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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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Publicity - Jack Jackson, N4JJ
Proof Reader - John Germain KA3JAL
ARES -

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

The
FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

28.330, 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



In the absence of our President, KM4D, Dave Jones, our VP opened the meeting. After the introductions, KA3JAL, John Germain gave the Treasurer's Report.

| | |
|------------|------------|
| Began July | \$1,243.92 |
| '85 Phone | - 34.69 |
| '97 Phone | - 32.88 |

Ended July with \$1,176.35

Repeater Fund at \$2,573.64

KM4D recognized that our own N3ZL, Greg Davis, is this years recipient of the prestigious Hiram Percy Maxim award for distinguished service by an Amateur under the age of 21. Congratulations Greg!

Olin McDaniel, W4PFZ, reported that the '97 Repeater is working fine but the 440 Repeater has a weak receiver with intermittent reception.

Jack Jackson, N4JJ, gave his PIO report.:

N3ZL will receive the Percy Hiram Maxim Award at the ARRL Meeting at the Shelby Hamfest on Sept. 1st. at 10AM. All FARC members are invited to witness the presentation of this National Award.

Lloyd Mitchell, KO4L, has received the Special Events call sign of N4B to be used in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Mars Bluff bombing in March, 2008. We will

decide later if the club would like to set up a special events station at the Museum.

Our former member KV4C, Laurie Sansbury, has a new cell number, (843) 307-1678, should any of you wish to speak with him.

Bob Austin, K7DVB, who is on a long western trip, has been having antenna troubles and has not been able to meet his planned schedule on 14,290 at 6PM Eastern time. That is a great disappointment.

Members of the club have indicated a desire to have programs covering topical subjects at the club meeting. We are considering having separate meetings on a quarterly basis to cover such subjects as Emergency Communications, mobile installations, how RF may effect Pacemakers and Defibrillators, how to solder, etc. These topics could also be printed as articles in the QSO. Please let us know of any subject you would like covered. A committee including N4DOU, N4MXP, K4AVR and KO4L will develop a plan including times, places and subject matter.



Meeting at
7:30 PM on
the 4th. at
Shoney's

The meetings at the BK on Saturday mornings will move from the Irby Street location to Evans St. opposite K-Mart for the foreseeable future. The Irby St. location is closed for renovation until sometime in the fall.

Batteries Plus on Pamplico Hwy in the BILO parking lot replaces the batteries in old battery pack if any members have such a need.

Harbor Freight is offering a simple VOM for under \$3.00 if you need one for your Ready Kit.

QST has reported that in the wake of Katrina, Wal-Mart and Home Depot have approached the ARRL to possibly implement a system of using Amateur Radio to facilitate the movement of money and supplies to affected areas in the case of a catastrophic emergency

Under new business, KA3JAL requested the the club authorize expenditure of \$320 to pay the Club Liability Insurance. The motion was seconded and approved.

We had a visitor, Melvin Bell, K2DU, from Kingstree, representing the United Methodist Disaster Response organization and asked our club if we would be willing to sponsor a Technician training class for their members.

We agreed that if there are sufficient students wishing to learn, we would find teachers. There followed a lively discussion about Red Cross and ARES. The present agreements stipulate that FARC members would support Red Cross and their shelters first and if enough operators were available, hospitals would be covered.

W8IXZ, Harry Paxton, won the door prize and the meeting was



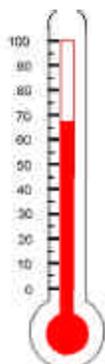
adjourned at 8:25PM.

Change to BK Meeting

The Burger King on South Irby Street is undergoing major renovations and will be closed until sometime in the fall. We will meet at the Burger King on Evans St. across from K-Mart until the Irby Street location reopens.

September Birthdays

- 2 Johnny King, WA4UGD
- 2 James McColl, KA4PVT
- 3 Jim Lavia, KI4ORA
- 6 Fletcher Townsend, KD4BUF
- 11 Oliver Webber, WD4CHR
- 17 Wayne Howell, W4ORW
- 27 Stormy Bishop, K4NOC



Scholarship Fund
\$5054.00



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

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 30 - 2-Meter Picnic at Cheraw State Park with VE Session
- Oct. 27 -- Sumter Hamfest
- Nov. 7 -- VE Session at Red Cross
- Nov. 10 -- MB Hamfest in Conway

CQWW VHF Contest July 21, 2007 Mt. Mitchell, NC



Our own KM4D joined with the Catawba Valley Radio Club to participate in the CQ World Wide VHF Contest on Mt. Mitchell. Working on both VHF and UHF frequencies using big antennas and 100 watts (no amplifiers) they were very successful.

As you well know, KM4D is not a VHF/UHF guy but he got a real taste



of what is possible a good antenna system at a great elevation. He was able to work Atlanta and into Mississippi with 5 watts on a 2 meter handheld but he was not able to contact the Sumter or Florence repeaters even with an 11 element beam due to superheterodynes. He did work several stations along the Michigan/Canada border using 1296 and South Dakota using 6 meter SSB.

The unofficial tally was:
333 QSO's and 102 Grids on 6
202 QSO's and 68 Grids on 2
Not a record but a good showing with 96.5K total points.

A Little Ham History

Before 1912, call signs were just made up by the aspiring Amateur and it wasn't until the Radio Act of 1912 that the first licenses were issued. In 1912, Irving Vermilya, 1ZE, received Skill Certificate No. 1, thus considered as the first licensed Amateur Radio Operator.

In 1914 the ARRL was organized by Hiram Percy Maxim (W1AW) to help relay messages, typical ranges were 25 miles. QST magazine began in 1915.

The ARRL sponsored what is probably the first organized contest dubbed "The 1928 International Relay Party" in May of 1928, sponsored the first Field Day Contest in 1933 and in 1937 they introduced the DXCC Program which was discontinued during WWII and started again after the war.

After December 7, 1941, most amateur radio operation was banned. Of the 51,000 hams licensed at that time, 25,000 enlisted, and 25,000 remained at home to teach radio and electronics, and serve in the communications industry, and serve in the War Emergency Radio Service (WERS) which was created in June 1942 at the request of the ARRL. On November 15, 1945, all amateurs are allowed back on the air.