

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 last meeting of his term at 7:30. Everyone introduced themselves giving name, call sign, and hometown. The hometown was a first and no one really knows why we did it, but it was interesting to find out where we all were from. There was a good spread represented, from Bennettsville to Effingham to Timmons ville. There were 19 members and 3 guests present.

John Germain, KA3JAL, gave this report:

Began November	\$3,860.93
Paid the repeater phone (97)	-32.88
Paid the 2012 PO Box rental	-46.00 (up from \$40 last year)
Refunded \$5 on dues pmt.	-5.00
Deposited Dues	1107.50
Deposited Dues	<u>135.00</u>
Ended November with	\$5019.55

The repeater account stands at **\$5,223.93.**

A total of 59% of dues paying members had paid by December 31st, taking advantage of the 10% discount (\$5).

Reports - N4JJ reports that the ARRL has discovered there is a whole new group of do-it-yourselfers and experimenters. There will be a push for DIY this year. The ARRL has released a DIY video that you can download from their web site and watch from your computer.

Sick List - We have no one on the sick list at the moment. This is great news compared to last year. A couple people still have to have procedures in the future, but at present, no one is ill.

Repeater Reports - Rudolph Hatcher, W4YLY, said the 85 and 444 machines are going strong. The 97 machine was reported as working a couple hours ago.

Old Business - If you have not paid your club dues, they are due. Dues are \$36.00 per year plus \$14.00 for the repeater fund, totaling \$50. You are now too late for the discount. If paid by January 31 it will be \$50, In February it will be \$55, and so on. Please pay by check only. It is difficult to keep track of cash and you may not be credited for it.

New Business - Field Day was brought up again, though



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

some think it is too early to discuss this. Bill Cheney, N4AAK, re-affirmed that we are welcome to use the land by the airport along Hwy 76 all the way to the road by the stadiums. We would still like to get volunteers for field day.

Future New Member – Brad Lee, KJ4VKC, joined us for this meeting. He announced that he and his wife will be having a new family member soon. Congratulations to Brad and his wife. We will be glad to help the new addition get a tech license when ready!

Postal Rate Hike - Don't forget that postal rates have gone up. If you are sending QSL cards, the new rates are \$0.45 for domestic letters, \$0.85 to Canada and Mexico, and \$1.05 to other countries.

60 Meter Changes - We are keeping an eye on this. - The changes to operations on the (5)-60 meter channels have not gone into effect yet. Keep an eye on the ARRL website to find out when you can use the changes.

February Birthdays -

5 – Connie Carraway, WL7KZ

19 - Scott Thompson, KG4HIE

22 - James Griffith, KJ4RGV

23 - Glen Greene, KE4GV

Upcoming Events -

- **February 4, 2012** - The Sandblast Rally is coming up Saturday, February 4th. Sign up online at <http://sandblastrally.com/2012/volunteers.php>.
- **February 4, 2012** - Charleston Hamfest, Charleston, South Carolina.
- **March 17, 2012** - McLeod Run/Walk.
- **April 21, 2012** - The Rural Heritage Festival at the Clemson Extension.
- **May 19 and 20, 2012** - The Pee Dee Air Show at the Florence airport.

VE Testing: The next testing session will be on February 11, 2012 at Methodist Manor on Twin Church Road at 9 AM.

Bojangles: Don't forget to drop by. Bring a friend. Maybe they will get interested in amateur radio.

Note! – Harry Paxton, W8IXZ, is doing much better and has now moved back into the Carolinian. He is in room 116 in assisted living. Drop by and say hello.

Request - KJ4VCF, Scott Burns of Florence would like someone to volunteer to show off beams, towers and equipment to the Cub Scouts he works with. There are about 6 boys. If interested please contact Mac Cullom, K4AVR.



BJ Lounge Saturday 9 a.m.

Special Offer!! - John Germain, KA3JAL, has received a special offer from Oglesby Productions. They are offering custom license plates for the front of your car to the club. Price would be \$8.00 each in lots of 10. Contact John if interested and he will try to get an order up if 10 people want them.

Travelling Again - Mac and Suzie Cullom, K4AVR and KG4YVJ, have let us know that they plan to be in Key West the same weekend as the McLeod Run/Walk, so the RV will not be available. Have a good time in the Keys!

Last Man Standing - Tim Allen is in a new comedy on tv called Last Man Standing. The character he plays, Mike Baxter, is a ham radio operator and the producers say that radio will play an important part in the show. The character has the call sign KA0XTT. A call sign with the X prefix is experimental and the TT at the end is a nod to Tim Taylor, the other well known character Tim Allen played on Home Improvements. The rig on the show is an ICOM 9100. He also has an ICOM -92AD HT. The radios are functional and antennas were installed so they could be used when they are not shooting scenes. Several of the production crew have now taken and passed their technicians license. The ARRL article is here:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/em-ham-radio-in-hollywood-em-amateur-radio-makes-its-debut-on-em-last-man-standing-em>

Old Memories - Jack Jackson, N4JJ forwarded the address of a website at www.btmemories.com. There are photos of WBT in Charlotte and information on WBTW when it was channel 8 in Florence. It lists Bill Pritchett as an employee. He was the original W4ULH!



73 Magazine Online - All issues of 73 magazine have been put online and are available for download. The address is <http://www.archive.org/details/73-magazine>.

This website has also archived many other magazines, books, etc., so you may find something else you were looking for.

