

DURHAM FM ASSOCIATION



November 2007 Newsletter Sidney Edwards W4QWM Reporting

Tuesday November 13 DFMA Meeting 6:00 PM

***** MEETING WILL BE IN LARGE PRIVATE ROOM*****

(Same restaurant, just a better room.)

Mayflower Seafood Restaurant 3742 Chapel Hill Blvd, Durham

Dinner: 6:00 PM

Meeting: 7:00 PM

You do not need to come for dinner, but it is fun – try it!

Guests welcome.

PROGRAM:

November 12th program: “Programming thru animation – ALICE” by Susan Rodger of Duke.

VOTE

The proposal is to change our meeting time from the 2nd Tuesday of the month to the 1st Tuesday of the month. One of the main reasons given for this proposal is to make it easier for members who also attend meetings in other clubs to attend both the DFMA meetings and the other meetings.

We ask that you participate in the poll being taken on the

Club's web site: www.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.

XMAS Dinner

The dinner will be held at McMannen United Methodist Church 4102 Neal Road, Durham as we did for the last 2 years. All food will be furnished by the club. Looking forward seeing each of you. Come have fun and enjoy with us. Please bring an unwrapped gift for kids at the Durham Rescue Mission. Please let me know if you are coming so I can give the caterer the number of meals we need.

Either let me know by email Edwards@tunl.duke.edu or land line 919-489-2933 Tnx Sid

DFMA Meeting Minutes

DFMA Meeting Minutes for October 9, 2007 submitted by Kelly (W4KSP)

Attendees:

Mac (WQ8U, Vice President) and Karen, TD (KG4FTT), Wilson (W4BOH), Dee (KU4GC, Treasurer), MK (W4MKR, Board member), Rene (AI4WJ), Rich (KD6VK), Charlie (NC4CD, Repeater Manager), Sid (W4QWM) and Sandy, Sue (KA4AVM), Jim (WB4YYY), David (W4DAP), Kelly (W4KSP), Derek (KO4T), Rhett (KE4HIH), Bob (W4RWC), Skip (WA4BNT), Don (KE4UVJ), James (KF4QYZ), Joseph (KF4QYY), Ed (WA4MXA), Bill (KI4JWA), William (KI4KNR), Barry (K4CZ), Jordan (KI4GUO/AG), Jeanne (KI4ZWQ) and Doris

Mac (WQ8U, VP) presided. Introductions.

Vice President's Report: International Amateur Radio Union -New recommendations regarding band divisions based on bandwidth of transmitting stations.

Not official/Mandated but plan to go into effect Jan 2008.

Treasure's report: Savings --- Checking ---

Repeater Manager Report: Equipment repaired and returned (2M Remote Kenwood, Digital voice recorder)

Old business:

MCU workday Saturday Oct. 13 proposed, reminder Parkwood Fire Department Annual BBQ festival Sat Oct 13 12-7pm; Proposed to make Friday afternoon (Oct 12) and Sat am (Oct. 13) workdays instead so that MCU could be present at Parkwood. Charlie (NC4CD) and Wilson (W4BOH) agreed this was feasible. Email would be sent out.

New business:

Suggestion made to move meeting night to first Tuesday of Month, (with BOD meeting on 3rd Tuesday) to encourage attendance of DFMA and OCRA members at both meetings. Dee (KU4GC) has been updating the DFMA website and plans to have a poll in place to vote for meeting night. Encouraged members to also speak to BOD or attend BOD meeting to discuss possible meeting night or other changes. Reminder that BOD meetings are open to all members. Additional suggestions included a joint 'social' with OCRA or a second meeting date.

Thursday Net control: Rene (AI4WJ) Oct. 11 Wilson (W4BOH) Oct. 18 Dee (KU4GC) Oct. 25 Rhett (KE4HIH) Nov. 1 Rene (AI4WJ) Nov. 8

Door Prize Winners:

Rene (AI4WJ) won Thumbdrive,

Sid (W4QWM) won Handy Tool

Jordan (KI4GUO/AG) and William (KI4KNR) won logging software

Upcoming Events:

November 13 Program: Susan Rogers, CS department at Duke, presenting programming thru animation A.L.I.C.E.

December 11th: Holiday Party at McMannon United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall. Need number of attendees.

Mac (WQ8U) presented "RCIED Threats and Amateur Radio" a program put together by Dr. Al Torres from unclassified sources. Very interesting and disturbing program outlining the threats faced in this guerilla warfare with insurgents. Thank you Mac!

Meeting adjourned.

Durham FMA Board Meeting 30 October 07 7:30pm

Attendance: Charles Durst, Dee Ramm, Mary Ramm, David Pegram, Kelly Pegram, Lisa Armour

It was asked if there were any corrections to be made to the minutes of the last meeting. No changes recommended. It was motioned, second and passed to approve the minutes.

