

# CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

January 2007 Newsletter

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

*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, January 8, 2007*

## HAMFEST REPORT

Hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and that the up coming Year will be all you can hope for. The next big thing is the **Hamfest February 3rd 2007**. We hope you received your prize tickets and are selling them. We only have a month to get them sold, If you need more I will have them at the meeting or call me and I will get them to you (phone # 747-2324). Please try to attend the January meeting, we will ask you to sign up to help at the Hamfest. Hope to see you at the meeting. 73, Jenny WA4NGV

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Last year at this time, I wrote about the definition of "tradition", and we did a great job of maintaining our traditions in 2006. And we topped it off with our traditional Holiday Party, that turned out wonderfully thanks to the hard work of Bryce (K4LXF), Jenny (WA4NGV) and several other club members.

I did want to recognize the extra special effort by Valerie Fleishman (no call, but working on it?) to put together some special treats – chocolate spoons, and packets of "snowman poop", or more politely, mini marshmallows.



We start the new year with Amateur Radio heading into another storm. Broadband Over Powerline (BPL) technology has been given unprecedented leniency by the FCC with respect to interference with licensed services such as Amateur Radio, and ARRL has responded with a planned lawsuit that may run for several years.

In addition, this month, the FCC summarily dropped the morse code requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes - deeming the current regime of written examinations "sufficient to determine whether a person is qualified to be issued an Amateur Radio operator license."

Once again, we find that the "traditions" of Amateur Radio, and the training ground for good operating practices that have distinguished our hobby from unlicensed services have been annexed by expediency. The FCC failed to see the benefit of keeping the challenge of the code in place to ensure a higher degree of dedication and conduct in the Amateur service stating, "The record is devoid of a demonstrated nexus between Morse code proficiency and on-the-air conduct...".

So, going forward into 2007, we need to keep our eyes on the future of Amateur Radio. CARS provides a solid foundation from which the entry-level amateur can continue to build knowledge and skills. A VE exam alone cannot do the job. Education and self-policing keeps our hobby at a high level of conduct. And part of self-policing is making sure that we get new Hams off to a good start. For it's so much easier to reinforce good habits than to break the bad!

In my invocation for the holiday party, I asked for guidance to find the wisdom in every voice. While we may have divergent opinions on issues such as those above, we all share a common interest in the hobby. Let's make sure that we're always looking for that kernel of wisdom!

Please join me at our next club meeting at Ryan's Steak House on January 8th.

73, Ken (AF4ZV)

## MINUTES of NOVEMBER MEETING

### Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61  
Monday, November 13, 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 November 13, 2006 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

#### Introductions:

There were 31 members and 4 guests present.

#### Secretary's Minutes/ Report: Tracey KG4HTW

In a motion by Mike, WA4HVP, and second by Tim, KD5YUC, the October 2006 meeting minutes were approved as published in the November 2006 CARS Carrier.

#### Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

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

#### 2006 Coastal Carolina Fair – Linda K4MPY

Linda reported that it was a great year at the Fair and the displays were excellent. Linda thanked everyone who helped and noted that the club had three pages of individuals expressing an interest in taking amateur radio classes [even local weatherman Bill Walsh]. Jenny, WA4NGV, noted that nice 'cloth' table clothes in the club colors were purchased to improve the display and save for next year, as they are re-useable.

#### JOTA –Jamboree on the Air: David KI4FSC

David shared results from the event, noting that six groups of scouts [31 adults & 44 scouts] visited the Yorktown and there were 65 scouts visiting Laurel Hill. A letter has been received by one scout requesting additional information about amateur radio. David extended thanks to all who helped with the event and asked folks to save the date for next year, which will occur in the 3rd week of October 2007.

#### Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

Jenny announced that annual Hamfest prize tickets are now available and each member needs to pickup their envelope before leaving the meeting. Everyone at the meeting can help save on postage by taking their tickets, since any not picked up will have to be mailed.

#### Field Day: Doc W4MUR

No new information to report.

#### Museum Ships: Ed KQ4DC

David KI4FSC reported that the next event will be June 9th – June 10th 2007.

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

Charleston: No new information to report.

Dorchester: No new information to report. However, emergency planning meetings occur the 2nd Saturday of each month and other hams are welcome.

Berkeley: No new information to report.

#### Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF

Bryce reported that the repeater network is functioning well at this time. In addition, the HEARTS network is also doing well. The newest addition to the network is a site in Walterboro. Both the CARS & TARC clubs link up with HEARTS at least once a week on Sunday nights for the emergency services net. One goal of the HEARTS network is to be connected state-wide and this goal is closer to reality given the latest addition to the steering group, Mr. John Crocket. Mr. Crocket is a ham in Columbia who also works with SCETV and has been very helpful to the project.

