



Grand Strand Amateur Radio Club



FEBRUARY 2006

AND THE PRESIDENT SAID

GSARC Minutes of February 6, 2006

VP/New Manager reported that all dates this month are full. Bob thanked those stepping up to the plate for taking new control. Bob also reported that the CPA has had out tax exempt in his hands 6 months.

Treasurers reported via printed sheet on our financial status.

Secretary reported he is Co-Chairing the Beachfest, and is handling the Picnic scheduled for March 25, 06. Questions on the picnic should be directed to Robert.

We had several visitors present along with new and renewing members.

Olen, W4EZR reported that we need our tax-exempt status before we can get any grants approved.

Matt, AF4UZ reported on Skywarn and the 2006 Marathon. He is looking for Skywarn operators during the day, at least 4 – 5. He also needs a few more operators for the Marathon to fill in empty spots. Contact Matt on both these items.

New business: Suggestion was to hold a net on the 147.12 repeater. After some discussion it was decided to do so on Wednesday's at 12 noon. This should bring activity to this machine.

Bob, Mr. PIO, KE4HEE sold our 50/50 tickets. The person (visitor) unknown to me won the drawing and donated it back to our club. That was sure nice.

Our next meeting is March 6, 2006, same time same frequency.

Meeting was adjourned and some of us went to a local restaurant for snacks.

“God Bless America”

73's

Jim, N3BRS
President GSARC

CLUB MINUTES-Feb 6

The meeting was called to order by our President Jim Roble, N3BRS. Each officer gave their reports and Matt McGuire briefed on the Myrtle Beach Marathon taking place on Feb 18, 2006.

TREASURER REPORT BALANCE: \$3672.72

Robert, KE4HGB has taken on the duties of Hamfest Chairman. He has asked each member to HELP make this the BEST Fest of all times. Co-chairman is Edward Jordan, KF4ECK.

THE FOLLOWING ATTENDED THIS MEETING:

Mitchell Fipps	KI4IMC	Richard Osborn	KE4VB
Fred Williston	AF4MB	Jack Reiner	WB3FUL
Matt McGuire	AF4UZ	Robert Hawkins	KI4HEE
Don Knotts	KD4RZW	Web Williams	KR4WM
Fred Thompson	W4FST	Mike Lang	W2ANL
Olen Persons	W4EZR	Edward Jordan	KF4ECK
Dale Hughes	KI4MKH	James Reiner	KI4JKV
Kell Culp	K4TPE	Brian McInerney	WB8IDY
Al Tedeschi	WB1GLZ	Doug Traverson	N3PYF
Dick Lahaye	N1URL	Kent Reich	KF8SI
Gale Lahaye	N1UVJ	Robert Battle	KE4HGB
Harold Dean	KU4ZU	Bob Gagliardi	N4XML
Bob Taylor	N3PT	Jim Roble	N3BRS
Karen Taylor	KB3HVF	Chuck Phillips	N3BIK
Randall Dunn	AG4RD	Ralph Lambert	KI4NJZ
Sandra Dunn	KF4HYG	Mary Hughes	Visitor

NEW MEMBERS OF THE GSARC

Dale Hughes	KI4MKH	Ralph Lambert	KI4NJZ	Richard Osborn	KE4VB
Stanley Ray	KM4JT	Robert Taylor	N3PT	Karen Taylor	KB3HVF

Welcome to the Club, your input is appreciated and remember this is your club.

Current members for 2006

W2ANL	W4EZR	W4FST	WA4MRV	WB1GLZ	WB3FU
AB4CS	AF4MB	AG4RD	N1GOH	N1URL	N1UVJ
N2LZO	N2XLC	N3BRS	K3JN	N3PT	N3PYF
N4GJ	N4KXA	N4XML	K2PJ	K3OTS	K4AAC
K4DTT	K4RLC	K4TPE	KA3B	KB3HVF	KB3IDS
KC4RZX	KC8MSN	KE4VB	KE4HGB	KF4CJE	KF4EDE
KF4HYG	KF4VGV	KG4CRX	KI4HEE	KI4HED	KI4HOA
KI4IMC	KI4JKV	KI4MKH	KI4NJZ	KM4JT	KN4LW
KQ4BH	KR4WM	KU4ZU	VA3FEB		

If your dues were paid and your call is not reflected here contact Robert @ 843-236-2887 or email ke4hgb@scoast.net Your DUES are good from January 1 thru December 31. There are over 400 hams in the area, Let them know about this GREAT CLUB or have them visit our web site: www.w4gs.org

MARCH 25, 2006 - ANNUAL PICNIC

Our XYL- Snowbird Appreciation Picnic will take place at the Old Myrtle Beach Air Base Picnic Area. If you plan to bring a covered dish or anything else please contact Robert Battle, KE4HGB, by phone 843-236-2887, leave message or email ke4hgb@sccoast.net A list will be consolidated insuring one each covered dish. Thank you in advance...

