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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 January 1 of each year.

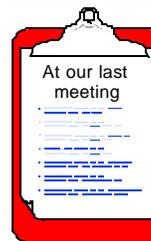
FARC nets meet each week on
Monday 8:30 pm on 146.850- and
Wednesday at 8:30 pm on or about 28.330

The
FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

28.330, 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



N4JJ, Jack Jackson, started the 16th annual Christmas Party and Meeting held at his home with a prayer. After a wonderful meal the actual meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM by our outgoing President, K7DVB, Bob Austin.

KA3JAL, John Germain, gave the Treasurer's report:

Began November with	\$ 696.27
'85 Phone	- 37.04
Ended October with	\$ 659.23

The repeater account remains at \$2,579.18. There were 32 people at the November meeting, 27 members and 5 guests and the club membership remains at 57.

KM4D, Dave Jones, reported that there is a new person in charge of QSL Cards in Newington.

All of our repeaters were reported to be in excellent working condition.

N4MXP, Mark Davis, invited all members of the club to attend the ceremony on January 12 where N3ZL, Gregg, will be awarded his Eagle Scout status. This will be held at Calvary Baptist Church, 915 Cherokee Rd., at 2:00 PM. There will be a reception following the ceremony.

N4JJ announced that today, Dec. 4, 2007 marked his 45th. anniversary

as a Ham. He started at 13 years old and W4YLX, Rudolph Hatcher, was one of his Elmers. Congratulations Jack!

Jack also wanted to commend the cooks who worked so hard to give us a good meal, especially KD4WMC, Wink, for the deer sausage spaghetti sauce and the rolls and KD4BUF, Fletcher, for the noodles.

Jack also reminded all of us that the Scholarship at Florence Darlington Tech has reached it's initial goal and will be granted for the Spring Semester. We are quite close to the next level, \$10,000, which would give a larger amount to the recipient. Any donations are tax deductible so remember to give for this good cause.

The first item of new business was the election of officers for 2008. The committee proposed the following:

N4MXP, Mark Davis - President
N4DOU, John Schumacher - VP
KA3JAL, John Germain - Sec/Treas.

The slate of officers was elected by acclamation and Mark continued the meeting.

Jan

Meeting at
Shoney's
7:30 PM on
the 1st.

W4ORW, Wayne Howell, requested that all VE's remain after the meeting to finalize assignments for next year.

K4AVR, Mac Cullom, reported that N2ZZ, Dr. Jim Boehner, our SC ARRL Coordinator, has asked KE4GV, Glen Greene, of Latta, to help draft South Carolina legislation which would allow SC Amateurs to erect towers up to 65 feet on their own property even if there are codes or HOA rules that prohibit such. He is planning to use the NC legislation as a guide and asks for input from all SC Amateurs who are impacted.

KM4D, Dave Jones, presented the awards for Field Day 2007. Our little club placed 19th. in the U.S. in our category. We had 1067 QSO's of which over 800 were with CW and the other 260 were mostly on single sideband. We had a total of 4988 points. We placed 3rd. overall in South Carolina and were 1st. in category 4A for the Roanoke Division. Through a misunderstanding we were not credited with having operated on battery power which would have given us many more points and improved our standing. We will not make that mistake next year!

After distributing award certificates, Dave wanted to note the help that we received from the Morning News with three reporters, Gavin Jackson, Jamie Rogers and Mike ???. He also wanted to recognize the Darlington County Recreation Department for allowing us to use the Lake Darpo facilities for the past few years and we hope for many years to come.

K4NOC, Stormy Bishop, told about the CW team. He was pleased that in addition to the old timers like



himself, KM4D and N4JJ, we had N3ZL, Gregg Davis and KF8MC, Jay Nester doing a wonderful job. It is nice to see younger Hams so interested in CW.

After recognizing those who worked on the McLeod Run/Walk in March and the Mayfly, N4JJ raffled off quite a number of prizes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

January Birthdays

16	Ruth Wallace, WD4UXN
19	Greg Davis, KI4GFH
22	John Ratliff, K4KSX
24	Tommy Walker, NG4S
28	T. C. Taylor, WA4QMZ
30	David McGlothlin, W4EPD

Upcoming Events

Jan 12	Greenwood Hamfest
Feb 2	Charleston Hamfest
Feb 9	VE Test Session 9AM Methodist Manor
Feb 9	Sandblast Car Rally
Feb 16	Myrtle Beach Marathon
Mar 8	Charlotte Hamfest

Member of the Month N4MXP

Our incoming president is a rather unassuming but very well rounded individual. Although born a Tar Heel in Salisbury, NC, he went to the University of South Florida in Tampa. He is in Pharmaceutical Sales and travels in the Northeastern part of South Carolina.

Long before the advent of cell phones, a friend showed Mark how to use a phone patch on 2 Meters. Mark was hooked. He is interested in most aspects of radio. He enjoys DXing on SSB and learning the characteristics of different antennas, long wires, dipoles, inverted V and inverted L among others. With the help and prodding of his son Greg, N3ZL, he is learning more about digital modes and is trying to gain speed on CW so he can keep up with Greg, who is his proudest amateur achievement.

Mark has worked with the Florence Little Theater, primarily backstage, doing lights, carpentry, and stage management. Both he and Greg are certified SCUBA divers and are taking pilot training. Since Greg is an Eagle Scout, for many years, Mark has been working very closely with Troop 444 and is on the committee. This troop is very active and spend many weekends doing outdoor sports like camping and canoeing.

Mark's wife, Beverly, is a teacher at Carver Elementary School. His daughter, Kim will graduate from Winthrop this spring with a major in Interior Design. Greg is enjoying his Senior year at West Florence and hopes to

attend Clemson next year. Mark and Beverly will have at least another four years of college bills but will have the house to themselves come September. I'm sure that we can keep him occupied if he feels uncomfortable with the empty nest.

Sandblast 2008

We are pleased to announce that the annual Sandblast Car Rally to be held in the Sandhills State Forest near Cheraw on February 9, will be adding motorcycles to the schedule. Any of you who have helped in the past know how much fun it is to watch these little cars run through the hills on the sand truck trails approaching 100 miles an hour. This year we will have motorcycles doing the same thing following the car stages.

Several of the FARC members who usually participate in this event will not be able to help this year due to conflicting obligations so we will need extra Hams to man the start and end of the nine stages and at least four spectator locations. The addition of the motorcycles will increase the time each operator is needed at a particular location.

All you need is either a mobile or an HT. All participating Hams receive a Tee Shirt, lunch and a Pizza Party in the evening. Please think about helping and having a great time.

DUES

Remember, dues paid in January will be \$50, in February \$55 and in March \$60. It is to your advantage to pay as soon as possible.