

John F. Germain, KA3JAL Treas.
2731 Ascot Drive
Florence, South Carolina 29501
Telephone: (843) 667-9702

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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.

Suzanne Cullom, KG4YVJ, Editor
1907 Effie's Lane, Florence, SC 29505
(843) 662-0421
e-mail: fcullom@worldnet.att.net

Florence Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 5062, Florence, SC 29502
Web site: www.w4ulh.org

President - Bob Austin K7DVB
Vice President - Dave Jones KM4D
Sect/Treas - John Germain KA3JAL
Web Page - Lloyd Mitchell, KO4L
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+



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	\$	821.65
'85 Phone	-	36.25
Ended August with	\$	785.40
Repeater Fund at		\$2,579.18

We had a total of 28 at the September meeting, 25 members and 3 guests. The current membership is 57.

N4JJ, Jack Jackson reported that all was quiet in Newington.

N4DOU, John Schumacher, reported that McLeod Hospital had been evaluated by the SC HEART organization. Leslie Kennedy is the McLeod contact. The WJPM tower now has antennas and coax in place for the HEARTS repeaters. The UHF is coordinated on 441.575 but the VHF is as yet unassigned. Columbia is on the air at 441.725

W4Y LX, Rudolph Hatcher, told the group that the '85 repeater was fine. The air conditioning has been repaired at the site and the repeater is now in a cool environment. W4PFZ, Mac MacDaniel, reported that the '97 repeater was still working well. The 440 repeater still has some interference but only in the early morning timeframe.

The committee concerning programs to be presented at club meet-

ings or at other venues which was created at the August meeting reported that all members were in agreement that there would not be enough time at a regular meeting to adequately present a program. The committee plans to organize quarterly meetings to teach such subjects as DXing, Contesting, Test Equipment use and maintenance, and a Newby School covering such topics as proper soldering techniques.

W8IXZ, Harry Paxton, requested information to help another resident of The Carolinian who would like to become an Amateur. He was given information about websites to get the proper information and tests.

K4AVR, Mac Cullom, reported that the VE team had tested four existing Hams at the Cheraw Test Session. There was a 50% pass rate with two new Extras, one from Camden and the other from Lamar.

Since there must be an election of FARC officers for 2008 held at the December meeting. KM4D, Dave Jones, our present Vice President, as head of the Nominating Committee, appointed N4MXP, Mark Davis, N4JJ, Jack Jackson and W4PFZ, Mac McDaniel to help him select a slate of candidates for the election.



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

N4DOU won the doorprize which was a multimeter.

The meeting closed at 8PM.

November Birthdays

- 1 Tim Webber, WD4CHS
- 13 Wayne Cooke, W4ID

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 7 VE Session at 7 PM
Red Cross Bldg. Lucas St.
- Nov.10 Conway Hamfest
- Dec. 4 Christmas Meeting
& Election of Officers
at N4JJ's

Cheraw VE Session

The FARC WCARS VE Team held a testing session at Cheraw State Park in the Pro Shop building in conjunction with the PALS 7th Annual Picnic on Sunday, September 30th. N4MXP, Mark Davis was the team leader with N4DOU, John Schumacher, N4JJ, Jack Jackson, NG4S, Tommy Walker and K4AVR, Mac Cullom assisting.

There were four Hams trying for upgrades, one to General and three to Extra. Only two of the four passed but we made two new Extras, one for Camden and one from Lamar. The test session ran smoothly and by faxing the information the results were posted on the FCC website before 2:00 PM on Monday. For those of us who had to wait several months, this timing is amazing.

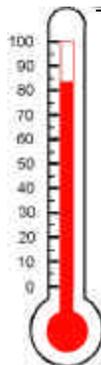
Thirty-eight people attended the picnic and had a great meal and lots of fun. KG4KOE, Randy Collins, of Ladson, offered to be thrown in the lake for a donation of \$100. We raised over \$350 and he did jump in the lake. The day was beautiful but he said the lake was cold. You missed a good one!



FARC Scholarship Almost a Reality

We are getting close to having enough in the FARC Scholarship fund to actually start giving a deserving student of Engineering Technology at Florence Darlington Tech a little boost. As you can see we have only \$1,000 to go before that happens.

Thanks to all who have contributed so far and I hope the rest of you will consider this good cause and contribute by the end of the year. This will be a permanent, recurring scholarship and will provide FARC with positive and on-going community relations. Remember all donations are tax deductible.



Scholarship Fund
\$6,528.86

Do you need a Tower Climber?

Tim Smith lives locally and can be reached at (843)346-0004. He is experienced and does an excellent job at a reasonable price.

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

ARRL

The seed for Amateur Radio was planted in the 1890s, when Guglielmo Marconi began his experiments in wireless telegraphy. Soon he was joined by dozens, then hundreds, of others who were enthusiastic about sending and receiving messages through the air - some with a commercial interest, but others solely out of a love for this new communications medium. The United States government began licensing Amateur Radio operators in 1912.

By 1914, there were thousands of Amateur Radio operators (hams) in the United States. Hiram Percy Maxim, a leading Hartford, Connecticut, inventor and industrialist saw the need for an organization to band together this fledgling group of radio experimenters. In May 1914 he founded the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) to meet that need and to relay messages since the typical range of a transmitter was 25 miles. By 1915 the QST Magazine was established. In April, 1917 the US Government banned amateur listening and transmitting because of wartime conditions and removed the ban on September 26, 1919. In 1920 the Radio Amateurs Callbook was first published and International QSL bureaus were established.

Before WWI, all amateurs used spark transmitters but CW started making headway. The first transoceanic transmission by 1BCG in Greenwich, Connecticut was heard in Scotland in 1921. By 1924 spark was forbidden on the new 80, 40, 20 and 5 Meter bands. Spark was officially forbidden to all US amateurs by the Radio Act of 1927.

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.

After December 7, 1941, most amateur radio operations were banned. But early in WWII, the FCC needed 500 radio operators to man listening and direction-finding stations. They asked the League's assistance. The League put out the word in QST and within days of that issue, the FCC had the 500 operators it needed. It is important to note that, for the duration of the war, the military and government always turned to the ARRL when radio operators and equipment were needed. The League would put out the call in QST and over W1AW, and the quotas were always filled in short order. Of the 51,000 hams licensed at that time, 25,000 enlisted, and 25,000 remained at home to teach radio and electronics, 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.



The 1921 1BCG transmitter.



The 1921 1BCG receiver.

On November 15, 1945, all amateurs are allowed back on the air.

Recently, the ARRL has been very actively lobbying to protect our frequencies from BPL which creates significant interference. We believe BPL will be defeated.

The best reason to maintain our club affiliation with the ARRL is the ability to purchase liability insurance at a very great discount, almost 20 times less than the standard commercial rates. To maintain our affiliation, we must have at least 51% of our members as ARRL members.