

CARS



CARRIER



Charleston Amateur Radio Society

January 2008 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 14, 2008

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year! We capped off 2007 with our annual Holiday Party, and the success of this event was tremendous, thanks to the coordination by Bryce (K4LXF) and Jenny (WA4NGV) with the folks at the Omar Shrine Temple. Also, Valerie Fleischman went above and beyond to put together some special treats for everyone in attendance. I want to thank everyone for a great year! We have so many successes to celebrate as a club, and a truly remarkable cadre of dedicated volunteers throughout the year. The CARS club is on a sound footing. We are at an all-time high membership level – and growing. Our events are solidly supported, and we are gaining good public exposure for amateur radio's service to our community.

Beyond the special events, the CARS club consistently has high attendance at its regular monthly meetings. Clearly, one of the strengths of our club is the communion we share with one another face to face. Particularly in light of the influx of new Hams being licensed as a result of a national focus on disaster preparedness and homeland security, there is a real need for this interaction. In 2008, I want to expand our efforts to seek out these new Hams. Part of this effort is already happening. CARS club volunteers taught a number of amateur radio classes this year, and it is a tremendous outreach. If we bring folks into the hobby, we have a significant chance of getting them to a club meeting. And if we get them to a meeting, our club's willingness to embrace them will keep them engaged.

I also want to seek ways to increase public awareness of the CARS club. In 2007, I spoke to local officials and the media about the CARS club and Ham radio several times. We made the local TV news a few times, and gained a proclamation from the governor's office for Field Day. The slides from one of our

CARS presentations on disaster preparedness has been selected for inclusion in the 2008 ARRL Swiss knife – a resource for public affairs officials across the country. We need to discuss more ways to engage the media about our club and club activities even more regularly in 2008.

I've talked a lot about membership and public awareness, but I don't want to forget about operating activities either. Our club room aboard USS Yorktown is a unique asset for the club - at Field Day and for participating in Museum Ship special events. In 2008, I want to explore more opportunities to leverage our collaboration with Patriot's Point in this and other venues associated with our strong maritime traditions here in Charleston. I also want to explore how we can use the new HEARTS repeater system capabilities to develop our local nets to draw both greater participation as well as greater operating skills amongst our members. CARS members have consistently been vital members of the HEARTS team, and I want to educate myself and the club membership more thoroughly about these new capabilities.

Our ARRL Big Project school club, K4DMS, at Dubose Middle School is another remarkable opportunity. We must re-dedicate ourselves to this program, and seek ways to help grow our outreach to young people. Equally important as the present, this is an investment in the future of amateur radio.

My personal New Year's resolution is to make more time for myself to enjoy amateur radio, particularly time on the air. I hope the new year holds many new adventures for the CARS club, and that I will have the privilege of sharing some of them with you.

Please join me at our next club meeting at Ryan's Steak House on January 14th. With the holidays over, we will launch into the new year with the CARS

Charleston Hamfest on February 2nd. There is a lot to look forward to in 2008. Come join me to hear more about it.

73, Ken (AF4ZV)

NOV/DEC FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Beginning Cash - 11/1/07	\$1,861.37
Cash Receipts:	
Jenny Myers - Membership Dues	590.00
November Raffle	42.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - Oct & Nov Newsletter	(108.86)
Jenny Myers - CC Fair Supplies	(20.36)
SERA Membership Dues	(20.00)
ARRL - Sonja Penland - Nov Raffle	(34.00)
Bell South - Nov & Dec	(81.42)
Ending Cash - 12/31/07	\$2,228.73
Savings HT	\$ 27.07
Savings ST - CD	\$1,306.45

Linda NeSmith - K4MPY

HAMFEST

The Hamfest is Feb.2nd and we are hoping to have a big turn out. If you have not sold your prize tickets yet please do so and return the stubs and check to me. If you need more tickets let me know and I will get them to you. I will also have tickets at the club meeting. We are looking forward to seeing you at the Club meeting and of course the Hamfest.

73, Jenny, WA4NGV

MINUTES of NOVEMBER MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

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

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President, Ken Bible, AF4ZV, at 7:35 PM on November 12, 2007 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

Introductions:

There were 34 members and 3 guests present.

Secretary's Minutes/ Report: Tracey KG4HTW

In a motion by Ken Sterling, N4TIK and second by Carl Thorne, KB8FNJ the October 2007 meeting minutes were approved as published in the November 2007 CARS Carrier.

Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

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

Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

Jenny reported that a Hamfest Committee meeting to stuff packets with raffle tickets for Hamfest drawings was held. Ticket packets are available at the meeting tonight. Each club member gets 12 tickets, and can sell all or purchase the booklet for yourself.

Field Day: Doc W4MUR

Doc deferred time to Oscar Meyer, AI4SS to speak about the recent JOTA event. Oscar thanked all who helped, with special mention of Doc W4MUR at Laurel Hill, and David KI4FSC at the USS Yorktown. He presented patches for those who participated in helping make JOTA a success. Oscar noted that JOTA occurs on the weekend of the 17th of October next year (always the 3rd weekend in October), and encouraged members to volunteer.

