



Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club



**July-August
2018 Edition**

ACARC

President

Julian Bradberry
(WD4FTR)

Vice President

Larry Nutt
(WN4M)

Secretary

Norman Clemmons
(KI4YSY)

Treasurer

Anita Jacobs
(KG4IIL)

**Azalea Coast
Amateur Radio Club**
PO Box 4044
Wilmington, NC 28406

www.ac4rc.org

From The Editor

This will be the last issue I am writing as your editor and newsletter publisher. Two important people in my life, my mom (in NY) and my stepmother (in SC) both recently found out they have cancer. As a cancer survivor myself I will be devoting my time and efforts to helping them out physically, mentally and spiritually. There will be a lot of road time spent between SC & NY.

I think this newsletter is an important communications tool for the members of the ACARC. That is why I re-started it again even living 200 miles away from the club's home base. To this end I hope there will be someone out there that I can pass the torch to. I will send the .docx (Microsoft Word document) files to the club officers who can handle it from there. If you follow my schedule the next issue isn't due until September 1st so hopefully you can find someone before then.

It has been an honor serving the club and I hope I can still squeeze in some face-time occasionally in Wilmington.

73!

Upcoming Important Events

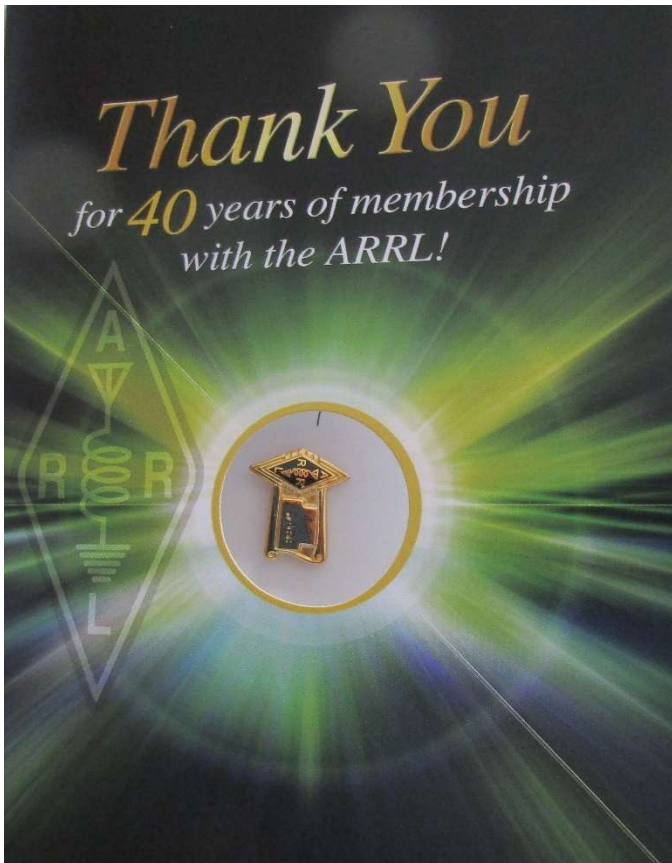
- July 17th** Monthly club meeting, 7:00 pm
- August 21st** CFCC North Campus
- August 11th** VE testing, 10 am @ CFCC North Campus
- Every Monday** 2 Meter Rag Chew, 9:00PM
147.18MHz, +0.600 offset, 88.5 tone
Norman (KI4YSY) is net control



