

The FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

28.330 USB, 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by our President, N4DOU, John Schumacher, and all members and guests identified themselves.

Treasurer: KA3JAL, John Germain gave the following report:

Started May with \$ 2,371.49

No Receipts or expenses

Ended May with \$2,371.49

The repeater fund stands at \$3,920.49. Club membership stands at 53 with 4 lifetime and 49 dues paying. We had 28 at the May meeting with 25 members and 3 guests.

ARRL SECTION & PIO: N4JJ, Jack Jackson reported that the Dayton Hamvention was a success and K7DVB, Bob Austin, who did attend, agreed.

Emergency Communications:

The photos taken last month for the ID Badges were distributed. The Badges will be laminated and available by the next meeting. The club voted to reimburse up to \$50 to cover the costs of lamination.

There was a discussion about being able to identify all members. The club voted that starting with the July meeting, all members should wear a name tag, identifying badge or shirt. Any member not so identified will be

assessed a fine of \$1.00. This information will be distributed several times to all members via e-mail before the July meeting.

Repeaters: All repeaters are healthy. Several members reported a band opening that allowed direct communications to Atlanta, GA.

McLeod Repeaters: The McLeod 440 Repeaters should be working soon and will be open for regular Amateur use at all times other than during emergencies. These repeaters will link the various McLeod campuses and interface with the SCHEART system.

Field Day: All members participated in a long and detailed discussion of the 2009 Field Day at Lake Darpo on Saturday June 27 and Sunday June 28. These are the highlights:

We plan to meet at 9:00AM to set up the antennas and operating stations. Our stations will be operating for 24 hours continuously and we will start dismantling the antennas and operating stations after noon on Sunday.



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

We will try to contact several restaurants about donating food for both days. All members are requested to bring desserts and snacks to keep the operators happy.

KM4D, Dave Jones, will contact some elected officials requesting a visit during operations, will provide batteries and various antenna parts.

N4JJ, Jack Jackson, will bring various antennas including a 2 element beam and will give e-mail updates weekly about things needed for the event.

N4DOU, John Schumacher, will bring a 2-meter beam and the FT100D from McLeod.

KA3JAL, John Germain, will send out news releases to newspapers and Radio/TV outlets and invite them to attend during operations. He will also contact several restaurants for food donations for the event.

K4AVR, Mac Cullom, will bring the GOTA station including the Solar Cells for extra points.

KG4BZK, Bobby Collins will bring equipment to operate on PSK-31 and RTTY.

KJ4DGU, Tim Kaylor, will supply us with ice.

W8IXZ, Harry Paxton, will bring at least 4 cartons of drinks.

GOTA Station: We will have a "Get On The Air" station with operators who have been licensed since the last Field Day under the supervision of experienced operators. We need to find several more qualified Hams. The rules will not allow use of 146.52 so we will use 146.550, Simplex, and use the K4UA (East Carolina DX Assn.) callsign courtesy of N4TJ, Tommy



Johnson.

We discussed several other ideas for extra points including accepting and generating formal messages, having some Scouts as third-party operators, and inviting media and officials to observe. We discussed a number of items that might be needed including fans, coolers for the ice, laptops for digital operation and as many operators as possible.

Scholarship: N4JJ reported that when Florence Darlington Tech awarded our scholarship last fall, they distributed all funds over the \$7,500 endowment amount so we have very little to fund another scholarship. The club voted to have the President send a letter to Tech requesting that no scholarships be awarded until we reach the \$10,000 mark. We were also told that there are presently very few students qualified for our criteria. Jack will get more information so that we can adjust our requirements. We may want to consider some sort of fund raising project. More discussion next meeting.

ELMER DAY: KO4L, Lloyd Mitchell, is working to set up another "Elmer"

class possibly in the fall. He would like to know the topics that would interest you so that he can find suitable trainers. Some suggested topics might be: Antennas and Feedline, Repeaters, National Traffic System and messages, Contesting, QSL Bureau and cards, Special Events stations, Digital Modes and Slow-scan TV. Let him know soon.

Interference: KB4RRC, Donald Bryant, reported that there seems to be some radio interference from the SIMT Building at F-D Tech, peaking at 147.225. It could be from the new electronic sign. Listen and report any findings.

The meeting closed at 8:25 PM.

July Birthdays

- 4 Bobby Collins, KG4BZK
- 5 R. K. Harmon, KC4UTX
- 7 Jay Nester, KF8MC
- 20 Lloyd Mitchell, KO4L
- 21 Donald Bryant, KB4RRC
- 23 Gerard Jebaily, KI4LJT
- 30 Tim Kaylor, KJ4DGU

Upcoming Events

- July 18 - Midsummer Swapfest
Cary, NC
- August 8 - CFARS Swapfest
Fayetteville, NC
- Sept 5&6 - Shelby Hamfest
Dallas, NC

Member of the Month KJ4LIF - Bekki Medsker

Our newest member does not let any grass grow under her feet. Bekki took her Technician test on April 18 and took her General on May 16. When she starts a

project, it gets done quickly and well.

Bekki was raised in Mansfield, Illinois. Her post secondary education included Parkland College in Champagne, Illinois, St. Luke's Medical School, Inglewood, CA, a Bachelor's of Science with a Specialization in Herbal Studies and a Doctor of Naturopathy degree from Clayton College of Natural Health in Birmingham, Alabama. and a doctorate in Chiroprathy from Romano Byzantine College in Fairfax, Virginia, She is an I-ACT/NBCHT Certified Colon Hydrotherapy Instructor and an I-ACT recognized colon hydrotherapy school.

Dr. Bekki specializes in colon hydrotherapy, nutrition and frequency medicine, which includes homeopathics, cold lasers and NAET which is a non-invasive allergy elimination technique. Her husband, Dennis, is also her business partner and doctor in their holistic clinic which specializes in trauma, spinal cord injuries and spontaneous healing. Bekki became interested in Ham Radio from the movies and television. She is interested in current events, likes to hear what is happening in other areas of the US and the world, and would like to be able to help during emergency situations. She rode her motorcycle into Juby's front yard and the rest is history.

Bekki's greatest achievement so far has been passing her General License exam. While studying for that test, she learned a lot about how some of the equipment used in her office works. Although she says she could not repair it, she thinks she can communicate better with the technician when there is a problem. Bekki confides that she is at her best when things are at their worst. She thinks that comes from her medical training and her experiences in the banking industry where she had to handle robberies and losses. She loves to ride her motorcycle and learn new things. She is a great brainstormer. Wow! We are lucky to have her as a new member and if we are very lucky, Dennis will become a Ham soon.

John F. Germain, KA3JAL Treas.
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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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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