing; 2) operators who move into assisted living facilities; 3) Hams who move into HOA restricted neighborhoods to take care of an aging or disabled individual; 4) working or military Hams who are in short term housing; 5) youth who get an interest in Amateur Radio and want to become licensed; and, 6) emergency communicators who can provide vital neighborhood links with responders and government agencies. While you may not be currently impacted by antenna restrictions, hundreds of thousands of Hams are. Unless they get a chance to get on the air, the number of licensed operators will diminish, and with that the possible future of our hobby and public service. **Every ARRL member needs to contact their US Senators now –PLEASE!** ... Our thanks to the overwhelming number of ARRL members who contacted their US House Representatives to help get HR 1301 passed!

73, Dr. Jim Boehner, N2ZZ,  
ARRL Roanoke Division Director and  
Bill Morine, N2COP,  
ARRL Roanoke Division Vice Director."

Your help is still needed! And, that is why I am contacting you. Please use the Rally Congress tool to contact our NC Senators – Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis – to request their support of HR 1301 Amateur Radio Parity Act by voting favorably for the Bill. Again, here is the website for the Rally Congress tool:

<https://arrrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>

Thank you for all that you are doing for amateur radio, for your community, and for the Grassroots Campaign for the Amateur Radio Parity Act! 73, Karl W4CHX, ARRL NC Section Manager, (919) 669-6068 (cell) (sources: ARRL website; Dr. Jim Boehner; Bill Morine, N2COP)

## Hara Arena, Home of Dayton Hamvention Closes

OK, let's get it out of the way - we all hated Hara Arena - it was old, poorly laid out, poorly maintained and (at least one year) a sewer. But it was our place we loved to hate. The Hara Arena is closing and going away. Even with its deficiencies, it had a certain allure to those of us who had been there year after year. The Hamvention must move.

The Dayton ARC has announced that the Hamvention will move to the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio. In the two maps shown here to the same scale it is obvious that the Fairgrounds is a much bigger place with lots of open green space. Paved parking might be an issue but I expect a lot of that open green space will be used for parking, and hopefully for fleamarket.



**Hara Arena is the large paved spot in the middle of picture. Most of the area around Hara is other businesses, but the grassy fields were used for parking.**

Those of us who stay at University of Dayton will see little difference in travel, I expect, since Google Maps puts the time to Hara Arena as 21 minutes and to Green County Fairgrounds as 24 minutes. It is longer but better roads and not through town traffic (mostly). Your actual mileage may vary. We'll see.

As to the Hamvention itself there will be some adjustment pains. There is less commercial space and some of that will be covered cattle barns with concrete floors but no AC. Since it is in May that may or may not be an issue. Some years it has been cool and below 40 degrees, some years it has been hotter than a late summer jalapeño.

The buildings are all nearly new, so that is a plus. Sadly Xenia was hit by tornados, most recently in 2000, but that has resulted in all new buildings at the Fairgrounds. How the fleamarket area will be split up is not clear yet.

The Dayton (now Xenia?) Hamvention is a major event. It draws 25,000+ attendees from at least 60 countries. It is estimated to bring about \$18,000,000 in revenue to the area. Major ham manufacturers usually announce their new products there. The fleamarket is without comparison. If you walk all the rows you moved so fast that you can not see everything, especially in the fleamarket where the best goodies usually require some digging.

**The Greene County fairgrounds take up most of the area below. Lots of grassy areas and new buildings - but some are cattle barns.**



Our group that goes up each year is usually limited to 12, although we have discussed doubling that and hiring a professional driver and a bus (see page 10). It is up for discussion. The costs for the trip will probably be under \$300 (maybe closer to \$260) for a place to stay, tickets and a sitting spot in our booth. That is an estimate, not a firm price. Basically all but food. Payment would be due in February or before - so by the time May is here it is paid for. The decision on how this will unfold is still open but will have to be finalized by the middle of December. If we stay with the 12 probably all spots are full - we already have 20+ requests for the bigger group of 24. We'll see what happens. If you are seriously interested see Henry Heidtmann at one of the club meetings and soon - as we have to commit on rooms as soon as they are available.