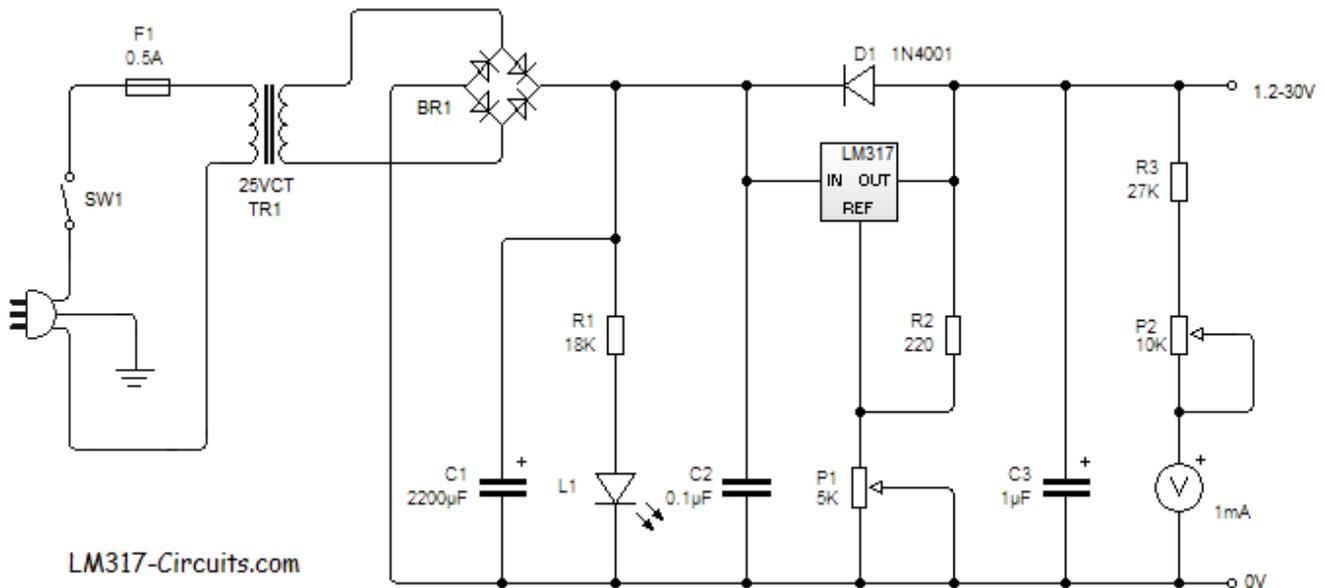
Yaesu Musen - Yaesu is splitting from Motorola and will be know in the US as Yaesu Musen from now on. They intend for this to allow them to provide better for the amateur, marine, and air band business. Addresses and phone numbers in the US will not change.

Ham Radio Deluxe - Ham Radio Deluxe was sold and the address for the new website is <http://www.hrdsoftwarellc.com>. The new owners are supposed to release version 5.1 soon and for free. After that, the program will have a price. The price is a subject of forum discussions and the new owners are listening carefully to what hams are telling them they are willing to pay. If you use this program, you may wish to make know what value you would place on it.

Lets build something!

A big part of ham radio has always been building your own stuff - DIY! Antennas, tuners, circuits of all types can be homebrewed. Here is a circuit that you may want to try. Simple, but useful, a regulated power supply for up to about 28 volts (with Radio Shack transformer # 273-1366A - others may be used) that you can use on your bench. If you build it, we would be interested in hearing how it went.

Parts are available at Radio Shack or you can order them from Mouser.com.



Be sure to put the fuse in the A/C line for safety. The meter was ordered from Amazon.com for about \$7. It reads 0-30 Volts. If you do not get the correct reading, try shorting out or removing the 27k resistor.

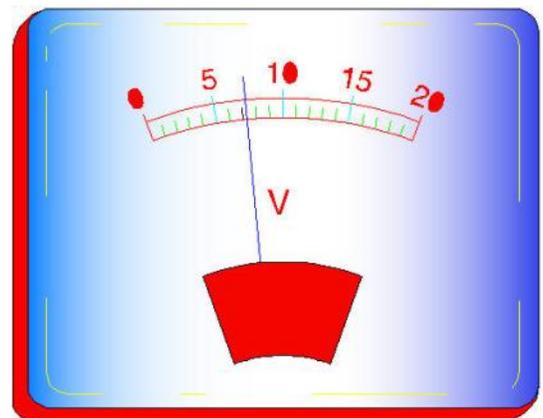
The schematic shown here is from the website at:

<http://www.lm317-circuits.com/email-us.html>. This and other information on the lm317 voltage regulator is available here.

You may also wish to get the data sheet for the LM317 at:

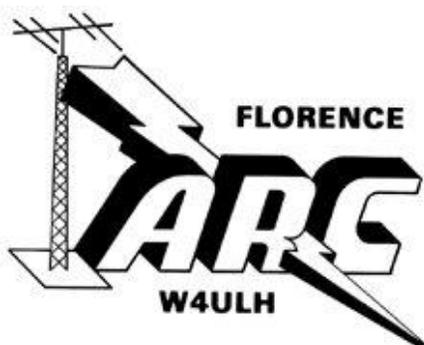
<http://www.ti.com/lit/ds/symlink/lm117.pdf>
This PDF even has the internal circuit schematic of the regulator.

Have Fun!



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The FARC

QSO

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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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FARC nets meet each week on
Monday 8:30 pm on 146.850- and
Wednesday at 8:30 pm on 28.330
USB