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The
FARC

QSO

A Publication of the Florence Amateur Radio Club 28.330 USB, 146.850- 146.970- 444.000 +



President, Doug Macdonald, KI4TTS, opened the August meeting at 7:30pm. All members and guests introduced themselves. There were 25 members and guests present.

Our Treasurer, KA3JAL, John Germain reported as follows:

Began July	\$4,193.81
No Income	\$00.00
3rd quarter 97 phone bill	\$32.88
Ended July with	\$4,160.93

The repeater account stands at \$5,223.02.

ARRL Section Report: -- No report this month.

PIO – N4JJ, Jack Jackson, remarked about having the 20 persons in attendance at the Bojangles. He also reminded the members that the Shelby Hamfest is coming up.

Repeaters: All repeaters were reported as operating normally.

Old Business:

There was no old business to discuss this month.

*How do you greet a ham?
With a short wave.*

New Business:

There is a new insurance carrier at the ARRL. A motion to pay for our Liability insurance, which is due on September 1, was made and passed if the change is within 10% of the current amount.

Program:

Bill Cheney, N4AAK, gave an interesting talk on the new communications protocol of the Civil Air Patrol. Digital communications on Air Force frequencies are now the order of the day. New, expensive radios are required for these communications.

Lightning Safety:

Last month's QSO had an article about lightning safety. Following up on that is a suggestion from Wayne Howell, W4ORW. He said he had disconnected his antennas and radio, but left the ground wire connected to the transmitter. He should have disconnected that too!



Meeting at Shoney's
7:30 P.M.
on the 6th.

The FARC QSO

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. Deadline for all articles is the 15th of the month.

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

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Proof Reader - John Germain KA3JAL
ARES - Open

Annual Dues at \$36, plus \$14 repeater fund,
payable on January 1 of each year.

FARC nets meet each week on
Monday 8:30 pm on 146.850- and
Wednesday at 8:30 pm on 28.330 USB

Wayne said lightning struck a tree about 10 feet from where he has a copper ground rod sunk 10 feet into the ground. The lightning ran through the tree then through the ground to the ground rod and into the transmitter. It burned out several things and it was costly to get them repaired or replaced. He now disconnects the ground wire and everything else.

You may want to check to see if you can disconnect your ground wire easily and if not, put a disconnect of some sort in the line.

Unofficial meeting?

On July 30, people started showing up for the BJ meeting at Bojangles a little before 9 am. They kept coming in and coming in until we realized that we had what is probably the biggest turnout for the Saturday morning eyeball qso ever. We had 19 people show up, 17 hams and 2

XYL's. Ray Gershon, W3GSI, made this meeting. It was nice to see him, as he usually can't make the Tuesday meetings. We had as many in attendance as we have at some of the regular meetings. The tables took the entire length of one wall, one booth and one extra table. Check out the photo! Lets do that again!

Are you on QRZ?

Many hams use QRZ.com to look up the person they are having a



BJ Lounge Saturday 9 AM



qso with. Are you QRZ friendly? Is your profile on QRZ up to date? Take the time to log on and update your information.

This will assist other hams with getting to know you and being able to send qsl cards. It is also a great place to showcase your rig and antennas. Put up some photos. There is no charge for doing so.

Our Disabled List

Please remember our members who are currently having medical problems:

N4TJ, Tommy Johnson is home after more than 30 days in the hospital. Contact him if you have a chance.

W4ID, Wayne Cooke is still recovering and doing well. He is due for another operation in the fall.

KD4BUF, Fletcher Townsend is possibly going to have an operation this fall.

KM4D, Dave Jones had surgery at Carolinas Hospital and is recovering.

W8IXZ, Harry Paxton is recovering from a broken leg. He is now in the Commander Nursing Home on Pamlico highway and may be there for some time. Give him a call or drop by to visit him if you get a chance. He will be glad to see you.

Price Increase

On September 9, 2011, the amount you will have to pay to the FCC for a vanity call sign will

increase by 90 cents. The cost is currently \$13.30, The new cost will be \$14.20

VE Testing:

Our next VE session is scheduled for October 8, 2011, 9 a.m. at Methodist Manor.

September Birthdays

02 Johnnie King, WA4UGD

03 Jim Lavia, KI4ORA

06 Fletcher Townsend, KD4BUF

09 Bekki Medsker, KJ4LIF

16 Wayne Howell, W4ORW

27 Stormy Bishop, K4NOC

30 Laurie Sansbury, K4OVV

Upcoming Events

September 3 and 4

The Shelby Amateur Radio Club will have its annual Swapfest in Dallas, NC. More information at:

<http://www.shelbyhamfest.org>

September 24 and 25

MS Breakaway at the Beach

Website of the Month

Do you use Firefox, Safari, Chrome or Internet Explorer? If so, you may want to try the Ham Info Bar. A lot of toolbars you could install will track you, show ads, etc. This one does not. It is free and has links to a wealth of information for hams. Find it at :

<http://www.haminfo.co.uk>

(Note: This does not work with the Opera browser. I have contacted the author and he says he will not be adapting it for the Opera browser.)