

# The FARC QSO

The Newsletter of the Florence Amateur Radio Club

28.330 USB, 146.850- 146.970- 444.000 +

President Tim Kaylor, K4TGK, opened the March meeting at 7:30. Everyone introduced themselves There were 11 members and 3 guests present.

John Germain, KA3JAL, gave this report:

**Began February** **\$5,447.05**  
**Deposited Dues** **+ 50.00**  
**Ended February with** **\$5,497.05**  
**The repeater account stands at** **\$5,224.55.**

We began 2012 with 55 members, 51 that pay dues and 4 lifetime members. As of the meeting, 41 members had paid their dues for 2012 and 10 have not.

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**DUES!! - Don't forget that it is time to pay dues! Now that it's March it is \$60. April 1 you will be dropped from the membership roster. Get your dues to John Germain for 2012. (You will also miss the QSO!)**

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**Reports** - We are looking for someone who would perform PIO officer duties. Duties include reporting items at the meetings, distributing emails, and dealing with outside organizations such as the media. Jack Jackson, N4JJ, has done this for several years and needs to step down. We appreciate his service. If anyone would like to handle this, let us know.

**Sick List - Wayne Cook, W4ID** was scheduled into the hospital to finally get finish up procedures he has been dealing with for over a year.

**Scott Thompson, KG4HIE** reports his cardiologist says he has congestive heart failure. He is having a heart cath done and is taking Lasix to lose water.

**Wayne Howell, W4ORW** had eye surgery for Glaucoma in Mt. Pleasant.

**Harry Paxton, W8IXZ** - Has had bronchitis and cannot talk too well.

**Dave Jones'** wife Bonnie has had gall bladder surgery and is home and doing well. Dave is **KM4D**.

**Repeater Reports** - All repeaters are reported as working.

**Old Business** - No old business was discussed.

**New Business** -

**60 Meters** - The new changes are now in effect. See the ARRL website if you are interested.

**Volunteers** - It is being discussed that we are wonder-



**Meeting at  
Shoney's 7:30  
P.M. on the 3rd.**

ing if we are going to work civic events We are having a very hard time getting people to volunteer. As of the meeting, we had 4 people signed up for the Heritage festival. It takes a minimum of 7 and ideally 14 so we can work shifts and make it easier for all for that event. If we cannot get more, we may have to cancel. Suzie offered the idea of asking on the PALS net for volunteers. It was brought up that the people at McLeod cannot work the event because the FCC has ruled it to be illegal unless they are considered practicing.

**April Birthdays** - We have only one birthday this month.

9 - Tom Morgan, WA4BUO

Happy birthday, Tom!

**New From ARRL** - Beginning in June the QST magazine from ARRL will be available in digital format. Members will be able to log on and read QST on any device that will go to the internet, like laptops, I-pads, and smart phones. The ARRL is also opening up the archives to let you read issues from 1915 to the December 2011. Currently, you can only read those issues through 2007. These services will not cost anything extra, though you will have to be a member of ARRL.

#### **Upcoming Events** -

- **April 21, 2012** - The Rural Heritage Festival at the Clemson Extension property on Pocket Road.
- **May 19 and 20, 2012** - The Pee Dee Air Show at the Florence airport.
- **November 10** - BeachFest 2012. Grand Strand ARC Hamfest in Conway.

**VE Session** - The next VE Testing session is April 14th at the Carolinas Hospital.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS** - We need volunteers for the the Rural Heritage Festival. This is always a good time and there are many interesting displays to see. There is also supposed to be a Run/Walk. If you would like to volunteer, contact John Germain, KA3JAL, at ka3jal@aol.com or call him at 667-9702 (home) or 615-5534 (cell).

