



Newsletter



Homebrew?

The November meeting is our "homebrew" show-and-tell. It's not too early to be thinking about what goodies you can build for this year's homebrew contest. Because it really is a contest this year. There will be quality prizes (like the door prizes) this year for the top three entries. Voting will be by the club members present at the November meeting. It doesn't have to be a 1400 IC, 12,000 transistor, and 400 tube rig. Just something you've built. It can be from a kit or something you've "cooked" up. In past years we've had everything from homebrew microphones to commercial kits. The only rule is that it needs to be related to ham radio and you will need to make a short presentation about it. And, yes you can bring more than one item. As a matter of fact, it's encouraged!

Recent Club Meetings

If you haven't been to the past several club meetings, you've missed some very good programs. In February Robert, KG4NEP, presented a great program on commercial tower work, especially the lighting systems. He brought several tower lighting systems for "show-and-tell", including a BIG red lamp housing which was about three feet tall and nearly 2 feet around. Did I mention it was Big? Also he brought a couple of the more modern strobes, one of which he fired at daylight brilliancy. Some of us are still seeing 'blue dots'!



The BSA comes to visit!

FARC had a visit from Boy Scout Troop 722 at our February Club meeting. Most local Scout troops meet on Monday nights so arrangements were made for the Troop to visit just before our Club meeting. Raja, KB6MTH showed off the station and discuss a few aspects about ham radio and the functions of the various equipment while Don, WS4NC made a few contacts on 20 meters. Then we put most of the Scouts on the air to chat with some of the contacts.



DOOR PRIZES!



Terry Hendrix is proudly showing off his new \$2, 2-meter, 2-Watt handheld. Terry bought 2 door prize tickets last month and won the drawing. He picked one of three boxes, the remaining two are for the next two months. John Kippe, N0KTY won February's door prize. It was an 8 connector Rigrunner from West Mountain Radio, retail cost about \$100 with shipping. Tickets are \$1 each and only sold at the meetings. Drawings will be held just before we break before the business meeting. Your odds of winning are excellent!

Amateur Radio Exams

Amateur Radio exams will be given at the American Red Cross, 690 Coliseum Drive, Winston-Salem, NC (Beside WXII-TV), Saturday, May 3rd at 9:00 AM by the W4VEC VEC Group. For more information see the W4VEC VEC website at: www.w4vec.com or contact Dan Yemiola', AI8O atai8o@yahoo.com. Be sure to bring two forms of ID, one being a photo ID, your SSN, original license, photo copy of your present amateur license, and any CSCE's. Also you need to bring your FRN which is required by the FCC. This can be obtained from the CORES database, or you can refer to the letter that you received or will receive from the FCC.

Club Meeting, Monday, April 14, 2003

We will meet, as usual, on the 2nd Monday of the month, April 14, at 690 Coliseum Drive in the Red Cross Building at 7:30 PM sharp in Room 09, but come early, say, 7:00-ish, to 'hob-nob' with your fellow hams. The door prize last month was a Radio Shack 2 meter hand-held, won by Terry Hendrix. There will be a great door prize with tickets only \$1.00 each. Don't miss it!

Last month our exalted President, Raja, KB6MTH, gave us the layman's version of his Nuclear, Biological, Chemical warfare lecture for medical professionals. That's NBC, but not the TV network. He covered the many hazzards, a summary of what the effects are likely to be on the human body and what would be the most appealing to a terrorist's mind. Most importantly he covered what situations and terminology a ham responding to an ARES activation would encounter. The most important thing - stay in the green (safe) areas and leave the business end to the professionals.



Raja, KB6MTH, presented a heavy subject, *Basic Information for Volunteers During Possible Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Terrorist Attacks* with his usual gusto.

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, 610 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, 610 Coliseum Drive in Winston-Salem. The club conducts its main business meeting (sometimes inaccurately and wrongly called the Board Meeting) on the 3rd Monday generally at the same location. This is where most of the club's business is conducted and all attending members have a vote. All club members are strongly encouraged to attend the business meeting. For more information about FARC mail us at FARC, Inc., PO Box 11361, Winston-Salem, NC, 27116; call 336-723-7388; or visit our web site at www.w4nc.com. Club email is to w4nc@triad.rr.com.

Officers for 2002 are:

President: Raja Chatterjee, KB6MTH
336-922-9801,
kb6mth@arrl.net;

Vice-President: Robert Whitaker, KG4NEP
336-414-4864
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Secretary: Dan O'Leary, KG4ECI,
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To join our list server send a blank email to
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.

NC QSO Party

Unquestionably the best NC QSO party ever! Henry, N4VHK, is still polishing the final stats since the dead-line for log submission just closed. Full details next month will be out this month. Plaques are in the process of being made for the award winners. These are beautiful plaques in the shape of North Carolina with engraved brass plates.

