

DURHAM FM ASSOCIATION



May 2007 Newsletter Sidney Edwards W4QWM Reporting

Tuesday May 8

Everyone is invited to attend the May 8, 2007 DFMA meeting to hear Tim Slay give an update on what is going on in the NC Section.

Tim will cover:

- What's going on in the ARRL?
- What's going on in Washington DC that impacts ham radio?
- Why has the ARRL filed a lawsuit against the FCC?
- Current NC Activities
 - Introduction of PRB-1 bill in NC Senate & House
 - Status of BPL in NC
 - National ARES database
- Average age of hams in NC?
- Ideas for growing ham radio in NC

The meeting will be at the Mayflower Seafood Restaurant, 3724 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd, Durham, NC. 147.225 will be monitored for anyone needing assistance finding the restaurant.

Dinner begins at 6PM followed by a brief business meeting and then Tim's presentation. You are welcome to come for dinner or to come later to hear Tim.

May Meeting Location

May 8, 2007 Club Meeting – Mayflower Restaurant

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

DFMA Meeting Minutes for April 10, 2007

Minutes taken by Lenore Ramm.

Attendees: Dee (KU4GC, Treasurer), Lenore (KF4PAB, Secretary), Rhett (KE4HIH), Joanna (KE4QOZ), Joseph (KF4QYY), Charlie (NC4CD, Repeater Manager), JR (KG4NNT, Board Member), Skip (WA4BNT), Derek (K04T), Bill (KI4RAN), Pres, David (W4DAP), Kelly, Bill (KI4JWA, Board Member), Will (KI4KNR), Wilson (W4BOH), MK (W4MKR), Jim (WB4YYY), Sue (KA4AVM), Sidney (W4QWM), Sandy, Bob (W4RWC), Carlo, Mac (WQ8U, Vice- President), Bill (KM4UO), Grace (KF4TMS), Rene (AI4WJ, President)

Rene presided. Introductions. Rene presented the new lid to Rhett for always having a smile.

Treasurer's report: We have --- in savings and --- in checking.

Secretary's report: Dee, Rene, Rhett and Bill volunteered to be net controls. Mac and Lenore won door prizes.

Hamfest report: Joseph said they are working on publicity. A field for e-mail address has been added to the 1000 tickets that were ordered. Volunteers are needed. There will be a VE session. J.R. reminded everyone to look on the website, <http://dfma.org> for more info about the hamfest. The Robotics Team has been confirmed as the food vendor.

New business: The club collected food to donate to the Durham Rescue Mission. The club felt that they will also need funds for repairing fire damage, so the membership voted to donate \$200. There has been a donation of ham equipment from the estate of Peter Chinery (KI4IAN). Some equipment will be used in the MCU and the rest will be sold at the DurHamfest.

There is a story about the MCU's adventure in the Bahama Christmas parade in World Radio Magazine.

Don awarded the previous lid to Dave Love, for his contributions to the MCU.

Dr. Carlo Tomasi gave a fascinating talk on his work on virtual laser keyboards and 3D cameras.

DFMA Board Meeting Minutes for April 24, 2007

Minutes taken by Lenore Ramm.

Attendees: Dee (KU4GC, Treasurer), Lenore (KF4PAB, Secretary), Rene (AI4WJ, President) Mac (W8QU, Vice President), Charlie (NC4CD, Repeater Manager), Dave (N4UBH), Cindy (KI4OKO), Kristin

Treasurer's report: --- in savings and --- checking (as of 3/31)

Mac did drop off Durham Rescue donations collected at the last meeting.

Repeater Manager: Windstorm caused power outage in Hillsborough for 6 to 8 hours. Nextel generator wasn't working. Charlie has newer batteries to put in there. He has taken almost all the pictures of the receiver sites for the website. Dee noted that the salvage place on Geer St. is selling used 12-volt batteries again.

Dave: Handed out the Field Day survey results. The North Carolina Museum of Life and Science hasn't been too excited about having us for Field Day. Malls have a problem with noise. Perhaps showing off ham radio to the public should be a separate event and keep Field Day out in the field and as an exercise in communications. National Guard visited field day one year and Dave plans to invite them again. Most people want to go back to the Griffin site in Orange County. That site is available this year. If people really want to do an extremely public event, then we could always have a second smaller event. Dave is leaning toward going back to the Griffin site, but he doesn't want to bias the decision. The board decided on the Griffin site. Dave will put together a supplies list. Dave will put up a Field Day website. It will be on the 23rd and 24th of June. We can start setting up on 2pm on that Friday.

Dave thinks we need to replace all the hoses and belts on the MCU. Dave will contact Don about this. Dave volunteered to take the MCU to the hamfest. Once it's in better mechanical shape, it can go over to Charlie's so he can host a work session.

Hamfest: Paul sent e-mail requesting \$140 for a postcard mailing advertising DurHamfest. The board approved this.

Discussed having signs up at the hamfest location a few days prior to the event. Old business? Mac brought up the list passed around at an earlier general meeting with equipment removed the Red Cross site. They replaced our equipment with equipment for satellite communications. None of the board members were sure who had distributed the list at a general meeting a few months ago.

Rene talked to LogoManiacs and they will make hats for 14.99 to 17.99 - the low price if we get them in quantity. Cafe Press is also an option. People who use the DFMA logo should ask permission of the board. Rene will bring it up at the next meeting. Tanner talked during his presentation about getting kits and a work session going, but no one had heard anything.

Elections: Rene will not run for president. Need nominating committee. Lenore will not run again for secretary. Dee will be happy to either stay on as Treasurer or train someone else. Rene will chair the nominating committee and will have the nominees ready for the election in June.

Adjourned.

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.

President's Corner

As many of you know, I have been going to school at Durham Tech for the past 2 semesters. I will continue to do so. Therefore, I will not seek re-election as President of The DFMA. Over the past year I have had some great times as president. Unfortunately; however, I have not been able to do as good a job as I would like to have done. The support has been wonderful. Mac, wq8u, has taken on much of the presidential duties that I have not had the time for. Dee, ku4gc, and Wilson, w4boh, and Rhett, ke4hih, and Sid, w4qwm, have been great shoulders to lean on when I needed help. I thank you all for everything you have taught me during this time. I will continue to be an active member and maybe one day be president again.

With all this said, each member needs to be in thought as to who the next president should be. There are many good club members to choose from. Thank you all for the support shown to me. Each of you truly represents what ham radio is all about.

73 to all, AI4WJ, Rene' Couch

Durham FM Association, Inc.

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Meets 2nd Tuesday Every Month 6:00 PM