

The
FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



The November 1th meeting of the Florence Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:25 P.M. by our President, K4AVR, Mac Cullom. All present identified themselves.

Secretary/Treasurer – KA3JAL, John Germain, gave the following report:

The Treasurers Report was the same as the October Report.

Checking Account	\$2,884.79
Repeater Fund	\$6,999.20

We still need to transfer \$500 from Checking to the Repeater Fund and \$500 to the Scholarship at Florence Darlington Tech.

PIO – In the absence of K4TGK, Tim Kaylor, we discussed the Howl-O-Ween In The Park Run/Walk for the Humane Society to take place on December 3. We decided to use the '97 repeater. We will meet at the Old Florence Museum on Spruce St. at about 8:00AM and the event starts at 9:00 AM. We can use at least 6 operators with HT's. Please let Tim know if you can help.

Repeaters – All three repeaters are working well. K4AVR tested all of them today.

September Attendance

K4AVR – Mac Cullom
KG4YVJ – Suzie Cullom
KA3JAL – John Germain
KG4HIE – Scott Thompson
KM4NYV – Bryan Foxworth
WA4OPF – Horace Beasley
WA4BUO – Tom Morgan
K7DVB – Bob Austin
No Call – Jan Austin
KK4MQN – Russell Wilson

December Birthdays

4 John Germain – KA3JAL



FARC Meeting
December 6, 2016
Shoney's

Hurricane Matthew and ARES/AUXCOMM Update

A number of problems were exposed by Hurricane Matthew.

The SC ARES Director did not handle the emergency but instead performed his State Guard duties.

AUXCOMM developed communications problems. Both the Dillon County and Williamsburg County EOC's had no communications. The Internet went down and the State 800 system went down. K4AVR was asked to support both of these EOC's but since there was major flooding and trees down, he was unable to travel but gave the names and phone numbers of operators in both areas. None of these operators were contacted.

SCHEART was instituted to handle this type of large scale emergency. It was successfully used to help with the evacuation of the coastal areas, however, since both the State 800 system and the internet links to secondary repeaters including Dillon and Murrells Inlet went down during the storm, the State Emergency Management Division was unable to contact several critical locations.

SCHEART was funded by grants from several state agencies and SC Hospital Association. John Crockett, W3KH, was able to get SCETV to host the system using their intrastate digital microwave link. John was able secure surplus repeater equipment from the Federal Government. The State of SC is responsible for the maintenance and personnel of the system.

Since W3KH has become a Silent Key, we expect that there will be changes within SCETV and the SCHEART Systems. The replacement for John is not a fan of SCHEART and has stated that "It is more trouble than it is worth." Luckily the President of SCETV believes that the system is very valuable. We will have to see what happens in the future.

The State 800 phone system is very fragile and many of the Counties have gone to Internet Telephones. When the Internet went down, the EMD had trouble.

2017 FARC Officers –Our Vice President, KG4HIE, Scott Thompson, has had some difficulties finding candidates. K4AVR would like to step down to be able to drive to the west coast next summer. KA3JAL, John Germain, would like to be replaced due to his health. KK4ZMK, Dean Lisenby, is considering John's positions and has been given an overview of the requirements for those jobs. We would like to see some of our younger members step up. Anyone willing to serve as an officer should contact Scott.

NM4R – Morris Jones's family has donated his FT-8800 Dual Band UHF/VHF radio with mike but no mounting bracket and an Astron power supply. We

are free to sell this equipment and use the money for the club or to give it to a deserving new ham who could use it. KM4D, Dave Jones has given us an eleven element 2Meter beam. If you are interested, please contact K4AVR.

VE – The VE Test Session on October 8 at Methodist Manor was held during Hurricane Matthew. KM4NYV, Bryan Foxworth, and KD4IOX, Jason Horton from Sumter, successfully passed the General Exam. Don't tell anybody but Bryan got a perfect score.

New Business

Field Day – Next year we hope to use the same venue for our operation. There were trees down from Matthew but the trees we used for antennas survived. We will request the use of Ebenezer Park for 2017 at the December meeting of the Florence County Recreation Department. Last year NO8X, Jay, was our Field Day Coordinator. He has a new job and may not be available next year. Any Volunteers?

Infirmiry Net

John Germain, KA3JAL – John needs an Aortic Valve replaced in his heart. We hope he will take care of it soon.

David Bailey, KK4VWY – David is still in Dillon helping with his Mother-in-Law. David also has a lot of medical problems including being on Dialysis. Keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Glenn Greene, KE4GV – Glenn had his knee replaced and is in Rehab which is “working him to death”. He is back on the air and calling his nets. He is doing very well.

Dave Jones, KM4D – Dave is now home but must restrict his operations. Remember, he is selling everything in his shop. He has lots of good buys. Keep him in your prayers.

Tommy Johnson, N4TJ –Tommy is at the Faith Healthcare on Marion Street. The phone number is (843) 669-9958. Remember his full name is Charles T. Johnson and that is how they know him. He could use your visits, phone calls and prayers. W4GEY, James Starling, visits him most Sundays

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20.

Field Day 2016 – The 2016 Field Day results were published in the December QST. We ranked #2 in South Carolina, #9 in the Roanoke Division and #82 in the Country. Congratulations to all who participated.

Remember, Election of 2017 Officers at the next meeting!

Upcoming Events

Saturday Breakfast at BoJangles
Dec 3 – Howl-O-Ween In the Park
Dec 10 – VE Session at Carolinas
Hospital, Bldg. B, 9:00 AM



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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Annual club dues are \$36,

The FARC rag chew net meets each Monday night at 8:30PM on 146.85