

DURHAM FM ASSOCIATION



May-June 2010 Newsletter Sidney Edwards W4QWM Reporting

36th Annual DurHamFest

Saturday, May 29, 2010

8:00 am-2:00pm

Admission: \$5.00 Tailgating: \$5.00

VE Testing - Cash & Radio Prizes - Food

Little River Community Complex - 8307 N. Roxboro Rd. (Hwy US 501 N.), Bahama, NC

Tuesday June 1

MEETING LOCATION: Our Meeting will be held at Bullocks Barbeque 6:00PM.

For more information, see <http://www.dfma.org> Durham FM Association

Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, will present on D-Star and digital communications. Check out Gary's web site: ARVideoNews.com

We will also have Election of Officers. Run for an office. You may nominate yourself...

Durham FM Association (DFMA) Club Meeting Minutes – 4/6/2010

At Bullocks Barbeque Recorded Lowell Tieszen – KK4PH Secretary

Attending: Dee(KU4GC), MK(W4MKR), Rhett(KE4HIH), Joanna(KE4QOZ), Steve(W3AHL), Bob(W4RWC), Wayne(KJ4GDW), Lowell(KK4PH), Jim(WB4YYY), Sue(KA4AVM), Dave(AD6Q), Charlie(NC4CD), Randy(K4XRM), ED(WA4MXA), Ken(KI4QXJ), Ben(KB4NQH), KJ4NPF(Mark), KO4T(Derek), KE4OXN(Paul), WQ8U(Mac), WA4AHR(Dewey), K00UX(Vic), KF4LJZ(Linda), KI4HQO(Jim), W4ORD(Lad), KE4UVJ(Don), N4VQT(Rick), KB4OT(Jim). Sarah

Total of 28 hams and one non-ham makes a total of 29 who attended.

Called to order:

Wilson called the meeting to order. It was observed that name tags should be available to help us learn to know each other and to be welcoming to newer members. The secretary will bring badges.

Reports

Treasurer's Report:

CD: -----
Checking: -----
Total: -----

Secretary:

The secretary reported items from the board meeting.

- The board has asked Dee to look into ways to better connect the related club websites.
- A quick overview of hamfest preparations
- The board has asked Randy to price the printing of tickets for Hamfest.
- It was approved to publish a special issue of The Link to be mailed to all licensed amateurs in Durham County. It could contain information such as Hamfest, club meeting times, and Field Day.

Repeater manager:

The MCU was updated with radio equipment and GPS. Randy is working on a working Fire Extinguisher.

ARES:

- The weekly net is now Sunday PM at 8pm.
- There will be a members meeting 4/17 at the Durham EOC

New Business:

There was no new business presented.

Program: Boat Anchors

Wilson(W4BOH) and Mac(WQ8U) presented an interesting history of the earliest tube receivers as well as transmitters. They discussed difficulties in design, the incorporation of features, and some angles on marketing of the technology. There were some informal questions and discussion following the presentation

Meeting was adjourned

Durham FM Association (DFMA) Board Meeting Minutes – 04/20/2010

Recorded By Lowell (KK4PH)

Attending: Dee(KU4GC), Charlie(NC4CD), Lowell(KK4PH), Wilson(W4BOH), Bob (W4RWC), MK(W4MKR), Paul(KE4OXN)

Reports

President – Wilson(W4BOH): Called the meeting to order.

Secretary – Lowell(KK4PH):

Minutes from the 2/16/2003 Board meeting were distributed.

Action 2010-04-20-01: Minutes from the 3/16/2010 Board Meeting were approved.

Vice-President – Dee(KU4GC):

Future club meetings planned:

- May – Hamfest planning and perhaps Field Day

Treasurer-MK(W4MKR):

Checking	-----
CD	-----
Total	-----

51 paid members

Repeater Manager:

Bob reports that he has heard 147.225 being repeatedly keyed up in the early evenings. It was suggested that when it happens that we listen on the input.

Action: 2010-03-16-02: The board has some concerns with capacity and ease of use as well as links and interface, with related web sites. Dee will investigate, and report, ways to improve and better connect the clubs web sites.

2010-04-20: Working to contact who have worked on the web

Hamfest:

Plans are similar to last year.

- MK will get food.
- Bob will do breakfast and coffee
- Wilson will cook hamburgers
- Dave Snyder will coordinate the VE session
- Dee/Lowell/Don will get tables from Hoover Road
- Don/Wilson will move MCI to hamfest location
- There will be a special “Email Prize”. Dee will work out the details.

Action: 2010-04-20-02: Decision to spend \$40, or the required amount, to run an advertisement on a local blog called “Bull City Rising”. Dee will make contact.