Announcements – The ARES SET is going to be held Saturday, December 3 from 8 – 12 noon. Lisa was going to send Dee information about it so he can send it out to the general membership. This will allow anyone who is available to listen to and/or participate in the net. It was suggested that we attempt to get the generator fixed on the MCU so we can use it for the SET. We need to make sure that whoever works on the MCU contacts Dave and find out what he has replaced on it so we don't duplicate and/or replace something that David already has.

The Durham County Emergency Management is hosting a Winter Weather Seminar on Wednesday, November 14 at the North Durham Library from 9 to 12 noon. Lisa is going to send information to Dee so he can send it out to everyone. Interested parties were going to contact Lisa so she can get them registered to attend. There are only 3 open seats for ham radio members. Personnel from local, state and federal agencies will be attending this seminar.

Treasures report was presented. At the end of September, there was --- in savings and --- in checking.

Secretaries report – Lisa wanted to thank everyone who filled in for her while she missed the last few meetings. She appreciated everyone's understanding while she attended her high school senior cross country meets.

Repeater Manager – Charlie has 6 batteries ready to go to the Hillsboro repeater site. The DVR has been repaired. The Kenwood is now working. It does need to be reprogrammed and debugging. Once complete, it will go back to the VA hospital site.

Hamfest 2008 – The Hobbie Place on Patterson Drive has been contacted about attending out hamfest, have not received a response from them yet. The owner is a former DFMA member. Flyers are going to be created for the hamfest and we are going to start advertising. It was recommended that we do two ads in the Sera Journal. It was recommended that we take out two half page ads rather than one large, full page ad. It was also recommend that we get business card size ads that the members can take with them and hand out to people. All proposals were motioned and passed with approval. The ads will be placed in the Feb/Mar/April magazine and the May/June/July magazine. The ARRL and QST websites are free.

Heard back from a few people that the only reason they came to the hamfest was because of the brochure they received in the mail about it.

Work on the MCU was discussed again. There are outdoor PA type speakers that need to be installed on it. It was suggested that we put brackets up on the front and back so we can hang one speaker in front and one in back. We have a heavy duty outdoor power at 110 voltz. There is talk about installing an old GPS and a repeater/duplexer to be coordinated at 20 to 25 watts. Would like to get it so the MCU can communicate from anywhere within Durham. It was also discussed trying to find a garage somewhere in Durham large enough to hold the MCU, possibly in one of the tobacco warehouses in Durham. It would need to be big enough for both the MCU and the antennas on it. We would also like to get coffee pot, microwave and chairs for the MCUs. Duke has done away with their surplus store. They are now giving items away to non-profit organizations instead. We are going to try to use our non-profit status to get items from Duke.

We need a HF antenna, we have dipole and outback antenna, preferably one that is motorized and will fold over. A pneumatic mast was discussed. We should get one that is VHF/UHV antenna capable so we have more flexibility. A possibility is a pneumatic mast on a tower. We need to get one that will allow us to get the best use of the mast. Charlie is going to get prices so the board can decide how to proceed.

Old Business –

It was discussed moving the meeting time in order to try and attract more members. A vote through members and the website to move the meeting time to the first Tuesday of the month ended up with following results.

Against – 2 Don't Care – 3 For the Change – 12

Some OCRA members have stated they would attend if it was held on a different night than their meeting night. OCRA doesn't have a dinner meeting and no planned activity most of the time. They do discuss radios and other technical stuff. RARS has their board/club meeting on the first Tuesday of the month and a Dinner on the second Tuesday.

RARS has their board/club meeting on the first Tuesday of the month and a Dinner on the second Tuesday.

Charlie recommended we hold the meeting on the 3rd Tuesday with the board meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Since it has already been talked about moving it to the 1st Tuesday of the month, it was recommended putting it to a vote at our next club meeting.

The concern about hold a meeting during the 3rd week is the holiday weeks in November and December. A possibly solution is to have one meeting between the two holidays and call it a holiday meeting. It was decided to go ahead and recommend moving our meeting nights to the first Tuesday of the month. We must have 90% approval to change the meeting date. The change would take affect January 1, 2008. The program for the meeting is Susan Roger talking about Programming by animation.

The December meeting is going to be at the McManna United Methodist Church. It will be a catered meal. Bring gifts for children. The gifts must be unwrapped. They will be given to the Durham Rescue Mission so they can give it to kids in need. We will also be passing the hat to collect money for the Durham Rescue Mission to give to needy families for the holiday season.

It was also decided to start conducting some technical training at our meetings for the members.

The Durham Christmas Parade is Saturday, December 1st. It was decided that we are going to get the MCU in the parade along with some members walking. Lisa is going to organize the event and get information to share with the members.

Meeting adjourned.

Durham FM Association, Inc.

Post Office Box 2411

Durham, NC 27715-2411



Meets 2nd Tuesday Every Month 6:00 PM