

DURHAM FM ASSOCIATION



March 2008 Newsletter Sidney Edwards W4QWM Reporting

Tuesday March 4 DFMA Meeting 6:00 PM

Dinner: 6:00 PM Guests welcome.

Program:

The presentation at the March membership meeting will be given by Mr. Peter Eckhoff an EPA researcher. He is President of the Triangle Electric Auto Association and is completing conversion from gasoline to electric drive of a Suzuki Samurai. Hopefully it will be drivable to the DFMA meeting. Peter is not an electrical engineer but he is well self-taught in the art of building an electric auto. Rhett George, KI4HHH is making the arrangements.

Upcoming Events:

All DFMA members are encouraged to attend the monthly meetings. You are welcome to come at 6 PM and enjoy dinner; however, **you can just come around 7 PM and attend the presentation** and post meeting eyeball QSOs.

DFMA Meeting Minutes

Durham FMA Club Meeting 5 February 08 7:30pm

Mac opened the meeting and had everyone introduce themselves. We had a great turnout with 23 people present.

Mac announced that club President, David Love and his wife welcomed a new son, Hayden Allen Love. Hayden was born on Monday, January 28 and weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces. Mac stated that they need assistance moving the last few items plus a truck to haul items. They have moved into a new house. Anyone interested in assisting should talk to TD.

New Items – the club and ARES is working on writing an agreement. Mac and Lisa are writing it. Anyone is available to see it and make comments. Just contact Mac or Lisa. Charlie researched an HF antenna for the MCU. H has negotiated an offer from Tar Heel antenna. Charlie talked about and explained how it would work and what it will cost. Charlie informed the group that the board had already approved it and recommends that the club approve it. Total cost for everything will be about \$950. The purchase was approved by the group.

The following people signed up to be net control for the following Thursday night nets:

February 7 – Mac February 14 – Bill Creery February 21 – David
February 28 – Dee March 6 – Rhett

Dee gave the treasures report. As of January 31, there is --- in savings and --- in checking. Dues are starting to come in. People may either mail their dues to Dee or turn them in at a meeting.

Charlie provided an update on the repeaters. He received 900 Amp batteries, 6 of them. They weigh 100 pounds each and have been installed. The generator there belongs to Nextel. A new battery was put on the DVR. When it did, the unit dumped its memory and the memory now needs to be reloaded.

People are having trouble hitting the 225 machine in Hillsborough. Charlie is working on getting that fixed.

Mac mentioned about the outstanding job Dee is doing keeping the website up to date. He congratulated and thanked him. The whole club congratulated and thanked Dee.

Upcoming Club meeting topics –

March – Rhett George and his gang are going to talk about electric cars.

April – Lisa Armour is going to talk about Incident Command System (ICS)

May – Show and Tell. Hamfest is the end of May.

Dayton Hamfest – The Greensboro ham club is going to the Dayton Hamfest. They are renting a bus to take them up there and back. Cost is \$250 per person and includes bus ride and hotel room.

There is traffic handling training occurring Sunday's at 5pm. This training came out of the Katrina critic. This will be occurring for the next several weeks.

The lid was presented at the meeting. Dave and Kelly have put the lid into a frame. It was presented to Bill, KI4RAN. It was presented to him because he is always on the air and willing to talk to people.

There are two door prizes. Sue received some tools. Joseph received a peg board tool organizer.

The next board meeting will be on February 19th at Charles Durst office.

We then had Skip provide a presentation on a Radar Fine Asset Tracking System that he and his company have designed.

Meeting adjourned.

HIGHLIGHTS OF DFMA BOD MEETING FEBRUARY 19, 2008

The presentation at the March membership meeting will be given by Mr. Peter Eckoff from the EPA on their electric car program.

The presentation at the April membership meeting will be given by Ms. Lisa Amour on the emergency communications programs.

The DurHamfest will be at the same site as last year. The BOD agreed the indoor sellers will be charged \$8.00 for a space without a table and \$12.00 with a table

The DFMA/ARES Field Day will be at the same place as last year. Wilson (W4BOH) will chair the event. The BOD authorized a \$300.00 budget for food and other necessities.

The 147.225 repeater got new batteries. This replacement unfortunately caused a problem with the DVR which is the source of the truncated announcements being transmitted. . Also the Cane Mt. receiver has a problem and the Gibbs Lane receiver is off due to inference problems. Charlie will work on these.

There was a lengthy discussion of the draft DFMA – ARES MOA. Issues involving coordination, release of equipment, priority and support were clarified. A new set of documents will be drafted by Mac, WQ8U, implementing those clarifications.

Durham FM Association, Inc.

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Meets First Tuesday Every Month 6:00 PM