NEW REPEATER IN THE AREA

Thanks go out to Randall, AG4RD for recommending the repeater, Johnathan Roseberry, KI4HED, for finding the site, Robert Battle, KE4HGB, for his follow up, making things happen, Eddy Byerly, AD4TZ and Charlie Haselden, KC4KNF for putting the 147.255 (+)(PL tone 85.4) repeater together. This is located in the Murrells Inlet area is presently down to work out a bug. Use all of the club repeaters. They belong to you. A new NET is taking place on Wednesdays during the NOON hour. Join in on the 147.120 (+).

Myrtle Beach Marathon

THIS WAS A GREAT MARATHON!

2 REASONS!

- 1) Because y'all volunteered to work to make it great and
- 2) Because y'all did just an outstanding job that made it a great experience.

We received "thanks" from many, many different folks on the great job done by all.

I, particularly want to thank all of you for making this marathon the most enjoyable I have ever worked.

We had a few problems that we had to overcome and everybody just responded to what we needed and everything worked out just fine!

Just saying "Thanks" doesn't quite sound sufficient; but I'd like each of you to know that it is my most sincere thanks. 73 AF4UZ Matt

THE PIO IS TALKING

Amateur Radio Operators Assist Communications in Myrtle Beach Marathon
by Robert Hawkins/ KI4HEE

Over 30 Ham Radio Operators from around the Carolinas converged on Myrtle Beach SC early Saturday Morning, February 18th, to provide vital medical communications & co-ordination in the 9th Annual Bi-Lo Myrtle Beach Marathon.

The Myrtle Beach Marathon fielded over 4000 runners, participating in the 9th edition of a race that winds throughout the Myrtle Beach area.

Amateur Radio Operators serving as communicators for Medical Personnel at comfort aid stations, as well as at several race co-ordination locations, serves as a no-cost communication network for race officials, and as good practice for Amateur Radio Operators, who often aid local government agencies in disaster communications.

Amateur (Ham) Radio has recently been in the National spotlight in providing vital communications aid in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The 100-year-old hobby demonstrated that it is fully capable of coming to aid in a large scale when most other communication infrastructure fails.

Amateur Radio Operators have volunteered each year that the race has been held.

THE ARRL REPORTS

Just when the FCC will act on the "Morse code" proceeding, WT Docket 05-235 remains hazy. The Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) last July proposing to eliminate the Element 1 (5 WPM) Morse code requirement for all license classes. The Amateur Radio community has filed more than 3800 comments on the proceeding, and additional comments continue to show up, even though the formal comment deadline was last October 31 (with reply comments by November 14). The next—and most-anticipated—step for the Commission is to formally adopt any revisions to its rules and conclude the proceeding with a Report and Order (R&O) that spells out the changes and specifies their effective date.

"There really is no news," an FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau staffer told ARRL this week on background. "We certainly hope to release WT Docket 05-235 sometime this year, but we're not making any predictions at this time. We certainly are not saving up any big announcements for Dayton Hamvention."

Beyond eliminating the Morse requirement, the FCC declined proposing any other suggested changes to the Amateur Service.

The proceeding began with 18 petitions for rule making--many just calling for the elimination of the Morse requirement but some asking for more far-reaching changes in the Amateur Service rules. The various petitions attracted a total of some 6200 comments. The FCC subsequently consolidated the petitions--including one from the ARRL asking the FCC to establish a new entry-level license class and to retain the Morse requirement only for Amateur Extra class applicants--into a single proceeding designated WT 05-235.

The FCC has not proposed extending HF privileges to current Technician licensees who have not passed a Morse code examination. In its NPRM&O the FCC suggested that in a no-Morse-requirement regime, "codeless Techs" could gain HF access by taking the Element 3 General class written examination.

Any FCC decision to eliminate the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for HF access would have *no* impact on either the current HF CW-only sub bands or on the CW privileges of Amateur Radio licensees.

Before it releases an R&O on the Morse code proceeding, however, the WTB wants to wrap up action in another Amateur Radio-related docket--the "Phone Band Expansion" (or "Omnibus") NPRM in WT Docket 04-140, released April 15, 2004. A dozen petitions for rulemaking, some dating back to 2001, were consolidated in the Omnibus proceeding.

In that NPRM, the Commission proposed to go along with the ARRL's Novice refarming plan aimed at reallocating the current Novice/Tech Plus sub bands and expanding portions of the 80, 40 and 15 meter phone bands. The FCC also agreed with an ARRL proposal to extend privileges in the current General CW-only HF sub bands to present Novice and Tech Plus licensees (or Technicians with Element 1 credit). WT 04-140 further proposed to essentially do away with FCC rules prohibiting the manufacture and marketing to Amateur Radio operators of amplifiers capable of operation on 12 and 10 meters.

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Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ Founder, QRZ.COM

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