

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

June 2005 Newsletter

CARS Web Site --- <http://www.qsl.net/wa4usn>

*The CARS club meets the second Monday of each month at Ryan's Steak House on Highway 61.
The next club meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on Monday, June 13, 2005*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

During a May 13 appearance on NBC's The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, a pair of veteran Ham radio operators showed the power of the workhorse mode of CW. The pair was able to pass a full copy message at 28-30 WPM using the 170-year-old Morse code more rapidly than a pair of teen-aged text messengers equipped with modern cell phones, and using the latest text messaging abbreviations. The victory replicated a similar challenge that took place recently in Australia, and which received significant publicity on the Internet. Both competitions provided immense encouragement to Amateur Radio's community of CW operators, and delivered an important message about the basic communications infrastructure inherent in the hobby of Amateur Radio.

Upcoming on June 25-26, Field Day will provide another opportunity to deliver our message about the fundamental communications capability of Amateur Radio to our community.

Doc (W4MUR) has coordinated a wide range of operating opportunities, and no matter your license class, you can enjoy the camaraderie of other Hams, and perhaps get the motivation you need to take that next license exam. In addition, the community will see that amateur radio is alive and well. I look forward to our "Get on the Air" or GOTA station again this year, which helps us encourage everyone to take part. Bring your families and invite your friends. Besides being a major national contest, Field Day presents us the basic challenge of how to communicate when commercial infrastructure fails. It's a fundamental challenge of increasing importance as we once again enter into hurricane season.

Please make plans to participate in Field Day. And please make plans to attend our June club meeting on

Monday, June 13, 2005 at Ryan's Steak House on Highway 61. I look forward to seeing you there.

73, Ken (AF4ZV)

EMERGENCY PLANNING

The South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) has developed a plan for dealing with the aftermath of an earthquake in the Tri-County area. They forecast that the damage caused by an earthquake the magnitude of the one in the 1800s would create 18 virtual islands in the Tri-County area. They have chosen to call those virtual islands "Operational Areas".

It is generally recognized that such a major earthquake would severely impair communications. It is also recognized that the amateur radio operators living or working in those 18 Operational Areas will probably be the first ones to be able to communicate. The people in those 18 Operational Areas would be dependent on those hams. Charlie Miller, AE4UX (ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator for SC) attended a Communication Architecture meeting at the SCEMD offices on Tuesday 5/17/05. At that meeting, Charlie was asked to help in the planning for such a situation. As with any plan of this type, the first step is to take inventory of the resources that are available. We were specifically asked to identify the amateur radio operators in each of the 18 Operational Areas. Beyond just identifying the hams, we will need to develop a plan of action for them to be able to make contact with those who can help them.

Some of the things we will need to consider: What radios do they have? What antenna systems do they have? Will the antennas be totally destroyed by the earthquake or just need to be reinstalled? What power sources do they have? The local repeaters will most

likely be out of service. How far can the ham who is isolated in an Operational Area transmit? Who would he/she transmit to?

You need to know that the SCEMD plans do call for the use of three deployable communications teams. Those teams will be airlifted into each of the three counties. One member of each of the deployable communications teams will be a ham. He/She will be bringing equipment with them. However, it will take time for them to be transported and to get setup.

Your County Emergency Coordinator needs to gather this information as soon as possible. Please contact him and advise him of your availability and the emergency capability you have at your location.

Berkeley County EC: Vince Lombardo, KI4AOC, Phone: 572-4378, Email: llorvini@knology.net
Charleston County EC: ???
Dorchester County EC: Riley Stone, K4HYY, Phone: 832-9107, Email: k4hyy@sc.rr.com

Submitted by Riley, K4HYY

Radio Demonstrations at DuBose Middle School

On Monday, April 25th four CARS members hosted "Amateur Radio Demonstrations" at DuBose Middle School. Ed Walker, KQ4DC, set up PSK31 for receiving only. Ed Walker and Ed Steebel, K3IXD, explained how PSK31 works. Everyone including Susannah Roth, KE4RV, had a good time discussing amateur radio topics from repeater contacts to DXing to emergency services to Field Day with the students and parents plus Mr. Burke, principal of DMS. They all had so much fun that they agreed to come back next year and help Alene Wilkins, KG4NKD, with the radio club, K4DMS. Ed Walker was having such a good time that he had to be dragged from the building as it was being shut down. And if you would like a shot (or 2 or 3) at educating 400+ students, faculty and staff about the many aspects of Amateur Radio, please contact Alene. (Photos in e-mail version)

Alene, KG4NKD

MAY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Beginning Cash - 5/1/05	\$1,034.31
Cash Receipts:	
May Raffle	25.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - Newsletter	(64.37)
Bryce Myers - Equipment/Repairs	(176.12)
Bell South - April	(34.75)
Bell South - May	(35.85)
ARRL - KE4SSW - George Lee	(34.00)
Memorial - Tracy Bible's Father	(25.00)
Ending Cash - 5/31/05	\$689.22
Savings HT	\$ 26.56
Savings ST - CD	\$1,257.05

Linda NeSmith - K4MPY

MINUTES of MAY MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society
Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61
Monday, May 9, 2005 - 7:30 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by Vice President, Doug Clark, KU4OC, at 7:30 PM on May 9, 2005 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

Introductions:

There were 28 members and 4 guests present.

