

The
FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



The May 2nd meeting of the Florence Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by our President, KK4MQN, Russell Wilson. All present identified themselves. Russell did not have his agenda so he had to wing it.

Old Business

Dillon Run/Walk – K4AVR, Mac Cullom, reported that the Dillon Run/Walk was run on April 29. There were 59 entrants and 12 radio operators. Everything went very smoothly. We had anticipated more runners but we were competing with a Run/Walk for Huntington’s Disease and the Celebrate Main Street Festival. Many of the streets were blocked but our route went through some neighborhoods and was clear for the runners. Mac thanked all of the operators who made the day such a success.

Red Cross -- K4AVR, Mac, met with Dennis James of the Red Cross this morning. He inventoried the equipment in the radio room. There is an old HF IC-735 which was donated by BellSouth and is in good shape. There is a Kenwood dual band UHF/VHF and an old Yaesu Memorizer, with 4 memories, which was donated by K4OVV, Laurie Sansbury, Sr., as well as lots of other old equipment.

Mac sent Dennis a list of useful equipment and the approximate costs. Dennis indicated he would try to get

May Attendance

KK4MQN – Russell Wilson
KK4ZMK – Dean Lisenby
KG4HIE – Scott Thompson
KM4NYV – Bryan Foxworth
N4AAK – Bill Cheney
W4GEY – Jim Starling
KK4RCP – Doug Brian
K7DVB – Bob Austin
No Call – Jan Austin
K4AVR – Mac Cullom
KG4YVJ – Suzie Cullom
KB4RRC – Donald Bryant
KF4ECK – Edward Jordan

June Birthdays

7 Jim Starling, W4GEY
21 Dustin Fails, KK4NFG
21 Harry Huggins, N4XJC
28 Tom Hall, KF4KFE



FARC Meeting

June 6, 2017

Shonev’s

\$500 to purchase some new equipment including a dual band antenna for the roof and things for packet for the shelters. Packet is superior to voice for sending lists of persons at the shelter and any medical needs. HF is not as important due to noisy conditions at the state EOC and a lack of properly licensed operators. The Myrtle Beach Red Cross office will need to be closed and operations will move to Florence if a storm over Category 3 hits the area due to flooding.

There are approximately 50 teenagers in the Dillon area who have indicated an interest in becoming Hams. There might be as many or more in the Florence area. We could make arrangements for VE testing possibly at the Red Cross Building. We could use more operators in any emergency. We now have access to the roof and the radio room. We will be given the codes to open the doors for access nights and weekends. Dennis James is very reasonable to work with. There was a 30 ft. push up pole bolted to the second story roof with a VHF Ringo Ranger but we need to replace it with an 8dbi to 11 dbi dual band antenna. We will need to set up a Saturday work day to make this and other changes.

We have scheduled another meeting with the Red Cross at 10AM on June 23, the Friday before Field Day.

Field Day – We will use Ebenezer Park again this year but we will only have the use of the one very small shelter connected to the bath house. The other two shelters will be used both days for a family reunion. K4TGK, Tim Kaylor has a tent with screen sides and K4AVR has a tent with no sides. **Any members who have tents that would be available for use, please let us know at the June meeting.**

K4AVR will supply the motorhome and an HT 450 for a phone station and an 857 for the GOTA station. NO8X has equipment for the CW station but his work schedule has changed. We hope he will be able to fly to Hendersonville, NC, to pick up our best CW operator, N3ZL, Gregg Davis. We need additional CW operators. We have a radio and a code key.

We have the antennas, cables and generators from last year. KK4ZMK, Dean, NO8X, Jay, and K4AVR, Mac, each have an end fed 80 to 10 antennas for our three stations which will simplify things since we do not have all three shelters. Hopefully we will be able to put on some demonstrations to explain Amateur Radio to create interest and to publicize that in the media. Maybe if we pay for the use of all the shelters we would not be bumped. It may cost up to \$200. We usually spend up to \$200 for food. Maybe we can find sponsors to contribute some food.

If we want to find a new venue, we would need trees, 3 shelters within a 1000 ft. circle, bathrooms and public exposure. If anyone has a suggestion, please bring it to the next meeting. Lake Darpo was wonderful but there was little public exposure.

SCHEART – KB4RRC, Donald, is in daily contact with N9OH, Billy Irwin who is Section EC. Since W3KH, John Crockett, became a Silent Key, SCHEART no longer allows Skywarn to use the system and limits HEART activity to hospitals and AUXCOMM. ARES will have to use other repeaters. PALS is able to contact the Columbia Weather Bureau and most of the northeast part of the state. The Dillon Repeater can easily reach Myrtle Beach. All of the Horry County shelters are now west of the Waccamaw River. N9OH is working to find other ways to communicate.

New Business

Secretary/Treasurer Report – KK4ZMK, Dean Lisenby, received a letter of thanks from McLeod Sports medicine for our help with the Briggs Run/Walk. They were able to raise enough money to fund three scholarships.

We received a letter from the Clemson Extension thanking us for our past help with their Outdoor Discovery Day. They have had to cancel this year's event since there was considerable damage from Hurricane Matthew.

We received a letter from DX Engineering indicating that they would like to join us by Skype at one of our meetings for a 30 to 45 minute discussion. K4AVR indicated that his other club in Columbus, NC, will be having that presentation at the end of May and will report about its content at our next meeting.

As a Treasurer's report, all numbers remain the same as last month.

Total funds	\$10,238.55
Checking Account	\$2,737.89

We did send the donation of \$500 to the Scholarship fund and we did receive a Thank You letter.

KF4ECK, Edward – Edward brought a tool to show which is useful to install a PL-259 on RG8 cable. It is available from the Wireman for \$15.

VE – Our next VE session will be on October 14. We may have a pick-up VE Session at Field Day if we have any candidates.

Infirmity Net

N4TJ – Tommy Johnson is still in the Sunny Acres Care Facility in Fork, SC.

KA3JAL – John Germain is holding his own but is having some memory trouble. He is adamant about not having his Aortic Valve replaced. K7DVB, Bob Austin says he is still here after having that surgery 3 years ago.

N4DDK – Bill Horton of Moncks Corner lived in Conway and Myrtle Beach years ago. He has been fighting Cancer for about 4 years. He was put in Hospice last week. (Bill became a Silent Key on May 11)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Upcoming Events.

Saturday Breakfast at BoJangles
Field Day – June 24 & 25



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