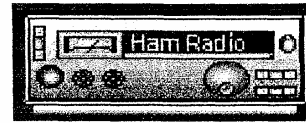


# The Grand Strand Amateur Radio Club



P.O. Box 2135  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29578-2135



GSARC REPEATERS -- 145.11 147.12 444.675 (85.4 tone) 147.330 (85.4 tone)

## GSARC NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2006

### From the Oval Office:

Our Nominating Committee is waiting for your call. ALL offices are open, step up to the plate and take an active part in the management side of our club. The committee consists of: Edward, KF4ECK Chairman - John, WB3FUL - James, KI4JKV - Don, KD4RZW and Ralph, KI4NJZ.

Remember "Beachfest"? It's just around the corner, November 11, 2006. Give Robert, KE4HGB or Edward, KE4ECK a call and offer your assistance in setting up, tearing down and cleaning up. These guys worked hard putting our Beachfest together, let's give them a helping hand.

While we attended our October meeting, the technical crew was hard at work putting our 444.675 repeater back to normal operating condition. WE at the GSARC would like to thank Tom and Al for their hard work.

We need to remember dependable Don, KD4RZW for picking up the key to our meeting room. Thank you Don for doing this every month.

By the time you receive this newsletter, some of our snow birds will be back to our area. We at the Grand Strand Amateur Radio Club "WELCOME" all of you with open arms. See you at breakfast.

Let's try and boost our membership for 2007. Take a good look around your neighborhood, Horry County has a couple hundred hams that don't belong to our radio club. We have so much to offer; the first thing that came to mind is your "FRIENDSHIP". Then the list just goes on and on.

Our Secretary is always looking for your articles for our newsletter. Take a minute and send Robert some juicy ham related information we all would enjoy reading. I enjoyed the Hidden Season for Radio that was sent in last month by Bob, KI4HEE. And especially the article about the Butler ARC that was submitted by Bob, N4XML. Now that one hit close to home, I lived in Butler County PA for 50+ years before I moved here. They really have a gigantic hamfest, they take over a local small airport, with 4 buildings loaded with vendors, and loads of tail gating area with an estimated 150 set ups. You can drive or fly in to this one. This area is so big; clubs from Pittsburgh (40 miles south) use this airport for their hamfest every September.

Remember our meeting, Monday November 6, 2006 at 7 PM at the Santee Cooper Building on Oak Street Myrtle Beach SC.

"God Bless America"

73's  
Jim, N4GSA  
President, GSARC

## **A Few Words from Jim, KF4CJE**

For My Mom Susan:

A special thanks to all GSARC members that sent an E-mail and/or cards regarding the passing of my Mom (October 12, 2006). You folks are the best. Brenda and I truly thank you for your kindness and wonderful thoughts. Warmest Regards,

73, Jim & Brenda Wood / KF4CJE

## **The Secretary is Talking**

Now is the Time to Vote in your local areas November 7th and Grand Strand ARC, December 4th, please do so. If you are interested in becoming an officer in the club, let the nominating committee know by the next meeting or call Edward Jordan 843-248-4592.

## **Beachfest Report**

Tables and Tickets are being sold in great numbers. Keep up the good work of getting the word out for our upcoming Beachfest. Thanks to Jim Wood, volunteering as TALK-IN controller, to each of you taking fliers to other hamfest. Now we are in need of your HELP on November 11th setting and cleanup during Beach Fest 2006. Will attend the next club meeting looking for you.

## **PLEASE WELCOME TO THE GSARC**

Roy Blair, K4HGX, North Myrtle Beach

## **I CAN PICTURE IT NOW**

by Bob Hawkins KI4HEE

The saying goes...."A picture is worth a thousand words..." a saying perfectly suited to describe Slow Scan TV.

The best way to understand Slow Scan TV, (SSTV) is to imagine it as color fax pictures sent over the radio rather than the phone. The pictures are transmitted via tones (1200-2300 HRZ) over the air. There are several simple ways to get setup for slow scan TV, the simplest of which use your computer and software with a hardware interface. There are interface circuits which work excellent and cost less than \$20 to build or nil if from your junk box, and some new software allows you to interface directly to your radio external speaker and mic lines via your computer soundcard. Good conditions can yield images from really long distances; naturally QRM will affect picture quality.