The Newsletter Hamfest:

For sale by Wally Bernath, K4UAS:

ICOM 471 A Transceiver, all mode, 25 watts, 430-450 MHz; Linear amplifier, 100 Watts 430-450 MHz, includes rec preamp; ICOM 211 transceiver, all mode, 10 Watts, 144-148 MHz; Linear amplifier, 80 Watts, 144-148 MHz, includes rec preamp; AMECO RF preamplifier 1.8 - 30 MHz, self powered; MFJ Packet Radio, TNC2 unit; MFJ receive signal enhancer; Homemade KW transmatch, 1.8 - 30 MHz vernier dials and variable L; 1296 beam antenna, 28 element loop yagi N connector, 50 Ohm; Documentation for all units is included. Call Wally, K4UAS, 336-725-0176

National VX-501 VFO & Rohn 45 Tower Section Wanted

I'm looking for a matching VFO for a 1960's vintage National NCX-501 transceiver, hopefully at a price I can afford in my recently unemployed state. Also, since I hope to get my tower up this spring it would be nice to have one additional tower section. Don Edwards, WS4NC, 336-413-3838

FCC Exam Report

The next Test Session at Winston-Salem will be on Saturday, May 3rd. For more information see the W4VEC VEC website at: www.w4vec.com or contact Dan Yamiola, AI8O at ai8o@yahoo.com. Be sure to bring two forms of ID, one being a photo ID, your SSN, original license, photo copy of your present amateur license, and any CSCE's. Also you need to bring your FRN which is required by the FCC. This can be obtained from the CORES database, or you can refer to the letter that you received or will receive from the FCC.

73, Dan, AI8O

Way-To-Go Dan-o!

Speaking of exams our own *Extra*-fine Dan O'Leary, KG4ECI, passed his Extra exam at the April VEC exam. Extra-first class way-to-go Dan-o!



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Law & Order & ... Woody?

"The man who represents himself has a fool for a client." Well, maybe the results should speak for themselves. Woody, N4PLQ, on one of his deliveries was 'caught' by a couple of Winston's finest for speeding. Well they thought he was speeding. Woody knew he wasn't, and he knew that their radar readings has bounced from a brick wall and been reflected from traffic on I-40. But how to prove it? Well, he did. In court. As his own attorney. With charts and maps and technical information on radar beam widths, etc. He entered his ham license as some proof that he had knowledge of radio. Case dismissed. Great job. Step over Perry Mason. But, children, don't try this at home. Your mileage may vary.

Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club was held Monday, March 10 at the Red Cross chapter house. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Raja Chatterjee KB6MTH.

Program:

Raja Chatterjee KB6MTH opened the meeting by showing the Walter Cronkite KB2GSD video. Subsequently, Raja gave an enlightening presentation on bio-terrorism and how Amateur Radio might play a role in a bio-terror event.

Next, the door prize drawing was held. Terry KC8OEX won the evening's prize - a Radio Shack two-meter handheld.

A 15 minute break was called at 8:35.

At 8:50, the meeting resumed with the business portion:

Old business:

Henry Heidtman W2DZO purchased the Club's new "emergency" rigs; a TS-920 and IC-706. These will be used for Field Day, disasters, etc.

Treasurer KT4KV: The treasury remains in good standing.

Technical chair WB9SZL: All three repeaters remain in good working order. Upgrades will continue as time permits.

ARES: ARES was activated during the recent ice storm to run communications for the Red Cross temporary shelter. Several club members participated.

Announcements: In time of disaster or emergency, ARES can always use more volunteers. If you might be able to help, contact Doug Fanning KE4UGR.

*Respectfully submitted for approval,
Dan O'Leary KG4ECI
F.A.R.C. Secretary
2001, 2002, 2003*

Hamfests

Raleigh Hamfest - Sunday, April 13, Jim Graham Building, NC State Fairgrounds. The third largest hamfest in NC. A must-go!



PIANO TUNING

Paul V. Jordan
KG4LDB

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336-768-6961
pj735@bellsouth.net

