

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

September 2006 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, September 11, 2006

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As a club affiliate of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), this month I want to start by ensuring our club membership is aware of an important decision this Fall dealing with the leadership of our Division within the ARRL structure – the Roanoke Division. The ARRL Roanoke Division Vice Director's seat is up for contest, and I think it is important for us to take this election seriously, since at this national level, these representatives are making decisions shaping the future of amateur radio in our region and, indeed across the nation.

Former South Carolina Section Manager Patricia Hensley (N4ROS), and the incumbent, the Rev Leslie Shattuck (K4NK) are the two candidates vying for this important post. In 2000, Hensley became South Carolina Section Manager (SM), but she lost her bid for a second term to our current SM (and new CARS member), Jim Boehner (N2ZZ). We will try to publish more information on each of the candidates' platforms as the election shapes up. I urge you take a close look at these candidates and participate in the vote. If you are not an ARRL member, please consider giving this important organization the support of your membership (see www.arrl.org for more information).

On other business, Tracey and I visited the Hurricane Expo on August 26 at the Gaillard Auditorium, and enjoyed seeing a number of CARS members amongst the group supporting the ARES demonstration in the tent alongside other emergency preparedness displays. The display had VHF/UHF and HF radios in operation, and some very good descriptions of the equipment and their purpose on placards near the stations for the public to learn more about amateur

radio. It was good to see other groups within the tent come by to talk to the Hams present – I think I saw Rob Fowler from television Channel 2 stop in.

Coming up on October 7, CARS will support the Isle of Palms Connector Run. And later in the month, on October 21-22, we will have members supporting multiple sites (including operations from the USS Yorktown) for the Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air (see URL <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/jota.html>). And Alene Wilkins is seeking Elmers for her Big Project club at DuBose. As usual, our membership is staying active, and there are many ways to participate and contribute to the future of our hobby. See the minutes from our August meeting inside this issue of the Carrier for more details.

We have had a great crowd at our meetings all summer, averaging around 40 members and guests. As we get into the dog days of summer, come take a break from the heat and join us on September 11 at Ryan's Steak House on Highway 61.

73, Ken (AF4ZV)

CARS Web Site

A number of members have begun regularly using the CARS web site. As this important medium for getting information out to club members grows in usage, we have begun looking at options for optimizing performance of the site. This is especially important as we add photographs and other large files to the site. We have greatly appreciated the services offered by the QSL.net hosting service over the years. This was where CARS had its first presence on the web; however, we may be growing larger than that site can comfortably support. We have been experimenting with a web site donated by Sam (KX4SAM), and have had some encouraging results. In order to conduct this experiment, Sam assisted in duplicating the existing

CARS web site on his site, and acquired the web domain name www.wa4usn.org. Please take time to visit both sites, www.qsl.net/wa4usn and the new site, to give some feedback on the direction the club should take with this growing line of communication to the club membership.

AUGUST FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Beginning Cash - 8/1/06	\$1,194.98
Cash Receipts:	
August Raffle	33.00
Jenny Myers – Membership Dues	760.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - August Newsletter	(32.36)
ARRL – Sammy Shuford - Raffle	(39.00)
Bell South – August	(37.15)
Ending Cash - 8/31/06	\$1,879.47
Savings HT	\$ 26.81
Savings ST - CD	\$1,306.45

Linda NeSmith - K4MPY

MINUTES of AUGUST MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61
Monday, August 14, 2006 - 7:30 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President, Kenneth Bible, AF4ZV, at 7:30 PM on August 14, 2006 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

Introductions:

There were 35 members and 6 guests present.

Secretary's Minutes/ Report: Tracey KG4HTW

In a motion by David, KI4FSC, and second by Bryce, K4LXF, the July 2006 meeting minutes were approved as published in the August 2006 CARS Carrier.

Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

The Treasurer's report was accepted as information as published in the August 2006 CARS Carrier.

Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

Jenny reminded everyone of the date for the next hamfest: February 4, 2007. Flyers are ready and some shall be sent to the Shelby hamfest.

Field Day: Doc W4MUR

Doc provided a report on the results of Field Day 2006: CW-494 points, Digital-312 points, Phone-603 points, Bonus Points-950 for a total score of 3,768. Because we are missing the list of operators for the GOTA station, these points will not count.

Museum Ships: Ed KQ4DC

No new information to report.

Emergency Prep: Bill WA4WGP, Charleston; John W4HMK, Dorchester; Vince KI4AOC, Berkeley

Ken thanked John, WA4GPS, for coordinating an update from guest, Vince Lombardo, KI4AOC, on behalf of Berkeley County. Vince noted that the Berkeley County Supervisor is on board with emergency communications planning. The County has provided funding for antennas at shelter sites. Presently, there are enough volunteers to staff each shelter site. There was a donation of batteries for backup power and plans are to have all equipment in place over the next 3-4 months; however, all volunteers are equipped with mobile emergency equipment until permanent equipment is installed. More info about the Berkeley County ARES can be found at home.comcast.net/~dzabawa/BerkARES.htm.

On August 26, 2006 New Home Charleston and WCBN News 2 have partnered to present the Hurricane Expo, which will be held at the Gaillard Auditorium, as part of the Custom Home & Remodel Show. The all-day expo is to inform Charleston area citizens on how they can protect themselves before, during and after a hurricane. Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester ARES® will operate a Special Event Station, using generator power and temporary antennas.

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF

Bryce noted that the repeater network is functioning at normal levels. No major issues to report.

