



Grand Strand Amateur Radio Club



N o v e m b e r 2 0 0 6

Notes from the Oval Office

A very hardy "Congratulations" to our Beachfest Co-Chairs Edward, KF4ECK and Robert, KE4HGB for doing a splendid job. Comments from vendors, guests and club members were very positive. I don't know the numbers but I understand that several people who took amateur radio tests passed, plus some joined our club. We thank the VE Testing Team for promoting our club and taking time to conduct testing. In all, your executive board thanks all our members for hard work promoting our Beachfest. Last but not least, I "Congratulate" all the prize winners. Check our web site www.w4gs.org for more information.

Don't forget about our December meeting to be held on 12-4-06 at 7 PM. At this meeting we will elect officers for the next year, and try to clean up some old business.

We have a request, Matt, AF4UZ and I need a tower climber. We're having problems with the 80 meter wire HF antenna at the M.L. Brown building and could use some help solving our high SWR problem. Please contact one of us if you would like to help.

I would like to thank all our members who took a step up to help in my past year as your President. We at the GSARC can be thankful for the great people we have, and let us not forget the XYL's. The ladies in the background we never hear about, but are working hard to benefit our club. The great officers we have, you can be proud of them, they all worked hard for you this past year. On behalf of the executive board, we ask that you give your 2007 officers the same support you gave us.

Thank you all again for a great year.

"God Bless America"

Jim, N4GSA
President, GSARC

The Secretary is Talking

All members received hard copy of newsletter this month due to computer problems. Thanks to our President, Jim and Jim Wood for their input for this month's newsletter. Beachfest was a success, thanks to each of you for the part played in helping to make this another fine hamfest. It is time to vote for officers again this Monday night. The only office open for vote is the "Secretary". James Reiner will fill that position provided you vote him in (smile). Please come out. Welcome Dal Williams (W4YQY) and Chuck Helms (awaiting call sign) to the GSARC.

Newly Elected

Thanks Jim Wood

Patricia Hensley, N4ROS, has been elected Vice Director of the Roanoke Division. Ballots were counted November 17 at ARRL Headquarters. She defeated incumbent Rev. Les Shattuck, K4NK, 2280 to 996. A total of 3281 ballots were received; five ballots were not able to be counted, being declared spoiled or invalid. The three year term begins at noon EST, January 1, 2007.

Hensley, a retired school principal from Richburg, South Carolina, has served in ARRL volunteer positions for the past 15 years, serving as South Carolina Section Manager from February 2000 to December 2002. She is a recipient of the ARRL Instructor of the Year award and is currently the South Carolina state director for Air Force MARS.

Hensley ran on a platform wanting to make the term "Amateur Radio operator" a highly respected title. She said she feels, "an Amateur Radio license no longer fosters respect from community and national leaders. Even FEMA finds it 'more comfortable' to hire part-time individuals to provide emergency communications because amateurs are 'volunteers.'"

She went on to acknowledge that ARRL membership is declining, and leadership positions are "filled by default because few want to serve. More is required than smiling faces behind a hamfest table to solve these problems." She said she sees a restrictive covenants and interference to frequencies as major issues affecting the amateur radio community.

Stepping forward to run for election to support what she calls "proactive change" she said the members of the Amateur Radio community "must be regarded as individuals who are knowledgeable about our avocation and are willing and competent to serve our communities in time of need."

Rev. Shattuck became Vice Director in 2000 after serving as South Carolina Section Manager. He has been a licensed for over 40 years. In the past, Rev. Shattuck has served as president of QRP ARCI, and is a member of QCWA, the A-1 Operator Club, DXCC, VUCC, FISTS CW Club and ARES/RACES. He is currently serving as pastor of Gilgal United Methodist Church. He lives in Anderson, South Carolina. Les was a member of the Grand Strand ARC for years.

New Question Pool

All of these questions must be removed from the applicable pool(s) no later than 15 December, 2006.

Note that even after the deletions, sufficient questions will remain in the applicable pools to meet the mandated "10 times" rule. Therefore no new questions are being added to the existing pools.

<http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=338>

Also due to the ruling new element pools will be released as follows:

Technician class (Element 2) Pool is effective July 1, 2006 is a valid until June 30, 2010.

General class (Element 3) will be released December 1, 2006 it will become effective July 1, 2007. The current General Pool will now be valid until June 30, 2007.

The Extra class (Element 4) will be released December 1, 2007 and will become effective July 1, 2008. The current Extra Pool will now be valid until June 30, 2008.

New Band Change

Subject: New Phone Band's effective December 15

The FCC's report and order and the WT Docket 04-140, the "omnibus" proceeding that, among other things, greatly expanded of the voice sub-bands on 75, 40 and 15 meters, was published today in the Federal Register.

Since the new rules take effect 30 days after publication in the Register, the effective date the new phone band limits is **December 15, 2006**.

The appropriate pages in the Federal Register may be viewed at http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getpage.cgi?dbname=2006_register&position=all&page=66460

As of December 15:

The 75 Meter phone band will begin at 3.600 kHz, Extra Class; 3.700 kHz, Advanced Class; and 3.800 kHz, General Class. CW privileges for the Novice class will be 3.525 – 3.600 kHz.

The 40 Meter phone band will start at 7.125 kHz, Extra & Advanced Classes; 7.175 kHz, General Class. Novice Class CW privileges move to 7.025 – 7.125 kHz.

The 15 Meter phone band remains the same for Extra & Advanced classes; it will start at 21.275 kHz for the General class. Novice Class CW privileges will start at 21.025 kHz.

The 10 Meter phone band remains the same for all license classes; CW for the Novice class will start at 28.000 kHz.