

# DURHAM FM ASSOCIATION



## March 2007 Newsletter Sidney Edwards W4QWM Reporting

**Tuesday March 13**

### December Meeting Location

March 13, 2007 Club Meeting – Mayflower Restaurant

Program: Tanner (KB4TYE) will talk about the website, <http://dfma.org>

### 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

Minutes taken by Lenore Ramm.

DFMA Board Meeting Minutes for January 30, 2007

Minutes taken by Lenore Ramm.

Attendees: Dee (KU4GC, Treasurer), Lenore (KF4PAB, Secretary), Mac (W8QU, Vice President), Wilson (W4BOH, ex-officio), JR (KG4NNT, Board Member), Paul (KE4OXN)

Mac presided. Discussed upcoming general meeting programs.

Treasurer's report: As of December, we have ----- in savings and ----- in checking.

Secretary's report: 6 to 7 people have been checking into the Thursday night net each week.

Repeater Manager: There have been problems getting the police department to respond to 911 calls made via autopatch. Charlie said he would follow up on this.

Discussed lack of use of the repeaters. The disparity of the audio levels of the courtesy tone and the transmissions from repeater users was mentioned as a problem. Charlie said that he would fix this. The board agreed that one factor for decreased use of the repeaters of that autopatch is no longer necessary, due to the popularity of cell phones. It's possible that the FCC's dropping of the code requirement may help. There are apparently 400+ hams in Durham. Perhaps we need an outreach program.

Discussed the current state of the Mobile Communications Unit (MCU) based on the knowledge of those present. Charlie presented, at length, a list of potential enhancements to the MCU. It is very difficult to get members to participate, both in working on the vehicle and to participate in events. Mac will contact Don regarding the MCU.

The club's property insurance has lapsed and we are looking for someone with insurance knowledge to give advice to the club.

Paul talked about the new hamfest location, the Little River Community Center. It will cost \$20 an hour and we will have a room for the VE session, for a \$50 donation.

The secretary and treasurer had to leave the meeting after 2 ½ hours, but the meeting continued without them, without minutes being taken.

DFMA Meeting Minutes for February 13, 2007

Minutes taken by Lenore Ramm.

Attendees: Dee (KU4GC, Treasurer), Lenore (KF4PAB, Secretary), Rhett (KE4HHH), Joanna (KE4QOZ), Joseph (KF4QYY), T.D. (KG4FTT), Sid (W4QWM), Sandy, Charlie (WA4WTX, Repeater Manager), JR (KG4NNT, Board Member), Bill (KM4UO), Grace (KF4TMS), Skip (WA4BNT), Derek (K04T), Harry (WA4VTV), Marilyn, Mac (WQ8U, Vice-President), Bill (KI4RAN), Pres, Paul (KE4OXN), Rene (KE4UCR, President), David (W4DAP), Bill (KI4JWA, Board Member), Ed (WA4MXA), M.D. (KI4JDX), Keith (KI4IES)

Rene presided. Introductions.

Treasurer's report: As of last month, we had \$6951 in savings and \$8192 in checking.

Secretary's report: Rene, Dee, Rhett and Bill volunteered to be net controls for the Thursday night net. Door prizes: Keith won a USB light and Mac won a laser level.

Repeater Manager: The commercial repeater causing interference has been replaced, so we should quit having problems due to that source.

Paul reported on the latest hamfest developments. It is scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup>. The Armory is not available, so it will be held in the gymnasium and parking lot of the Little River Community Center, in Bahama. It's 9 miles north of I-85. The cost will be 1/3 of that of the Armory. We are looking for a food vendor and we will need lots of volunteers.

Rene tried to get in touch with Don (KE4UVJ) about the lid, but he couldn't, so Don was declared the lid recipient of the month. Discussed ways to bring multiple clubs together. The FCC requirement for code will be eliminated as of 2/23. Those having received a certificate for the General written element can upgrade for \$14.

Richmond Frostfest will be the upcoming weekend. The Charlotte hamfest will be on March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. RARSfest will be on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussed potential Field Day sites.

It was noted that everyone can talk to Tanner (KB4TYE) about the website, <http://dfma.org>

Mac delivered a tongue in cheek presentation on "Classic Transmitter Controlled Computer".

DFMA Board Meeting Minutes for February 27, 2007

Minutes taken by Lenore Ramm.

Attendees: Dee (KU4GC, Treasurer), Lenore (KF4PAB, Secretary), Rene (KE4UCR, President) Mac (W8QU, Vice President), Wilson (W4BOH, ex-officio), Bill (KI4JWA, Board Member), Rhett (KE4HIH), Joanna (KE4QOZ)

Rene presided.

Treasurer's report: As of December, we have----- in savings and ----- in checking.

Secretary's report: Bill (KI4RAN) requested help with serving as net control on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Rene volunteered to help him.

Discussed need for more links on the website. There needs to be a link to the membership form. Tanner, the webmaster, will be the next speaker at the March general meeting.

Discussed changing the meeting date. Based on past queries, we have not been able to determine that any other night would be any better. Rhett suggested that we have another survey asking what was the best non-December meeting, where was it and what was it?

Also, what was the best December meeting and where was it?

We are still looking for Don and the lid. Net participation has increased. The new location of the hamfest has been noted with an ad in the SERA journal and has been posted on the DFMA website.

## Renewal Time

### Dues for 2007

Did you forget to send your dues in this year? Look at the mailing label. If there is a "06" after your call, then you should send in your dues which are \$12 per year. The other codes are "ex" for expired, "sp" for sponsored and "07" for current.

## Durham FM Association, Inc.

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Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Every Month 6:00 PM