# Minutes of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club - 14 November 2016

by Terry Brown (AK4D)  
Secretary, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The 14 November 2016 meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club at the Red Cross Building, 690 Coliseum Drive, was called to order by President Jim Atkins-W4UX, at 7:30 pm. He welcomed all attendees, approximately 60, who introduced themselves.

2. Treasurers Report: FARC Treasurer Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO reported the club balance to be \$3611.44. Henry also thanked SmileAmazon.com shoppers who have named the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club as their benefactor of donations to eligible charitable organizations by SmileAmazon. Henry reported that he had received a check from Amazon for \$39.66.

3. Holiday Dinner Info: A reminder was made about the 6pm Monday, 5 December FARC Holiday dinner meeting at the River Ridge Tap House. Food orders will begin about 6:30pm. The restaurant is located at 1480 River Ridge Drive in Clemmons near the intersection of US421 and Lewisville-Clemmons Road.

4. Field Day Results: Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO stated that the results of the 2016 Field Day had been released by the ARRL. The Forsyth Amateur Radio Club came in second place in the 9A division. First place went to a club in Georgia.

5. VEC Test Session Info: VEC Coordinator Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL passed on the VE test session results via email after the meeting. He congratulated the two successful candidates listed below.

- a. Joel L. Barnes-KM4YYY, got his Technician license
- b. Ted N. Tankersley-KM4YYZ, got his Technician license

6. ARES Report: ARES Coordinator Jim Mansfield-WA4NOT stated that he still had tee shirts for club volunteers who helped at the Tour to Tanglewood fund raiser event for MS. Jim gave a summary of ARES and reminded everyone of the weekly ARES net every Thursday night at 8:30pm on the clubs 145.47 repeater. Jim also noted that Dan O'Leary-KG4ECI, club member that had moved from the Winston-Salem area, was on the previous Thursday's ARES net.

7. Reynolda House Samuel FB Morse Exhibition: Ray Purdom-K4ZGV stated that he was still getting information on when and how the club will participate at the upcoming Samuel FB Morse Exhibition at Reynolda House. (Start of Additional Secretary Note: Ray Purdom-K4ZGV send out an email a day after the club meeting with additional details that he had learned. The information included a tentative

schedule of when the club would be involved and other details. Ray also added that for all events, he expected a club display and video on Morse Code operation would be used. Daily schedules included:

a. Media Preview Day: A Media Preview was expected from 10am to noon on 16 February where attendees would be mainly interested in our doing a texting versus code competition. Members of the media possibly would be participants on the texting team.

b. Private Preview Party: A Private Preview Party would be held on 16 February from 5:30 to 7 PM. Details were sketchy but a Morse code demonstration may be requested.

c. Opening Day: Opening Day would be on 17 February from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM where the club would operate a Special Event Station during this time.

d. Community Day: Community Day would be held on 29 April from 11 AM to 3 PM where the club would operate a Special Event Station and also do texting/code competitions.

End of additional Secretary note)

8. 2017 Club Officer Elections: Elections for all four club officer positions (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) for 2017 was held. Jim Atkins-W4UX reminded everyone on the results of the nomination committee that had found club members who volunteered to be considered as candidates for those positions. The candidates consist of David Shoaf-KC4X for club President, Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV for club Vice-President, Jim Register-KV4SJ for club Secretary and Kent Englebert-K4HKE for club Treasurer. All four were present and were requested to stand and be recognized. The floor was opened for additional nominations to be from the floor. None were heard. A motion was made by Harold Richardson-N4HER along with many other meeting attendees to accept the four candidates. This motion was seconded by Van Key-KC4WSK and many others. Motion was passed with ayes by all, no negative votes were heard.

