



The Listening Post

Special Edition



Voice of the Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club - AC4RC

May 2000

Frankly Speaking

Frank Ebbinghouser / N2EMR

Wow!

Can you believe it is May already?

Where has the spring gone?

We all have had four months to get through winter and the beginning of restructuring. Thanks to WD4OIN Jack and KE4LKB Jeff and the VE's who participated we have had an extremely successful start to restructuring.

A few statistics (I love statistics) at the February Session we had 29 Candidates with 39 exams taken. At the April 8 session we had 20 candidates with 25 exams taken. At the April 15th session we had 37 candidates, 18 New Extras, 7 New Generals, 5 new Technician Licenses issued.

Currently the club has 59 members broken down as 24 Extra, 3 Advanced, 8 General, 4 Tech Plus, 19 Tech, 1 Novice. 23 members have upgraded or obtained a new license. If you have not informed me of your upgrade or new license please let me know immediately. When you upgrade you receive 10 points toward the Drawing for the Icom 2100 H 2 Meter Mobile Radio in July.

Congratulations to all who have passed and upgraded I'm sure the new licenses will enhance your Amateur Radio experience and give you new frontiers to explore.

Our next Challenge is the American Diabetes Walkathon.

May 13th is rushing upon us, we have been asked to provide communications for the American Diabetes Walkathon. Not only will we be providing a public service we have the opportunity to show off our skills. This is a wonderful opportunity to practice for emergency services. We have 10 volunteers already but we certainly could use more, there is a 4 mile course to be covered, with two rest areas so a few more brave souls are needed to man the entire route (you don't have to walk). We also need a photographer with digital capabilities so we can send photos of our participation to the ARRL for QST.

This is a perfect opportunity to set up our display and video presentation for the public to view, we need to keep talking up ham radio and proving we are more than radio nerds. The more exposure the better for the club and the hobby.

If any one with ATV capabilities is available, please let me know, just think of the publicity that we could receive if we provide real time video for the organizers to watch perhaps from the two rest areas. Anyone who wishes to assist in the organizational aspects your help would be appreciated.

Walkathon Volunteers

N1KFC - Mark Hudson
 KD4PSU - Martha Eason
 KD4DJE - Dave Kaderbeck
 N2COP - Bill Morine
 AF4GA - John Braswell
 W2KJ - Joe Trombino
 N4YNK - Al Muller
 NK0S - Hutch Hutchinson
 KE4BMY - Glenn Cox
 (Walker)
 W9IQK Ed Thomson

Thanks Section

WA4PPC Cecil Jernigan has once again become a net control operator, we all have missed his resonant voice since he was working nights for the past 15 months, welcome back Cecil.

N2COP Ham School, 11 students started the course, 8 Completed both sessions and to date 4 have. Passed their exams.

NK0S Hutch, for the wonderful photos of the last meeting.

Code Practice

The February code practice was a resounding success, with 2 people taking and passing their code exam. I did not run it in April because I just don't have the time.

CW practice is a very important function the club can perform but due to new business commitments I am unable to continue. If there is any one who wants to do a great service for the Amateur Radio Community and you don't even have to leave the shack. Please contact me and we will set up the CW net for you to run.

YL Net

I have spoken to several of the YL's in the club and they have expressed interest in a YL only net where they can get together and discuss subjects of interest to them on a regular basis. No OM's or OF's allowed except by invitation of the group. The club currently has 11 YL's on the roster and there are many more in the surrounding Counties

I know of at least 20 more, who may desire to participate. I am calling on the Club members (YL's) for one to step forward and take charge and set up a common time for a net.

Youth Net

How about a youth net during the day where the young hams can have a place to meet and discuss their interests. If any one is interested in exploring this avenue please let me know.

We work hard in getting the youth licensed but then we need to give them a place they can explore the hobby with freedom. Even conduct some continuing education classes for them on the air to broaden their experience.

How about it? Is there anyone who would like to become a youth advisor?

Nets

Speaking of nets, the participation in the Ragchew Net and Ares net has been magnificent. We are averaging 14 check-ins for each net, this is great but we can do better, it only takes a few minutes to check in and then listen to the latest club, ARES and ARRL news.

This keeps us on the cutting edge of what is happening in the hobby, I extend an invitation to anyone who would like to present a subject, or dialog to join in on the net for discussion. It would be great to have a learning experience each week by someone who has knowledge of a particular subject. And again you don't even have to leave home to participate.

Hurricane Awareness Exposition

June 3rd Trask auditorium

I will address the Exposition in a special newsletter in early May. This is a **Premier event** for the club, we have some volunteers already but we should have the entire club attend and act as Ambassadors of good will. Please keep the day open and attend if possible.

Field Day

June 24-25 Battleship Gazebo

I will also address Field Day in the special newsletter in early May.

Call Sign Badges

Does anyone have any idea's as to what we can do to properly identify ourselves for these special events? We need to all be readily identifiable by the public and the local authorities as Radio Amateurs participating in these events.

Time is short and badges are small, does any one know where we can obtain slip over

the head type of vests that we can imprint with the club name and other information. (Perhaps the type used by the public

New Members

We wish to extend a sincere welcome to our new members, and hope that they enjoy their affiliation with the club. New members bring both their expertise in their chosen endeavors and strength to the organization.

Without new members and new ideas a club will stagnate and die, therefore we hope as they become comfortable they will participate in our activities.

KC8BQT Carl Filipaik

KE4QH Gene Tagliarini

W9IQK Ed Thomson

KM4VX Ron Cerra

KD4IRW Joe Kay

K4YCL Kimmie Breedlove

KR4FM Ken Kauffmann

Pending Jim Crews

Mentors (Elmer's)

No position carries more importance in Amateur Radio. Elmers are the lifeblood of the hobby. Every General and above should adopt one or more applicants to educate them in the proper on the air procedures.

