

CARS CARRIER



Charleston Amateur Radio Society

April 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, April 9, 2007*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to Spring! Not only are the temperatures rising, but also the pace of events in the amateur radio community. There are a lot of activities in which to partake, so I encourage everyone to come to our meetings, keep your newsletter handy, and check the club website at www.wa4usn.org from time to time. Weather Spotter class information is on the web site now. Also, John Meyers (WA4GPS) is using email on select occasions to put out bulletins to the membership.

I have repeated a couple of times here in this column the need for experienced hams to tutor – or “Elmer” – the many newcomers to the hobby. A recent article sent to me punctuates why this is so important. Apparently, some Technician licensees who gained new privileges February 23 remain unaware or uninformed as to what they may and may not do on the HF bands, says ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson (N1ND). Technicians who have never passed a Morse code test now have CW privileges on certain segments of 80, 40, and 15 meters - plus CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on certain segments of 10 meters. The issue is that technicians have no phone privileges on any HF band other than 10 meters. So, these hams got some band privileges, but because they never had to learn the only mode available to them on those bands, they are really constrained as to what they can do with the new privileges. I can imagine this must seem a little bit of a letdown. Apparently, some of these new technicians were led to believe that their privileges allow them to use digital voice on other bands; however, FCC regulations are very clear that voice is voice – digitized or not – and it's not permitted in non-phone band segments. But, there is nothing to stop these newcomers from learning code. In fact, with a little

encouragement, and without a test requirement looming, this might become a much more enjoyable experience. As responsible amateur radio operators, it's always good to refresh our understanding of the frequency privileges we have, especially with all of the changes coming about last month. (See <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.html>.) We all know we have to operate within our privileges or risk hearing from the FCC.

A lot of events are coming up fast! We have the Cooper River Bridge Run on March 31, and we'll stay on the move all the way through April, with the After the Bridge Run Ride on April 1, the Gift of Life Run on April 14, the MS Walk on April 21, and Subs-on-the-Air on April 28th from 9am to 4pm, in the radio room on the USS Clamagore. Then it will be time to gear up for Field Day on USS Yorktown in June, and a Museum Ships on the Air event in June as well.

Please join me at our next club meeting at Ryan's Steak House on April 9th to hear all about these upcoming events, and how you can get involved.

73, Ken (AF4ZV)

HAMFEST COMMITTEE & HELPER PARTY -- APRIL 28TH 2007

The Hamfest Committee Party will be held Saturday APRIL 28, 2007. The party will be at Bryce and my river house in Orangeburg. The party is for the Committee and those who helped (family included) with the Hamfest. Lunch will be served at 2:00 PM. Come as early as you like. Spend a fun day at the river. If you enjoy fishing you may want to bring your fishing equipment. Fish bite better early in the morning. Please let me know by April 20th if you and

yours plan to attend, so I will know how much food to buy. If you want anything to drink other than soft drinks, tea or coffee, please bring your own.

Directions: Take 1-26 West to Orangeburg Exit 154A, Hwy. 301. Go toward Orangeburg stay on 301. Once in Orangeburg look for the Edisto River. After you cross the Edisto River take a left turn at the first traffic light onto the Cannon Bridge Road. Go approx. 7 miles and watch for the river house sign on the left. The sign reads MRH. We will monitor our linked repeater system. For talk in, switch to the 147.045 CTCSS 103.5 repeater.

Committee: The committee is invited to come up for the weekend. We will go up on Friday. Weekenders should bring their own bed linens, blanket or sleeping bag, pillow, towels, and wash cloth. We do not have these things up there. Friday night is a covered dish supper. Please bring a covered dish and if you like a dessert. Also if you want any thing to drink other than soft drinks, tea or coffee, please bring your own.

We hope to see you there. I will be out of town so please RSVP to Sheila KT4YW, by April 20, 2007 at 871-4368.

73, Jenny, Co-Chairman, Hamfest Committee

MINUTES of MARCH MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61
Monday, March 12, 2007 - 7:30 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President, Ken Bible, AF4ZV, at 7:40 PM on March 12, 2007 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

Introductions:

There were 30 members and 7 guests present.

Secretary's Minutes/ Report: Tracey KG4HTW

In a motion by, Bryce, K4LXF, and second by John, WA4GPS, the February 2007 meeting minutes were approved as published in the March 2007 CARS Carrier. Two letters were received and will be read under the Race Event report: Cooper River Bridge

Run letter from Julian Smith and National Multiple Sclerosis Society letter from Pat Hood-Miller.

Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

The February 2007 Treasurer's report was accepted as information as printed in the March 2007 CARS Carrier.

Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

No new information to report.

Field Day: Doc W4MUR

Will provide an update at next meeting and request volunteers to begin signing up.

Museum Ships: David KI4FSC

The next event will be the Subs-on-the-Air on April 28th from 9am to 4pm, in the radio room on the Clamagore--assistance is needed with setting up the antenna. Following Subs-on-the-Air will be the June 7th Museum Ships on the air event – more information to follow, closer to the event date.

