

THE LISTENING POST

April 2005 Edition

AC4RC Repeater 147.180 Mhz Rag Chew Net Mondays @ 9:00 PM

ACARC Constitution Completed... Get ready For The Final Vote!

The Club Constitution, as it presently exists, is not sufficient to maintain affiliation with the American Radio Relay League. Since the benefits of such affiliation are significant--see the ARRL Website at www.arrl.org, and follow the trail through Clubs, Affiliated Clubs, and Benefits of Affiliation--as well as for practical reasons of addressing current concerns, the Membership, at the November 2004 meeting, opened discussion on amending the Constitution.

These discussions continued through the March, 2005 meeting, wherein those in attendance voted to close discussion and present the proposed amendments to the full membership for a vote to adopt or reject.

The voting period will open at the regularly scheduled May 17 Club meeting, and will close at noon on Sunday, June 26, as Field Day is winding down. This period of approximately a month and a half will allow maximum opportunity for all Club members in good standing to cast a ballot in a variety of ways: in person at the May or June meetings, or at either Saturday or Sunday Field Day; by written proxy; or, if the situation requires, by e-mail.

The proposed amendments to the Club Constitution, along with the applicable By-Laws, are readily available for review at the Club Website WWW.AC4RC.ORG. Members without e-mail will receive a copy of the proposed amendments and the By-Laws with the Newsletter through regular mail.

Two points: If you wish to remain a member in good standing, and cast your ballot on the proposed amendments, please insure that your Club membership dues for 2005 are paid. If you receive this Newsletter by mail, and you do have e-mail capability, please immediately advise Dave at davecw@ec.rr.com (Secretary) and/or Larry at lmodlin@ec.rr.com (Treasurer) of your e-mail address. E-mail, where possible, is preferable to the time and expense of regular mailing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We'll be taking a look at participating in ARRL Kid's Day on June 18. This will be a great opportunity to showcase the Club and the hobby not only for kids, but to the community. also a good opportunity for a tune-up for Field Day.

--Always the Last Full Weekend in June--

Field Day is the major Club activity of the year. Glen, K4IHM, has again secured the antenna tower and generator from the County and has reserved the same shelter at Ogden Park as we used last year. Field Day presents not only an excellent opportunity for experienced operators to ply their skills, and those without HF privileges to work all the bands in pursuit of DX, but also gives the members the chance to work and play together in the maintenance of old friendships and the forming of new ones.

We plan on doing our own cooking this year, so if you have a favorite recipe for a side dish, or, heaven help us all, a casserole, dust off your recipe, mark your calendar, and plan on turning out on Saturday and Sunday, June 25 and 26, to join fellow hams all over the Country in our favorite activity.

SHRINER'S FISH FRY

The club members volunteer each year to provide backup communications capability for the annual Shriner's Fish Fry during October. This charity event is very popular in Wilmington and raises significant amounts of money for the Shriner's causes. The banquet dinner for volunteers is also well attended by Club members.

Boy Scouts of America

October also brings the BSA Jamboree on the Air, which gives Scouts throughout the Country the opportunity to connect via Ham Radio, earn merit badges, and be mentored by one of you, as a seasoned Ham Operator/Elmer.

Perhaps, they too will catch the radio bug themselves, as we once did. It's quite an experience to watch the Boy Scouts scramble for the microphone to talk to the Girl Scouts.

Amateur Radio Light House Society

August brings both the National and International Light House/Light Ship weekends. December brings the Christmas Lights QSO Party. The Club has in the past participated in at least one of these events at the Oak Island Lighthouse on the US Coast Guard Station. Details will follow as the time approaches.

Club meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, even months at McDaniel Farms on South College Road opposite UNCW, odd months in Cameron Hall on the campus of UNCW. Turn out, take part in planning your Club's activities and enjoy the company of your fellow Hams.

The Club Ragchew Net runs Monday nights at 9:00 PM on 147.180 MHz (+600 offset). Many Club members also participate in the New Hanover County Amateur Radio Emergency Services Net at 8:00 PM on Wednesday nights on 146.670 MHz (-600 offset).

As this Newsletter is prepared, the telephone line to the .18 repeater is down and the problem is being addressed.

The Listening Post will welcome all suggestions for articles, and consider all submissions. Comments and criticisms, for the present, may be addressed to any of the Club Officers at ACARC, P.O. Box 4044, Wilmington, N.C. 28406, or to Bill Usher, AG4PA, at busher@ec.rr.com.

Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club Constitution

Preamble:

We, the undersigned, wishing to secure for ourselves the pleasures and benefits of an association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio, constitute ourselves the Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club and enact this constitution as our governing law. It shall be our purpose to further the exchange of information and cooperation among members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, to promote and provide service to the community at large, and to so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community.

