

FARA Wednesday Night Net Script

Note: Commentary and procedural portions are written in italic with brackets []. Net Control speaking portions are in non-italic boldface text.

[After establishing that the repeater is free, either by listening or asking to free up the repeater, the Net Control begins the net]

QST, QST, QST, this is (Callsign) activating the Fauquier Amateur Radio Association general Service net. This net is held weekly on Wednesday at 8:00 PM local time on the 147.165 MHz W4VA repeater in Warrenton, Virginia. The repeater is owned and operated by the Fauquier Amateur Radio Association, and uses a 167.9 Hz sub-audible tone for access. My name is (Name), and I am your net control this evening.

The purpose of this net is twofold. First, the net serves as a demonstration of the practice, procedure, and discipline of Amateur Radio on-the-air voice protocol and Net operations. These skills are vitally important in the event of crisis communications, and it is the intent of FARA to build or refresh these skills through its nets.

The second purpose is to serve as an informal gathering of FARA members and other interested amateurs whereby they can engage in information sharing in between our regular monthly club meetings and Club breakfasts. Unlike our Sunday night net, we do not necessarily have a technical theme but of course technical discussions are a part of Amateur Radio, and they are certainly allowed by net participants.

This is a directed net. In the first phase of this net, the Net Control operator will pass information in a general broadcast to all listening Amateurs. During this period, the Net Control may offer or solicit a general question for comment. This is intended as a conversation starter for the net, and to grow the ability of participating amateurs, many of whom may be new to the hobby, to join an on-the-air conversation with comments of substance. Of course, any other comments you may have on amateur radio or your activities this past week are also welcome.

After the broadcast phase of the net, Net Control will invite Check-ins. When prompted by Net Control, each amateur wishing to join the net should transmit and say their entire call and name. Standard phonetics are encouraged. Please do not say "This Is" and then unkey before saying your call. This causes check-in collisions, and is not a practice we encourage on FARA nets. Net Control will acknowledge each station in turn, and may invite repeats as needed.

Once all participants have checked in, Net Control will call each station and invite them to transmit. When called upon by net control, participants should take up to 90 seconds to introduce themselves, describe their amateur radio activities this past week, and to offer a response to any topic or questions posed by Net Control. If you have information for the group, you should, unkey, and wait for the beep that indicates a reset of the repeater timer before passing that information to avoid timing out the repeater's 3-minute timer. We are always interested in any other relevant amateur radio or technical topic you may wish to comment upon or ask about during your turn.

At the conclusion of their comments, Net participants should ID and pass the repeater back to Net Control.

BREAK

[After saying the word "break", unkey your microphone to reset the repeater timer. If, during this interval the repeater CW ID takes place, allow the entire ID sequence to complete, and the repeater reset beep to sound before again keying your radio]

This is (callsign). This is a QST to all amateurs. In general news of interest to Radio Amateurs this week...*[Follow this statement with amateur radio and other news of interest to amateur radio hobbyists. This can include: ARRL and Legislative issues, upcoming contests and operating events, DX information, propagation, and information on technical topics. Please limit your statements to 90 seconds or less, and allow the repeater to reset as needed to keep from timing out the machine.]*

[Read News and either pose a question or discussion topic, or solicit the same]

This is (callsign). This concludes the QST. At this time, Net Control invites check-ins from amateurs wishing to participate in the net. Please state your callsign and name once, and listen for acknowledgement by Net Control. Each net participant will be called in the order recognized by Net Control. Please call (Callsign) now.

[As stations check in, let a few go – generally 3-5, before calling each in the order you copied the call, then read back the calls you copied (or confirm misses) before inviting further check-ins. Do this until there are no further stations checking in. Now begin the participation of the stations on the net by calling them in turn. If desired, you may take Echolink/Allstar/mobile check-ins first, although this practice may be at your discretion.]

[When check-ins are complete, take the check-ins in the order received]

There being no further check-ins, the net recognizes (callsign). Your comments for the net please, OVER.

[Let each station provide their comments in sequence, thanking them for their comments after they turn it back to you. Please use OVER as you invite stations to speak. After all stations on the net have had a chance to give their comments, you should call for late check-ins/rechecks and repeat the questions for topic. When all are done, you may provide your own comments to the net, or close out the net. Conclude the net with below.]

There being no further check-ins or comments, this concludes the Fauquier Amateur Radio Association General Service Net. Thank you to all the participants this evening. If you have questions or comments on tonight's net, the Fauquier Amateur Radio Association, or becoming a licensed Amateur Radio operator, please send an e-mail to faranet@W4VA.ORG and you will receive a prompt reply. Everyone is welcome to continue the dialogue on the repeater after the conclusion of the net. This is (callsign) returning the repeater to normal use. Good evening.