My experience with slow scan has been great fun. I've DX'ed pictures of different people in many different countries throughout the world, and swapped pictures with many regional stations on 6 meters. The quality of the pictures is dependent mostly upon band conditions. Most software gives typical picture resolutions of 320 x 240 in 32 thousand colors. During good signal conditions you can receive pictures at almost photographic quality. Send a Video QSL Card, and be creative!

There are many different sstv software available. I've found one of the best (meaning FREE) software is MMSSTV. You can find it on the web linked to many Ham Radio websites, like [www.qsl.net/kf6ypq/mmsstv.html](http://www.qsl.net/kf6ypq/mmsstv.html) .

Once you've tried it, you're hooked. Imagine being able to swap mug shots with other Amateurs. See who you're talking to. Send diagrams and schematics over the air. It's great. Listen to HF on 14.230 and 14.233 almost anytime, and now some new activity on six meters on 50.680. Don't be afraid to break in for info. The SSTV hams are usually very willing to help other interested parties or help you get started in slow scan. Go for it and I'll see you on the air.

## **THANKS WEB**

ARLB019 FCC releases long-awaited "Omnibus" Amateur Radio Report and Order SB QST ARL ARLB019.

ARLB019 FCC releases long-awaited "Omnibus" Amateur Radio Report and Order ending a protracted waiting period, the FCC's Report and Order in the so-called "Omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, was adopted October 4 and released October 10, 2006. In it, the FCC adopted nearly all of the proposed changes in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released back in 2004. The FCC has:

- + expanded the phone subbands in the 75 and 40 meter bands;
- + permitted auxiliary stations to transmit on portions of the 2 meter band;
- + permitted the use of spread spectrum on 222-225 MHz;
- + permitted amateurs to retransmit communications from the International Space Station;
- + permitted amateur licensees to designate a specific Amateur Radio club to receive their call sign in memoriam;
- + prohibited an applicant from filing more than one application for a specific vanity call sign;
- + eliminated certain restrictions on equipment manufacturers;
- + permitted Amateur Radio stations in Alaska and surrounding waters more flexibility in providing emergency communications;
- + clarified that "amateur stations may, at all times and on all frequencies authorized to the control operator, make transmissions necessary to meet essential communication needs and to facilitate relief actions";
- + deleted the frequency bands and segments specified for RACES stations;
- + deleted the requirement for public announcement of test locations and times.

In addition, the FCC took several other miscellaneous actions. In "refarming" the frequencies currently authorized to Novice and Technician Plus licensees, the Commission increased the voice segments for General, Advanced and Amateur Extra licensees.

On 75 meters, Generals will be able to use voice from 3800-4000 kHz, an increase of 50 kHz. Advanced class licensees will be able to use voice from 3700-4000, an increase of 75 kHz, and Amateur Extras will be able to use voice from 3600 to 4000 kHz, a generous increase of 150 kHz.

On 40 meters, Advanced and Extra Class licensees will be able to use voice from 7125-7300 kHz, an increase of 25 kHz. General class licensees will be able to use voice on 7175-7300 kHz, an increase of 50 kHz.

On 15 meters, General class operators will have phone privileges on 21275-21450 kHz, an increase of 25 kHz.

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, expressed the ARRL's gratitude to the FCC Commissioners in a letter dated October 11: "On behalf of the ARRL and the Commission's licensees in the Amateur Radio Service I want to express appreciation for your release yesterday of the Report and Order in WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) amending Part 97 of the Commission's Rules. The Commission's action in clearing this pending proceeding will assist the Amateur Radio Service in meeting its objectives, particularly with regard to providing emergency and public service communications."

The changes will go into effect 30 days after the R&O is published in the Federal Register.

**CLUB MEETING MONDAY NITE, NOVEMBER 6, 2006- 7pm**