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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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ARES - Jim Lavia, K14ORA

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

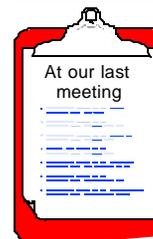
FARC nets meet each week on
Monday 8:30 pm on 146.850- and
Wednesday at 8:30 pm on 28.330 USB

The
FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

28.330 USB, 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



The November 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 October with \$1,353.70
Fourth Qtr. 97 Phone - 32.88
Ended October with \$1,320.82

The repeater fund stands at \$3,270.33 plus interest. Club membership stands at 58 with 4 lifetime and 54 dues paying. We had 26 at the October meeting with 23 members and 3 guests.

ARRL SECTION & PIO: N4JJ, Jack Jackson reminded us that the ARRL sends out an e-mail newsletter and the last one devoted a lot of space to the fact that the VEC Section does a lot more than administer tests. He also reminded us about the December meeting at his QTH.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS: K14ORA, Jim Lavia, reported that there will be an Emergency Hospital Exercise centered in Kansas City on December 6 working on 3920 from 1100 to 1400 Eastern Time, with operations also on 7220. It might be interesting to monitor and possibly help with this

exercise.

Jim also reported that the Red Cross is working on a new Memo of Understanding which will not require Hams to divulge any financial information. He hopes to have something to report very soon.

REPEATER REPORTS:

85: Everything OK

97: Everything OK

440: This repeater checks out well.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

COMMITTEE: The committee reported that the FARC Constitution only allows non-hams to become non-voting members. In order to allow another membership category the Constitution would have to be changed. They recommended that rather than create such a category, we merely invite any Hams who are not members but who use our system often to make a donation to our repeater fund.

WEBSITE: Since KO4L, Lloyd Mitchell, was not in attendance, we again had a discussion about the ownership of the W4ULH domain



Meeting at N4JJ's
7:30 PM on the 2nd.

name. KO4L has not been able to speak with KG4SLH, Mike Duff, our former member who holds our web-site domain name. W4YLX, Rudolph Hatcher, who is the custodian of the W4ULH callsign, did speak with KG4SLH and offered to reimburse him for the use of the W4ULH.org domain name if he would transfer ownership to the club and submit a bill to the club treasurer. We have not heard from him. After much discussion, it was agreed that we would ask KO4L to create a new website under another domain name and owned by the club with all of our current information and to clear the W4ULH.org site of everything other than a link to our new site. Hopefully this can be accomplished soon.

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. N4DOU, John Schumacher, has appointed a committee who are working on a slate of officers to present to the club. He will announce these names to the club members by e-mail before the next meeting so that all members can be ready to vote.

There was no new business however, KJ4BVM, Earl Parnell, is interested in getting youth involved with Amateur Radio. N4JJ told him about all of the information and help that is available through the ARRL. He will be investigating ways to present Amateur Radio into local schools and/or scouts.

W4PFZ, Olin McDaniels, mentioned that N4VBV, Mike Majority, from Sumter had been a patient at McLeod



hospital. Mike is an Air Force pilot and injured his back under G-forces. He brought his HT and was able to use the 97 repeater during his stay. We hope that his treatment was successful.

We were very pleased that KA3JAL, John Germain and KF4HJS, Dr. John Kirkland were both at this meeting and healing well after their respective surgeries.

KD4BUF, Fletcher Townsend, won the raffle and received several C-cell rechargeable batteries but no charger.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

December Birthdays

- 2 John Kirkland, KF4FJS
- 4 John Germain, KA3JAL
- 15 Harry Paxton, W8IXZ
- 21 Earl Parnell, KJ4BVM

Upcoming Events

- Dec. 2 Annual Christmas Party at N4JJ's Hamshack

2009 Dues

Collection of dues was greatly enhanced last year when we instituted early dues payments. All dues paid before January 1 get a \$5 discount. Dues paid before January 31, would be at the normal amount. During February there would be an extra charge of \$5 and during March an extra charge of \$10. Any member not renewing before April 1 would be dropped from membership. Save yourself some money and give KA3JAL a break by paying early, maybe at the December meeting.

Annual Christmas Party and Election of Officers

Don't forget that our December meeting will be held at N4JJ's house for the 16th time. As usual, we will have a spaghetti supper. The sauce will contain deer meat and deer sausage will be on the side. Our own KD4BUF, Fletcher Townsend, will be the "Noodle Man" and KD4WMC, Wink DeWitt will make his delicious light rolls.

Please come early, any time after 6 P.M., to enjoy the food and fellowship. Invite your spouse if she is interested and bring a salad, side or dessert that you would like to share.

We will then have our regular meeting including the presentation and election of officers for 2009. KM4D will distribute awards to all who participated in Field Day back in June and KA3JAL will be available to receive your 2009 dues. Take advantage of the December discount.

We will have talk-in on the 85 repeater should you need directions.

Handihams

In 1967 in Rochester, Minnesota, W0ZSW, Ned Carmen was working for a clinic and would often visit people with severe physical disabilities who had few opportunities to leave their homes. He realized that Amateur Radio would be the perfect hobby to open a window on the world to connect with able bodied people. With the help of a group of local nuns, who became interested in weather watching and were licensed., The first Handiham, N0YL, Edna Thorson, took her General Class License in December of 1967.

Word spread quickly through Minnesota, the upper mid-west, the country and the world, and it became obvious that this was too big for a volunteer operation. The Minnesota Society for Crippled Children and Adults, whose name was later changed to "Courage Center", granted full affiliation status to Handihams and helped with money and equipment.

Courage Handi-Ham teaches technology to people with physical disabilities and sensory impairments. Ham Radio, computing and more can be learned at home using cassette tape books or at one of the residential camps they host in Cupertino, CA, Stillwater MN, Maple Lake, MN, Lake George, MN and Golden Valley, MN. They have course material and books on tape available for groups wishing to teach the blind or disabled. For more information, you can reach them at hamradio@courage.org.

Ned Carmen became a silent key but the organization now holds his callsign, W0ZSW, and continues his