Action: 2010-03-16-03: Wilson will call Paul about flyers, space, and tickets. Wilson will call Linda if she has not been contacted.

2010-04-20: Paul heard from Linda that AC/DC are planning to come.

Complete

Action: 2010-03-16-04: Randy will talk to printer about printing tickets. We do not need sequential numbers on the tickets. The order would be for 1,000 tickets.

2010-04-20: Tickets will run about \$.10 / ticket. We decided to buy 1,000 tickets.

Complete

MCU:

- Shorepower cable spool will be mounted on hitch
- Still need to order an HF antenna.

Action 2010-01-19-03: The DFMA Board has asked Charlie to work with Dave(W4DAP) and Wilson to put a plan together to make the MCU more usable. Specific areas of concern are mobile HF, and digital text. Long range plan should include digital voice capability.

2010-03-16: Workday planned 3/20/2010.

2010-04-20: Several improvements made during the work day.

Action 2010-03-16-06: Wilson and Randy, will get with Sid to coordinate production and mailing of a special copy of “The Link” which will be sent to all licensed amateurs in Durham County. It should contain information such as Hamfest, Club meeting times, and Field Day.

2010-04-20: Dee brought a sample of the special Link. 400 stamps have been purchased.

New Business

Discussions began to put together a slate of officers for the coming year. Those agreeing to continue:

Vice-Pres: Dee(KU4GC)
Repeater Mgr: Charlie(NC4CD)
Secretary: Lowell(KK4PH)
President: Wilson(W4BOH)

At LargeBob (W4RWC)

Treasurer: MK(W4MKR)

Hamfest Chair, Paul(KE4OXN)

Charlie brought an item that came up at the MCU Workday. The proposal is to have lift-up doors to cover the cabinets. The estimate would be \$150.

Action 2010-04-20-03: We approve \$150 for interior doors to be constructed for the MCU.

Action 2010-04-20-04: It was suggested that we investigate the cost of a garage to permanently store the MCU. Wilson will get an estimate.

Meeting Adjourned

DFMA Meeting 5/4/10 at Bullocks BBQ ku4gc (acting as secretary)

Attending: David, ad6q; Dave, w4sar; Mark, kj4npf; Paul, ke4oxn;
Dee, ku4gc; MK, w4mkr; Bob, w4rwc; Charlie, nc4cd; Rhett, ke4hjh;
Wayne, kj4gdw; Derek, ko4t; Jim, wb4yyy; Sue, ka4avm; Lad, w4ord; Donna;

Bill, ki4ran; Pres; Sarah; Ben, kb4nqh; Woody, k3vsa; Frank, kg4ihx;
Wilson, w4boh; Jim, kb4ot; Don, ke4uvj
PRESIDENT: Wilson, w4boh opened the meeting with a round of introductions.

Reports:

VICE PRESIDENT: Dee, ku4gc

Program for June:

o Election of officers.

Most officers have consented to repeat.

Nominations from the floor are welcome (may nominate oneself).

o Preliminary Report on DurHamFest.

o Last minute preparations for Field Day

o No "program" yet.

July Meeting:

o Bullocks is closed:

o Meeting will be at Bennett Pointe Grill (as approved by membership)

TREASURER: MK, w4mkr

Checking: -----

CD: -----

SECRETARY:

Lowell, kk4ph, was unable to attend. Wilson read a summary of decisions made at the last Board Meeting.

REPEATER MANAGER: Charlie, nc4cd

147.225 repeater is having some problems. PA may be bad or there may be other problems. Next step is to replace 225 with back-up repeater.

EMERGENCY COORDINATOR: Randy, w4xrm, was ill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

VE session on Monday at Orange County EOC at 7:30pm

DOOR PRIZES:

Sue, w4avl won a staple gun Donna, xyl of Lad, w4ord, won a coax stripper

PROGRAMS:

DurHamFest

Paul, ke4oxn, Hamfest Chair organized support for DurHamFest coming up on May 29th.

Major time line is:

o Friday 5/28

Setup: 4:00pm -7:00pm

o Saturday 5/29

Parking: 6:00am - ...

