



Next Meeting:

Tuesday, March 5, 6pm.
At Bullock's BBQ

Program:

**Hallicrafters SX-88
Restoration**

By:

John Green, KX4P

John writes: "Hallicrafters radios were very popular throughout WW II and among short wave listeners (SWL) and amateur radio operators for many years afterwards. A large majority of hams grew up having one or more of their many models produced. Their "top of the line" receiver was produced in limited numbers and for a very short time.

Bob Dennison and a crew made the first dedicated island DXpedition to Clipperton Island in 1954. After many mishaps they finally landed with two of the eighty-pound each SX-88 radios and other equipment. They made 1,108 QSOs!"

John will give a PowerPoint presentation showing the restoration (with the help of several critical friends) and operation of an SX-88 he acquired.

John has presented several great programs at our previous meetings. He presentations always shine and should not be missed
73, Dee, KU4GC

PS: John even prepared a poster – Thanks John!



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President's Corner

I hope everyone made it through the longest February in four years. I thought it would never end! Looking forward to March and warmer weather. Good time for antenna maintenance after winter has passed and before the heat of summer is here.

I encourage everyone to check in on the 2 meter net on Thursday nights and on Wednesday nights if you have 6 meter capabilities. It's a good habit to check your

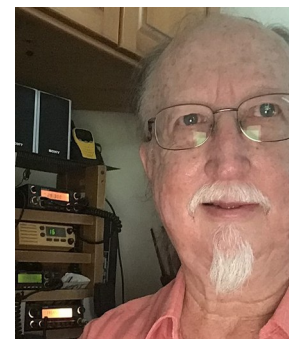
gear at least once a week. We are always looking for net and back up net controls for Thursday nights. Being a back up is great practice for copying call-signs and learning how to run a net. Please contact me if interested.

John Green KX4P has the program at the upcoming meeting and he always does a great job. I'll see you there and I'll "see you" on the radio!

Bob Cook, W4FK

President of DFMA

73



DFMA Picnic in April

The DFMA picnic is set for April 13th in Eno River State Park, at the Ford Fews picnic shelter at the end of Cole Mill Rd. The OCRA group has also been invited. We hope to be able set up a few radios to operate while there. There is a Fox hunt or hidden transmitter hunt planned. We ask everyone to bring a covered dish and details will follow. Sign up sheet will be at the meeting. You can also send me an email, Bonsairad@gmail.com.

73, Bob, W4FK

Wade Danny Hampton, Jr, K4ITL, SK 1944 - 2024

The funeral service will be at the McCullers Community Baptist Church in Raleigh with visitation at noon and the funeral at 1 pm on Wednesday, March 6th.

Tribute to Danny Hampton, K4ITL

It was with great sadness that I heard on Wednesday evening that Danny Hampton, K4ITL, of Raleigh, had died.

I first met Danny in the early '70s at his home in Raleigh. One of the original members of DFMA, Wayland "Doc" McKenzie, K4CHS, took me to meet Danny one evening at his home. He said, "let me turn on some lights for you". Danny was blind since birth and his wife, Sandy, was also blind. Together they raised their two children, both sighted. After Sandy's death, he married a childhood friend, Rose, who survives him. Danny grew up in Kannapolis and attended the Governor Morehead School for the Blind in Raleigh. He had become quite skilled in electronics and worked for the Johnson radio dealer and later with Nextel. After Nextel, he worked with my CSI business partner, Elmo Yancey, in their company, Direct Call. Direct Call provided community repeater and telephone interconnect radio systems before cell phones were available. CSI built the towers for Direct Call.

Danny was a master at designing and building repeaters and linked repeater systems. In the 1970s he built the PCRN analog linked repeater system that covered North Carolina from coast to coast and into Virginia and South Carolina. As digital radio technology emerged, he designed and built the PRN system which now has over 60 repeaters in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia linked via the internet using DMR technology originally pioneered for the commercial market by Motorola.

Danny developed an amazing skill at tuning receivers, transmitters, and duplexers to make a highly functioning repeater. He had a service monitor and other test equipment that 'talked' to him. Relying on a keen sense of hearing, he could probably hear a tenth of a dB change in a noise level in a receiver he was tuning.

