

The
FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



The February 2nd meeting of the Florence Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by our President, K4AVR, Mac Cullom. All present identified themselves.



FARC Meeting
March 1, 2016
7:30 P.M.
Shoney's

PIO - K4TGK, listed the upcoming activities of the club including the Sandblast Rally, The McLeod Run/Walk, the Charleston Hamfest, and the Charlotte Hamfest

VE – K4TGK, Tim Kaylor, reminded us that we can get copies of our licenses at the FCC website. The FCC no longer mails copies of new licenses. Tim is adjusting the VE schedule to include several new VE's. The next VE session will be February 13 at Methodist Manor.

Repeaters -- W4GEY reported that the '97 Repeater is working well. K4AVR reported that the '85 and the 444 repeaters are working properly. K4AVR plans to run wiring at the 85 site so that PL can be added when necessary and KB4RRC, Donald, donated a duplexer for the 444 which will improve the receive range and will be installed soon.

Scholarship – K4AVR has checked with FDTC and

February 2nd Attendance

K4AVR – Mac Cullom
KG4YVJ – Suzie Cullom
KM4NYV – Brian Foxworth
WA4OPF – Horace Beasley
WA4BUO – Tom Morgan
K4TGK – Tim Kaylor
KA3JAL – John Germain
KK4VWY – David Bailey
KK4MQN – Russell Wilson
W4GEY – James Starling
KK4ZMK – Dean Lisenby
NO8X – Jay Hopkins
N4AAK – Bill Cheney
No Call – Marty Cheney
K7DVB – Bob Austin
No Call – Jan Austin
KM4MII – Brian Richardson
No Call – Carmen Richardson
Guest – Doug Brian

was advised that as of the first of the year the fund stands at \$12,031. At the present level the Scholarship should be self-sustaining but we would like to continue to add to the principal. As presently scheduled, one \$500 Scholarship will be awarded to an Electrical Engineering or Computer Science student each year.

April Meeting K4AVR will be out of town for the April meeting on April 5. KG4HIE, our VP, will also be out of town. We need someone to conduct that meeting.

Net Manager – We are in need of a Net Manager for the Monday Night Ragchew Net. It is a very easy job. K4AVR has been handling those duties and KG4YVJ is acting a Net Control most weeks.

Field Day NO8X, Jay Hopkins, has agreed to be our Field Day Chairman. He and K4AVR will be requesting the use of Ebenezer Park at the next Florence County Recreation Department meeting on February 18.

Our needs for a Field Day Site include trees or poles for antennas, restrooms, water, and space between stations. For the benefit of the public, we should be at a visible site. For the benefit of our operators, we need quiet. If Ebenezer Park is not available, we will need to find another location.

KM4D, Dave Jones, has indicated that he would be available to help setting up the logging programs and operating CW. Because of his health, we should not put too much on him but he has the most experience with Field Day setup and operation.

KM4D and NO8X plan to operate CW. Each CW contact is worth 2 points per contact. K4TGK plans to operate digital which is also worth 2 points per contact. Phone contact are only worth 1 point per contact.

All of the club antennas are now at K4AVR's QTH with the exception of KA3JAL's push up pole which would only be necessary if we use the TA-33 beam.

Treasurer's Report – KA3JAL, John Germain, gave his report as follows:

Starting Balance:	\$1,967.43
No transactions	
Ending Balance	\$1,967.43 **
Repeater Fund	\$6,997.66

** 2016 Renewal funds have not been deposited.

\$500 will be moved from checking to the Repeater Fund in February.

New Business – We welcome our new member, KK4ZMK, Dean Lisenby.

Future Service Projects

Skywarn Webinar The Grand Strand Club in conjunction with the Wilmington National Weather Service will be hosting an Advanced Skywarn Webinar on Saturday, February 20 at 10AM. For details go to the www.W4GS.org home page.

SCQSO Party – The South Carolina QSO Party and Hunley Challenge will be held on Saturday February 27. The information was sent to all members with the February QSO. For more information visit <http://scqso.com>

Sandblast Rally – Anyone interested in helping with the Sandblast Rally to be held on March 5 in the Sandhills State Forest near Cheraw should sign up at www.sandblastrally.com. It is a fun day watching cars running through the forest on the dirt truck trails. If you plan to participate, having a mobile is needed at many locations. An HT will only work in certain locations due to the heavy longleaf pine cover in the area. Have a great time.

Charlotte Hamfest – If you plan to go to the Charlotte Hamfest on March 11/12 at the Cabarrus County Arena, we recommend that you arrive early to get a close-in parking space. Late comers usually have a long walk.

McLeod Run/Walk – We need at least 6 operators to work this project on March 19. We could actually use 7 or 8 operators. K4AVR will act as Net Control. We need to be on station no later than 8AM with the runners starting at 9AM. We will discuss this in greater detail at the March meeting.

Clemson Rural Heritage Run/Walk – will be held on May 7. We need a coordinator since K4AVR & KG4YVJ will be at the Upstate Hamfest that weekend.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

W4ID SK Wayne Cook, W4ID became a Silent Key early on Sunday, February 14, 2016. Wayne has been a Life Member of FARC. He was part of the group who installed the original W4ULH repeater back in the mid 70's. Although he has not been attending meetings regularly, he has often come to the Saturday Breakfasts at BoJangles. He was always generous with his deep knowledge about Ham Radio as well as repeaters. He will be greatly missed.

H&W KC4UTX, R. K. Harmon has been having trouble with low blood sugar levels. He has been hospitalized at McLeod to find the reason for the sugar fluctuations. He will probably be released soon but will need to go to Health South to regain his strength. Please keep R. K. and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

VE Session The Florence WCARS VE team held a test session on Saturday, February 13, at Methodist Manor. We are pleased to announce that we have two new Technicians:

KM4RCP	Douglass Brian	Effingham
KM4RCO	Matthew Nichols	Timmons ville

FARC Dues – If you have not already renewed for 2016, bring your checkbook to the March meeting. Renewal Dues are \$36.00, with each additional family member being \$18.00. Remember a \$5.00 penalty is added in February and \$10.00 in March, If you are unable to make the meeting, mail your check to:

John Germain, KA3JAL
2731 Ascot Drive
Florence, SC 29501

Upcoming Events

March 5, 2016 Sandblast Rally
March 11 & 12, 2016 Charlotte Hamfest
March 19, 2016 McLeod Run/Walk
May 7, 2016 Clemson Rural Heritage Day
June 25 & 26, 2016 ARRL Field Day

March Birthdays

5 -- KK4MQN, Russell
7 -- K4AVR, Mac
21 . K7DVB, Bob



McLeod Dillon Run/Walk We have been contacted by McLeod Dillon and asked to provide radio safety coverage for their Run/Walk on April 30. K7DVB, Bob, will get some more details and have a report at the March meeting.

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.

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Florence Amateur Radio Club

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Vice Pres: Scott Thompson, KG4HIE
Sect/Treas: John Germain, KA3JAL
Web Page: Tim Kaylor, K4TGK

Annual club dues are \$36,

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