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The FARC QSO

FARC QSO is published monthly by the Florence Amateur Radio Club to provide information to its club members, to all persons interested in wireless communication, and to encourage the promotion of amateur radio in the Pee Dee area of South Carolina.

The editorial staff reserves the right to edit and rewrite for content and space. Deadline for all articles is the 15th of the month.

The editor welcomes your suggestions and comments about this or future publications.

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Annual Dues at \$36, plus \$14 repeater fund,
payable on or before January 1 of each
year.

FARC nets meet each week on
Monday 8:30 pm on 146.850- and
Wednesday at 8:30 pm on or about 28.330

Florence ARES Net meets
the Second Tuesday each month at
8:30 pm on 146.850-

**The
FARC**

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

28.330, 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



Our President, Bob Austin, K7DVB, opened the February meeting and as usual each person introduced themselves. The first order of business was the Treasurer's report by KA3JAL, John Germain as follows:

Began January:	\$2,471.38
ARRL	- 71.00
FDTC	- 500.00
97 Phone	- 32.88
85 Phone	- 33.46
Deposit	+ 344.00
End January:	\$2,178.04

Repeater Savings at \$1,914.48
N4JJ, Jack Jackson, gave the ARRL Section report concerning the Charleston Hamfest, where Alan Pitts, W1AGP, from ARRL Hq. spoke about the critical need for all Hams to welcome the newcomers who will be interested in the hobby now that CW is no longer a requirement. He reminded us about the Amateur Code of Conduct and the need to help train new members and inform people about us. Dr. Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, our SC Section Manager, also complemented our club on it's activities and accomplishments.

W4ORW, Wayne Howell, our new VE Contact, requested that all VE sessions be published on the FARC website and in the

QSO and KA3JAL asked that information for new and prospective Hams and internet links be compiled and published or placed on CD-ROM for distribution.

KG4BZK, Bobby Collins, our ARES representative reminded us that we need a new EC for Florence County and for District 4 if anyone would like to volunteer. Also May Fly has been scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend. He will have more information at the next meeting but we will need to make our plans for participation at that time.

The Repeater reports were all good. and N4JJ, Jack, gave a report about the VE planning session. (See related below.) K7DVB, Bob, then appointed a committee to initiate an Elmer/Mentor group within the club to promote and encourage new Hams. KG4YVJ, Suzie and K4AVR, Mac Cullom with the help of N3ZL, Greg Davis will report at the next meeting.

K4AVR, Mac, then invited all members to participate in the



Meeting at
7:30 PM on
the 6th. at
Shoney's

SandBlast Car Rally on Saturday, February 17 near Cheraw.

KA3JAL, John, then reminded us that we have matching funds available for all donations to the Scholarship Fund so send all checks through him. He also mentioned that a former member, David Milligan, N4URR, belongs to a group called the Jeep Monkeys many of whom might be interested in becoming Hams if we can set up a class. There has been talk of a class being made available on closed circuit ETV. -- More later. K4AVR won the drawing for a 13 month ARRL 2007 Calendar. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Upcoming Events

March 10 Charlotte Hamfest
VE Sessions to be announced.

March Birthdays

- 4 Rudolph Hatcher, W4YXL
- 7 Mac Cullom, K4AVR
- 7 Olin "Mac" McDaniel, W4PFZ
- 8 Ashley Collins, KI4FFX
- 8 Morris Jones, NM4R
- 12 Laurie Sansbury, Jr., KV4C
- 15 Donna Dedonis, N4FJF
- 16 Jim King, KI4MVA
- 21 Bob Austin, K7DVB
- 23 Dyke Green, KI4DJG
- 26 Stan Stadig, KI4LLU

VE Meeting

Most of the FARC VE's met on Monday, January 27 to decide on future VE sessions. The group decided that Wayne Howell, W4ORW, would be our new contact person with



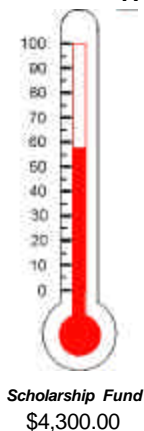
Mark Davis, N4MXP, as his alternate. The present plans are to have VE sessions four times a year with additional sessions should there be a need. All VE sessions will be announced on the ARRL, SC Section and FARC websites as well as in this publication. This VE team will become affiliated with the Western Carolina Amateur Radio VEC as well as the ARRL VEC. The WCARS Coordinator for South Carolina, John Chism, ND4N, will be coming to train our VE team on Sunday, February 25.

Member of the Month

Harry Paxton , W8IXZ

Our oldest member, Harry Paxton W8IXZ, may have difficulty walking but his memory is very clear and his background and experiences are wide ranging. Harry was born and raised in Akron Ohio. He vividly remembers making his own

Don't forget to make a donation to our scholarship fund at F-D Tech.



AM radio receiver by wrapping a coil around an oatmeal box, using earphones and connecting it to his bed springs as the antenna to listen to KDKA in Pittsburgh. As a youngster, he was always trying to make things work and has a very funny story about the first time he drove a car at the age of about twelve. Harry started high school in 1929 and completed in 1933. His first job was as a "Lot Boy" for a used car dealer.

Harry decided to join his father who was working in Carlisle, PA. The only transportation available was "Shanks Mare" so he walked the whole distance and arrived with holes in his shoes. During his time in Carlisle, he worked as a caddy for \$.75 per 18 holes of golf but quickly began working for an ice company both getting the ice from the wholesaler and delivering it to the customers which was strenuous work. When he returned to Akron, he started working for a Harley Davidson dealer where he rebuilt engines and repaired frames. He later did the same work in Indianapolis and later in Newport News, VA. In 1941 he returned to Akron and started working for Goodyear. From 1943 to 1946 Harry served in the Army Engineers and completed Construction Foreman School. He spent the whole war stateside mostly driving trucks. His most interesting experience was being hospitalized with the Flu for 31 days and having injections of Penicillin, the new wonder drug, every two hours for days on end. After the war, Harry returned to Goodyear in

Akron where he worked until he retired at 62. His job for most of that time was driving tractor trailer units.

Harry was first licensed as a Ham about 1955. He remembers listening to code tapes while driving and sounding out road signs and license plates in code. His first wife, Eleanor, W8WAX, was very supportive. Harry developed a substantial shack which included over the years a Collins 75A3, Drake T4A and T4X, and several teletypes including models 14, 15 and 28. He had a 55 foot tower in the back yard with a tri-bander at the top and a dipole connected to several trees. Harry ran MARS nets for many years both teletype and phone. He used an old converted ART13 which caused strong TVI so he often operated after midnight when most TV's were turned off. He also remembers tuning his transmitter by watching the glow of his neighbor's porch light.

After retirement, Harry volunteered at the local VA hospital and was very active in the American Legion at the Post, District and State levels and was Chairman of the Rehabilitation Committee. His first wife died in 1980 and in 1990 he moved to Ocala, FL where he remarried and continued his Ham and VA volunteering. After his second wife died, he moved here to Florence to be near his daughter. We are very happy to have him with us with his specially marked motorized chair.

