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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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ARES -

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

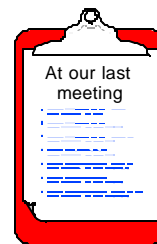
FARC nets meet each week on
Monday 8:30 pm on 146.850- and
Wednesday at 8:30 pm on or about 28.330

The FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

28.330, 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



At 7:30pm, our President, K7DVB, Bob Austin opened the meeting. After the standard introductions, KA3JAL, John Germain gave the Treasurer's Report.

Began August with	\$1,176.35
'85 Phone	- 34.70
Liability Insurance	- 320.00
Ended August with	\$ 821.65
Repeater Fund at	\$2,579.18

We had a total of 24 at the August meeting, 23 members and 1 guest. The current membership is 57.

N4JJ, Jack Jackson gave us a combined ARRL Section and PIO report. Our own N3ZL, Greg Davis, was presented with the Hiram Percy Maxim Award at the Shelby Hamfest. (See Related Article Below)

Jack also announced that he has officially retired from the QSL Bureau after 21 years of sorting cards. Thank you for your service, Jack. W4YXL, Rudolph Hatcher, told the group that he had seen the '85 repeater recently and it was fine! W4PFZ, Mac MacDaniel, reported that the '97 repeater was still working well but that there seems to be something wrong with the auto patch. Although seldom used, the auto patch would be a good backup when cell towers may be down. Since we do not have an ARES representative, KG4BZK, Bobby Collins, gave us some information about Emergency programs. A rep-

representative of the SC Hearts system is visiting all the hospitals in the state to assess their needs for Amateur Radio assistance in an emergency. There will be another Technician training class for medical personnel but this one will be in Columbia rather than over the ETV Network. Three of the Hearts repeaters are operational in Columbia, Awendaw and Whitehall and the antenna has been placed on the WJPM tower so that system is moving ahead.

The committee concerning programs to be presented at club meetings or at other venues which was created at the August meeting has not had a formal meeting so a report will be forthcoming in October. W4YXL noted that the nothing has come of the idea mentioned earlier in the year about club shirts.

N4JJ reminded us that we now have two anonymous donors have pledged to match all donations to the FDTC scholarship fund. This means that for every \$1 donated, \$2 additional will be added to the fund. That means that if we have an addition of \$800, or \$14 per member, we would have enough to fund the scholarship. Let's dig deep and get our scholarship started for the next semester.



Meeting at
7:30 PM on
the 2nd. at
Shoney's

There was a discussion about the 440 repeater on Carolinas Hospital which seems to have some problems in the early mornings that need to be addressed. Some extraneous audio is heard on this repeater and we believe that if other hospital equipment is operating when the 440 keys up, their audio is heard over our system. WD4CHS, Tim Webber, is developing his own UHF repeater on 441.875 with a tone of 123.0. He has most of the equipment and the duplexers but he needs a good location. Currently he is using a 35' push-up pole at his home. If any members have an idea for a suitably high antenna site, he would love to hear from you.

N4JJ reminded us about the PALS 2 Meter picnic to be held on Sunday, September 30 at Cheraw State Park. Bring something you like to eat and share to be put on the tables about noon. At 1:30 the FARC WCARS VE team will hold a VE session in the golf building. We hope to have good attendance with several new hams and upgrades. At about the same time, there will be a short PALS business meeting with the election of officers. Following the business, we will have plenty of time for pickin' and singin' and just having eyeball QSO's. Please come, bring some food and any instrument that you play. We will stay until the last chat.

KG4YVJ, Suzie Cullom, passed around the current membership list and asked for any corrections. It will be e-mailed to all members in the next few days.

October Birthdays

2 Jerry Jebaily, KI4OEU
 13 Wink DeWitt, KD4WMC
 21 Bobby Wallace, WB4VYA
 29 Bill Cheny, N4AAK

For Sale

KI4ORA has an extra 2007 ARRL Handbook for sale at \$34 normally \$50
 Scholarship Fund \$6224.00



Upcoming Events

Sept 30 PALS Picnic
 Oct. 6 Rock Hill Hamfest
 Oct. 20 JODA
 Oct. 27 Sumter Hamfest
 Nov. 10 Conway Hamfest

Shelby Photos



K4AVR, N4DOU, KG4BZK, N3ZL N4JJ, N4MXP, KG4YVJ, KO4L



KE4VXC
 Chet will do anything for a laugh!

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

Member of the Month N3ZL - Greg Davis

Go back in time with me to Field Day, 2004 at Lake Darpo when a shy, soft spoken 14 year old passed his Technician test and was issued the call sign KI4GFH. Fast forward to the Shelby Hamfest 2007, and a self-confident young man received the Hiram Percy Maxim Award as the Outstanding Amateur under 21 years of age. We in the FARC have been privileged to witness this remarkable transformation at close range.

Greg was born in West Palm Beach, FL but has spent most of his life here in Florence. As a youngster of a maybe 9 years old, he watched his father Mark, N4MXP, make contacts all around the world. He was finally licensed in June of 2004, passed 5 wpm code in February of 2005, passed the General in June of 2005, then passed his Extra in December of that year. He even shamed N4MXP into getting his Extra also.

Gregg's original interests centered on digital modes, primarily PSK 31, ragchewing and an occasional DX. In 2005 both Mark and Greg decided to increase their code speed but it took until September, 2006, when he had a QSO with KE8NN in Ohio on 7.138 before the CW bug to strike in earnest. Other than the local nets, he has been 100% CW since January 2007 and his speed has improved to over 30 wpm.

This past summer while on a trip to visit relatives on the west coast of Florida, Mark and Greg kayaked out to

Anclote Key near Tarpon Springs and set up a station in support of the Lighthouse On The Air program. Although there were only 10 confirmed contacts, he learned a great deal. He participated in the IARU in July making over 720 contacts in 24 hours. Other special contacts include the Soviet Military Order of Malta, which is a rare station, and with 3B7C on 40 Meters

Since becoming a member of FARC, Greg has helped us with several Field Days, McLeod Health Walks, Sandblasts, May Fly's and MS Bike events. He participates in the FARC 10 Meter nets and often acts as Net Control on the Monday Night 2-Meter Ragchew Nets.

Greg is an active Boy Scout. In working on his Eagle Award, he chose to make and install 2 Meter antennas at several of the local Red Cross shelter sites. The antennas are operational at



N3ZL receives award from N4ROS

Lake City and South Florence High Schools and several more are planned for installation in the future. A Board of Review will meet at the end of September to officially award his Eagle rank.

Just to make us old folks tired, Greg is a senior at West Florence High School and is also interested in travel, music (he plays violin in the school orchestra), hiking, back-packing, camping, kayaking, scuba diving and is currently taking private pilot training. His radio hobby has made him consider becoming an Electrical Engineer.



Sister Kim, N3ZL, N4MXP & Mom Beverly

Congratulations Greg!
 and Mark - "You Done Good!"