

# The FARC

# QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

28.330 USB, 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



The November meeting was called to order at 7:35 by our President N4DOU, John Schumacher, and all members and guests identified themselves. When W4ORW, Wayne Howell, introduced himself as "Retired and Tired", he not only got a good laugh but most others embellished the theme to much laughter.

**Treasurer:** KA3JAL, John Germain gave the following report:

Started October with \$ 1,922.67  
97 4th Qtr. Phone - 32.88  
SERA 2010 Dues - 30.00  
Dues & Badge Fees + 20.77

Ended October with \$ 1,880.56

The repeater fund stands at \$3,921.89. Club membership stands at 54 with 4 lifetime and 50 dues paying. We had 21 at the October meeting with 19 members and 2 guests.

**ARRL/PIO:** N4DOU advised us that N4JJ, Jack Jackson, has resigned as Assistant Section Manager. We are pleased that our returning member, KF2X, Craig England will assume that position. Thank you Jack for all of your service and we know that

Craig will do an excellent job.

**Repeaters:** Both the 97 and the 440 repeaters are working properly, however, the 85 had a problem with the PA. We have temporarily replaced the repeater with the old Sprecum and have shipped the MASTR III up to Lynchburg, VA. for repairs and parts through our former member NN4RB, Rick Brown. Since we need to spend some money on repairs and parts, there was a discussion about what authorization is necessary to release club funds. KF2X let us know that when the Constitution was written, funds could be released with the approval of the three officers acting as a Business Committee. Both W4YLX, Rudolph and K4AVR, Mac, were then authorized to spend reasonable funds as necessary for repairs and replacement parts.

The repeater failed during the regular Monday night Ragchew Net and was continued later on



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

the 97. After a discussion, it was decided that should there be a problem again during a net, that operations would resume on the 97. KA3JAL will modify the preamble for the net to so indicate and will send it to N4DOU.

**JOTA:** KJ4NKS, Chris Taylor, who is on the Boy Scout Board, was not at this meeting. We want to thank him for his work on JOTA. We were advised that on Saturday, Oct. 7, there would be a Boy Scout Encampment at North Plantation north of Camden with about 1000 scouts attending. They plan to set up HF and VHF stations and request that club members respond.

**ELMER Session:** We are planning to hold our Elmer Session on Saturday, December 12 at 1:30pm on the second floor of the GE building. We need operators who would be willing to give a 5 minute talk on a Ham related topic. Please contact KO4L, Lloyd Mitchell, who is coordinating this event.

We discussed advertising this event and would like N4JJ to contact the local media and to have our members at both McLeod and Carolinas Hospital to invite members of their new Radio Response Teams to attend.

**Slate of Officers:** Our Vice-President, KI4ORA announced the names of the proposed officers for 2010. All these members have agreed to serve if elected.



**President:** KI4ORA, Jim Lavia  
**Vice President:** KI4TTS, Doug MacDonald  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** KA3JAL, John Germain

We will accept additional nominations from the floor at the meeting before the official vote.

**VE Team:** At the next FARC meeting, the VE team will decide on the dates and locations for all testing sessions for 2010. All members should be ready to sign-up for their preferred assignments.

**Roster:** All members will receive a new FARC roster by e-mail in the next few days.

**Towers:** KD4WMC, Wink DeWitt, said that Roche Carolina was removing two towers from their facility, one is 40 ft. and the other is 60 ft. They are willing to donate them to the club. W4GEY, Jim Starling, offered the use of a trailer to transport the towers to a temporary storage location until the club decides how to best to use them.

**Christmas Party:** Since N4JJ, Jack Jackson will not be able to host the annual Christmas meeting

at his house this year, we will hold our December meeting at Shoney's as usual. We will have a very short business meeting to elect officers and distribute awards. Members are encouraged to invite spouses.

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### **December Birthdays**

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- 1 John Kirkland, KF4FJS
- 4 John Germain, KA3JAL
- 15 Harry Paxton, W8IXZ
- 18 David Milligan, N4URR

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### **Renew Early and Save**

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It's that time again. If you renew your FARC membership before January 1, you will get a \$5 discount. Renewals in January will be the designated \$36 plus \$14 to the Repeater Fund. Renewals in February will cost an extra \$5 and in March an extra \$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.

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### **Members of the Month**

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#### **Fletcher Townsend - KD4BUF**

Fletcher was raised in Bennettsville and graduated from Bennettsville High School and then Columbia Commercial College. For many years he has been a Digital Technician with BellSouth and now with AT&T. He got into Amateur Radio through Boy Scouts and N4JJ, Jack Jackson who worked with him at BellSouth. He

has a 2-Meter rig in his telephone truck and listens more than he talks. He holds a General Class license and his favorite thing to do is to help others with Antennas. He is one of the Antenna Monkeys for Field Day and don't forget he has been the "Noodle Man" at our annual Christmas Party for lots of years.

#### **Wink DeWitt - KD4WMC**

When I asked Wink to fill out my Member of the Month Interview form, he was very concise. He reported that he grew up in Darlington, attended St. John's High School and Carlisle Military School and he got into Ham radio because Frank Wells was his Scout Master.

Well, I can add a little to his story. He got one of the first "No Code" Technician licenses. At one time he worked at AVX in Myrtle Beach. He also worked for GE's Mobile Radio Department, International Knife and Saw, GE's Medical Systems and now works for Roche Carolina. In the past his family owned a horse. The most important thing about Wink is that he makes fantastic Yeast Rolls and provided them for lots of years to our Christmas Party. We will miss them this year. If you need more information, you will have to ask Wink.

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*Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year  
to All*

**KG4YVJ**

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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