

The FARC QSO

The Newsletter of the Florence Amateur Radio Club
Florence, South Carolina

146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+

The March 3, 2014 meeting was called to order by President Tim Kaylor, K4TGK at 7:30 PM. There were 11 in attendance: 9 members and 2 guests.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

The February 2014 meeting minutes were read by John, KA3JAL.

The treasury stands at:

General Fund - \$2,243.80

Repeater Fund - \$6,376.26

Dues are still coming in. To date, 74% of the current club members have paid.

PIO REPORT – Upcoming Events

- Heritage Festival at Clemson Extension: April 26, 10AM–3PM
- SC Section Conv., Spartanburg: May 3
- Dayton Hamfest: May 16 - 18

EM-COMM REPORT - no update

April Birthdays

Tom Morgan, WA4BUO – April 9



In Attendance

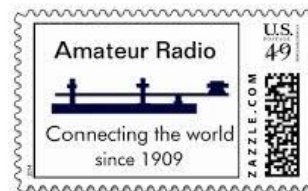
K4TGK - Tim	M
K7DVB – Bob	M
NoCall – Jan	G
KG4YVJ – Suzie	M
K4AVR – Mac	M
KA3JAL – John	M
W4GEY - James	M
KK4MQN - Russell	M
NoCall – John	G
N4AAK – Bill	M
KK4VXD – Isaac	M

M = Member

G = Guest



Meeting at Shoney's, Hwy. 52
April 1, 2014, at 7:30 PM
Join us at 6:30 for dinner!



UPDATE ON HEALTH OF OUR FRIENDS AND CLUB MEMBERS

- Jack Jackson, N4JJ, has returned to the hospital with pneumonia. Please keep Jack in your thoughts and prayers as he recuperates and heals.
- Also remember Mac McDaniel, W4PFZ, and his wife.

REPEATER REPORT - No problems were reported with the repeaters.

OLD BUSINESS – The McLeod Run/Walk was held on March 15, 2014. There were about 220 runners and walkers that participated. Assisting with communication from the FARC were: Bob - K7DVB, John - KA3JAL, Tim - K4TGK, Mac - K4AVR, Suzie - KG4YVJ, Russell – KK4MQN, Bill - N4AAK, and Kathy - KJ4MWT.

We will need assistance with the upcoming Heritage Day Run to be held at Clemson Extension on April 26. Please help out if you can!

Also, on March 22, the Dillon club invited area hams to a get together at Shoney's in Dillon. Present from FARC were: Bill – N4AAK, Isaac – KK4VXD, Mac – K4AVR, Suzie – KG4YVJ, Glen – KE4GV, Blaise – AK4BH, George – AJ4QY, and Kathy – KJ4MWT. It was good to see everyone and it would be great if we could do this more often.

NEW BUSINESS and INFORMATION

- Mac, K4AVR, received an email from Sam, K4KNJ, regarding the use of the 146.85 repeater as a back-up for the Skywarn system in the event that the Dillon repeater (146.745) fails. Sam is the Skywarn Emergency Coordinator for Dillon, Marlboro, Florence, Marion, and Darlington counties. (In addition, he has also contacted Rusty, WD4HEM, regarding the use of the PALS repeater, 147.195, as a back-up.) These two repeaters are the only options for back-up locally for the Skywarn system and would only serve in this capacity. It would be determined between the FARC and PALS as to which repeater would be first back-up.

MAC, K4AVR, as trustee of the 146.85 repeater responded to the email with the following general points:

1. Any emergency net in process would take precedence.
2. Shared use of the repeater would be allowed during Skywarn activation.
3. Requested that the W4ULH repeater not be included in any on-line listing, such as Facebook.
4. If the club determines that Skywarn usage is conflicting with general repeater usage, the usage agreement will be re-evaluated.

Copies of the response were sent to all club officers and local Skywarn coordinators. The club, with a quorum present, agreed to the email response.

- Mac, K4AVR, also discussed that there is no spare for the controller on the 85 repeater. The replacement is no longer available new but he did locate one on eBay for \$80.00 as of meeting time. The club authorized Mac to spend up to \$250.00 for the purchase of the replacement.
- An ultra-high sensitivity pre-amp for the 444 repeater was to be received by mid-March.
- For further discussion: Should the club have a process in place for purchasing necessary equipment, such as the spare for the 85 repeater controller? Several proposals were put forth: (1) purchase with the approval of the executive committee; (2) pre-approval to spend \$300 - \$400; (3) purchase decision to be made by the president, treasurer, and trustee. The club's constitution shall be reviewed prior to the April meeting and a recommendation will be made. The recommendation will be published in the May issue of the FARC for an opportunity for all club members to comment and/or vote on the decision.

McLeod Run/Walk – March 15, 2014







DON'T FORGET!

Bojangles, Celebration Avenue
Every Saturday morning, 9AM!
Come on out!

John F. Germain, KA3JAL, Treasurer
2731 Ascot Drive
Florence, SC 29501
Telephone 843-667-9702

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The 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. The editor welcomes your comments about this or future publications.

Kathy Haddock, KJ4MWT, editor
3245 Gulf Cove
Florence, SC 29501
kthyhddck@yahoo.com

Florence Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 5062, Florence SC 29502

Website: www.w4ulh.net

President: Tim Kaylor, K4TGK
Vice Pres: Tom Morgan, WA4BUO
Sect/Treas: John Germain, KA3JAL
Web Page: Tim Kaylor, K4TGK
Publicity: Jack Jackson, N4JJ
ARES: Tim Kaylor, K4TGK

Annual club dues are \$36, due on January 1 of each year. Additional family members are \$18. Late fees apply after this date. Dues for first year members are \$20; additional family members are \$10.

The FARC rag chew net meets each Monday night at 8:30PM on 146.850-.