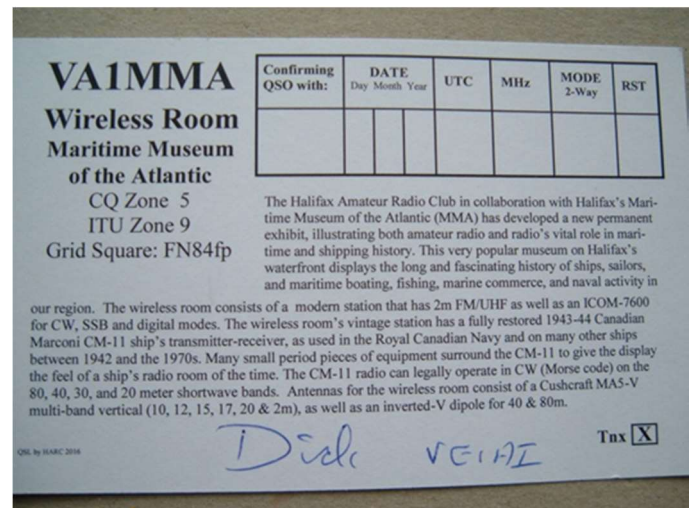
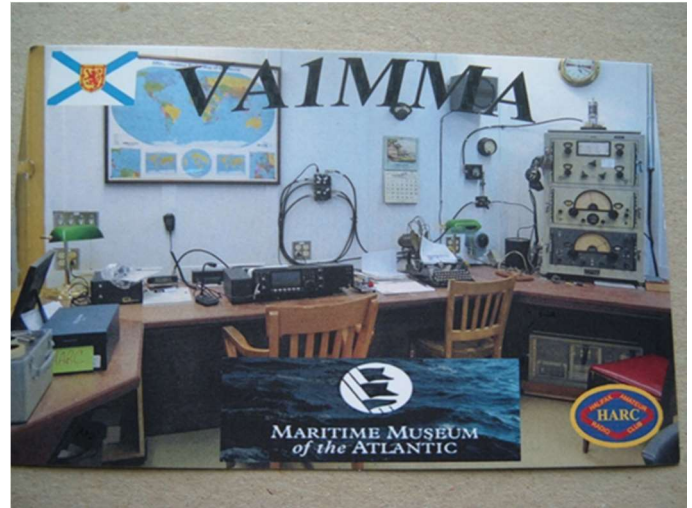
Award Time!

by Jack (WD4OIN)

Today I went to the mail box and got a surprise. I had a small box from the ARRL. When I open the box there was a pin from the ARRL commemorating my 40 years of ARRL membership. The pin was nice but I have always supported the ARRL because it supports Ham Radio. There are a number of groups out there that's big in Ham Radio but they are there for monetary gain only. The ARRL is Ham Radio's only voice.



staffed by HAMs with state-of-the-art radios as well as a vintage Marconi CM-11 that can operate on the 80, 40, 30 & 20m bands. After an orientation tour of the radio room, visitors are encouraged to try their hand sending CW via straight keys. See the pictures below of the QSL card and especially the flip side for more info on the MMA.



Contact via FTF!

by Pete (WB3FYR)

On April 30 of this year I made an interesting visit to the Wireless Room in the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic (MMA) in Halifax, NS, and I have the QSL card to prove it – see below. The Wireless Room in the MMA is similar to the radio room in the USS North Carolina (BB-55): maritime oriented,

Neat, but what is FTF and why is there no contact info on the flip side of the QSL card? FTF is Face-To-Face. In ancient times, say the 1950s, 60s and 70s, this form of communication was very common.

Anyway, my wife and I were on a new cruise ship on its first passenger carrying trip crossing the Atlantic from Southampton, UK, to NYC on its way to Alaska for the start of the cruising season. The only stops were the Azores and Halifax, Nova Scotia. It was in Halifax that we used FTF with

another HAM - but I'm ahead of myself. A couple days after stopping at the Azores we arrived at Halifax. Our plans for the stop included seeing some of the city's sites including, of course, the Maritime Museum. However, we stayed a lot longer at the Museum than expected because it started raining. With more time on my hands, I gravitated back to the radio room and waited for one of the radio room HAMs to finish giving another visitor an intro to CW. When he was free, all I had to say was "Hi, I'm Pete WB3FYR" before Dick (VE1AI) and I began a conversation like we were old buddies. And, in a way, we were. He talked about the Museum and I talked about the USS North Carolina and we both talked about Museum Ship Weekend and other battleships plus other radio topics like FT-8 and digital in general. It was a very nice stop, much better than being confined to a ship and being days away from a port. Even my wife said about our visit to the MMA radio room, "you guys talking was kind of neat".

The bottom line is, if you're a HAM you have friends everywhere you go, even Halifax. Moving to a new city? Join the local HAM radio club and you have instant friends. I did. Traveling? Attend a local club meeting or event if you are in a different city or state; you're part of the group. Do you have a radio problem? Some HAM somewhere probably had the same problem and solved it and they will be happy to help you.

Hey, I have an idea for FTF. What if we lobby the ADIF.ORG folks and the ARRL/LoTW to make FTF an official mode? It is communicating isn't it? Just not over the radio. And, you don't need a license. ARRL/LoTW could create an award for the interested, but non-licensed who go to club meeting or talk to a HAM such as at FD. I'm thinking more FTF = more interest in radios = more HAMs.

That's my story, but I have a confession. I exaggerated a bit... it wasn't all that bad being confined to the cruise ship between ports. At least I'm pretty sure nobody starved, I didn't.

This Issue's Shack

This issue's shack belongs to Jack (WD4OIN).



Field Day 2018

Photos by Jim (K3DEP)