Open to Public: 8:00am - 2:00pm

Breakdown: 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Paul circulated cards where attendees could sign up to volunteer for one or more of the support categories. These include:

1. Transport of tables and other materials from Hoover Road storage site.
2. Friday Night Setup (4:00pm - 7:00pm).
3. Moving the MCU to the Little River Community Center
4. Parking starting at 6:00am Saturday
5. Talk-In
6. Ticket Sales
7. Purchase of Food and beverages
8. Coffee and Breakfast food prep and sales (coffee free)
9. Club Table
10. Food prep (grill) and sales
11. Break Down
12. Return of stuff to Hoover Road storage site.
13. Return of MCU to parking site

Field Day

Dave, w4sar, Field Day Coordinator for the joint OCRA/DFMA Field Day presented an update on the state of plans. There will be 10 stations and our category will be 10 Alpha. This means we will use qrp (5 watts or less) and all radio power must come from batteries or natural power sources. Dave presented the list of Band Captains (persons responsible for organizing and setting up each station). There is still a need for operators since band captains can't do it all.

CW operators, in particular, are urgently sought. Three different layouts for these stations were displayed. Considerations include: proximity to the MCU, the Piedmont Electric bucket truck, trees for antenna support, and minimizing interference between stations.

**Durham FM Association (DFMA) Board Meeting Minutes – 05/18/2010
Recorded By Lowell (KK4PH)**

Attending: Dee(KU4GC), Charlie(NC4CD), Lowell(KK4PH), Bob (W4RWC), MK(W4MKR)

Reports

Vice - President – Dee(KU4GC): Called the meeting to order in the absence of our president.

Secretary – Lowell(KK4PH):

Minutes from the 4/20/2010 Board meeting were distributed, reviewed.

Action 2010-05-18-01: Minutes from the 4/20/2010 Board Meeting were approved.

Vice-President – Dee(KU4GC):

No future club meetings planned. Several ideas were mentioned.
Elections will be held at our June meeting. Existing officers have agreed to return.

Treasurer-MK(W4MKR):

Checking	-----
CD	-----
Total	-----

58 paid members

Repeater Manager:

PA failure on 147.225 the repeater and the PA was replaced with a spare.

DFMA Web Site:

Action: 2010-03-16-02: The board has some concerns with capacity and ease of use as well as links and interface, with related web sites. Dee will investigate, and report, ways to improve and better connect the clubs web sites.

2010-04-20: Working to contact who have worked on the web

2010-05-18: Dee has spent time on this so progress is being made.

Hamfest:

Plans are similar to last year.

- o MK will get food. \$3 hamburgers, \$2 hotdogs, \$.75 drinks.
- o Bob will do breakfast and coffee
- o Wilson will cook hamburgers
- o Dave Snyder will coordinate the VE session
- o Dee/Lowell/Don will get tables from Hoover Road
- o Don/Wilson will move MCU to hamfest location
- o There will be a special "Email Prize". Dee will work out the details.

Action: 2010-04-20-02: Decision to spend \$40, or the required amount, to run an advertisement on a local blog called "Bull City Rising". Dee will make contact.

2010-05-18 – Will run for \$40 / week and will run for one week.

Complete

MCU:

- o Shorepower cable spool will be mounted on hitch
- o Still need to order an HF antenna.

Action 2010-01-19-03: The DFMA Board has asked Charlie to work with Dave(W4DAP) and Wilson to put a plan together to make the MCU more usable. Specific areas of concern are mobile HF, and digital text. Long range plan should include digital voice capability.

2010-03-16: Workday planned 3/20/2010.

2010-04-20: Several improvements made during the work day.

2010-05-18: Progress has been made with equipment being installed. Would like a plan for modes intended for the MCU and the equipment in-place, or required, to support these modes.

Action 2010-03-16-06: Wilson and Randy, will get with Sid to coordinate production and mailing of a special copy of "The Link" which will be sent to all licensed amateurs in Durham County. It should contain information such as Hamfest, Club meeting times, and Field Day.

2010-04-20: Dee brought a sample of the special Link. 400 stamps have been purchased.

2010-05-18: Special Link was mailed. Several were returned with bad addresses.

Complete

Action 2010-04-20-03: We approve \$150 for interior doors to be constructed for the MCU.

2010-05-18: Materials are more than expected so cost will be around \$185 which is approved.

Action 2010-04-20-04: It was suggested that we investigate the cost of a garage to permanently store the MCU. Wilson will get an estimate.

2010-05-18: No Activity

Officers:

Discussions began to put together a slate of officers for the coming year. Those agreeing to continue:

Vice-Pres:	Dee(KU4GC)
Repeater Mgr:	Charlie(NC4CD)
Secretary:	Lowell(KK4PH)
President:	Wilson(W4BOH)
At LargeBob (W4RWC)	
Treasurer:	MK(W4MKR)
Hamfest Chair	Paul(KE4OXN)

New Business

No new business
Meeting Adjourned

Durham FM Association, Inc.

Post Office Box 2411
Durham, NC 27715-2411



Meets First Tuesday Every Month 6:00 PM