

# CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

July 2014 Newsletter

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

CARS meets the second Monday of each month at Ryan's Steak House on Highway 61.

**Our next meeting will be held at 7:00 PM, Monday, July 14, 2014**



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

No words of wisdom received from the president.

## AMATEUR RADIO WEEK

In South Carolina Gov Nikki Haley in a proclamation cited Amateur Radio's role "as an integral part of emergency preparedness and public safety," noting that hams "demonstrate their value...by providing emergency radio communications during natural disasters and other non-weather related catastrophes," and also promote international goodwill. She declared June 23-29 as Amateur Radio Week in South Carolina and pointed to Field Day on June 28-29 as an emergency preparedness exercise. Gov Haley called on South Carolinians to "recognize Amateur Radio operators for their many contributions."

From ARRL News 06/23/2014

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Requirements for ARES membership. (Suggested by ARRL)

Technician Class or higher FCC license,

After one (1) year complete the following FEMA courses,

ICS - 100, ICS - 200, ICS - 700, ICS - 800

Desire to help community,

Suggested Training:

First Aid with CPR training (American Red Cross)

Damage Assessment training (American Red Cross)

CERT training

Basic ARES duties/responsibilities "When All Else Fails".

- 1) Protect yourself and family first.
- 2) Prepared to aid communications (flow of information) for served agencies.
- 3) Are you self-supporting or do you require aid?

Basic ARES "Go - Kit" stuff (talk with Bobby, W4KSD)

Clothing should be seasonal.  
Food and Water  
Ham Gear  
Spare batteries/Power source  
Antenna and Coax approx. 100 feet  
Connectors and Adapters  
Repair tools and Parts

73, Rick, N8BKN

## MAY FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance - 5/1/14	\$5,307.17
Cash Receipts:	
Memberships	100.00
Raffle Proceeds	20.00
Raffle Proceeds	42.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - May CARS Carrier	(46.49)
AT&T - May	(73.88)
Warren Richey - CARS BusinessCards	(37.48)
Pinckney Carter - Insurance	(250.00)
John Meyers - Website Hosting	(83.40)
Ending Checking Balance - 5/31/14	\$4,977.92

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

## MINUTES of JUNE MEETING

### Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy.61  
Monday, June 9, 2014 at 7:00 PM

### MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President Gregory Amirault, KI4TVA, at 7:00 PM on Monday, June 9, 2014 at Ryan's Steak House in Charleston, SC.

**Introductions:** There were 37 people present.

**Secretary's Minutes:** Warren, KK4EVI

The May 2014 meeting minutes were published in the June 2014 CARS Carrier. A motion was made to accept the minutes as published, the motion was seconded, and passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Charlotte, KJ4PLX

The April 2014 Financial Report was published in the June 2014 newsletter and accepted as information.

**Museum Ships:** Ed, KQ4DC / David, KI4FSC / Tom, AJ4UQ

Museum Ships on the Air went well and we recorded about 512 contacts.

**Field Day:** Tom, AJ4UQ

Setup will be on Friday June 27<sup>th</sup>. Sign up sheet was passed around and is on-line at the website. We may not setup a Digital station this year. Will also be setting up N1MM logging program.

**Races:** Doug, KU4OC

No Report.

**Hamfest Report:** Greg, KI4TVA

Plan to have a short Hamfest Committee meeting on Sunday 6/15/2014 at 4:00 at Trident Hospital.

**Repeater Report:** Bryce, K4LXF

The repeater at Seabrook was stuck in the transmitting mode. It had to be manually unplugged, to get the repeater to reset. After restarting, it worked okay.

**Membership:** Bryce, K4LXF

Applications for regular membership:

First Reading: David Needham K8AJA  
Frederic (Tom) Clarke W4OKW

Second Reading: Johnnie Martin-Ayers, KJ4DTG

Applications for Associate membership:  
Matthew Wall (Call sign to be announced)

The new members were voted on and accepted.

**Emergency Prep:** Rick, N8BKN, Charleston; John, W4HNC, Dorchester; Dennis, KG4RUL, Berkeley

Planning on a Disaster drill on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

The next Charleston ARES meeting is on June 21<sup>st</sup> at the St. Andrews Public Service Building at 09:00 AM.

**Nets:** George, KI4UIW - Newcomers Net

**Newcomers Net** meets on Thursdays at 8:00 PM. If you are interested in trying to conduct a net, send George, KI4UIW, a note and he will get you the information.

**ARES Net** meets at Sunday 8:00 PM. Local area 5 meets from 8:00 - 8:20 PM then joins the statewide link up at 8:20 PM.