JOTA [Jamboree On The Air] Request for Assistance : Oscar KG4MA

Oscar provided some background information on JOTA and the important role scouting has played in many young men's lives over the years. In addition, he noted that this is the 49th year for the joint effort of Amateur Radio and the Boy Scouts to conduct JOTA.

The 2006 event runs from Saturday, October 21st through Sunday, October 22nd. Volunteers are needed to assist with stations at Laurel Hill Plantation [Field Day conditions] and on the Yorktown. For more information on JOTA, visit: www.arrl.org/ead/jota.html. A motion will be brought up under new business.

NETS: Linda K4MPY - Newcomers Net; Susannah KE4RVF - ARES Net

No new information to report. The list of Nets with times and frequencies may be found on the CARS website.

Races: Ken AF4ZV

Ken reported that he has been contacted by a race official from the Isle of Palms Connector run to request assistance with communications for the upcoming race. The 2006 race will be Saturday, October 7th and starts at 8am. A motion will be brought up under new business.

Interference: Glenn WB4UIV

No new information to report.

Newsletter/CARS Carrier: John WA4GPS

Ken, AF4ZV, thanked John for publishing the newsletters and updates to the website, and encouraged the membership to visit the website and noted that we are trying to get more data on how members are using the website to improve the site.

Web Page: John WA4GPS

The address is www.qsl.net/wa4usn.

Education and VE Testing: Sheila KT4YW and Linda K4MPY

New location for holding VE Testing: Trident Hospital, near the cafeteria. The schedule for regular ARRL VE testing occurs on the second Saturday of even numbered months. The next test session is to be on the second Saturday in October. Cost is still \$14 and 2 forms of ID [one with picture] are required. Contact Sheila at 871-4368 or Linda at 552-3106 for more information or visit the CARS website.

There will be a special testing session on August 17, 2006 to accommodate an individual who is confined to their bed. This announcement is to serve as public notice of the event. Anyone interested in more information should contact either Sheila or Linda.

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

Alene reported that school is back in session and the Dubose radio club will have its first meeting of the year on Tuesday, August 22nd at 4:00PM. The club normally meets weekly on Tuesdays from 4:00PM to 5:30PM at Dubose Middle School. On Friday, September 8th, the club will plan a special activity and the meeting will run from 4:00PM to 8:00PM. The club plans to participate in both the Fall and Spring "Club Roundup" events. Alene thanked Bryce, K4LXF; Doc, W4MUR; and David, KI4FSC for their help with re-installing the club antenna. As a follow-up report, it was noted that the training DVD approved for purchase at the last meeting is no longer available for purchase.

Membership: Bryce K4LXF

As an item of interest to the membership, Bryce noted that Bill WA4WGP had recently had some surgery, but is recovering well at home.

For the membership report, Bryce noted that the club has 153 total members and 54.68% of members are also ARRL members. With this number of members, it takes 28 full members to make a quorum at our club meetings. There are 139 Regular members, 14 Associate members, and 3 Charter members. Classes of licenses in CARS: 0 Novices, 47 Technicians, 31 Generals, 9 Advanced, 59 Extras, and 7 associate members have no license.

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: None

2nd Reading: William Olendorf, Jr. - K4KOA
Robert P. Jennings - KB4FZE
Jim F. Boehner - N2ZZ [SM]
Charlie W. Miller - AE4UX [SEC]
Raymond Borelli - W9RKF
Terry L. Fox - WB4JFI
Paul T. Matthews - KB4GYT
Robert K. Besley - K4NJN

Associate Membership:

None

In a motion by Tom, K4WJC, second by Doc, W4MUR, all eight candidates applying for regular

membership were approved for membership in the CARS club.

Old Business: None

New Business:

JOTA: In a motion by David, KI4FSC, second by David, KB9UJF, the club approved its support for the upcoming JOTA event. A sign-up sheet was passed around to get contact information for interested members. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Oscar Meyer, KG4MA.

IOP Connector Run/Walk for the Child: In a motion by Glen, WB4UIV, second by David, KI4FSC, the club approved participation in race communication support for the 2007 run.

A sign up sheet was passed around for volunteers to sign-up. For more information, contact Ken Bible, AF4ZV.

2006 Coastal Carolina Fair booth: Jenny, WA4NGV, reminded the club of this upcoming event to be held October 26th – November 4th. CARS usually staffs a booth during the Fair to provide information on Amateur Radio. In a motion by Bryce, K4LXF, and second by David, KI4FSC, the club approved having a booth at the 2006 Coastal Carolina Fair. Linda, K4MPY, agreed to coordinate volunteers to help.

Reimbursement request -Jenny (WA4NGV) noted that she and Bryce had purchased stamps in the amount of \$82.00 in order to mail out reminder notices for members delinquent in paying dues. She requested reimbursement for the cost. A motion was made by Bryce (K4LXF), and it was seconded by Tim (KD5YUC). Motion was approved.

Announcements:

QSL Card from W1AW: Tom, K4WJC, reported that after exhausting all possible contacts on PSK31 he attempted a contact via RTTY. The first contact was with ARRL Headquarters, W1AW, and we received the QSL card just recently.

Hamfest Committee Party Photos: Alvin, AD0AO, shared pictures taken from the 2006 Hamfest Committee party at the River house.

Drawing: The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Sam Shufford, KX4SAM.

A motion to adjourn was made by Doc, W4MUR, and seconded by David, KI4FSC.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey, KG4HTW.

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