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

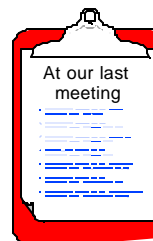
FARC nets meet each week on
Monday 8:30 pm on 146.850- and
Wednesday at 8:30 pm on 28.330 USB

The
FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

28.330 USB, 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



The October Meeting was opened by our President N4MXP, Mark Davis just after 7:30 PM and all members and guests identified themselves.

Our Treasurer KA3JAL, John Germain gave the following report:
Started September with \$1,353.70
No Activity - 0.00
Ended August with \$1,353.70

The repeater fund stands at \$3,270.33 plus interest. Club membership stands at 58 with 4 lifetime and 54 dues paying. We had 18 at the September meeting with 17 members and 1 guest.

ARRL SECTION & PIO: N4JJ, Jack Jackson reported that since there were no other nominations, Dr. Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, remains as the South Carolina Section Manager for the ARRL for another term by acclamation.

KA4LRM, Emmie Patience, 85, of Belton, S.C., became a Silent Key on Sept. 29. She was very active, loved by all, and will be sorely missed.

WA4UGD, Johnnie King, is not able to make the meetings. All members are encouraged to contact him as often as possible.

KF4HJS, Dr. John Kirkland, is slowly recovering from open heart surgery last month. While in the hospital, he caught a staff infection and he has developed Drexler Syndrome which causes fluid retention in the lungs.

He is now on medications and is back seeing patients part-time but gets out of breath easily. It may take him as long as a year to recover fully. He has difficulty speaking so he keeps telephone and radio to a minimum. We wish him a speedy recovery.

ARRL offers many on-line courses. There is a new one for Technician Licensing which costs \$69 but includes a one year membership in ARRL, study books and guides and significant on-line support (think Elmer). This is a bit pricey but could be good for lots of folks. There are also very good courses available on Antennas, Emergency Communications and CERT training. Take a look, you may want to try one.

E M E R G E N C Y COMMUNICATIONS: K14ORA, Jim Lavia, reported the addition of



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

12 new Technicians trained through the SC HEART project. KJ4GSI, Van Ervin from McLeod in Darlington attended tonight.

Jim plans to hold a short ARES meeting after the general meeting next month. All former ARES members are asked to attend or to contact Jim before the next meeting.

REPEATER REPORTS:

85: Everything OK

97: Everything OK

440: This repeater checks out well.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

N4JJ, Jack Jackson reported that he has not been able to pull this group together, but will keep working on the project. One idea suggested was that the Associate Members pay only the \$14 that we charge members for repeater upkeep. That will be decided by the committee later.

WEBSITE: In the absence of both KO4L, Lloyd Mitchell and N4DOU, John Schumacher, we had a discussion about the ownership of the W4ULH domain name. W4YLX, Rudolph Hatcher, is the Trustee of the W4ULX repeater and plans to contact our former member, KG4SLH, Mike Duff to transfer ownership of the domain name to him or to the club.

VE TEAM: N4MXP reported that we anticipate a large number of people to come for the VE Session on Sat., October 12, at Methodist Manor. He asked for any VE's not already scheduled for that session to attend to help out.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Under our constitution, it is the duty of



the Vice President to assemble a Nominating Committee to submit a slate of officers for the club for the next year. N4MXP will contact N4DOU to set up such a committee and hopefully to have a slate of officers for 2009 ready to present at the November meeting.

SERA: KA3JAL has received the bill from the South Eastern Repeater Association to renew our membership in the amount of \$20. The members voted to pay that amount.

KG4YVJ, Suzie Cullom, circulated a proposed informational card to be given to successful testees at upcoming VE sessions and asked for any additions or corrections.

KJ4GSI, Van Ervin, our guest from McLeod Darlington, won the drawing this month for a "vintage" weather radio

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

November Birthdays

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

Upcoming Events

Oct. 25	Sumter Hamfest
Nov 16	Benson NC Hamfest

Beachfest Cancelled

The Grand Strand Amateur Radio Club has announced that due to the high cost of gas, the generally poor economy and a lack of vendors, they are postponing this year's Beachfest. They will reevaluate the situation and hope to have the next Beachfest on November 14, 2009.

Successful VE Session

Our Florence WCARS VE group held a successful testing Session on Saturday, October 11, at Methodist Manor. There were seven applicants and six were successful. Our own KJ4DGT, Rob Belinski, became an Extra and our former member N4URR, David Milligan, went from a Tech Plus to Extra. KJ4BVM, Earl Parnell and KJ4GAA, Herbert Redford of Sumter passed General and Larry Cantrell, who came to our last meeting, passed both the Tech and General and became KJ4HEY and Willard Horton became KJ4HEZ. We congratulate all and hope to hear our new Hams on the air very soon.

Member of the Month

Jim Lavia - KI4ORA

Jim was born and raised in Iowa. He graduated from the University of Iowa and got his MBA at Drake University. He spent his working life in distribution for pharmaceutical companies including Roche, Burroughs Wellcome and

Warner Lambert. He is married with three children and six grandchildren all of whom are out of state.

Jim is a dedicated Red Cross Volunteer and helped out with the Hurricane Katrina aftermath. He attended a special Red Cross training class for computers, radios and satellites in Austin, Texas, where they had evening classes for Ham Radio. Jim attended and passed the Technician exam. He has since passed his General and his next goal is to pass the Extra exam.

Given Jim's Red Cross experience, he has taken the position of ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Florence County which KG4BZK, Bobby Collins was forced to leave due to job requirements. Jim is working toward reinstating and reorganizing the local ARES group and getting the Red Cross Radio room operational again. In his spare time, Jim also volunteers as an arbitrator for the 12th Judicial District where he works with troubled youth, for which he was recognized as the RSVP Volunteer of the year in 2007. I believe that Jim works harder in retirement than he did while he was working. The only plus is his place at the beach where he goes to hide as often as he can.

Editor's Notes:

Don't forget to get out and vote before you come to the meeting. I will look for your "I Voted" stickers and give anyone without one my standard "50 Lashes with a Wet Noodle."

Remember those on our disabled list: WA4UGD, Johnny King, KF4HJS, John Kirkland and KA3JAL, John Germain. We wish all a speedy recovery.