**QCWA Net** meets on Saturday at 9:30 AM. Chapter 89 is now in Charleston.

**SKYWARN Net** meets on Tuesdays at 9:00 PM on the linked repeater systems.

**Lowcountry Digital Nets:** meets Sundays at 8:30 PM and Wednesdays at 8:00 PM on **145.700** MHz running Contestia 32/1000.

**TARC CW Training Net:** meets every Tuesday at 7:30 on linked repeater systems.

**SCHEART Net:** meets every Thursday morning at 9:00 AM.

**Newsletter/Website:** John, WA4GPS

Nothing new. The website contract was renewed.

**Education & VE Testing:** Sheila, KT4YW

The next test session will be at 1:00 PM on Tuesday June 10<sup>th</sup> and another will be at 1:00 PM Sunday June 15<sup>th</sup>. The next scheduled exam will be 09:00 AM on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Trident Hospital.

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

No report.

**Communications Trailer:** Willie, WB4SOG

No report.

**Old Business:**

Jim, KK4REM, is working on a schedule to allow interested operators to visit and use the equipment in the club room, on the Yorktown. His first schedule will be Sunday June 22<sup>nd</sup> from noon to 3 or 4 PM depending on participation.

**New Business:**

Asked for money to spend on this years Field Day supplies. They asked for \$500.00 and that amount was passed.

Nominations for next year's club officers were presented. They are:

President Greg KI4TVA  
Vice President Tom AJ4UQ  
Secretary Warren KK4EVI  
Treasurer Charlotte KJ4PLX

**Announcements:**

**Drawing:**

The drawing for a one year ARRL membership was won by Steven KJ4All.

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

**INTERNET BUGS!!!**

It seems that there are BUGS running around in the internet. A couple of months ago I was sent a report that I never received and then I received only half of Doc's article on QRP which was published last month. Doc's complete article on QRP follows:

**WHY QRP?**

As you know (or should know) QRP is hamspeak for low power—5 watts or less PEP. When I first got started in ham radio, shortly after WWII, our family was poor and military surplus electronic gear was cheap. Dad was a ham and he went for it. I learned a lot watching him construct a workable transmitter and receiver from scratch and it wasn't long until I was doing the same, although my stuff frequently wasn't workable. Due to budget limitations, all the rigs were in the 5 to 30 watt range. But they worked! We could actually talk to other hams thousands of miles away. AM, CW, RTTY and NBFM were the only modes available to us on HF at that time. I finally built a 5 watt CW transmitter and regenerative receiver that did work, and fed it through twisted pair lamp cord to a homemade 40 meter dipole hung around the eaves of our house. The results were phenomenal, at least to me at age 17. I worked about 24 of the then 48 states.

Things have changed a lot since then, and I am the owner of an ICOM 703, a 10 watt PEP transceiver with more bells and whistles than I will ever use, but CW and SSB are all that I am interested in. I have checked in to a number of SSB nets and worked Field Day on CW using a 50 foot end-fed wire out the back window to a tree. I haven't racked up any astounding scores, but there is no doubt that it can be a reliable means of communication, and it is fun, especially when the guy on the other end can't believe my power—I have backed it down to one watt and frequently can still be copied solid.

This is potentially more than just a game of one-upmanship. Consider the possibility that the Greater Charleston area experienced a major catastrophe (e. g. a 7+ earthquake). All power and communication might be out including area repeaters. Even with

emergency generators, the linked repeater system could be disrupted, severely limiting communication. We might be out of power for weeks, as we were following Hurricane Hugo. Conserving our limited supply of gasoline would be a high priority item.

Even with a low antenna and low power, contacts can be made around the state and to neighboring states utilizing NVIS (Near Vertical Incidence Skywave) which is favored by a low horizontal antenna. NVIS is very effective on the 40, 75-80, and 160 meter bands. Read about NVIS in your ARRL Antenna Book or Amateur Handbook. You can power a QRP rig with two 6 Volt lantern batteries in series, or a small (7 ampere-hour or more) rechargeable battery and a small solar charger. Consider this when preparing for the next episode of: WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS, THERE IS HAM RADIO.

73, Doc, W4MUR

## Changes to Amateur Service Part 97 Rules Go Into Effect on July 21

The FCC's recently announced revisions to the Part 97 Amateur Radio rules governing exam credit to former licensees, test administration, and emission types will go into effect on Monday, July 21. The new rules were published in *The Federal Register* on June 20. Earlier this month, the Commission announced that it would grant examination credit for written elements 3 (General) and 4 (Amateur Extra) to holders of "expired licenses that required passage of those elements." The FCC will require former licensees falling outside the 2-year grace period to pass Element 2 (Technician) in order to be relicensed. The Commission declined to give exam credit to holders of expired *Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCEs)* or to extend lifetime validity to CSCEs.

From: The ARRL Letter for June 26, 2014

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