Museum Ships: David KI4FSC

No new information to report.

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

Charleston: No new information reported.

Dorchester: Not aware of any upcoming exercises. Meetings on 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at the County Sheriff's complex on Hwy 78

Berkeley: No new information reported.

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF

Bryce reported that everything is running normally. He provided a brief overview of how SC Educational Television (ETV) got involved in the HEARTS system and has funded 7 repeater sites in the state. Awendaw and Columbia are the most recent sites to come on line. On 441.725 Mhz, keying *6 will link the two repeaters to allow you to talk to Columbia, SC. *73 brings the link down. The HEARTS team continues to test the system and is making significant progress.

Nets: Linda K4MPY - Newcomers Net; Susannah KE4RVF - ARES Net
No new information was reported. Additional information is available on the CARS website about local nets

Races: Ken AF4ZV
No new information was reported.

Interference: Bryce K4LXF
No new information was reported.

Newsletter/CARS Carrier/Website: John WA4GPS
Ken AF4ZV noted that the CARS Carrier was now being saved in .pdf format. John noted that all 2007 newsletters are available on the web site. Ken also noted that John was working on a new page on the web site specifically for sharing information on our sponsorship of the ARRL Big Project school at DuBose Middle School (K4DMS).

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 at 9:00 AM on the second Saturday of even numbered months. The next test session is to be December 8th. Cost is \$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 that student Michael Harris passed his Technician exam. Friday is activity day from 4:00 – 8:00 PM. Please come support the kids at K4DMS. Alene noted that results from the Fall School Club Roundup were not yet available.

Membership: Bryce K4LXF
The following applications for membership were read:
Regular Membership:
1st Reading: None
2nd Reading: Wes Ratterree – KI4ZOO
Associate Membership: None

In a motion by J.J. Lewis KZ4BZH, seconded by Carl Thorne KD8FNJ, Wes Ratterree (KI4ZOO) was approved for regular membership in the CARS club.

Old Business:
Coastal Carolina Fair: Linda NeSmith, K4MPY
Linda thanked all who helped make the Fair booth successful.

Carl and Peggy Thorne related that they had run into two people at the Fair who were active duty Coast Guard who were interested in the museum ship activities, and also a Civil Air Patrol member who noted that they needed help with communications.

Holiday Party – Jenny Myers, WA4NGV
Jenny reminded everyone about the December 10th holiday party which will be held at the Omar Shrine Temple Grill in Mt. Pleasant near Patriots Point. Everyone should pickup their invitations this evening. Note that the cost will be \$13 per person and those who wish to participate in a gift exchange should bring a gift - \$10 limit please.

New Business: None

Announcements:
A call was made for additional VEs to help the ARRL VE team with a special test session to be held December 10, 2007 in Columbia, SC to assist DHEC in getting Ham radio operators licensed. Testing starts at 1:00 PM in Columbia. It was noted that this was the same night as the CARS Holiday Party.

Alvin (AD0AO) asked for help in getting a Yaesu FT 1000 transceiver operating on 80 meters.

Drawing: The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Phil K4PNB, who gave the membership to Sonja WA4WVD since he already had a current membership.

A motion to adjourn was made by David, KI4FSC, and seconded by JJ, KF4BZH.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey, KG4HTW.

MINUTES of DECEMBER MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Holiday Party at the Shrine Temple in Mount Pleasant, SC
Monday, December 10, 2007 - 7:30 PM

MINUTES:

Secretary's Minutes/ Report: Tracey (KG4HTW)

Minutes of the November and December meetings will be published in the January CARS Carrier, and will be addressed at the January 2008 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

Treasurer's report will be published in the January CARS Carrier.

Membership: Bryce K4LXF

Regular Membership:

1st Reading - Steven C. Geldenhuys, KG4ULR
David R. Beatson, W4LNY

New Business: Ken AF4ZV thanked everyone involved in making the Holiday Party happen. Special mention was made of the work by Bryce K4LXF and Jenny WA4NGV in coordinating with the Omar Shrine Temple. Also, Ken acknowledged

Valerie Fleischman for making marshmallow snowman treats for the party.

Ken AF4ZV noted that a request for support for the Lifepoint 5K Run on April 12th had been received by the club. This request will be discussed at the January meeting.

Announcements: Doug KU4OC noted that a request from the Cooper River Bridge Run for 2008 communications support should be forthcoming.

Ken AF4ZV announced that some discussion had occurred about using the CARS repeater system to conduct a Santa Claus Net as we approach the holidays. No commitment to do this was made, however, Ken asked Bryce if he could assist if it can be coordinated.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by, Doc W4MUR, and seconded by Avery W4QYV.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey (KG4HTW)

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