Each individual ham is responsible for both their own on air behavior and the hobby in general, the new hams must be educated in how to act. Many act improperly only due to lack of education so it is incumbent on us to teach. I hope all will join in this most important function.

Rick Card KD4JKX for mentoring his wife Nancy (Did he have a choice?)

New Licenses and Upgrades

Congratulations to all whom have upgraded or obtained their initial Amateur Radio License. (Time does not permit me to research all who have upgraded or obtained an initial license at this time, I hope to have the list completed for the next newsletter)

Free Radio Contest

- The Contest is open to all active members of the Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club. You must be current individual dues paid member and licensed radio amateur at the time of drawing.
- New members will be assigned points starting the day the dues are paid.
- Paying Club dues on or before March 1, 2000, you will be **assigned 10 points**. The number of family members registered will apportion family membership points.
- Obtaining a Amateur Radio License or upgrading to a higher class license you will be assigned **10 points**
- Extras only who Elmer (mentor) a prospect during the contest period will be assigned **10 points**
(In lieu of upgrading)
- Each regular club meeting you attend you will be assigned **5 points**.
- Bringing a potential member to a meeting or special event will be assigned **5 points**.
- Running the Monday night ragchew net as net control you will be assigned **5 points**
- Each special event the club sponsors in which you participate. You will be assigned **5 points**
- Each time you check into the ragchew net on Monday nights at 9 PM on the 147.18 repeater, you will be assigned **3 points**
- Checking into the ARES net Wednesday night at 8PM you will be assigned **3 points**

Club officers will be responsible for maintaining the list of assigned points.

At the July 18, 2000 meeting all points will be placed in a closed container and a non-member will hold a random drawing.

The radio to be given away is an ICOM IC 2100H.

The starting date will be **January 18, 2000**

The ending date will be **July 13, 2000**

We have never done this before and hope that by offering this incentive to the membership it will increase participation in club events.

If this event proves successful we will have more of them in the future.

GOOD LUCK to every one.

Nets, Meetings and Hamfests:

(Please Note: Some may be subject to change.)

Every Monday	ACARC Net, 9pm - 147.180
Every Wednesday*	ARES Net, 8pm - 146.670 (*Except meeting nights)
Every Day	NC ARRL Tarheel Emergency Net, 7:30 - 3.923 MHz
As Needed	Skywarn Net - 146.820
May 16 19-21	ACARC Meeting - AHEC, Room <i>TBA</i> , 7:30pm - Topic: Skywarn Dayton Hamvention
June 3	Hurricane Awareness Exposition - UNCW Trask Auditorium
10	ACARC VE Testing Session , UNCW 10am, Morton Hall
20	ACARC Dinner Meeting - McAllister's Deli, 7:00pm, Field Day Planning
24-25	Field Day
July 18	ACARC Meeting - AHEC, <i>TBA</i> , 7:30pm, Drawing for Free Radio Contest

2000 Special Events:

American Diabetes Assn. Walkathon	13 May, 8 am to 2 pm, Wilmington Downtown
VHF QSO Party	10-12 June (<i>The Battleship Gazebo has been reserved if anyone wishes to use it.</i>)
Field Day	24-25 June, Battleship U.S.S. North Carolina Gazebo
Museum of Ships Event	15-16 July, Battleship U.S.S. North Carolina Gazebo
International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend	19-20 August, USCG - Oak Island Lighthouse

Comments for the net...

I know, I used to follow the President's wise words at the begining of the newsletter. Times change, and so does the format.

Amateur Radio has undergone many changes in the last year. As the ARRL puts it in a recent article...

"Amateur Radio Survives Transition to Restructuring"

I for one love full test sessions, and seeing both old and new faces. The merits of restructuring will be debated for a long time. So was "In-

centive Licencing", one of the earlier licence changes.

From the VE Group, Jack - WD4OIN and I send our Thanks to everyone who helped with the April VE Test Sessions. The truth is, Jack and I do a lot of praying those Saturday mornings at the K&W, waiting to see if enough VE's come. It takes at least 3, 6 is better, and 9+ when it is a busy session like the 15 April Special Session.

Our thanks also to the new Extra's plan to join the VE Team. It is one of those tasks that Amateur Radio would be

lost without it. There is no other way to join our ranks.

Have a Happy and Safe Easter!
Jeff, KE4LKB

From the ARRL

The FCC says a lot of newly upgraded General class licensees have begun asking if they may operate in the current Advanced class subbands now that the new amateur rules are in place. "The answer is: Absolutely not," said the Bill Cross, W3TN, of the FCC's Public Safety and Private Wireless Division. "No privileges changed for any license class."



AC4RC

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Net Control Operators

KG4AKV	John Brier
N4LFV	Shirley Peay
N2COP	Bill Morine
N2EMR	Frank Ebbinghouser
WA4PPC	Cecil Jernigan
KD4PSU	Martha Eason
AD4DN	Bill Murrell (Ares EC)



Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club May 2000 Newsletter - *Special Edition*



Affiliated
Club

Officers and Committee Chairs for 2000

President: Frank Ebbinghouser / N2EMR

Vice-President: John Braswell / AF4GA

Secretary: Martha Eason / KD4PSU

Treasurer: Shirley Peay / N4LFV

Net Control Coordinator: Vacant

Newsletter Editor: Jeff Jolly / KE4LKB

VE Testing: Jack Jacobs / WD4OIN; Jeff Jolly / KE4LKB

Social Events Planning: Cathy Murrell / KD4WOF

Public Affairs: Bill Morine / N2COP

Special Events: Vacant



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