Membership: Article I

All persons interested in Amateur Radio communications shall be eligible for membership. Membership shall be by application upon such terms as the club shall provide in its By-Laws. Members will be in good standing with the club upon payment of annual dues or assessments as necessary. A member will continue to be in good standing with the club through the end of the first quarter of the following year contingent upon payment of dues or assessments as necessary for the following year.

Officers: Article II

Sec. 1. The officers of this club shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Sec. 2. The officers of this club shall be elected for a term of one year by vote of the members present at the regular meeting in November. Those officers that are elected shall take office effective January 1 of the following year.

Sec. 3. Vacancies occurring between elections must be filled by special elections at the first regular meeting following a withdrawal or resignation.

Sec. 4. Officers may be removed from office by a 50 percent vote of the total membership. A notice with proxy vote shall be provided to the membership at least two weeks in advance of the meeting date.

Duties of Officers: Article III

Sec. 1. The President shall preside at all meetings and conduct them according to the rules adopted. He/she shall enforce due observance of this Constitution and By-Laws, decide all questions of order, sign all official documents adopted by the club, and perform all other duties pertaining to the office of President.

Sec. 2. The Vice-President shall assume all the duties of the President in his/her absence. In addition, he/she shall organize club activities, plan and recommend contests for operating benefits, and advance club interest and activity as approved by the club.

Sec. 3. The Secretary shall keep a record of all proceedings at meetings, keep a roll of members, submit membership applications, carry on all correspondence, read communications at each meeting, and mail or email written meeting notices to each member. At the expiration of his/her term he/she shall turn over all items belonging to the club to his/her successor or to the club president.

Sec. 4. The Treasurer shall receive and receipt for all monies paid to the club, keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended, and pay no bills without proper authorization. At the end of each quarter, he/she shall submit an itemized statement of disbursements and receipts. At the end of his/her term, he/she shall turn over everything in his/her possession, belonging to the club, to his/her successor or to the club president.

Meetings: Article IV

The By-Laws shall provide for regular and special meetings. At regularly scheduled meetings, those in attendance shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If the business is financially related and not budgeted, the maximum amount of expenditure allowed is \$200. If the business will exceed \$200, a simple majority vote of 30 percent of the total membership at the same meeting, or a simple majority vote of 15 percent of the total membership at two consecutive meetings, may authorize the expenditure.

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern proceedings.

Dues: Article V

The club, by simple majority vote of those present at any regular meeting, may levy upon the general membership such dues or assessments as shall be deemed necessary for the business of the organization. Payment of such dues or assessments shall be a requirement for a full membership in the club.

Membership Assistance: Article VI

The club, through its members, may provide technical advice to any member concerning equipment design and operation. The club may also assist in frequency observance, clean signals, uniform practice, and absence of spurious radiation from club member-stations. The club shall also maintain a program to foster and guide public relations.

Amendments: Article VII

This constitution or By-Laws may be amended by a simple majority vote of a minimum of 50 percent of the total membership. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted in writing at a regular meeting and shall be voted on at the next following regular meeting, provided all members have been notified of the intent to amend the constitution and/or By-Laws at said meeting.

Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club By-Laws

1. Secretary. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep the constitution and By-Laws of the club and have said documents with him/her at every meeting. He/she shall note all amendments, changes, and additions to the constitution and shall permit it to be reviewed by members upon request.

2. Membership. Full membership is open to licensed amateur radio operators. Associate membership is open to those actively engaged in study leading to an Amateur Radio license and all other interested persons. Full membership includes all club privileges as well as rights to hold a club office and to vote for club officers. Associate membership includes all club privileges except for the right to hold office and vote for club officers.

3. Meetings. Regular meetings shall be held within each calendar month unless otherwise noted at a prior meeting or by advance notification. Special meetings may be called by the President upon the written request of any five club members. Notices shall be provided to members concerning special meetings and the business to be transacted. Only such business as designated shall be transacted. Such notices shall be sent so that they arrive not less than 24 hours before the meeting.

4. Proxy Voting. For the transaction of business, a proxy vote may be necessary to constitute a quorum. A proxy vote will be sent to each member at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. If the member attends the meeting, the proxy vote shall be considered null and void. A proxy vote may be revoked at any time before the meeting or by a subsequent proxy vote with a later date delivered.

5. Dissolvement. Upon a dissolvement of the club, all properties and holdings will be liquidated to cash, which shall be donated to a charitable cause voted on by a simple majority vote of 50 percent the total membership. If a quorum cannot be reached, the donation shall be to the ARRL.

That's all for now folks! Due to space and weight limitations, we had no choice but to keep it down to a bare bones issue...Don't forget to vote so the constitution will be official by Field Day! If you have E-Mail and Acrobat Reader, let us know and we can send The Listening Post in .pdf format. We have a few bugs to work out with the newsletter, it will improve, and we will keep you informed!

73's de N2JDJ, John