Many repeaters in the Carolinas and Virginia transmit the call sign K4ITL. Many of these repeaters are on tall TV towers in Raleigh, Greensboro, Wilmington and had the equipment located near the antennas at heights of over 1500 feet. On several occasions, a repeater would develop a technical problem that required his personal attention. He would put on his safety belt and ride the elevator up the tower to the repeater. Someone asked him if he was afraid of those heights. His response was, "No, I don't look down !!"

On many occasions Danny's days and nights would get mixed up and he would send me an email at midnight asking if I was still up for a phone call. Being a night-owl, I would email back and we would talk on the phone until 1 or 2 am about some technical subject. I knew he was ok with email because his computer talked to him.

Danny was recognized for his skills and contributions to the repeater community at the Dayton Hamvention in 2009 when he received the "Ham of the Year" award. Danny was instrumental in the Southeast Repeater Association (SERA) since its beginning in the early '70s as the Carolinas Virginia Repeater Association. For many years he was the Director for the North Carolina Division and was currently serving as President of SERA.

The 'shoes that will have to be filled' by his absence are tremendous. The loss of Danny leaves a void in our hearts as he was a dear friend of many. His expert technical abilities will be difficult to be replaced. The funeral service will be at the McCullers Community Baptist Church in Raleigh with visitation at noon and the funeral at 1 pm on Wednesday, March 6th.

Rest in peace, good friend. Enjoy the tallest antenna site and the beautiful view that you can see from there.

73, Charlie, NC4CD



**Danny, K4ITL being awarded an OCRA lifetime membership by Dan, KR4UB.
Image courtesy of KR4UB**

A Few Words in Memory of Danny Hampton, K4ITL

We both grew up in Kannapolis, NC where our paths crossed two different ways. In looking through my amateur radio station log, my first QSO with Danny was on June 14, 1964 on 3.830 with Danny back for

the summer at his childhood home, a whole 2 miles away. Things seems a lot more distant back then.

I eventually met Danny face to face through a conversation his father and my father had. Our respective fathers worked at two businesses just a block or two apart, and both were customers of each other's business. That's the way things were in a small town. One day Danny's father stopped by my Dad's workplace and as typical, Dad's talked about what their kids were up to.

When Danny's father Wade Hampton, was told of my desire to go the NC State to get an engineering degree, he strongly urged I have a face to face conversation with Danny.

Danny knew a lot about NC State's reputation of being a very tough engineering school and had a piece of advice to give me... His words were "if you're planning to go to NC State, you better be prepared to work your ass off". How true that turned out to be, and spoken in Danny's characteristic manner of speaking. He was not one to mince words and spoke plainly and directly.

Danny was not a student at NC State, but spent much of his childhood as student in Raleigh at the NC School for the Blind.

He told me he was not born blind, but had a condition that led to him becoming blind by the age of 7. Back in those days the only way a blind kid could get an education was to come to the NC School for the Blind in Raleigh.

Our paths did not cross again until 30 years later, when John Welton, N4SJW and I started building repeaters for OCRA. Danny was very gracious and generous to anyone who demonstrated a genuine willingness to learn and build repeater systems to his level of excellence. You can't venture very far in the ham community without crossing paths with many others that Danny has similarly helped and turned into long term working relationships.

He was gifted in his ability in building relationships with so many hams and institutions who in turn helped him build the repeater systems he dreamed of.

Maybe it was growing up in a small town where most everybody knew everybody and if you needed help and was one willing to give help, life long relationships were built.

73, Dan, KR4UB

Minutes

Durham FM Association (DFMA)

Board Meeting Minutes 4/18/2023 - Pending

Durham FM Association (DFMA)

Board Meeting Minutes 5/16/2023 - Pending

Durham FM Association (DFMA)

Club Meeting Minutes 6/6/2023 - Pending

Durham FM Association (DFMA)

Board Meeting Minutes 6/20/2023 - Pending

Durham FM Association (DFMA)

Club Meeting Minutes 7/18/2023 - Pending

Durham FM Association (DFMA)

Board Meeting Minutes 8/15/2023 - Pending

Durham FM Association (DFMA)

Board Meeting Minutes 9/19/2023 - Pending

Durham FM Association (DFMA)

Board Meeting Minutes 10/17/2023 - Pending

Durham FM Association (DFMA)

Club Christmas Party, December 5, 2023

Secretary - Pam (KO4YAR)

President: Bob (W4FK)

Bob welcomed everyone.