Races: Ken AF4ZV

Ken reported that the club had received the official request for communication assistance from the Cooper River Bridge Run and read the letter to the group. In a motion by Bryce, K4LXF, and second by Jenny, WA4NGV, the club approved supporting the March 31st race. Doug Clark, KU4OC, is the club contact for the event.

Ken reminded everyone about the "After the Bridge Run Ride" event hosted by the Coastal Cyclists, to which club member John Glover also belongs.

Next Ken reported that the club had received a request for communication assistance from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for their April 21st run/walk event. In a motion by Doc, W4MUR, and second by Bill, WA4WGP, the club approved supporting the NMSS event. Ken noted that he is still looking for a volunteer to coordinate the event for the club, as Mike, WA4HVP, is unable to participate this year.

Doug, KU4OC, provided an update on planning for the annual CRBR event. He asked that volunteers who have signed up confirm their contact information and anyone else interested in participating can still

sign up tonight. The race is Saturday, March 31st at 8:00am and begins in Mt. Pleasant, goes over the bridge and ends up at Marion Square in Charleston. To provide sufficient communication coverage, approximately 35 volunteers are needed, especially near the start line. Parking passes and T-shirts are provided.

Emergency Prep: Bill WA4WGP, Charleston; John W4HNK, Dorchester; Vince KI4AOC, Berkeley

Charleston: Bill reported that the informational meeting scheduled for March 14, 2007 at the Charleston County EOC has to be rescheduled.

Dorchester: No new information to report.

Berkeley: No new information to report.

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF

Bryce noted that we have had some problems with the linking of the repeaters, such as on the Yorktown a week or so ago. The transceiver was replaced and this appears to have resolved the problem.

NETS: Ken AF4ZV for Linda K4MPY - Newcomers Net; Susannah KE4RVF - ARES Net

Ken took an opportunity to thank those who have recently volunteered to be net control operators. In addition, he noted that the TARC and CARS systems are still being linked for some nets.

Interference: Bryce K4LXF

No new information to report.

Newsletter/CARS Carrier/Website: John WA4GPS

Ken noted that John has been tracking activity on the CARS website and we had a significant increase related to Hamfest information. The site is showing a trend of increasing usage.

Education and VE Testing: Ken AF4ZV for Sheila KT4YW and Linda K4MPY

A special test session was held on March 4th, following an intensive fast-paced class. Of the 15 people who participated in the class, 3 “aced” the test and a total of 12 passed. The next regular test session will be on April 14th at 9am at Trident Hospital.

Skywarn: Doug, KU4OC, reported that Joe, KI4DVM, with the National Weather Service will be conducting weather spotter training on 3/19/07 in

Moncks Corner from 6:30pm – 8:30pm and on 4/4/07 at the Charleston County EOC from 7pm to 9pm.

School Programs: David KI4FSC for Alene KG4NKD – DuBose Middle School Radio Club – K4DMS

David noted that the school had a good event where contacts were made with 10-15 different countries and 30 states despite operating fewer hours this year. In addition, the students tested and made a contact using echolink. In addition, as there is interest among some students, the school club may request a chance for a special test session for licensing.

Ken appealed to club members to sign-up for presenting at one of the school club meetings—the students are enthusiastic and ask great questions.

Membership: Bryce K4LXF

Bryce provided updated membership rosters and noted that the club has 149 members presently. Also, ball caps embroidered with the club logo are still available – some on hand this evening. Contact Bryce, if interested -- \$8/cap.

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: Jerry Rudes, W8KDK
Clyde Anderson, KB4NNM
Hector Melendez, KI4UIR
George Kerr, KI4UIV
Carl Thorne, KD8FNJ
Margaret Thorne, KD8FNK

2nd Reading: None

Associate Membership: Karen Rudes
Barbara Kerr

In a motion by Bill, WA4WGP, seconded by John, WA4GPS, Karen Rudes and Barbara Kerr were approved for Associate membership with the CARS club.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None

Announcements: None

Drawing: The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Dennis Powell, KI4LXG.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted by Tracey, KG4HTW.

Local Area Nets

| Days | Time | Name | Freq. | Tone | Location |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|
| Sundays | 8:00 PM | Lowcountry Emergency Services Net | 145.250- 145.410- 146.790- | 123.0 None None | Knightsville Seabrook Is. USS Yorktown |
| Tuesdays | 9:00 PM | Lowcountry Skywarn Net | 146.985- 147.045+ 147.180+ 147.390+ | 123.0 103.5 123.0 123.0 | S'ville Med. St. George Dorchester Trident Med. |
| Thursdays | 8:00 PM | Newcomers Net | | | |
| Sundays Wednesdays | 9:30 PM 8:00 PM | Lowcountry USB PSK63 Net | 144.145 | None | |
| Tuesdays | 8:00 PM | Trident Amateur Radio Club Net | 146.715- 147.270+ 147.345+ | 123.0 123.0 123.0 | Rutledge Tower Dorchester EOC Adams Run |

WALK WITH A SMILE

CARS CARRIER

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423 Beaufort Rd., Summerville, SC 29483-1989