9. Club Project Meeting: Steve Patterson-WA3RTC reminded everyone about the technical workgroup meetings held each third Tuesday at 7pm at the Miller Park Community Center. Everyone was invited.

10. Building an Electronics Workbench Presentation by Don Edwards-WS4NC: Don Edwards-WS4NC gave a thorough presentation on thoughts to consider when building an electronics workbench. He showed photos of his workshop. Don's powerpoint presentation addressed critical issues such as the differences between accuracy and precision and equipment errors. Don talked about the need for an anti-static mat. He then talked about multimeters, power supplies, soldering irons, surface

mount components and how to do and undo, techniques of soldering and desoldering, types of solders, stereo microscopes, jewelers loops, safety glasses, vises to hold circuit boards safely, calipers, small tools, watt meters, signal generators, RF generators, pulse generators, oscilloscopes, audio analyzers, antenna analyzers, spectrum analyzers, frequency counters, communications monitors and many more pieces of equipment. For each item, Don talked about specific items and types to obtain and ones to avoid and also the price of new equipment and used.

11. Baofeng Hand Held Radio Winner: Don Edwards-WS4NC presented Ron Gregoire-W4UDB with a new Baofeng handheld radio as winner of this month's contest.

12. Prior Meeting Thank You: Jim Atkins-W4UX presented Mason Matrazzo-KM4SII with a Duncan Donuts gift card for his previous presentation on his trip to Washington, DC and his meetings with Senators Burr and Tillis and Representative Virginia Foxx. Mason's visit to

## Minutes of the Board of Directors of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club - 21 November 2016

*by Terry Brown (AK4D)  
Secretary, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club*

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The monthly Board of Directors Business Meeting, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, was held on Monday, 21 November 2016 at Ham's Restaurant, 367 Lower Mall Drive, Thruway Shopping Center, Winston-Salem. The meeting was called to order by FARC President Jim Atkins-W4UX, at 1937 hours. He welcomed all meeting attendees.

2. Meeting Attendees: The sixteen meeting attendees were Jim Atkins-W4UX, Harold Richardson-N4HER, Terry Brown-AK4D, Don Edwards-WS4NC, David Shoaf-KC4X, John Kippe-K1PPE, Jim Register-KV4SJ, Sam Poindexter-NI4TG, Daryl Knight-N5WK, Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO, Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV, Ray Purdom-K4ZGV, Harlan Cobert-W1HRC, Steve Patterson-WA3RTC, David McDonald-N5WNB and Kent Englebert-K4HKE.

3. Treasurers Report: Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO, FARC Treasurer, stated that the club balance was \$4021.21.

4. Dayton Hamfest: Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO led general discussion of the 2017 Dayton Hamfest which is reported to be moved to the Greene County fairgrounds at Xenia, Ohio. Discussion was held on potential bus transportation and cost to the hamfest, a small increase over last year in housing costs at the University of Dayton and preliminary estimates of cost per person.

5. December Holiday Party: Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO reported that he would reconfirm the 5 December 6pm

reservation for the FARC Holiday party at the River Ridge Taphouse located at 1480 River Ridge Drive in the shopping center located at the intersection of US 421 and Lewisville-Clemmons Road.

6. Reynolda House Samuel FB Morse Exhibit Update: Ray Purdom-K4ZGV updated everyone on the upcoming Samuel FB Morse Exhibit at the Reynolda House.

a. Media Preview: There will be a Media Preview on 16 February 2017 from 10 AM to noon where they are mainly interested in the club doing a texting versus code competition. They would like members of the media be participants by being competitors on the texting side. It will be critical that the better CW skilled club members be part of this competition.

b. Private Preview Party: This will also be on 16 February from 5:30 to 7 PM where a Morse code demonstration may be requested.

c. Opening Day and Community Day: Opening Day will be on 17 February from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Community Day would be held on 29 April from 11 AM to 3 PM. During either Opening Day or Community Day or both, the club could operate a Special Event Station. Discussion was held on where to possibly place antennas, radio setups and at least a dozen club members will be needed for either or both days to be a success.

d. Other Needs: During any of the events, club displays or videos of 5 to 6 minutes in length will be needed. Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO stated that his students could help produce a video.

