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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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Proof Reader - John Germain KA3JAL
ARES -

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

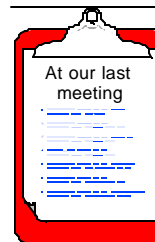
FARC nets meet each week on
Monday 8:30 pm on 146.850- and
Wednesday at 8:30 pm on or about 28.330

The FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

28.330, 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



The February 5th. FARC meeting was opened at 7:30 by our President, N4MXP, Mark Davis. There were 25 in attendance, 20 members and 5 guests.

Our Secy/Treas. KA3JAL, John Germain, gave the Treasurer's report:

Began January with	\$ 1,895.04
Deposit 2008 Dues	+ 514.00
'97 Phone, 1st. Qtr.	- 32.88
'85 Phone	- 36.63
<u>Paid for club copies</u>	<u>- 5.90</u>
Ended January with	\$2,333.63

The repeater account remains at \$2,585.69. As of 2/2/08.

The scholarship fund is up to \$10,070.40 which is enough for a \$500 scholarship.

KI4ZEV, Kevin Willis, applied for membership. He is the son of KQ4BR, Tom Willis. He was accepted by the club and we welcome him to our ranks.

KM4D, Dave Jones, attended the Charleston Hamfest. Dan Henderson from Newington advised us to watch out on 440 because we may lose some due to radar interference. Also the Sumter 147.015 repeater is back on the air.

There was a discussion of the SC HEART system. The frequencies

have been assigned but not all repeaters are operational. The Florence repeater should be the next one installed. The system is being tested and McLeod is involved.

We have been asked to help with the McLeod Sports Medicine Run/Walk which will be held at Briggs Elementary School on March 15th. Please sign up at the March meeting or on the Monday night net. Our McLeod contact is Daniel Barlow.

The committee to contact the Red Cross which was set up in January, has not yet been able to set up a meeting. They hope to have a report at the March meeting.

The N4B special event station commemorating the Mars Bluff Bombing of 1958 will be held the same weekend as the Charlotte Hamfest. A sign-up sheet was circulated but we only have 3 operators signed up. Any HF operator not attending the Charlotte Hamfest is invited to help with this project. Please sign up at the March meeting.

There was a discussion of the club history project. N4JJ, Jack Jackson



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

turned all of his information over to N4AAK, Bill Cheny for further action. W4PFZ, Mac McDaniel, informed the club that there has been a lot of kerchunking on the 85 repeater. He suggested adding a PL tone. The club decided to monitor the situation before anything is done.

KI4ORA, Jim Lavia, is a certified CPR instructor and offered to set up a class for FARC at a reduced rate. Let Jim know if you are interested.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

March Birthdays

- 4 Rudolph Hatcher, W4YLX
- 7 Olin "Mac" McDaniel, W4PFZ
- 7 Mac Cullom, K4AVR
- 8 Morris Jones, NM4R
- 15 Donna Dedonis, N4FJF
- 16 Jim King, KI4MVA
- 21 Bob Austin, K7DVB
- 24 Stan Stadig, KI4LLU

Upcoming Events

- Mar 8 Charlotte Hamfest
- Mar 8 & 9 N4B Special Event
- Mar 15 McLeod Run/Walk
- April 7 SC SSB Net 50th Anniv.
7PM on 3.915 KHz
- April 12 VE Session at
Carolinas Hospital Sys.

DUES

Remember, dues paid in February will be \$55 and in March \$60. It is to your advantage to pay as soon as possible. There are 13 member from 2007 who have yet to renew!



Successful VE Test Session

The Florence WCARS VE team held a very successful test session on February 9, at Methodist Manor. We had seven successful test takers.

Jim McDonough passed his Technician and General tests. He is a former amateur and is now KJ4BVK. Jim lives in Darlington.

Angela Pantages from Camden started studying on Wednesday and on Saturday passed her Technician. She is KJ4BVL. Her husband Matthew Pantages, KB8WPJ, also of Camden upgraded to General.

Earl and Shiela Parnell passed their Technician test and are now KJ4BVM and KJ4BVN respectively. They live off Mclver Rd. and have attended several FARC meetings. KG4HIE, Scott Thompson, upgraded to Extra.

Barney Weatherford of Darlington also passed his Technician and is now KJ4BVO.

We congratulate all of them and hope to hear them check-in to the 85 Ragchew Net often.

Quarter Century Wireless Association QCWA

The Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc. was founded on December 5, 1947, as a non-commercial association of radio amateurs organized for the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communication and experimentation, for the establishment and advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare.

QCWA is an incorporated association without capital stock chartered under the laws of the State of New York, and is a tax exempt 501(C)3 organization under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

The affairs are governed by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Board of Directors, whose voting members are elected every two years by the general membership.

In order to qualify for membership in QCWA one must have demonstrable proof of having been first licensed as an Amateur Radio operator at least 25 years prior to application for membership and must be currently licensed.

QCWA now has almost 215 local chapters and our Palmetto Chapter is number 89. You must be a member of the National organization to qualify as a Palmetto member. Currently the National dues are \$25 per year and the Palmetto dues are \$5 per year.

FARC has three QCWA members at the present time, N4JJ, Jack Jackson, N4DOU, John Schumacher and KC4UTX, R.K. Harmon. R.K. is a past president of the Palmetto Chapter and would be happy to help any qualified FARC member to join QCWA.

McLeod Run/Walk March 15

We have been asked to supply radio coverage for the McLeod Run/Walk to be held at Briggs School on March 15. We will need 7 to 10 operators with HT's and/or mobiles. Please sign up at the March meeting or on the Monday night net. We need your help!

The Day the USAF Bombed Mars Bluff

On March 11, 1958 at 3:53 p.m. Eastern Standard, a nuclear bomb fell in the garden of the home of Mr. Walter Gregg in Mars Bluff, S.C. The high explosive detonation virtually destroyed his house creating a crater 50-70 feet in diameter and 25-30 feet deep. It caused minor injuries to Mr. Gregg and five members of his family, and additionally damaged five other houses and a church. The clean-up effort required several days. Air Force personnel recovered hundreds of pieces of bomb fragments that were carried off as souvenirs by local residents. The inhabitants of Mars Bluff were examined for several months to see if they had been exposed to any radiation. Five months later the Gregg family was awarded \$54,000 from the Air Force.

To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of this event, a Special Events Station, N4B will be operational on March 8 & 9 from 1700Z to 0300Z daily, working on 28.330, 14.290, 7.263 and 3.920. Other frequencies may be used. Sign up at the March FARC meeting. We need Hams who may operate from their home shacks. For more information, contact KO4L, Lloyd Mitchell.