

CARS



CARRIER



Charleston Amateur Radio Society

March 2009 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, March 9, 2009

NEW HAM ACES ALL 3 TESTS

At the CARS Hamfest, the VE Team became very excited when an unlicensed person came in, took the Technician class test and ACED it. He then took the General class test and ACED it and then took the Extra class test and also ACED it! WOW!!! He stated that he had studied the ARRL manuals and was impressed by the quality of the manuals. Photos were taken of him being congratulated by the VE team but it was decided to respect his privacy and not publish his photo or name.

This is a good example of what can be accomplished if one puts forth the effort. To up-grade your license, you don't have to ACE the test, all you have to do is pass it so start studying for that license up-grade now.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The digital communications is slowly coming to life. I don't know if you have checked the CARS newsletter and website lately, but John, WA4GPS, our editor has started with repeater calls and other info concerning digital communication. It will start going and get like our repeater system, started small and grew to what it is now. The equipment is expensive presently but as like all other equipment it will hopefully drop in price. I look back when I was in high school, I remember when 2 meters was a line of sight. The equipment was in a what Hams called a lunch box, because that is exactly what it looked like. Today we can talk over the whole state on a handheld with less than five watts. The digital system will be able to do the world with fewer repeaters. The world of communications is amazing when you stop and see what is around and read QST and other communication publications.

I hope everyone read the article in the March issue of QST, "When the Big One Hits, South Carolina Will Be Ready" pages 62 and 63 [there is also a link to the article on the Emergency Services page of the CARS web site – ed.]. This is a very fine article co-written by Brian Fletcher K6NWS and John Welton N4SJW. The article also mentions some of our highly technical Hams, Bryce Myers, K4LXF, and Mike Wells, WA4HVP. This program is moving very close to being in operation. Should the need arise at any time starting now the people involved would be ready. It is just the matter of getting the containers in usable condition.

See you at the next meeting.

73's, Bill, WA4WGP

ARES NET REPORT

February was Charleston County's turn to take the net for the month. The nets went very well and the training topics were most helpful in understanding what should ideally take place in an emergency situation. Thanks go to Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, for scheduling the Sunday night ARES nets last month.

The linked system is continuing to grow and as a matter of fact it made QST magazine, ARRL's monthly publication. It was an excellent article. It tells how South Carolina is prepared for emergency operations. Disasters always bring surprises, this is without a doubt, however if you have participated in a mock drill, you become aware that panic is your number one enemy. We, as communicators, have to keep that uppermost in our minds if a disaster strikes. A hurried message could be a lost message. Better to take your time, enunciate and get that transmission understood the first time.

This month, thanks to Mike Sinisi, KB1CTC, we will be listening to the net from Beaufort County and surrounding area.

If you are interested in getting involved in your county's team, here is the list of those whom you should contact: Darrell, KB7QVG, Berkeley County; Ed Steeble, K3IXD, Dorchester County; Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, Charleston County.

I hope you consider getting involved.

73, Susannah, KE4RVF

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT:

Beginning Cash - 2/1/09	\$2,717.43
Cash Receipts:	
February Raffle	49.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - February Newsletter	(41.39)
Bell South - February	(24.13)
ARRL - David Wilkins - Feb. Raffle	(39.00)
Ending Cash - 1/31/09	\$2,661.91
Savings HT	\$ 27.17
Savings ST - CD	\$1,306.45

Linda NeSmith - K4MPY

MINUTES of JANUARY MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61
Monday, February 9, 2009 - 7:30 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President, Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, at 7:30 PM on February 9, 2009 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

Introductions:

There were 41 members and 2 guests present.

Secretary's Minutes/Report: Alene KG4NKD

A motion was made by Bryce Myers, K4LXF and seconded by George Post, KI4UIW to accept the January minutes as printed in the CARS Carrier.

Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

January Financial Report:

Beginning Cash - 1/1/09	\$2,326.46
Cash Receipts:	
January Raffle	65.00
Jenny Myers - Membership dues	750.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - January Newsletter	(53.70)
Bell South - December	(62.21)
Bell South - January	(47.45)
Jenny Myers -	(200.32)
Jenny Myers -	(21.35)
ARRL - Greg Johnson - Jan. Raffle	(39.00)
Ending Cash - 1/31/09	\$2,717.43
Savings HT	\$ 27.17
Savings ST - CD	\$1,306.45

Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

Twelve fewer attendees than last year with 427 registered attendees. A full report will come next week. Jenny thanked the committee members, the club members who volunteered and the non-club members who volunteered to make this year's Hamfest a success. The club gave the committee and volunteers a round of applause, followed by a round of applause for the grand leadership of Jenny Myers.

Field Day: Doug Clark, KU4OC

We have a new logging program for Field Day. The program will cost the club \$6.00. You can goggle N3FJP and download a sample couple.

Museum Ships: Ed Walker, KQ4DC, and David, KI4FSC

No report this month.

Emergency Prep: Bill WA4WGP, Charleston; John W4HNC, Dorchester; Vince K4AOC, Berkeley

Charleston: On Saturday, February 21st, the EOC is reprogramming the radios for the containers starting at 9:00 am.

Dorchester: This coming Saturday, the Dorchester EOC will also be discussing the Disaster containers.

Berkeley: Meetings on the last Saturday of each month at 9:00am – please see website at www.w4brk.org for details. No report given.

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF

The Autopatch on the .79 repeater is still not working.

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

Please see website for specific dates & times for nets at www.wa4usn.org. This past Sunday's ARES net encountered a 30 minute problem. An important function of nets is to get as many kinks out of the system as possible before a real emergency strikes, thus, the nets are going well.

Races: Tracey, KG4HTW for Ken, AF4ZV

Tracey thanks everyone who participated in the Charlie Post Run.

Tracey also passed around a sign-up sheet for the Life Point 5K Run on March 7th on James Island, anyone interested should contact Mike Wells, WA4HVP.

Doug, K4UOC, passed around a sign up sheet for those interested in participating in the Cooper River Bridge Run on Saturday, April 4th.

Interference: Bryce K4LXF

None.

Newsletter/Website: John WA4GPS

Nothing new to report. The club gave a round of applause to John for the continuous great job he does keeping the newsletter and website up to date.

Education & VE Testing: Sheila KT4YW and Linda K4MPY

VE testing occurs on the second Saturday of even months of the year at Trident Hospital.

Hamfest Testing Report – 15 took the test, 11 passed, one individual took all three tests and passed all three with a 100%.

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

K4DMS will not be participating in the spring school club roundup this week and is not currently active. Everyone is encouraged to support the other schools involved in the roundup this week.

Membership: Bryce K4LXF

NOTE: The roster is about to be purged of anyone who has not paid dues. There are currently 165 members.

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: Amy Roach, KJ4GHM
Nick Hecker, KI4YSP

2nd Reading: Al Husenitza, KB2QXT
Larry A. Groves, KJ4GZR
Ronald Eugene Beltz, KJ4IPB

Associate Membership: None

A motion was made by Bob Ramos, W4HGW, seconded by Tracey Bible, KG4HTW to accept Al Husenitza, Larry A. Groves, and Ronald Eugene Beltz as new members.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

1. There are CARS caps on sale for \$5.00, there were a few sold at the Hamfest which made the club \$4.00.
2. A motion was made by Ed Walker, KQ4DC and seconded by George Post, KI4UIW to support the LifePoint 5K race March 7th on James Island. All those interested in helping are encouraged to contact Mike Wells, WA4HVP.

Announcements:

None.

Drawing: The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by David Wilkins, KI4FSC

A motion to adjourn was made by Wess Leitch, W4RUX, and seconded by Jenny, WA4NGV

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Alene, KG4NKD.



2009 Hamfest

CARS CARRIER

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