On a related note, Doc W4MUR, raised the issue of practicing the handling of formal message traffic during nets. Doc offered to initiate the first messages and explained that forms were available at the meeting tonight to assist anyone interested in participating and honing their skills.

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

The list of Nets with times and frequencies may be found on the CARS website.

#### Races: Ken AF4ZV

Ken has not received any formal requests for assistance at this time. He anticipates a request soon for the annual Festivelo Bike event, as they sent an email to him noting an upcoming planning meeting.

#### Interference: Bryce K4LXF

Bryce noted that there is a repeater in Twin City, GA which operates on the same frequency as the '79 Repeater and from time-to-time traffic from GA gets into the local repeater. In addition, it was noted that

Comcast cable has a channel that periodically has to be tuned to alleviate interference on the '25 Repeater.

**Newsletter/ CARS Carrier:** John WA4GPS

John noted that newsletter is available via USPS mail, email, and via the club website. Anyone interested in receiving the email version should send an email to John Meyers.

**Web Page:** John WA4GPS

The old [www.qsl.net/wa4usn](http://www.qsl.net/wa4usn) web site now automatically transfers to the new [www.wa4usn.org](http://www.wa4usn.org) web site after an eight second delay.

**Education and VE Testing:** Sheila KT4YW and Linda K4MPY

ARRL VE Testing is held at Trident Hospital—check with front desk for room location. The schedule for regular testing occurs on the second Saturday of even numbered months. The next test session is to be on December 9, 2006. 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.

**School Programs:** Alene KG4NKD – DuBose Middle School Radio Club – K4DMS

Alene reported on the recent School Clubs Roundup event, noting that the school had a successful event; although, nationwide the numbers were down compared with last year contacts. The students were able to use PSK31 and got several foreign contacts too.

**Membership:** Bryce K4LXF

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: None

2nd Reading: Sandy McNeil, KG4ECX  
Tom McNeil, W4TEM

Associate Membership: None

In a motion by John, WA4GPS, seconded by Mike, WA4HVP, Sandy McNeil, KG4ECX and Tom McNeil, W4TEM, were approved for membership as CARS Club Regular members.

**Old Business:**

Holiday Party – Jenny WA4NGV

Jenny reminded everyone of the date & time: December 11th at 7:30PM, which is the regular date for the club meeting. Invitations are available at the meeting tonight—please note the cost is \$12.50/person or \$25/ couple. We are adding a new tradition for the holiday party: anyone interested in participating in a gift exchange should bring a wrapped gift keeping the cost to \$10.

Jenny also noted that at the last meeting a request was made to appropriate \$200 for the holiday dinner deposit. However, only \$150 was needed and now two rolls of stamps are needed to send out club mailings. In a motion by Jenny, second by Tracey, KG4HTW, the club approved using the \$50 leftover from the holiday party deposit to be used for purchasing postage stamps.

DHEC Request for Assistance - Sandy KG4ECX

Sandy reported that as a result of activity at the Fair and the N. Charleston Convention center, the following Saturday 300 people received flu vaccinations. Thanks to all who participated and helped get the word out.

**New Business:**

New Rosters Printed:

In a motion by Bryce, K4LXF, second by Sonja , WA4WVD, the club approved reimbursing Bryce \$94.70 for the cost of printing new rosters for the club membership.

Coastal Carolina Fair Expenses:

In a motion by Jenny, WA4NGV, second by Tracey, KG4HTW, the club approved reimbursing Jenny \$86.56 for the following expenses for the booth at the 2006 fair: Candy-\$17.12, Table Cloths-\$43.94, Brochures printing-\$25.50.

**Announcements:**

None

**Drawing:** The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Tom McNeil, W4TEM.

A motion to adjourn was made by, David, KI4FSC, and seconded by Bill, WA4WGP.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey (KG4HTW).

**Charleston Amateur Radio Society**  
Annual Holiday Party at Omar Shrine Temple  
At Patriots Point, Mount Pleasant, SC  
Monday, December 11, 2006 – 7:30 PM

**MINUTES:**

A short business session of the Charleston Amateur Radio Society was called in advance of the club's Holiday Party. Club President, Kenneth Bible, AF4ZV, called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM on December 11, 2006 at the Omar Shrine Temple, in Mt. Pleasant, SC.

**Introductions:**

No formal introductions were held. The president welcomed all in attendance. He thanked all who worked on organizing the Holiday Party.

**Membership:** Bryce K4LXF

Regular Membership:

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: William Michael McCormick, WB4ZOE

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: None

Associate Membership: John Long, W4TWW

In a motion by John, WA4GPS second by David, KI4FSC, the club approved the associate membership for John Long.

**Motion to adjourn** was made by David, KI4FSC, second by Bryce, K4LXF.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey, KG4HTW



A family participating in Festivelo. Notice the one wheel trailer for the youngest family member. See additional Festivelo photos and Christmas Party photos on the WA4USN web site.

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