

# The FARC

# QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

28.330 USB, 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



The March meeting was called to order by our President, Jim Lavia, KI4ORA at 7:30pm. Introductions were made all around. We had 25 members and 3 guests attending.

KA3JAL, John Germain gave the following Treasurer's Report:  
Began March with \$3,474.81  
Deposited Dues + 272.00  
Ended February with \$3,746.81  
The repeater fund stands at \$3,924.86. Redeposits from the Dues account will be made in April.

### Repeater Reports

97 machine is working fine. However, during the repeater identification on the 85 it gets halfway through then seems to scroll up and sounds like "Mickey Mouse". The repeater is usable and everyone chuckled when Mac (W4PFZ) said "we'll just wait until Mac (K4AVR) gets back from of vacation".

### Old Business

**SC Legislation:** Craig (KF2X) reported that he has not heard anymore on the legislation concerning the use of mobile devices while in a vehicle. He

asked that everyone who has not contacted their representative and senator, to please do so.

**Clemson Rural Heritage:** John (KA3JAL) reported that 11 people have volunteered for the Rural Heritage Festival to be held April 17<sup>th</sup>. This year we will not be responsible for riding the trams, which many of the club members were happy about. We will be responsible with helping with Lost and Found, EMS, and General Communication. John asked that all who volunteered be at the event between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m.

### New Business:

Doug (KI4TTS) said the **Airshow** that will be held on June 5 & 6 has asked us to help with this event. We will help with the Gates, EMS, Lost and Found, and the Club Info Table. We will be able to park next to the Civil Air Patrol Building and we can bring family to the event but not a large number (e.g. van load).



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

**Field Day** was discussed and John (KA3JAL) said that Lake Darpo has been reserved for the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of June.

**Technician Class:** Bekki (KJ4LIF) told the members that she had been approached by a group of individuals who would like to have a class to help them pass their Technician level and get involved with Ham Radio. John (KA3JAL) and Jim (KI4ORA) both discussed the benefits this would have for our club if we would provide this for the community. Bekki and Mac (K4AVR) have agreed to put on a class for the 6 individuals that have contacted them plus allow 4 others to attend (someone mentioned the Fire Chief's son and the Jeep Monkey's). Mac and Bekki both feel that a maximum of 10 in a class is a good size. Several members said they knew of others who might want to attend this class. Bekki explained that she was going to contact Bill Dease at the SCHEART's to see if she and Mac could borrow the Power Point presentation he gave for the hospital employees. The club members felt that we should consider doing these classes periodically. Bekki (KJ4LIF) suggested that we also plan another Elmer Class to help these people get involved in Ham Radio. John (KA3JAL) mentioned that we have also had a VE Team agree to administer the exam following the training.



**Red Cross:** Jim (KI4ORA) said that he received a letter from the Red Cross. It was the Red Cross Memo of Understanding informing all who work for or with the Red Cross know that a they will do a criminal investigation. If you wish for them not to you can have done on your own and submit it to them.

**Our Program:** Bob (K7DVB) presented a Power Point on The History of Radios. Bob showed many pictures of old radio, antennas and gave some history of Amateur Radio Evolvement. Bob explained that ARRL is currently the only organization for amateur radio, and that there have been others in the past. He explained the history of telegraph and showed pictures of an old key from 1844 that Samuel Morse used to punch holes in paper. He showed several pictures of Spark Gap's from the early 1900's. He had a picture of Maxim's first antenna in 1906, and it was not stealth at all. It would have our neighbors complaining! Bob showed pictures of he and his Fa-

ther in his radio room in the mid 1950's and the wooden antenna tower his Father built. He told the story about his Mother accidentally letting go of the guide wire. He also had a picture of a 2 element "Bow Tie" antenna from the 1950's. The picture of the HRO equipment and the Command Sets got Stormy (K4NOC) talking! Bob showed a picture of his antenna tower and then how he decorates it for Christmas. He has the largest lighted Antenna Christmas Tree in Dillon and everyone looks forward to it every year.

**Door Prize:** Bekki (KJ4LIF) brought a door prize of a Natural Health Gift Bag and Ann (N2CFN) won it. The members, KI4TTS, KJ4DGT, KC4UTX, and others, requested that Bekki bring cookies instead for the door prize in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

### April Birthdays

- 22 Horace Beasley, WA4OPF
- 23 John Schumacher, N4DOU
- 27 Doug Macdonald, KI4TTS

### Upcoming Events

- June 5 & 6 - PeeDee Airshow & Festival
- June 26 & 27 - Field Day

### Remember

Our meetings will now be at Shoney's at US 52 & I-95.

## Clemson Heritage Festival

Thirteen of our members attended the festival on April 17. There were two pop-up tents as the net control site, operators shadowed three Clemson officials and were available at the front gate, the food venue, and the vendor/farm area. Kawasaki of Florence donated the use of a "Mule" which helped move equipment and people.



There was one lost child and with the radio and the "Mule", N4JJ, Jack, dispatched KJ4LIF, Bekki, who was able to find the child and return her to her Grandfather. We did experience interference on both the 85 Repeater and simplex but we got the job done and had fun.

### VE Exam April 10

Seven of our VE's helped to make four new Amateurs on April 10. Congratulations to new Technicians KJ4UCI, John Barrett, Jr., of Sumter; KJ4UDC, Mark Moore of Cheraw; KJ4UCJ, Robert Moore of Florence and a new General, KJ4UCK, Brad Turner of Florence.

John F. Germain, KA3JAL Treas.  
2731 Ascot Drive  
Florence, South Carolina 29501  
Telephone: (843) 667-9702

**First Class Postage**  
**Address Changes requested**

---

## 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.

Suzanne Cullom, KG4YVJ, Editor  
1907 Effie's Lane, Florence, SC 29505  
(843) 662-0421  
e-mail: kg4yvj@arrl.net

Florence Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 5062, Florence, SC 29502  
Web site: [www.w4ulh.net](http://www.w4ulh.net)

President - Jim Lavia, KI4ORA  
Vice President - Doug Macdonald K14TTS  
Sect/Treas - John Germain KA3JAL  
Web Page - Lloyd Mitchell, KO4L  
Publicity - Jack Jackson, N4JJ  
Proof Reader - John Germain KA3JAL  
ARES - Open

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