7. Vagabond Request: Jim Register-KV4SJ had a Vagabond request asking if they could provide drinks and snacks at the Firstfest Hamfest. Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO reported that Summit School cafeteria restrictions do not allow food to be sold, but donations could be accepted for drinks and food given out.

8. 2017 Business Meeting Location: David Shoaf-KC4X stated that he would reserve the Ham's Restaurant side room for the business meeting held each month on the third Monday in 2017.

9. No December Club Business Meeting: There will not be a business meeting in December..

10. Upcoming Club Meeting Topics: Planned upcoming club meeting topics are:

a. 5 December: FARC Holiday party....details are covered in paragraph 5.

b. 9 January: HomeBrew Show and Tell

c. 13 February: Skywarn Training, program starting early at 7PM

d. Future Planned Meetings: A future presentation by Charlie Klutz- on low band DX'ing and on the Reynolda House Samuel FB Morse exhibit was discussed.

e. Terry Brown-AK4D will send an invitation to Riley Hollingsworth-K4ZDH to join us at a meeting or do a presentation to the club.



## Jamboree on the Air

by Bill, KK4ZIU

The JOTA was a big success this year in spite of poor propagation. A big thank you to those who helped. And we would love to have more stations involved next year. The following are all reports from the K2BSA on the 2016 JOTA for those who would like to follow the BSA and JOTA:

### 2016 Jamboree on the Air Report is Ready

We've completed the 2016 JOTA Report and the news is good. Participation was up from 2015 despite terrible propagation. The number of Scouts increased by over 50% and the number of stations filing their reports jumped 28%. Check out the full report at 2016 USA JOTA Report to find more numbers, station quotes, photos, and suggestions for 2017.

One station talked to a Scout in Indonesia who advised that they needed to be careful of Komodo dragons when they go camping. Another station used Winlink to send an email via HF to a Scout's smartphone.



There were suggestions and the BSA National Radio Scouting Committee will be reviewing these over the next several months to determine the improvements we can make for 2017. Do the same with your station and we'll see what happens the third weekend of October in 2017.

### New JOTA-JOTI Introduction Video

As part of our overall communication efforts, we've produced a short video introducing Jamboree on the Air and Jamboree on the Internet. It can serve as an excellent introduction for all Scouting audiences, from parents, to unit and district leaders, to planning roundtables. Use it as part of your efforts to line up Scouting events, like district and council camporees, with Jamboree on the Air. (see [www.k2bsa.com](http://www.k2bsa.com)).

### Radio Scouting Net

Chris Overbey, WA5DM, hosts a monthly Radio Scouting Net on the second Thursday of every month. Time is 9 PM Central on Echolink \*JOTA-365\* (480809) — Next is December 10. Check in and compare notes about your JOTA station.

### K2BSA Amateur Radio Association

Everyone is welcome to join the K2BSA Amateur Radio Association. Dues are \$12 for a lifetime membership. Join here: [www.k2bsa.com](http://www.k2bsa.com).

We've posted an overview that captures the essence of our plans for the K2BSA operation along with our full operations plan. We hope to work you on the air during the Jamboree. Or, if you're attending the Jamboree, bring along your HT and work the three repeaters that Icom America has provided.

### Follow the Radio Scouting Conversation

You can keep up with the latest developments in Radio Scouting by following one or more of these social media links or signing up for an email group.

<https://www.facebook.com/K2BSA.Scouting/>  
[https://twitter.com/k2bsa\\_scouting](https://twitter.com/k2bsa_scouting)  
<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ScoutRadio/info>





## Teletype Perforation Tape

I know this is a weird request, but we will be needing some paper tape for the upcoming Samuel FB Morse exhibit at Reynolda House. The preferred type would be the yellow stuff used on ASR-33 Teletype machines but the older 5-level Baudot machine tape will work. Anything with a width under 1-inch but even that is negotiable. The preferred type would be without the index holes but we are not picky.

