

DURHAM FM ASSOCIATION



December 2008 Newsletter Sidney Edwards W4QWM Reporting

Tuesday December 2

DFMA Meeting 6:00 PM

Continuing a tradition of having the DFMA pick up the tab for our December Holiday Dinner Meeting, we will meet at Bullock's Barbecue Restaurant in Durham (in the "solarium"). You will be able to order from the menu. (In the past few years we have had the meal catered, but the meeting site at the McMannen Methodist Church was not available this year.)

This is our Holiday Meeting! In that tradition you may (optionally):

* Bring a Christmas gift for a child to be distributed to Durham's needy. If wrapped, mark gender and age range on the outside. (Last year DSS expressed a preference for not having the gifts wrapped -- a gift bag would work, though.)

* The Club will make its annual gift to the Durham Rescue Mission. We will be passing the "hat" for additional personal contributions to that cause.

See our club web page, www.dfma.org, for links to a map and other details.

DFMA Meeting Minutes- November 4, 2008

Attendees: NC4CD, K04T, WA4BNT, KU4GC, W4RWC, N2JFP, W4MKR, KK4PH, KD4AGQ, W4KSP, W4DAP, KE4UCM, AD6Q, Pres Creery, KI4RAN, KE4HIH, KI4QXJ, KE4UVJ, Ben Liddy, W4BOH
Dee (KU4GC, Pres.) opened the meeting. Introductions.

Officers Reports:

David (W4DAP, V.P.): December Meeting will be the Holiday dinner meeting. Bill, KI4RAN, will present in January about HandiHams and Camp Courage. Possible upcoming programs include information on VIPER radio systems and Carolina Helping Hams. Suggestions welcome.

Dee reminded everyone that this years Holiday dinner meeting would be at Bullocks BBQ with the tab to be picked up by the club. Members are invited to bring their spouse or significant other. As last year, the club will be donating to the Durham Rescue Mission, and accepting donations for children on behalf of Durham Social Services.

M.K. (W4MKR, Treasurer): Checking \$9775.97 and \$10,064.92 in the CD.

Kelly (W4KSP, Sec.): Still trying to contact the Bahama Ruritan Club with regard to the Bahama Christmas parade.

Charlie (NC4CD, Repeater Manager): Noise in the DVR recording was some how reloaded when the recording was reloaded. Sid (W4QWM) reloaded it again, and cleared up the noise.

Wilson (W4BOH, MCU co-manager): MCU used at the Durham Emergency Responder showcase, seemed to function well. MCU is at Wilson's house, still need to work on the generator governor.

David (W4DAP, ARES AEC) The showcase was good opportunity to meet with Emergency Management personnel, and plug the usefulness of Amateur Radio.

Announcements:

-November 16, JARSFEST in Benson.

-VE session available at next OCRA meeting Nov. 10, 08 at the Orange County EOC, 7:30pm. See www.dfma.org for more information.

-Dee indicated that Rene' (AI4WJ, BOD) has asked to resign as BOD member due to obligations with work, school, church. We will need a replacement BOD member, please contact Dee or come to the next BOD (Nov 18, 7:30pm NC4CD's office) meeting with suggestions or to volunteer.

-Rhett (KE4HIH) indicated that the Possum Trot net (weekday mornings) needs more operators. Requires excellent record keeping skills to keep up with all the checkins. Perhaps 1 day/week would be greatly appreciated.

-Bill (KI4RAN) indicated that Rene' (AI4WJ) had asked him to pick up his Thursday night net dates until February.

Other items:

JR (KG4NNT) tried to join the meeting via radio, but the portables at the meeting did not seem to have good enough signal strength inside the building.

Don Watt (KE4UVJ) indicated he had information on hot air balloon rides for the DurhamFest, but the cost was prohibitive. They needed a 150ftx150ft area for tethering (rides just up and down) but it was \$1600/2 hours.

Dee (KU4GC, Pres.) welcomed Ben Liddy to the meeting. Ben indicated he hoped to be attending a VE session soon.

Door Prizes: Randy (KE4UCM) won a Milwaukee tool belt, and Bill (KI4RAN) won an adjustable creeper light.

Program: Charles Durst (NC4CD) presented on the various tower types and costs, how much land is required for different tower types, and the various towers one can see in this area. He showed video clips from when the Hillsborough Rhone 25 was replaced with the current tower, as well as news clips from when the ice brought down the TV towers in Raleigh. (Secretary's note: It was an excellent presentation for new DFMA members and those who are interested in putting up a tower. Thank you, Charlie.)

BOD Meeting Minutes November 18, 2008

Attendees: KU4GC, W4MKR, NC4CD, W4BOH, W4RWC, W4KSP

Officer's reports:

M.K. (W4MKR, Treasurer) \$9573.90 in checking, \$10,086.89 in the CD.

Kelly (W4KSP, Sec.) Spoke with Randy Murphy regarding registration for the Bahama Christmas parade on Dec. 13, 08. Glenn Tire on Roxboro Rd has the registration forms, and the due date is Dec. 1, 08.

Discussion over interest in participation in the parade; Dee indicated he would submit it to the mailing list. Wilson(W4BOH, MCU Co-Manager) MCU is drivable. Since it is in his yard, he is keeping it charged and cranked. Generator governor still needs work to adjust voltage enough to run AC. Paul (KE4OXN) has a replacement battery, and Charlie (NC4CD) also has items for the MCU.

Charlie (NC4CD, Repeater Manager) Verizon phone billing (in the care of) corrected so the PO delivers it to the DFMA PO box. Phone line not connected for autopatch on the 147.225 repeater. Charlie hopes to make time in the future to go to the site to work on the voter setup. Wilson offered to help.

DurHamFest: Dee indicated he had talked to Paul (KE4OXN) at the JARSFest, and he had the 2009 DurHamFest flyers. All plan still on track for the Little River School site, and Dee has updated the DFMA webpage.

Other items:

Winter Field Day to be held in mid January. (Sec. Note: Jan. 24 from 12:00EST to Jan.25 12:00EST).

Wilson (W4BOH) indicated he was interested in using the MCU for this event. The BOD approved use. Wilson indicated he would see if any OCRA people were interested in a joint Winter Field day. Brief discussion about the June 2009 Field Day plans.

ARES note: David Marsee to teach ICS 700,100 classes at Durham EOC on Wednesday Nov. 26. See www.durhamares.org for registration information.

Rene' (AI4WJ) has resigned from the BOD. An election will be held to replace him at the next DFMA meeting. Rhett (KE4HIH) has agreed to stand for election for the rest of the term. Other nominations will be accepted at the meeting.

Reminder that the December dinner meeting will be held at Bullocks. Members can bring gifts for children or donate to the Durham Rescue Mission if they desire. No white elephant gifts (by popular request.) Wilson noted that Mac's (WQ8U) house will be on the Hillsborough candlelight Christmas tour this year. Meeting adjourned.

Renewal Time

It is time to renew your membership in DFMA. See our web site for necessary forms

<http://www.dfma.org/index.php/content/view/40/31/>

DFMA Meeting Minutes Durham FM Association, Inc.

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Meets First Tuesday Every Month 6:00 PM