**A Bit of Ham History from N4JJ, Jack Jackson** - Some of you may have read of the three 100 year olds celebrating their Birthday at the Carolinian this past Wednesday, March 14. The 101 year old, Jo Downer, is the widow of Haynie Downer, W4PNZ. They lived on Clarendon Avenue. She was an excellent piano player! Haynie worked for the railroad and lived on Sanborn Street before he and Jo married. He had some nice equipment in the early sixties as well as a tower and beam. In fact, his tower is now up at KA4PVT's house.

**Anniversary** - Bill Cheney, N4AAK, and his wife Marty have celebrated 45 years of marriage. Congratulations!



**BJ Lounge Saturday 9 a.m.**

**The Charlotte Ham Fest** - Several members went to the Charlotte Ham Fest in Concord NC. This year it was in the Cabarrus Arena. Most of the big manufacturers were there including CQ magazine, MFJ, Ham Radio Outlet and Yaesu. There was a large area for the "tailgaters". Bob Austin, K7DVB John Germain, KA3JAL and Tim Kaylor, K4TGK attended. Also there was Dave Jones, KM4D. Dave is looking good. See the photos.

John Germain, KA3JAL, searching for bargains..



Good to see Dave Jones!

The ARRL was checking QSL cards.

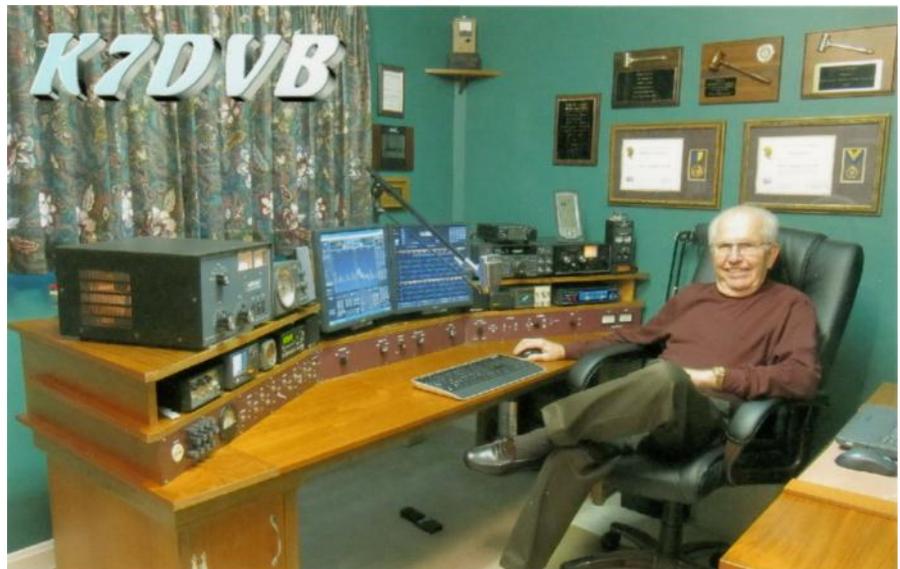


**McLeod Run/Walk** - The McLeod Run walk was held on March 17. After a difficult time getting volunteers we finally had enough to provide communications for this event. There were several hundred people participating, including a dog-walk segment. Members and guests participating were Bill Cheney, N4AAK, Jack Jackson, N4JJ, John Germain, Bob Austin, K7DVB, KA3JAL, Lloyd Mitchell, KO4L, Ray Gershon W3GSI, Blaise Haddock, AK4BH, Tim Kaylor, K4TGK, George Haddock, AJ4QY, Doug Macdonald, KI4TTS. Doug Macdonald acted as net control. It was a great day to be outside. The temperatures were mild and the sun was shining. Everyone enjoyed the day.



**Bob Austin - K7DVB**

On the way back from the Charlotte Ham Fest we dropped off Bob Austin in Dillon. He invited us in to see his shack. The photo below is one he gave us. He has a very nice setup that he built in one room. Everything seems to be built-in. He said there is a mess of wires on the back side, but we did not see them. His setup has a professional look and feel.



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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 repeat-  
er 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