We are building a morse code printer for young visitors to take home their name in Morse code at the upcoming SFB Morse Reynolda House exhibit. We can find the tape, it isn't rare, it's just that no one has any need for it anymore. Should you have a roll or two (or 50?) stored away that you would be willing to donate it would be appreciated and would be going to a good cause.

## Select items from ARRL NC Section Newsletter

by Karl, W4CHX,  
ARRL NC Section Manager

REMINDER! MOMENTUM BUILDING TO URGE SENATE PASSAGE OF THE AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT – The response to ARRL's call to action urging the support of US Senators for the Amateur Radio Parity Act, H.R. 1301, has been gratifying — although the campaign continues. For further information, see <http://www.arrl.org/news/momentum-building-to-urge-senate-passage-of-the-amateur-radio-parity-act> (source: ARRL website) Presently, the US Senate has recessed without acting upon the Amateur Radio Parity Act. But, that does not mean ARRL Members should take a break – your help is still needed! As of October 20th, more than 62,000 letters have been sent to Capitol Hill, including 1,036 letters that have been delivered to each office of our US Senators – Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis. If you have not sent letters, please use the Rally Congress tool to contact Senators Burr and Tillis and request their support of HR 1301 by voting favorably for the Bill. Here is the website for the Rally Congress tool: <https://arrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>

I want to thank all Hams, Scouts, and Scouters that participated in Jamboree On The Air, which was held on October 14-16. Unfortunately, flooding from Hurricane Matthew affected the plans for several registered JOTA stations in eastern North Carolina, which resulted in "scaled down" or cancelled JOTA operations. I am very sorry that Hurricane Matthew affected this worthwhile, youth program. It is hoped that future Jamborees On The Air proceed uneventfully.

## Read-The-Newsletter, Attend-The-Meeting (RTN-ATM) - Maybe win something!

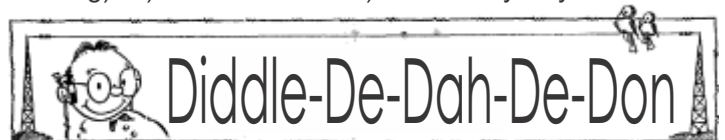
DECEMBER WILL BE THE BIG DRAWING! NO MORE BAOFENGES!

To celebrate our 85th birthday (12/30/2015) we are having a special *participation* drawing. First - you need to read the Newsletter - in the past it has been a curley bracket hunt. This month just answer the correct two cards in the puzzle section. Write your answer on a 3X5 card (provided at the FARC meeting) along with your call.

This month we will pull only one entry from all the previous entries - the winner does not need to be present to win the final prize. At the December, **2016** Banquet all the cards (including monthly winners) received from 8/2015 to 12/2016 will go into one drawing for a new **mobile** 2-meter, 440 radio (Jetstream JT270M or equivalent); for the Big December, **2016** prize you will not need to be present to win (but we hope you will).

The costs of all this has been paid by a special anonymous donation.

Last entries will be accepted this month but there is only one drawing for the 2M/440 radio. The usual 3X5 index card (cards will be provided at the club meeting) or you can print the answer on the back of a *non-refundable* \$20 bill - \$100s are also good (thanks Click and Clack!) and drop it in the box at the next FARC meeting. Rules: 1) Message must be exact. 2) Must be on a 3X5 index card and appear exactly as in the Newsletter. 3) One entry per person. 4) Winner must be present to win or another entry will be drawn (except Dec, 2016 meeting). 5) No cash value. 6) Prizes may vary.



by Don, WS4NC

This month we are graced with some of the most excellent clip art from Jeff, K1NSS, who graciously allows it to be used for non-commercial purposes. Jeff is a gifted graphic artist and a hilarious writer to boot - think ham radio Dave Barry. You should see his web site [www.dashtoons.com](http://www.dashtoons.com). Purr-lease go see it. I laughed, I cried, I peed in my pants!

