

DURHAM FM ASSOCIATION



April 2009 Newsletter Sidney Edwards W4QWM Reporting

Tuesday April 7

DFMA Meeting 6:00 PM will be held at Mayflower Restaurant.

Tuesday, The April 7th program will be focused on preparations for DurHamFest, along with Show and Tell items.

DFMA Meeting Minutes

DFMA Meeting Minutes, March 3, 2009

KJ4GDW, W4RWC, KE4HIH, KE4QOZ, W4KSP, W4DAP, W4MKR, W4SAR, KO4T, KU4GC, MonteKay DeCamp, Ed DeCamp, KA4AVM, WB4YYY, Pres Creery, KI4RAN, KK4PH, KG4DPS, KI4QXJ, KE4UVJ, KF4QYY, WQ8U, W4BOH

KU4GC (Pres.) opened the meeting. Introductions.

Officers Reports:

W4DAP (VP): Still working on April presentation. With regard to ARES, the EC and AECs are trying to establish a meeting date to work on outstanding issues. With regard to the MCU, the weather sounds promising to work on it soon. The 800Mhz radio needs programming or upgrading now that Durham County has gone digital.

W4MKR (Treasurer): MCU did pass inspection; M.K. rec'd the bill. Checking: \$7910.95 CD: 10152.37.

KU4GC indicated that DurHamFest appeared to be on schedule. KE4OXN has been distributing flyers at area HamFests. W4SAR will be conducting a VE Session.

W4BOH (BOD, MCU) confirmed the MCU had passed inspection. There is also a new floor for the battery box, and he was planning to pull the new wire soon. All the radio batteries are dead, and he needs to get with KE4OXN about getting new batteries.

New Business:

KU4GC indicated that although the Repeater Manager was not present, there had been discussion at the BOD meeting about recent repeater situation and problems. NC4CD recommended purchasing a 2M transceiver to drop in as a back-up. KE4HIH moved to purchase a spare 2M transceiver, and motion was passed.

KU4GC also indicated the BOD had approved joint Field Day operations with OCRA, so W4SAR was providing information on OCRA's current Field Day set up.

W4SAR mentioned the VE Session that would occur at OCRA's monthly meeting, Mon. March 9th, 7:30pm Orange Co. EOC. If directions are needed, contact W4SAR, or check www.DFMA.org.

Announcements:

KE4HIH reminded members that the Possum Trot net could use additional net control volunteers. Please contact KE4HIH if you would like to help.

Door Prizes:

KK4PH won 100ft tape measure; KE4UVJ won dial calipers. KU4GC mentioned that if anyone would like to take over purchase of door prizes, please let him know. The typical amount was \$30 for 2 prizes, paid for by club.

KU4GC introduced W4SAR, Field Day Coordinator for OCRA, to talk about the 2008 field day results, and plans that were currently underway for Field Day, 2009. W4SAR asked that people let him know if they had interest in certain bands or acting as a Band Captain.

DFMA BOD Meeting, March 17, 2009

Attendees: KU4GC, NC4CD, W4RWC, W4DAP, W4KSP, KE4QOZ, KE4HIH, KG4NNT. KU4GC opened the meeting.

Officers Reports:

W4DAP: April presentation is undecided. NC4CD indicated the person he has been trying to get to present on VIPER is unavailable. W4DAP talked about recent MCU work with W4BOH. They pulled the generator, worked on the throttle linkage, stepped up the voltage to avoid the voltage drop to HF radio. The smoke noted at Field Day was not the refrigerator, but the AC fan. A damaged capacitor causing the motor to overheat will be replaced. R22 coolant is still needed for MCU compressor. Some items remaining include some exhaust work, power booster and 12gauge wire installation. W4DAP indicated that KE4UCM was trying to help organize an ARES meeting between the EC and AECs to address some community needs.

KU4GC: The balances are \$7892.48 in checking, and in the CD, 10,172.38.

KU4GC indicated he would like a list of current MCU eligible drivers who have paid their dues to be posted in the MCU, and asked the secretary to compose said list.

NC4CD is waiting on a visit from Danny Hampton to work on 220 exciter and PA.

KU4GC notified NC4CD that the membership had approved purchase of a back-up 2M repeater. and that he could go ahead with the purchase.

KG4NNT noted that KE4OXN was distributing DurHamFest flyers at Concord HamFest. RARSFest April 11th, NC State Fairgrounds.

Old Business:

DFMA will be joining OCRA for Field Day, so the BOD moved to cover the cost of the PortaPotty as a contribution to Field Day. Motion passed. Discussion of distribution of Field Day information via KU4GC's mailing list and the DFMA webpage. KG4NNT asked about an HF antenna on the MCU for a future Kid's Day. NC4CD said we needed to get the new Tarheel antenna purchased and installed. He also mentioned a number of other items he had for the MCU.

DurHamFest ad appeared in SERA. Robotics club will again participate, and will provide food. Upon mention that the coffee was main complaint last year, W4RWC recommended purchase of a coffee urn from SAMs to improve coffee for DurHamFest. KE4QOZ offered to store coffee urn. Motion made to purchase coffee urn, motion passed. W4RWC will arrange purchase of coffee urn and contact KI4JWA.

KG4NNT brought to the BOD's attention that DFMA needed to provide WTVD an acknowledgement regarding the pneumatic mast WA4OPI is holding for the club.

KU4GC indicated he would write the letter if someone would provide description.

New Business:

KE4HIH asked about the female personality announcing on the 147.225 repeater, and if she could be given a PT number. NC4CD said she was no longer in the area, and discussion ensued about updating the announcement with a new voice.

Silent Key:

Former DFMA member Joseph H. Wentz Sr., N4JHW, went silent Thursday March 12, 2009. Memorials can be made to St. Paul United Methodist Church, or St. Jude Children's Hospital at 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Durham FM Association, Inc.

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Meets First Tuesday Every Month 6:00 PM