

New Meeting Location

We will be meeting at the Shoney's at US52 & I95
until further notice.



Our president, KI4ORA, Jim Lavia, opened the February meeting and after everyone in the room identified themselves, Jim introduced our new SC ARRL Section Manager, Marc Tarplee, N4UFP.

Marc spoke about the changes being made in the SC Section. Luckily, most appointees have agreed to stay in their positions. He relayed the ARRL's proposal to the FCC to change the wording of Part 97 “Communications in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer, **except that the station licensee or control operator may, on behalf of an employer, participate in emergency preparedness and disaster drills that include Amateur operations for the purpose of emergency response, disaster relief or the testing and maintenance of**

equipment used for that purpose. Amateur operators may, however.....” This would allow Amateurs who are employed in both public and private emergency organizations to participate in training exercises. He also reported that the ARRL plans to create an Emergency Communications Advisory Committee.

KA3JAL, John Germain gave the following Treasurer's Report:

Began January with	\$3,104.54
Deposit Dues	+472.50
Ordered Club checks	- 69.35
Ended January with	\$3,507.69

The Repeater Fund stands at \$3,924.86. Transfer of funds from the membership dues to the repeater fund will be made after March 31. There were a total of 32 at the January meeting with 26 members and 6 guests.



Meeting at
Shoney's'
7:30 PM on
the 2nd.

Repeater reports: All repeaters are operating normally.

New Business: There being no old business to discuss, KI4ORA asked for ideas for short (5 minute) presentations to be made at meetings. N4JJ, Jack Jackson volunteered to give an overview of QRP operations at the March Meeting. K7DVB, Bob Austin volunteered to make a presentation about early telegraph operations at the April meeting. KO4L, Lloyd Mitchell, offered to discuss message handling and the National Traffic System. Please feel free to make suggestions or volunteer to make a presentation on your favorite Amateur topic in the coming months.

Jim then asked the group to answer three questions taken from the current Extra Class License Test. We had a lot of discussion before the correct answers were revealed. There were lots of opinions given, many quite humorous.

We thought that it would be a good idea to invite the McLeod Radio Response Team to participate with us at the McLeod Run/Walk to be held at Briggs School on Saturday, March 20. That would be a great time for the two groups to know each other and learn to work together.

We had a short discussion about the FARC website. We hope to have a copy of the Application for FARC Membership online soon



and also many photos of our past activities.

We asked our Section Manager to draw for our door prize. Rob Belinski, KJ4DGT, won a very nice Sola 12v, 3amp power supply. KJ4LIF brought a bag of home made chocolate chip cookies for a second drawing. We got a good laugh when her ticket was drawn. She declined although her husband Dennis grumbled a bit. WA4BUO, Tom Morgan, a guest from Bishopville was the lucky winner.

The meeting was ended at 8:05.

March Birthdays

- 3 Ann England, N2CFN
- 4 Rudolph Hatcher, W4YLX
- 7 Mac Cullom, K4AVR
- 7 Olin "Mac" McDaniel, W4PFZ
- 8 Morris Jones, NM4R
- 15 Donna Dedonis, N4FJF
- 16 Jim King, KI4MVA
- 21 Bob Austin, K7DVB

Members of the Month Craig England, KF2X and Ann England, N2CFN

Our recent and former member, Craig is truly well traveled. His father was a heavy equipment operator and he lived in seventeen states. He attended three different high schools and graduated in upstate New York. He proudly served in the Navy SeaBees and had two tours in Vietnam as well as duty in Antarctica. He is retired from Diebold after many years of service.

When he was eight years old in Nashville, TN, his next door neighbor was a Ham and he was hooked. He has developed into an avid DXer. His proudest Amateur achievement was making the DXCC Honor Roll and his goal is to make the DXCC Honor Roll in all modes. His achievements include 5 Band DXCC, 5 Band WAS, RTTY, DXCC and CW DXCC. He was recently appointed as the Assistant Section Manager for Area 4.

Ann is from Northern Pennsylvania originally and went to high school in Sayre, PA. She became interested in HAM radio through her husband, Craig. She holds an Advanced license and like Craig also earned the DXCC.

She was the Secretary of FARC in years past and enjoys both Field Days and Hamfests. She enjoyed hearing Owen Garriot transmit from the Space Shuttle.

She is still working at Sonoco in Hartsville and sells Avon on the side. She loves Winged Sprinter dirt track racing and is on the Renofest Committee in Hartsville. We are pleased to have these very busy and accomplished folks as a returning members.

Dues Due

As of 2/15/2010 , 46 of our 53 dues paying members have paid for a total of 87%. If you have not already renewed your membership, please send your check to KA3JAL as soon as possible. He is getting tired of going to the PO looking for the 7 checks that were due last month.

VE Test Session February 13, 2010

Our intrepid WCARS VE team were not afraid of a little thing like 3 inches of snow. Seven examiners arrived but there was only one candidate.

Jim Griffith, KJ4RGV, of Effingham took and passed the General exam. Congratulations to Jim and we hope he will get an antenna up soon and join us on the air.

Upcoming Events

March 13 - Charlotte Hamfest
March 20 - McLeod Run/Walk
April 17 - Clemson Rural
Heritage Festival

Remember

Our meetings will be at
Shoney's at US 52 & I-95 until
further notice.

John F. Germain, KA3JAL Treas.
2731 Ascot Drive
Florence, South Carolina 29501
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First Class Postage

Address Changes requested

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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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