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The
FARC

QSO

A Publication of the Florence Amateur Radio Club

28.330 USB, 146.850- 146.970- 444.000 +



President, Doug Macdonald, KI4TTS, opened the July meeting at 7:30pm. All members and guests introduced themselves. There were 16 members and 1 guest present.

Our Treasurer, KA3JAL, John Germain was not present. Jack Jackson read his report as follows:

Began June	\$4,143.81
Dues Deposited	\$50.00
No expenses in June	\$0.00
Ended May with	\$4,193.81

The repeater account stands at \$5,223.02.

ARRL Section Report: -- No report this month.

PIO – Per Jack Jackson, PIO officer, there was “absolutely nothing” to report.

Repeaters: All repeaters were reported as operating normally. It is reported that the 85 is working like it is supposed to and the 97 and 444 are still working. They all still need to be used more. It was commented that the 97 machine does not give the hourly call

announcement and perhaps we should see about repairing it. For the record, the PL tone on the 97 repeater is 167.9.

Repeater Fund:

After last month’s discussion about the repeater fund, someone mentioned that to get John Hanna to climb the tower for repairs would cost \$5000.

August Program:

Bill Cheney, N4AAK, has agreed to do a program on the Civil Air Patrol for the August meeting. Be sure not to miss it!

Also, Bill has found out that we are welcome to use the frontage road area of the airport along Highway 76 if we need to. He said that the end closest to the baseball fields has trees and may be the best area along there to set up for any events we would be putting on. It was also mentioned that he was able to use a computer power supply with 1500 watts to power a radio for 7 1/2 hours. That’s one more



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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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

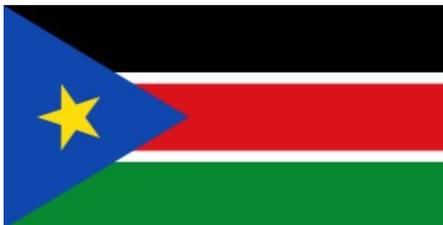
option to run battery power.

New Coordinator:

There is a new Affiliated Club Coordinator for the South Carolina Section of the Roanoke Division of the ARRL. He is Carl Bosard, AJ4AU, of North Augusta, SC. He is the person that will support clubs in promoting amateur radio, exchanging demonstrations for meeting, and assisting with materials and preparations for meetings, ham-fests, etc.

New DXCC Entity:

You may have heard by now that there is a new country recognized for DX contacts. The U.N. admitted South Sudan.



The flag of South Sudan

This means it is also a new DXCC entity recognized by the ARRL. The ARRL started accepting QSO's for South Sudan on July 14.

According to the ARRL website, the Top of the Honor Roll numbers increase from 340 to 341. For the Honor Roll it is now 332. To keep your honor roll status you will have to submit for South Sudan by December 31 of this year. For further information, see the ARRL website.

Lightning Safety:

The storm season is upon us and we should probably consider what can be done to protect ourselves from a lightning strike, particularly in the areas of antennas and towers.

The first thing you should have is a good ground for your tower and equipment. Put copper pipe or rod 8-10 feet into the ground and connect it to the equipment you are trying to protect with as short of a connector as possible. The connecting wire should be the heaviest gage you can afford.

Unhook your equipment. Unplug the radio and disconnect the antenna. If you don't provide a path, the lightning probably will not get to your rig.

Remember, lightning does not have to strike your antenna directly. A close strike can induce enough power to burn out the radio.

Please Help:

You may notice there is not a lot of "NEWS" in this issue. It is get-



BJ Lounge Saturday 9 AM

ting difficult to find material to put in the FARC QSO. I am putting out a plea for help. If you have any news of happenings, events, that other hams may have an interest in, please send it to me. It can be as simple as a good website you found, or a list of hamfests nearby. Do you have a request for something you would like to see in this publication? I am open to almost any idea.

Please let me know at:

tiki2950@bellsouth.net or

k4tgk@arrl.net.

We now return you to your regularly scheduled program....

Our Disabled List

Please remember our members who are currently having medical problems:

N4TJ, Tommy Johnson is home after more than 30 days in the hospital. Contact him if you have a chance.

W4ID, Wayne Cooke is still recovering and doing well. He is due for another operation in the fall.

KD4BUF, Fletcher Townsend is possibly going to have an operation.

KM4D, Dave Jones had surgery at Carolinas Hospital and is recovering.

W8IXZ, Harry Paxton is recovering from a broken leg. RK Harmon, KC4UTX, is covering the 10 meter net for him.

VE Testing:

Our next VE session is sched-

uled for October 8, 2011, 9 a.m. at Methodist Manor.

August Birthdays

04 Suzie Cullom, KG4YVJ

05 Craig England, KF2X

09 James Dedonis, KD4VH

12 Tommy Johnson, N4TJ

22 Jack Jackson, N4JJ

30 Laurie Sansbury, K4OVV

Upcoming Events

August 6

The Cape Fear Amateur Radio Club will have its annual Swapfest at the Methodist University in Fayetteville, NC. There will also be an exam session at 9 am.

August 13

The Columbia Amateur Radio Club will have an exam session at 9 am. at the ETV building, 1101 George Rogers Blvd, Columbia, SC. Testing fee is \$15.

QRZ Changes Access:

QRZ, the online ham database used by many hams to look up information about the contact you are making, has changed the access to its data. If you were using, for instance, Ham Radio Deluxe or Digipan, you could click on a lookup button and it would present the information to you, who the other person is, his QTH, etc. You can still get the information, but you will either have to use a web browser or purchase a subscription to xml data. The subscription is \$29 a year. The web browser access is free.