

# DURHAM FM ASSOCIATION



## July 2007 Newsletter Sidney Edwards W4QWM Reporting

### Tuesday July 10

Program for July meeting is a presentation by Lisa Armour, KB9MGU who is the Durham County EC for ARES. She will cover the following:

What is ARES?

I'm a VIRGO, can I still participate?

How does our Durham County ARES operate and who is involved?

How does ARES relate to the DFMA?

How does ARES relate to the DFMA MCU?

Does Durham ARES have any facilities, repeaters, equipment, web sites, etc?

What has Durham ARES done lately? (Not many emergencies around here.)

What activities does ARES have planned for the future?

How can I participate?

How much does it cost?

Do I need any special equipment or training?

Where do I sign up?

### July Meeting Location

July 10, 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 Club Officers for 2007-2008

President: Dave (N4UBH)

Vice President: Mac (WQ8U)

Secretary: Lisa (KB9MGU)

Treasurer Dee (KU4GC)

Repeater Manager: Charlie (NC4CD)

Board Members: Paul (KE4OXN) and MK (W4MKR)

### DFMA Meeting Minutes

DFMA Meeting Minutes for June 12, 2007

Minutes taken by Lenore Ramm.

Attendees: Dee (KU4GC, Treasurer), Lenore (KF4PAB, Secretary), Rhett (KE4HHH), Joanna (KE4QOZ), Charlie (NC4CD, Repeater Manager), JR (KG4NNT, Board Member), Bill (KI4RAN), MK (W4MKR), Sidney (W4QWM), Sandy, Mac (WQ8U, Vice-President), Rene (AI4WJ, President), Paul (KE4OXN), TD (KG4FTT), Don (KE4UVJ), Joseph (KF4QYY), Skip (WA4BNT)

Rene and Mac presided. Dee awarded the Lid to Paul for his work on the hamfest, particularly for getting such a great location. Paul said he would “put it to good use”.

Door prizes: Charlie won a Leatherman Micra and MK won a teeny LED flashlight.

Treasurer's report: Reported on hamfest figures. Dues collected were not considered part of hamfest profits. Thanked Mac for donating his winnings from the 50/50 raffle to the club. SERA forgot to run our hamfest ad, so we are expecting a refund. That saved us \$160.

Repeater Manager's report: Needs help with heavy batteries at the Hill.

Secretary's report: Rene, TD, Bill and Rhett volunteered to be net control for the Thursday Night net at 9pm on 147.225.

Elections were held. Dave (N4UBH) was elected president. Mac (WQ8U) was re-elected Vice President. Lisa (KB9MGU) was elected secretary. Dee (KU4GC) was re-elected Treasurer. Charlie (NC4CD) was re-elected as Repeater Manager. Paul (KE4OXN) and MK (W4MKR) were elected as board members at-large.

DFMA Board Meeting 26 June 07 7:30pm taken by Lisa

Members Present were Dave (President), James, Don, Cindy, Mac (Vice President), Charlie (Repeater Manager), Dee (treasurer), Lenore and Lisa (Secretary).

The meeting minutes from the last meeting were approved as written. Mac talked about the next DFMA meeting to be held on July 10. The presenter will be Lisa Armour, Durham County Emergency Coordinator for ARES.

Dee discussed the amount in the checking and savings accounts. They are still waiting for the refund for the ad that didn't appear and will deposit it as soon as the refund arrives.

Lenore is happy that Lisa is taking over as secretary. Lenore is going to email the membership list to Lisa.

Charlie, Repeater Manager, mentioned that the lock was off the door on our building when he went there the other day. There have been problems with the lock not unlocking. Charlie is going to purchase a new lock to put on the building.

Old Business – There were a few minor updates from the Hamfest. The Orange County Robot team was happy with the results of their fundraiser. They raised \$200 with some lessons learned. They know what they have to do differently next time.

New Business – Security Issues at our Hoover Road site. We need to do a clean up & maintenance party. The facility has several things that need fixed and it needs a general cleanup. The building has been broken into and some items taken. We need to look at ways to making it more secure, possibly put up a camera. An inventory of what is stored there needs to occur.

Dave told the group that before each board meeting an agenda of topics for discussion will be emailed to all members. Everyone is encouraged to provide input on topics for discussion. Any topic that needs to be discussed but isn't on the agenda should be sent to the President for inclusion onto the agenda.

One of the new things that Dave would like to see the group do is publish a calendar of events. The calendar of events would be kept up to date on the website and published in the newsletter. The calendar of events would be in addition to the mention in the minutes or in other spots. Some of the items to be included on the calendar of events include:

- a. Operating Events
- b. UHF/VHF Nets
- c. Satellite availability for talking to the space station

Dave mentioned that the club will become more interesting and members will become more involved if the club had more interesting things to do. Right now, the club doesn't do a lot. Several different types of activities were mentioned. Several of the events could include using the MCU. Dave would like everyone in the club to provide input as to what different events we should consider participating in. If there is something you would like to see the club participating in but not good at or want to coordinate it, let the board members know and we will find someone to coordinate it if the event is something we decide to do. The following is a list of ideas mentioned at the meeting.

- a. West Point on the Eno 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration
- b. The schools in Durham during the school year as a teaching tool
- c. Scout meetings – helping scouts earn the badge dealing with ham radio communications
- d. Hold an open house on a weekend with the MCU
- e. Coordinate with the Raleigh groups for events being held in RTP
- f. Different types of Fundraiser events for other groups
- g. Museum of Life & Science Kids Day
- h. Fox Hunting
- i. DFMA Family Day/Pig Pickin
- j. Practice Exercises with Homeland Security, Civil Air Patrol, Durham EOC
- k. Go to some of the local Radio Museums
- l. Depending upon the interest with members, rent a bus or car pool down to Shelby Hamfest

Dave mentioned that we need to host a cleaning party for the MCU. It needs a good cleaning inside and out. We need to get a substantial first aid kit to mount on the back wall. We should also look at getting a defibrillator too.

Orange County had Congressman David Price attend their Field Day. Congressman Price is the Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee. The Homeland Security agency is starting to train and assist their people in getting their ham radio license. They are also buying ham radio equipment with the purpose of Homeland Security personnel operating on ham frequencies during emergencies. It was suggested that we organize with other groups to talk with Congressman Price to make sure he understands what the capabilities are already out there with the current licensed ham radio operators.

It was also suggested that we start hosting classes and to do some recruiting to get more people involved in ham radio in general. It was suggested that if each member recruited just one new member we would double our size. It was also suggested that we look at different ways to do some fundraising. One way is by having everyone check their companies as to donations. A lot of companies have a matching program where they will donate the same amount of money to a non-profit agency that an employee does. It was also suggested that we try to find some grants to apply for. Lisa suggested doing a fundraiser at Pizza Inn on Duke Street. We would need about 5 to 8 people to help with waiting on tables. We could do this in split shifts. The group would receive 100% of the tips and a portion of all sales for the night. With their big parking lot, we could possibly have the MCU there set up as a display. Lisa knows the owner and will talk with her about it.

Dave said that we need to clean our equipment out of the Red Cross office.

Dave asked if there was any additional business. With no one having any additional business to discuss, meeting was adjourned.

## **Durham FM Association, Inc.**

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