Secretary's Minutes/ Report: Tracey KG4HTW

In a motion by Riley (K4HYY), seconded by Bryce (K4LXF), the minutes were approved as published in the May 2005 CARS Carrier.

Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

The treasurer's report was published in the May 2005 CARS Carrier. The report was accepted as information.

Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

Jenny reminded everyone that the Hamfest Committee party is scheduled for June 4, 2005 at Bryce & Jenny's river house in Orangeburg. Volunteers who helped with the Hamfest are invited to attend. For more information and to RSVP (by May 27th), please contact Jenny Myers.

Field Day: Doc W4MUR

Doc is still seeking volunteers to help with Field Day. A sign up sheet was passed around for the event, which will be June 25 and 26. Set up will start at 2 PM on Friday. Operations start at 2 PM on Saturday until 2 PM on Sunday. Doc needs help for setup on Friday and tear down on Sunday.

Also, Doc noted interest in having a PSK31 station in operation, but needs a volunteer to coordinate and provide equipment. Sam KX4SAM offered to assist with this station. Additional discussion included ensuring volunteers were available to copy the WIAW message and that refreshments, including Saturday lunch & dinner along with breakfast on Sunday morning, would continue in the CARS tradition.

Museum Ships: Ed KQ4DC

Ed recognized Alene KG4NKD, Fred KG4YGP, and Bryce K4LXF for their help with the Subs on the Air event on April 30th. There were 16 contacts during the 7.5 hour period due to challenging propagation conditions. Ed noted several international contacts and one contact with Moose Island, ME. The next event will be the annual Museum Ships on the Air scheduled for July 16th & 17th and more information will be available at the July meeting. The club has three vessels with stations that need staffing: Yorktown, Laffey, and Clamagore.

Races: Doug KU4OC for Ken AF4ZV

Doug reported for Ken that the Charleston Running Club is planning a run that will go over both of the old bridges once the new bridge opens. The date cannot be set until the highway department sets the opening for the new bridge. It is expected that the Running Club will request CARS support for communications.

Emergency Prep:

No new information to report.

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF

The repeaters are okay. The Seabrook repeater is not linked as the painting project is still incomplete.

Due to some problems with a Yorktown transceiver, three club engineers agreed that the unit needed repair

and it was sent to Kenwood. The total cost was \$141.27. In addition, reeds were purchased for the Micor repeaters. The cost was \$34.85. These purchases were made in accordance with the Jan club motion that provides for up to \$500 between meetings for purchases necessary to maintain club equipment/linked network with three engineers' approval.

NETS:

No new information to report.

Interference: Glenn WB4UIV

Glenn reported that he had received notification this evening of another source of interference; however, the report did not provide specific details. Glenn will follow-up.

Newsletter/ CARS Carrier: John WA4GPS

Club members can sign up to receive the electronic CARS Carrier via the Yahoo groups web site by sending an e-mail to WA4USN-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and including only the word subscribe in the subject line. Note that the E-mail version of the CARS Carrier is now being sent as a straight E-mail message with no attachments to open and, when available, has large color pictures of club activities.

Web Page: Brian K1BPW

No new information to report. The web site is located at URL www.qsl.net/wa4usn.

Education and VE Testing: Doug KU4OC for Ed KC4ED

A technician class will be scheduled as soon as enough people can be registered. The next VE testing session will be held in June. The schedule for regular VE Testing runs every other month on even numbered months. Testing will be scheduled on the second Saturday of these months. Testing will continue to be at Trident Technical College – Bldg 400 – Room 104 [room location may vary] at 9:00 AM. Cost is now \$14 and 2 forms of ID [one with picture] are required. Doug reminded everyone that Ed (KC4ED) needs to step down as the VE Team Leader, and that he is looking for a replacement. Those interested should contact Ed.

School Programs: Alene KG4NKD - DuBose Middle School Radio Club - K4DMS

Ed shared a report on the group [Ed KQ4DC, Susannah K4RVF & Ed K3IXD] who participated in the demonstration of amateur radio at DMS for PACT night on April 25th.

Alene reported that PACT night went well and recognized Alan WB4RMG for providing a demonstration using TV and noted that Sam KX4SAM will be providing a demonstration on PSK31. Alene announced that on May 24th she would like to be able to provide a special VE test session for the students in the DMS radio club and would contact Ed KC4ED for more information. There are currently six students participating in the DMS radio club. And, on a side note, the satellite antenna is on site but still a work in progress.

Membership: Bryce K4LXF

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: Gary Barnette – KI4JSB
soon to be W4MDP
Tom Lufton – WA4DAX
Harold Sparks – K4GQG

2nd Reading: Alan Seig - WB5RMG

Associate Membership: None.

In a motion by Riley K4HYY, seconded by James WD4JHF, the club approved the membership of Alan Seig by a vote of acclamation.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Announcements: None.

Drawing: The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by George Lee, KE4SSW.

A motion to adjourn was made by Riley K4HYY, seconded by Bob W4HGW.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey, KG4HTW.

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