Thanks to all who contributed to this month's Newsletter. I'm still looking for any old records that relate to FARC or hams who were in Forsyth and surrounding counties.

73, Don WS4NC



# Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Membership Form

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Call Sign                      Birthday (MM/DD/YYYY)                      First Name                      MI                      Last Name                      Suffix

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Street or Mail Delivery Address                      Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
 City                      State                      Zip                      +4                      (Yes) (No)  
 ARRL Member                      (Yes) (No)  
 ARES Member                      (Email) (US Mail)  
 Get Newsletter By

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone                      (Yes)(No)  
 Publish?                      Cell Phone                      (Yes)(No)  
 Publish?                      Work Phone                      (Yes)(No)  
 Publish?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency Contact Number(s)                      Emergency Contact Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Ham Family Member 1                      Call Sign

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Ham Family Member 2                      Call Sign

Note: Full Membership and family members must be licensed hams.

Please check in the box below any special interests and NIMS course accomplishments:

<input type="checkbox"/> CW <input type="checkbox"/> SSB <input type="checkbox"/> Digital <input type="checkbox"/> QRP <input type="checkbox"/> DX <input type="checkbox"/> HF Contests <input type="checkbox"/> VHF Contests <input type="checkbox"/> Science Disc. <input type="checkbox"/> Arduino <input type="checkbox"/> Raspberry Pi <input type="checkbox"/> Kit Building <input type="checkbox"/> Test Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> ARES <input type="checkbox"/> Public Service <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Comms <input type="checkbox"/> NIMS 100 <input type="checkbox"/> NIMS 200 <input type="checkbox"/> NIMS 700 <input type="checkbox"/> NIMS 800 <input type="checkbox"/> Nets <input type="checkbox"/> Antenna Building <input type="checkbox"/> Microwave Comms <input type="checkbox"/> Satellite Comms <input type="checkbox"/> Earth Moon Earth	<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Hunts <input type="checkbox"/> Shortwave Listening <input type="checkbox"/> Ham Astronomy <input type="checkbox"/> Vagabond Network <input type="checkbox"/> Yaesu System Fusion <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Mobile Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Icom D-Star <input type="checkbox"/> FARC Board/Business <input type="checkbox"/> FARC Committees _____ _____ _____	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dues Expire in December</b></p> 1. Regular Dues \$24. If over 65 or full time student, dues are \$12                      _____  2. Donations: (Appreciated!!)                      _____  3. Total:                      _____
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Please make sure your email address is correct. The FARC Newsletter is normally sent to email addresses only because of cost which is now about \$1.00 each if printed and mailed. Although almost everyone has an email address, we will still send some mailings upon special request for those without internet access.

Line three above is asking if you are an ARRL member (Y or N) or an ARES member (Y or N). We track ARRL membership because we are required to maintain a certain percentage to keep our ARRL certifications. ARES membership info is required so that the back of your membership card will show ARES for ARES identification. For ARES members, there is training that you should complete to participate with formal emergency organizations in big emergencies. The needed NIMS courses for participation with those formal emergency organizations are mentioned above in the special interest section. There is a ARES net on 145.47 on Thursday evenings at 2030 hours (open to all) and many fun ARES public service events during the year, often with FREE T-shirts for participants.

For the 6th and 7th lines above, if there is more one licensed ham in the family at the same address, all may be members for FREE after one paid membership.

Please complete the above and return this sheet along with your dues to address below or give to Henry, W2DZO at the next Club meeting. Even if your dues are paid please return this information sheet so club records and your emergency contact info can be kept up to date.

Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
 PO Box 11361  
 Winston-Salem, NC  
 27116-1361  
 Internet address: <http://www.w4nc.com>

Thank you and 73,  
 Don, WS4NC, FARC Newsletter Editor and  
 Terry, AK4D, FARC Secretary