Beacham Leonard, W4RXG, SK

Mr. Beacham Leonard, 79, of South Hawthorne Road, died Saturday morning, April 5, 2003, at the Sticht Center at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. Mr. Leonard was born Oct. 9, 1923, in Nash County to Joseph Alfred and Annie Wilder Leonard. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in the Pacific Theatre. Mr. Leonard was among the first American soldiers into Tokyo in August 1945 to set up communications for the Army of Occupation. After the war, he attended the Capital Radio Electronics Institute in Washington, D.C. and came to Winston-Salem in 1948 as an engineer with WSJS Radio and later television, now WXII. He was with WSJS until 1969, when he left to go to work for Kirkman Electronics. In 1972, he became an electronics instructor for Piedmont Aerospace Institute, leaving there in 1974 to return to Sauratown Mountain as transmitter engineer for WUNL Channel 26, a part of the UNC Center for Public Television System. Mr. Leonard was a licensed amateur radio operator with the call sign W4RXG. In April 2001, the American Radio Relay League honored Mr. Leonard for 50 years as a ham radio operator. After his retirement in 1988, Mr. Leonard was a charter member and past president of the Golden K Kiwanis Club and enjoyed working with the Special Operations Response Team (SORT) setting up communications systems. Mr. Leonard was a member of the First Presbyterian Church for 54 years. He was also a member of the Ardmore Community Club. On June 25, 1949, he married the former Elizabeth East, whom he met at WSJS. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 25, 1999. Mr. Leonard is survived by his wife, Elizabeth of Polo Ridge; his son, Joseph Beacham Leonard and wife, Carol of Kennesaw, Ga.; his daughter, Melissa Leonard Hall of Winston-Salem; granddaughter, Meghan Elizabeth Leonard of Manila, Ark.; his twin brother, Kemp Battle Leonard and wife, Ernestine of Roanoke Rapids; his sister, Myra Joyce Henderson and husband, Andy of Cary; his sisters-in-law, Doris East and Nancy East, both of Winston-Salem, also survive him. Two special feline friends, Buffy and Kitty Cat brought joy into his life. His parents, two brothers-in-law, Whit East and Bill East and his son-in-law, Luther Hall, preceded him in death. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at First Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Dr. Jeff White and the Rev. Donna McClellan presiding. The family will receive friends in the fellowship hall following the service. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to: Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 11361, Winston-Salem, NC 27116, SORT, 121 Polo Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27105 or First Presbyterian Church, 300 N. Cherry Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101. The family would like to thank the staffs of the Sticht Center, Polo Ridge Assisted Living Center and The Nursing Center at Oak Summit for all their care. A special thanks to Dr. Franklin Millman, Donna Brooks, R.N., and the staff of University Internal Medicine Associates for many years of good care.

Published in the Winston-Salem Journal on 4/7/2003.

Images from Elkin

Photos by Mike, KB4WJA



Editor's Corner

While the passing of Beacham, W4RXG, is a great loss to his family, it is also a large loss to the ham community. I have known Beacham for over 20 years. He was always the perfect example of the "Southern Gentleman". He always had something good to say about everyone. His love of 'gadgets' he shared with all those around him. His son Joe, a.k.a. "Sandy", WA4HWT, and daughter Melissa, KD4VED, are both hams. Beacham served three times as president of FARC, and Melissa was president twice. Whenever a new technology came along, Beacham was there. He worked in television broadcasting when it was very new technology. He build and maintained repeaters for other hams to use before repeaters were common. He was probably the first person on packet in NC. One of the first things to be done when he and his wife moved to a care facility was to get Roadrunner connected so Beacham could use Echolink. Nothing was too new. Beacham was always there with enthusiasm and a kind word; ready to lend a hand or an ear, whatever was needed. He always made Club meetings whenever possible because he knew it wasn't really about the technology, it was about the people. Through his shining eyes and beaming smile at those Club meetings you knew that Beacham was having fun. 73 Beacham, we will miss you.

73, Don, WB4KQN

For information to make it into the Newsletter, I need it a few days before the end of the month. Sometimes I can squeeze it in on the last day, depending on when the 2nd Monday falls. Email me at wb4kqn@triad.rr.com with any submissions. Just plain text is all that's required, most formatting will be redone to match the Newsletter's form anyway. Pictures can be most any form, but jpg's are probably best. Pictures need to be of the highest resolution possible.

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WA4MOK Appointed NC SEC

Bernie Nobles WA4MOK of Winterville will become the new NC ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC), effective April 12th, 2003. Nobles was appointed by NC Section Manager John Covington W4CC after current SEC Dave Fleming KE4JHJ of Winston-Salem decided to step down after four years of service.

The SEC is appointed to take care of all matters pertaining to emergency communications and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service in the section. The SEC generally has a statewide presence on the Tar Heel Net, nightly at 7:30 on 3923 kHz (the Tar Heel net is the official Section HF ARES net).

"I'm very pleased to be able to appoint a well-qualified person to this position," Covington said. "Bernie has served us well as the Eastern Branch Assistant SEC for four years, and served as a District EC for four years before that. He will do an outstanding job as SEC." Nobles was also Pitt County EC.

Bernie Nobles was first licensed in 1960. He is a past president of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club in Greenville (seven times), and chaired the club's Field Day effort at least 16 times, according to the club's newsletter, the Ham Chatter. Editor Dave Langley W4YDY adds that recently Nobles has been actively elmering new hams in the BARC club, running sessions on operating, setting up a station, emergency operations, antennas, demos, etc. Professionally, he is a site supervisor for the UNC Public Television system, and spends a lot of time several thousand feet in the air on towers around the state.

Outgoing SEC Dave Fleming served during two challenging disasters for ARES - Hurricane Floyd in 1999 and the December 2002 ice storms, and has been involved in development of the recently completed NC RACES Guidelines. "Dave will become the Area 9 District EC, which has been a difficult position to fill. I'm glad Dave is remaining a part of the team, he has been a big contributor to ARES in many ways," Covington said.

NC Section leadership wish to thank both Dave Fleming and Bernie Nobles for their participation in ARES.

by Gary Pearce KN4AQ, NC Section PIC

