

The
FARC

QSO

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 146.850-, 146.970-, 444.000+



The April 3rd 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. We were a little out of order.

Treasurer's Report In the absence of KK4ZMK, Dean Lisenby, KG4YVJ read his report. We have \$2,858.72 in the Checking Account with an outstanding deposit of \$46.00 for a total of \$2904.72 and \$7,502.91 in the Repeater Fund for a total of \$10,407.72. He has paid the County for the '97 Phone line to date. The club PayPal account, PayPal.me/W4ULH, that allows dues to be paid online is operational but no funds have come into our account as yet.

We now have only 29 members and only 55% are ARRL members. We need to watch that because we need to maintain 50% ARRL membership to qualify for the liability insurance

PIO Report – K4TGK, Tim, reported that the annual Clemson Extension Festival and Run Walk was cancelled last year due to property damage from

- March Attendance**
- K4AVR – Mac Cullom
 - KG4YVJ – Suzie Cullom
 - KK4MQN – Russell Wilson
 - N4AAK – Bill Cheney
 - KM4NYV – Bryan Foxworth
 - AD4JH – Jason Horton
 - W4GEY – James Starling
 - K4TGK – Tim Kaylor
 - KB4RRC – Donald Bryant
 - KG4HIE – Scott Thompson

- May Birthdays**
- 3 Russell Wilson, KK4MQN
 - 17 Becky Hopkins, KB8PHW
 - 22 Horace Beasley, WA4OPF
 - 27 Doug MacDonald, KI4TTS



FARC Meeting
May 1, 2018
Shoney's

Hurricane Matthew. We have not been contacted this year and there is no information on their website about either event. Maybe next year!

Dayton Hamfest will be held on May 18 thru 20 in Xenia Ohio. Anyone up for a road trip?

Old Business

97 Repeater: Last month we voted to spend as much as \$550 to replace the controller on the '97 Repeater so that we could replace it with one that would allow control via link radio which would enable us to terminate the phone line. Mac was able to solve the problem by adding an external DTMF board for \$112. That is now installed and working well. Another problem with the controller was difficulty changing the time twice a year. Mac found that the controller is very sensitive to the rhythm of the information sent to change the time but that using the Anytone DMR HT to record keystrokes then replaying them to the controller works smoothly. Since both K4AVR and W4GEY have Anytone radios, that problem is solved.

Dean would like to give the County 30 days notice to cancel the phone line but KB4RRC, Donald, has spoken with Kevin Yokim and believes the notice will not be necessary. He will talk to Dean and proceed to cancel the phone line. The club voted to drop the phone line as soon as practical.

DMR Learning Class: Mac expressed our thanks to KO4L, Lloyd, and KB4RRC, Donald, for the DMR class held at the Red Cross on March 17th. There was in-depth information in the 2-hour session.

McLeod Run/Walk –The day after our March meeting, McLeod contacted us to help with the event on March 17. We already had many of our members planning to attend the DMR class so we declined due to the short notice. We would be happy to work with them next year if we are given more notice.

New Business

DMR Training – W4GEY, James, asked if KB4RRC, Donald could hold short classes on DMR, possibly before or during our meetings. K4AVR can bring a projector and K4TGK can bring a screen. Donald has all the information on his laptop.

KG4HIE, Scott, said that other clubs often share code plugs. K4AVR noted that sheart.us, under their digital section, has code plugs for some radios but these are somewhat spotty. KB4RRC has up-to-date code plug information and is happy to share.

Field Day – June 23 & 24 we will have use of all three shelters at Ebenezer Park. Since K4AVR & KG4YVJ will be out of town, their motorhome will not be available but their generators will be available. We need to start assembling equipment. We will need a CW station, a phone station, a digital station and possibly GOTA station. At the May meeting we need to decide who will be in charge and who will perform the other required duties. K4AVR has the software we used last year and can pass that along as well as club owned antennas and signs.

NO8X, Jay, supplied the CW station last year and N3ZL, Greg, was our star CW operator. This year Jay is up in Logan, WV. His airplane is grounded at the moment and needs a major. He was originally told it would cost \$20,000 and they would pull the engine but now the price is up to \$28,000 and he needs to pull the engine and ship it. Jay periodically checks into the PALS Net via EchoLink so we can contact him that way and Greg's Dad, Mark, N4MXP often comes to BoJangles so we can find out if Greg will be available.

Infirmiry Report

N4TJ, Tommy Johnson is still at Sunny Acres in Fork, S. C. He is unable to stand on his own. Unless something changes, he will probably be unable to walk again.

K7DVB, Bob hasn't felt well because of erosion of a disc in his neck which is causing lots of pain in his arms and hands. He is taking steroids but is down to 10mg per day and will see Dr Edwards later this week. He will also see the Stokes Boys to try to help his vision. He cannot see to drive or read. He just celebrated his 85th birthday with family and some stayed almost a week. Jan has had a recurrence of the same vertigo she suffered last year and will see her doctor this week. Keep them both in your prayers.

KM4ZMW, Art, has had pain for quite some time. He has had an MRI, a CT Scan and a Colonoscopy. The latest diagnosis is projected pain from deteriorating disks in his back. He would appreciate your prayers.

KK4VWY – David Bailey’s membership has expired. He is doing better but he is still in bad shape. He is on the transplant list for a new kidney and is on dialysis. He is currently living in Dillon. He would appreciate your prayers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

VE Session April 14th –We had a successful VE Session with three new Technicians and one new General.

Paul Ingram, KN4JPM is now a General

Richard Field of Gresham is now KN4LMO

Christopher Murray of Cheraw is now KN4LMP

James Carlton of Elgin is now KN4LPJ

We had quite a group of VE’s on our team. K4TGK, Tim Kaylor; KG4HIE, Scott Thompson; NL7VR, Simon Carroway; AD4JH, Jason Horton; NG4S, Tommy Walker; WA5JPS, John Thames and KB4RRC, Donald Bryant.

Need Volunteers – I will be at the May meeting and will prepare the June QSO. K4AVR and I will be taking a western trip in our motorhome. I will not be at the June, July and August meetings. I would like a volunteer to record or take minutes of those meetings and if possible to prepare those QSO’s. I also need a volunteer to be a Net Control Station for the Monday Night Rag-Chew Net for May, June, July and maybe August. This is a very easy job but requires being on the net every week.

DMR Help – KB4RRC, Donald Bryant, will bring his laptop to the May meeting and will be available by 7:00 P.M. He will help anyone who needs help with DMR. If you have a DMR radio, please bring it with you. Donald will be willing to help you with your code plug.

Upcoming Events

Saturday Breakfast at BoJangles
May 5 – Upstate Hamfest, Spartanburg

Come join your Ham
friends every Saturday
morning



BJ Lounge Saturday 9AM

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 146.850