

DURHAM FM ASSOCIATION



January 2008 Newsletter Sidney Edwards W4QWM Reporting

Tuesday December 8 DFMA Meeting 6:00 PM

Dinner: 6:00 PM

Guests welcome.

PROGRAM:

SHOW and TELL NIGHT

Tuesday January 8, 2008 – 6 PM Dinner

-----7 PM Show and Tell -----

Everyone is invited to bring a ham related **Christmas present**, or **project** you have built, or a piece of **gear you are playing with**, or information about a **ham event** near and dear to you, or just an **old piece of gear** that has some interesting features – like vacuum tubes ☺.

You will be invited to stand up and talk about the item you brought **or** you can just mention it and put it on a table for folks to come and talk about it with you after the meeting.

This is a fun event and designed to share your excitement and knowledge – please join in.

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 11 December 07

Dee opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the Christmas dinner. We had a wonderful turnout with 28 people present.

Dee thanked everyone for bringing the presents and stated that he will be taking them to Social Services in the morning. He asked that everyone please put what they can in the hat that was going around. The club will also be writing a check to give to the Durham Rescue Mission. The check will be added to the money that is being collected.

There are two door prizes.

Skip Carden received the channel lock.

Bob Clark received the leatherman.

Our next meeting will be at the Mayflower on January 8th. The theme will be show and tell. Charlie has created something to test batteries and will share it with anyone who is interested.

Mark your calendars!!! Starting in February, the club meetings will move to the 1st Tuesday of the month. The meeting date for the February meeting is February 5th.

Membership renewals will be coming out soon. Membership forms are available on line also. If you have pictures of club members at ham events, please get them to Dee so we can get them on the club website.

Everyone thanks Sid for setting up a great meal.

Meeting adjourned.

VA Hospital Needs Help

The VA hospital is going to be putting in a new telephone system and is going to need ham radios support during the installation because all their phone systems will be down. They are estimating it to take 5 to 8 hours. They are planning on doing this on a Saturday once they can coordinate it with their folks. Please let Lisa Armour know if you are available to assist with this important project. As soon as we know the date, we will let everyone know. We will need radio operators in the following areas:

1. Police Operations
2. Administrative Officer of the Day (AOD)
3. Boiler Plant - Operations (Very High Noise Environment, some parts which are below ground level).
4. Emergency Room (Potential RF interference issues with Medical Equipment).
5. Telephone Operations (Ground Floor, Partially below street level).
6. Other Potential Locations - Pharmacy, laboratory, wards/units

This is a very important event for us and we need everyone who can possibly assist us with this. I was also wondering if we could use the MCU as the command center for this? They might allow us to park it some where very near the VA hospital. Again, please let Lisa Armour know if you are willing to assist with project. This will allow her to contact folks sooner when she is notified of the date. Please watch your email, the club and ARES websites along with the nets for more information.

Thanks,
Lisa

Dues for 2008

Enclosed is a copy of renewal forms for club dues. Please fill out and return

Check Out Our Web Site: dfma.org -- Pictures

Considerable effort has been put into bringing the DFMA's web site up to date. The calendar is fairly current. There are short items in advance of each meeting describing the program. Other information regarding the club is slowly being added. If you haven't looked at it in a while, you might want to give it another try. (You do not have to log in, but see the note below.)

It's time to renew your membership. You should be getting a hard-copy of the renewal form with this newsletter. But if you need another, you can print out a copy from the web site.

Another recent effort has been to add pictures. (On the web, you may have noticed the Picture Gallery menu entry on the left and the Gallery menu entry at the top. These point to pictures that have been contributed to show what we are doing and what the club is all about.) To get things started, we are showing pictures such as the CERT training pictures that are only vaguely related to the club. These will probably be removed when we have better pictures to show.

We need your help with pictures, so please contribute DFMA related pictures for the Web site. Field Day? Durhamfest? Public Service? To avoid using disk space which we have to rent, we are taking advantage of the popular net-based Flickr service. This allows users to store pictures on the web and optionally make them available for others to see. Flickr membership is available at no cost for limited storage and at \$25 per year for unlimited storage. The DFMA currently has a free (limited) membership. Check out Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com> If you already have a Flickr account, you can make pictures available for the DFMA web site by sending us the account ID and the name of the set of pictures you want to contribute. If you haven't done so, you also must make those pictures viewable by the public.

If you do not use Flickr and do not want to bother with setting up you own Flickr account, you can mail the pictures to us and we will put them on the DFMA Flickr account. (The DFMA currently has a free account. If there is heavy demand to store pictures under the club auspices, we might consider converting it to a paid account in the future.)

Note: When viewing the DFMA web site, you do not need to log in. However, there are limited features that are only available to registered members (such as the ability to submit news items). Additional restricted features may be added at any time. We may also, at a future time, limit registration/membership to DFMA members. Currently anyone can register and it's free. We recommend that you use your call-sign as your ID, but that is optional.

Durham FM Association, Inc.

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Meets 2nd Tuesday Every Month 6:00 PM