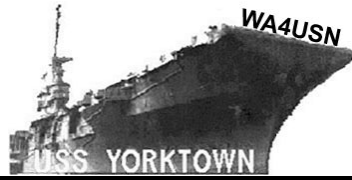


# CARS



# CARRIER



Charleston Amateur Radio Society

August 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, August 13, 2007*

**DUES FOR THE YEAR  
AUGUST 1, 2007 – JULY 31, 2008  
ARE DUE**

**PLEASE PAY ON TIME**

\$20.00/Year, \$10.00 for each additional member in the same household. You may pay at the meeting or mail to membership chairman: **Bryce Myers, K4LXF**  
**2630 Dellwood Ave., North Charleston, SC 29405**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I regret that I missed the chance to write a column for this space last month. I spent all of my available "ham" time at Field Day, and it was much better to get the newsletter out on time! So with that, I'll try to make up some ground this month.

I left from Field Day this year very satisfied that we had done something very special. When someone asked me if we were making a lot of contacts, I had to admit that our number of QSOs was not that impressive. But what we did accomplish was something much more exciting. By that I mean that we had experienced Extra and General Class Hams working side by side with our newer Technicians on operating skills. I watched the excitement in the faces of these new Hams as they gradually gained confidence on the air - picking out distant contacts out of the pile-ups and QRM. There were lots of "high fives" and excitement!

The patience exhibited by these elmers helped capture the excitement of HF operation – the bedrock of amateur radio that is largely out of the reach of the entry license class. Having one-on-one help eased a lot of "mike fright", and by the end of the event

solidified the commitment of some of our newest members to upgrade to higher license classes. Of course, there were a fair number of people who already intended to upgrade, but there were no doubt several folks on the fence about making the effort to study for an upgrade.... They're off the fence now! The ARRL Board recently set a goal of attaining 30,000 new licensees in 2008, increasing in the following years. Our patience and mentorship is the way for us to do our part in helping achieve this goal to create real growth in the Amateur Radio Service.

In addition at Field Day, we had a visit by Ray Toler, Charleston County School Board member, who expressed his amazement at the activities. He had no idea of the range of activity in today's amateur radio. We had a couple of hours with Mr. Toler, and had the chance to talk about amateur radio from several aspects – particularly the many educational aspects of the hobby when incorporated in schools in the context of math, science, geography, and other subjects.

There was also good conversation about how to make next year even better, including discussion on how to make CW more accessible to newcomers. All in all, we had one of the smoothest Field Day operations I have witnessed, thanks to a lot of our members stepping up to help with set-up, moving items up to the club room, and tear-down. Thank you all for your participation, and a special thanks to our Field Day captain, Doc (W4MUR).

In other events, the QSO cards from our Museum Ships event on June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> keep coming in! To me, the volume of activity speaks to the powerful impact of having the USS Yorktown as an operating base. Our operating capability from U.S.S. Yorktown deserves to be a big focus in the coming year. And several other projects are shaping up with Patriot's Point that I hope we'll be talking about soon.

At our July meeting, you elected a set of officers for the 2007-2008 club year. The full slate of existing officers was re-elected for another year. It is indeed a privilege to be re-elected for a sixth year as President of the CARS club. Your faith in me is humbling, and I'm sure our other officers feel similarly.

Looking back in past issues of the CARS Carrier, I found my first article as the newly elected Vice President in September 2001. In that column I wrote, "As we enter into this next year, I would like to have us all strive to be communicators in the finest sense of the word. For my part, I intend to work hard on listening well to each of you about your thoughts for improving the CARS club. And I will give you the best of my knowledge and energy to continue our success together." I think this is a worthwhile pledge to renew with you for the next year.

Please join me at our next club meeting at Ryan's Steak House on August 13<sup>th</sup>. We have a big year ahead!

73, Ken (AF4ZV)

## JULY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Beginning Cash - 7/1/07	\$331.24
Cash Receipts:	
July Raffle	34.00
Jenny Myers – Membership Dues	1,410.00
Jenny Myers – Field Day Refund	69.07
Alene Wilkins – School Club Refund	23.60
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - July Newsletter	(41.03)
ARRL – Sheila Frank - July Raffle	(34.00)
Bell South - July	<u>(37.30)</u>
Ending Cash - 7/31/07	\$1,755.58
Savings HT	\$ 27.01
Savings ST - CD	\$1,306.45

Linda NeSmith - K4MPY

## MINUTES of JULY MEETING

### Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61  
Monday, July 9, 2007 - 7:30 PM

#### MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society meeting was called to order by President, Ken Bible, AF4ZV, at 7:30 PM on July 9, 2007 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

#### Introductions:

There were 36 members and 7 guests present. Among the guests were Phil Hawkins of the Charleston Fire Department, Wes Ratterree, CIO for the City of Charleston, and Dave Grudzien with the Charleston Police Department.

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

In a motion by, Jenny WA4NGV, and second by Sheila KT4YW, the June 2007 meeting minutes were approved as published in the July 2007 CARS Carrier, with the following correction noted for a new Associate Member: Jeanette M. Miller's name was incorrectly reported as "Janet Miller".

#### Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

The June 2007 Treasurer's report was accepted as information, as published in the July 2007 CARS Carrier.

#### Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

Jenny reported that there is now a new manager for the Exchange Club Fairgrounds in Ladson; however, he has not yet been available to meet.

#### Field Day: Doc W4MUR

Ken AF4ZV thanked everyone who participated and helped with Field Day, noting that it was an opportunity for many new hams to get on the air. Jenny reported that Doc does not yet have the final results in yet. Jenny then reported on spending for the event:

The club appropriated \$450.00

Food	\$330.78
Gas	\$ 28.63
ARRL	<u>\$ 21.52</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$380.93</b>
Returned to Treasurer:	<u>\$ 69.07</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$450.00</b>

#### Museum Ships: David KI4FSC

David noted that there are no new events planned at this time. The last museum ships event yielded more

than 600 contacts; consequently, there have been many requests for QSL cards.

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

Charleston: Bill reported that the Charleston Police Department has installed a 2 meter station at the Lockwood Blvd location, thanks to Dave Grudzien. In addition, there are plans to install a station at the Aquarium.

Dorchester: No new information to report.

Berkeley: The Berkeley County EOC has established a radio room outfitted with six different stations to cover amateur radio thru aircraft bands, in addition there are six different antennas on their tower. To read more about this, you may visit the website at [www.w4brk.org](http://www.w4brk.org).

Brian Fletcher [K6NWS], Disaster Preparedness Coordinator for MUSC Clinical Services reported that there is another grant opportunity to request additional supplies to support disaster planning. The scope for this project is to identify locations in the community where medical supplies and communication equipment would be bundled in a package for use in an emergency situation where access to hospitals may be impeded. The deadline is August 1<sup>st</sup> and assistance is needed in selecting appropriate communication equipment for use in this type environment.

**Repeater Report:** Bryce K4LXF

Bryce reported that a replacement repeater has been received for the Seabrook location and John W4HMK is currently working on this installation. In the meantime, the Whitehall repeater, 146.715 is covering this area.

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

Linda reminded members and guests of the Newcomers Net which is active each Thursday at 8pm. It is a great chance for new hams to get on the air and also to schedule a try at serving as net control. Contact Linda if you are interested in serving as net control operator. Also, the Skywarn net is active each Tuesday at 9pm and this week there will be information shared about the new severe weather

warning system. All nets are listed on the CARS website at [www.wa4usn.org](http://www.wa4usn.org).

**Races:** Ken AF4ZV

No new information to report.

**Interference:** Bryce K4LXF

No new information to report.

**Newsletter/CARS Carrier/Website:** John WA4GPS  
John reported the two most popular stops on the CARS website are the Hamfest page and the Items for Sale page. Other pages that receive many "hits" are Upcoming Events, Newsletter, and Repeater lists.

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

Sheila reminded everyone about the VE testing which will occur on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in August. The new General class tests are available.

**School Programs:** Ken, AF4ZV, for Alene KG4NKD - DuBose Middle School Radio Club - K4DMS

No new information to report at this time. School is out until August.

**Membership:** Bryce K4LXF

Dues are due. There are currently 164 members.

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: Fred Zahn, KI4RSA  
Elizabeth Zahn, KI4RKZ

2nd Reading: Charles Fox, KI4UIZ

Associate Membership:  
Karen Graham and Wes Ratterree

In a motion by JJ, KF4BZH, seconded by Peggy, KB8FNK, Charles Fox was approved for regular membership and both Karen Graham and Wes Ratterree were approved for associate membership with the CARS club.

**Old Business:**

Nominating Committee – Ken AF4ZV turned the meeting over to Bryce (K4LXF), chairman of the Nominating Committee, to proceed with the selection of officers for the new year. The proposed slate of officers on behalf of the Nominating Committee were:

President - Ken Bible, AF4ZV; Vice-President - Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP; Treasurer - Linda NeSmith, K4MPY; and Secretary - Tracey Bible, KG4HTW. Bryce then called for any additional nominations for officers. No additional nominations were made, so a motion was made by John, WA4GPS, second by JJ, KF4BZH to close the nominations. Then, in a motion by Carl, KB8FNJ, second by Ron, WB4URP, the club approved the slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee for the 2007-2008 year.

#### **New Business:**

##### Operating Agreement-USS Yorktown:

Bryce, K4LXF, reported that the Yorktown management has approached him and asked that the CARS club sign an agreement, which would govern the use of the space being occupied by the CARS club presently. Efforts are being made to increase security.

#### **Announcements:**

##### New Antenna product – Ken AF4ZV

Ken noted that he had received a letter from Bob Evans, WB0SVS, of Missouri regarding an antenna that when disassembled can fit into a shirt pocket. The antenna is said to be ideal for portable use in an emergency setting. Mr. Evans is the designer and is noting that this device is available for \$14.99 through his website: ee-3.com.

**Drawing:** The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Sheila Frank KT4YW.

A motion to adjourn was made by Avery W4QYV, and seconded by Peggy KB8FNK.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey, KG4HTW.

# CARS CARRIER

## Charleston Amateur Radio Society

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