Attending

Chuck (KW4KZ), Mary, Nanci, Dave (NA4VY), Book, Bob (KD8FQM), JoAnn, Patrick (KO4QLU), Bob (W4FK), Ted (KQ4AAP), Pam Demas, Charlie (NC4CD), Lee (WA4HYL), Chris (KY4OU), Jack (KM4MBG), Lenore (KF4PAB), Wilson (W4BOH), Becky (K4BCK), Bob (K4VO), Pam (KO4YAR), Paul (N0US), Wally (WA4UJM), Dee (KU4GC), Robert (K6GRR), Henry (WB4ROI), Paul (N2XZF), Tim (KC1TWR), Dave (W4SAR), Karen (KD4YJZ), Sam (KJ4VWG), Joseph (K4AAI)

There were a total of 31 attendees.

OFFICER REPORTS

President - Bob, Nothing to report

Vice President - Chris, Nothing to report

Secretary - Pam, Nothing to report

Treasurer - Jack

DFMA made donations to the Urban Ministries of Durham and The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.

Repeater Manager – Charlie, Nothing to report

The hat was passed for members to make cash donations. Donations will be split between Urban Ministries of Durham and The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. Checks could be written to a specific charity.

Members brought new Christmas gifts to be distributed to needy children through Toys for Tots.

Members shared their Ham Radio accomplishments in 2023.

The dinner ended at approximately 8:00.

Heathkit Antenna Noise Bridge HD-1422
Micronta Clamp-On AC V-A Meter
Hamtronics 2M Receiver Preamp
Icom IC-V82 2M HT
Icom IC-U82 440 MHz HT

Email nc4cd@earthlink.net if you are interested in buying any of these items before they go on ebay.

Do you have something that you need or something you want to get rid of? There's this spot in The Link set aside just for you. Just email the appropriate info to ku4gc@amsat.org and it will be included with the next issue. Make sure to include contact info and feel free to include a picture (that is yours – please no copyrighted stuff from the web).
73, Dee, KU4GC

Buy – Sell – Trade

The following equipment was donated to OCRA and Wilson, W4BOH is overseeing its disposition.

Heathkit SB-300-Simple but very effective ham band receiver. Amazing condition, \$150.

Kenwood TS-850-Solid state transceiver, the K3 of the 90s. Recently tested, GREAT receiver, HI-FI analog audio and excellent filters, with speaker and PS, \$700. - **SOLD**

Hallicrafters SX-99-Vintage Receiver, works but needs love. Easy to work on. \$50. - **SOLD**

Please contact **Wilson, W4BOH** by email: infomet@embarqmail.com if interested or to get more info.

(Note. It is hard to keep up with Wilson's inventory and he has received even more equipment recently. If you are interested in used equipment, it could be worth your while contacting him. - Dee, KU4GC, editor)

DOWN-SIZING SALE of RADIO & TEST EQUIPMENT

A DFMA member is down-sizing to a location that does not allow antennas for a ham station. The **following items** are for sale at very reasonable prices.

- Drake TR4-C HF Transceiver
- Drake T4XC Transmitter
- Drake R4C Receiver
- Drake MS-4 Speakers w/ AC-4 Power Supplies
- Corsair CX750M Power Supply Upgrade for Drake AC4
- Drake TV-3300-LP Model 1608 Low Pass Filter
- Bird 612 Termaline Wattmeter
- Bird 6156 Termaline Wattmeter
- Almost All Digital Electronics DFD4 Frequency Counter
- Almost All Digital Electronics Precision Freq. Reference
- Heathkit Sine-Square Audio Generator IG-18

Web Site: dfma.org

Upcoming Events (dfma.org for details)

- 3/05 DFMA Meeting, Bullock's BBQ, 6pm
- 3/11 OCRA Meeting, Efland Baha'i Center, 7:30pm
- 3/19 DFMA Board Meeting, virtual, 7pm
- 4/02 DFMA Meeting, Bullock's BBQ, 6pm

73 - Dee, KU4GC, Editor
Lenore, KF4PAB, Proofreader

Send copy to ku4gc@amsat.org
Deadline: one week before the Club Meeting
(Images and copy: KU4GC or as credited)
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The DFMA Mailing Address
The DFMA has a new mailing address. This is a mail service which costs less than a post office box and provides some extra services.
Please address any mail you have for the club to:
Durham FM Association
9169 W State St #644
Garden City ID 83714