

THE LISTENING POST

Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club

P. O. Box 4044

Wilmington, NC 28406

<http://www.ac4rc.org>

147.18 Repeater

January 2010

Greetings to the members and interested amateur radio operators in the greater Wilmington area. It is time to begin a new year in amateur radio and the activities of the Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club. A bit word of thanks goes out to all those that supported and contributed to the club's success in 2009. I am sure that we are all looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

Going forward I think the club has several challenges which I hope we can all successfully address. First we need to reestablish a routine newsletter to keep those in the area well informed related to the club's activities. Secondly, we need to update the club web site and keep it current so that it becomes a resource for the club members and other hams in the area. Thirdly, we need to improve our meetings so that ham radio is spoken there with good attendance, good programs and a good exchange among members relative to their own ham radio activities and accomplishments. We need to support improved participation in the club's 2-Meter weekly net and we need plenty of participation in club organized and sponsored activities. Our overall objective should be two fold – Having fun with ham radio and improving communications skills. I hope that we are all onboard with these objectives because one or two people can not make these kinds of things happen – it takes the whole club working together. I am counting of your support.

We are making changes. This little news letter is a start and I am sure we will be able to improve on it as the year progresses. Don, KJ4OFF is taking on the responsibility as Net Manager for the 2-Meter weekly net and we have changed the format so that we hope that it will be more functional. Don will be reporting on participation and hopefully we will see an improving trend and a lot more ham radio being discussed on Monday nights at 8 PM on 147.18. We have a number of people working on the web site and hopefully you will be able to see some significant improvements in the near future that will get the site up-to-date and will lead to functional improvements as we move forward. WD4OIN and K4YNY are helping with the web effort and a number of others are trying to support their effort.

Our program for the January meeting is what I call "New Officer Assimilation". I am sure some of you wonder what this is and some think it is just a bunch of fluff. I see it as very important as new officers take over. My plan is to have each of the officers talk a bit about themselves and what they see relative to the club's activities and how they operate. From the members the officers want to hear your ideas and needs from the club. The outcome of this meeting will have a lot to do to shape the club activities for the balance of the year – So yes it is very important and I hope that everyone will make a real

effort to attend this important meeting. **Mark your calendars for Tuesday, January 19 at 7 PM at the Cape Fear Community College North Campus!.**

73, Charlie Vaughan K4UWH

REPORT OF VOLUNTEER EXAMINER TESTING

Testing was administered on December 12, 2009 at the Cape Fear Community College North Campus in accordance with the published schedule. Five (5) candidates presented themselves for testing. There were seven (7) examiners present. These results are reported by Bill Usher, AG4PA.

TESTS ADMINISTERED

	Taken	Passed
Element 2 (Technician)	4	3
Element 3 (General)	3	0
Element 4 (Extra)	0	0
TOTAL	7	3

DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2010

The Officers are considering a draft budget to be brought before the club membership at the January meeting. The purpose of the budget is to identify key income and expenses to be authorized by the club for the upcoming year.

INCOME	2008	2009	2010
Dues	1 040	820	700
50/50	101	80	60
Donations	87	340	95
Total Income	1 228	1 240	855
EXPENSES			
Insurance	418	418	418
Memberships	110	40	40
Postage/USPS	68	73	75
Office Supplies	75	91	100
Total Expenses	617	622	633

CLUB WEB SITE

Keep your eyes on the club web site <http://www.ac4rc.org>. Jack, WD4OIN has the new home page up and running. Some of the links may still not be complete and there is a good bit more work to go but the basic site is up and running and is being updated with current information that is important for you to keep abreast of.

2010 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Each Monday Evening – 8 PM local – 146.18 Repeater - - ACARC Local Net

HAM FEAST – Typically Saturday Mornings 8AM K&W on Oleander (NK0S)

Friday Noon Lunch Bunch – As announced – Contact NC4ER for current week

January

1st ARRL Straight Key Night <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2009/skn.html>

2 – 3rd ARRL RTTY Roundup <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2010/rtty.html>

19th Club Meeting – Program: Group Discussion on the ACARC for 2010

23 – 25th ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2010/jan-vhf-ss.html>

February

13th VE Test Session <http://www.ac4rc.org>

16th Club Meeting – Program: Video program on Spark Gap Communications (NC4ER)

20 – 21st ARRL International DX Contest CW

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2010/intldx.html>

28th NC QSO Party <http://www.w4nc.com/2010ncqsoparty.html>

28th NC QSO Party ACARC Activity from Battleship USS NC

March

6 – 7th ARRL International DX Contest SSB

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2010/intldx.html>

13 -14th Charlotte Hamfest <http://www.w4bfb.org/hamfest2010/hamfest.html>

16th Club Meeting – Program: N3FJP Computer Logging (K4UWH)

April

3rd Raleigh Hamfest <http://rars.org/hamfest/>

10th Azalea Festival Weekend

10th Azalea Coast Hamfest at the Battleship USS NC (NC4ER)

20th Club Meeting -

May

18th Club Meeting -

June

13 – 14th ARRL June VHF QSO Party

15th Club Meeting –

26 – 27th ACARC Field Day

CLUB VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As you can see we are making a lot of progress in getting the ACARC program going for 2010. We still need a number of key volunteers to fill in some of the key roles that need attention at this time and of course we will need more help as the year unfolds. Some of the things we need now are as follows:

Newsletter Editor

Field Day Chairperson

Anyone interested in presenting a club program

So if any of this looks like something that you would be interested in please come forward and let the officers know of your interests. Remember, the club will only be as good as we make it. Ham Radio Spoken Here !

73,

Charlie K4UWH