

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

June 2015 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, June 8, 2015



FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Recently the CARS flagship repeater, the 146.790 machine on the USS Yorktown, went offline. Did you know how to get back into the linked system?

There are many linked repeaters in the CARS/TARC system. There is some overlap, which is a good thing in the case of an outage. If you were downtown and rely on the 790 repeater, did you know the MUSC Rutledge Tower system on 444.825 MHz provides similar coverage?

Now is the time to look at the repeater link graphic and the repeater by location maps on the WA4USN.org web site. Figure out what repeaters cover your location and program them into your radio. For the most part the hospital repeaters provide very localized coverage, but the MUSC Rutledge Tower and Trident Medical Center systems cover a good amount of ground.

Lots of people monitor the repeaters, but are generally busy doing other things. If you call for a radio check, you're more likely to get a response from someone who doesn't have time for a ragchew. On the CARS repeaters you can also press your PTT button and key 44 on your keypad. At the prompt key your radio and say something. The repeater will play it back for you. That will give you a good idea of your signal quality.

This time the repeater outage was due to a failing power supply. Last time it was because the pier was cut open to welcome the USS Laffey back to Patriot's Point. Next time it may be a hurricane blowing an antenna off-axis. Get prepared now and be ready!

Sorry for the TinyURL delay, I wanted to try something more flexible. From now on hopefully we can work with a single link to get to whatever CARS event is coming up:

<http://tinyurl.com/CARS-events>

The first page at this site is an event picker, which will lead you to the event-specific options.

73, Tom, AJ4UQ

APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance - 4/1/15	\$5,092.86
Cash Receipts:	
Raffle Proceeds	31.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - April CARS Carrier	(32.10)
AT&T - April	(79.58)
Digital Interface for Yorktown	(124.89)
ARRL - 3 Memberships	(111.00)
Ending Checking Balance - 4/30/15	\$4,776.29

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of MAY MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy.61,
Monday, May 11, 2015 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by Vice President Tom Glaab, AJ4UQ, at 7:00 PM on Monday, May 11, 2015 at Ryan's Steak House in Charleston, SC.

Introductions: There were 27 people present.

Secretary's Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI

The April 2015 meeting minutes were published in the May 2015 CARS Carrier. A motion was made to accept the minutes as published, the motion was seconded, and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX

The March 2015 Financial Report was published in the May 2015 newsletter and accepted as information.

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

The MARS Contest made 230 contacts.

The Museum Ships contest will be June 6 & 7. A sign up sheet is being passed around and a TinyURL will be posted.

Field Day: Tom, AJ4UQ

Field Day is the end of June. Friday 6/29 will be setup, Field Day starts at 1400 Saturday 6/30 and will end at 1400 Sunday 6/31. A sign up sheet is being passed around and a TinyURL will also be posted.

Races: Doug, KU4OC

No report.

Hamfest Report: Greg, KI4TVA

A Committee Party will be held May 15 and 16, at the River House. Would like to get a head count ASAP. Contact Greg, KI4TVA, if you plan to attend.

Repeater Report: Bryce, K4LXF

Nothing new to report. There is still some interference being heard, still looking for the source.

Membership: Bryce, K4LXF

Applications for regular membership:

First Reading: Jim Gruschow, KB3IOZ

Second Reading: Rachelle Perry, WB2DGE
John S. (Steve) Van Sickle, WB2HPR

Rachelle and Steve were voted on and accepted into the club.

Emergency Prep: Rick, N8BKN, Charleston; John, W4HNK, Dorchester; Dennis, KG4RUL, Berkeley

No ARES meeting this month. Team is going to the Hamfest Party.

On May 9th – The hurricane Expo was cancelled due to weather. But a Red Cross shelter was opened in North Charleston from 9:00 AM until... Larry Groves, KJ4GZR, set up a Red Cross station at the building and tried to connect to the James Island Red Cross net. Tried using repeaters and simplex. The test went fairly well and this letter was received from the Red Cross:

May 11, 2015

To the men and women of the C.A.R.S.
/ A.R.E.S. Team,

On Saturday, May 09, 2015, as a result of a cancelled hurricane expo on James Island, your group came to our assistance when we thought our testing would have to be scrapped for the day. However, as a result of the cancellation, several of your HAM radio operators became available and stood up to assist the Chapter. The HAM functional radio test was to be conducted during a full-scale training exercise on sheltering to check the Chapter's newly installed HAM radio antenna and mast.

I would like to personally thank the following individuals for making the comms check possible:

Rick Valentine N8BKN
Bryce Myers K4LXF
Earl Matthews KJ4OXF
Jenny Myers WA4NGV
Charles Fox KG5FOX
Wayne Matthews KJ4ULI

Again, thank you very much for all of your hard work and dedication to keep the Charleston area connected in the storm.

Todd

Todd J. Musselman
Disaster Program Specialist
American Red Cross
Lowcountry SC Chapter
KM4GCE

On May 30, there will be another Hurricane EXPO at the LOWES in Goose Creek.

Nets: Warren, KK4EVI - Newcomers Net

Newcomers Net: meets on Thursdays at 8:00 PM. If you are interested in trying to conduct a net, send Warren, KK4EVI, 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 first and third 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 64/1000.

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

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

ARES HF Net: Meets on 1st and 3rd Monday at 6:00 PM on HF 3.990 MHz primary and 3.9935 MHz alternate. Looking for more HF Logins, to support HF web.

Newsletter/Website: John, WA4GPS

Nothing new.

Education & VE Testing: Sheila, KT4YW

The next scheduled exam will be 09:00 AM on June 13th at the Trident Hospital conference room near the cafeteria.

There will be a Technician training class held at the James Island Town Hall on May 29th and 30th. There will also be a testing session on May 30th at 1:00 PM.

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

No report.

Communications Trailer: Willie, WB4SOG

Had a Committee meeting that was productive. Reviewed suggestion about installing a repeater in the trainer. The old rack needs to be replaced, to support repeater.

Old Business:

New Business:

Communications Committee asked for about \$1500.00, to purchase repeater and new rack. The request was voted on and passed. The repeater will use the 145.250 Frequency and a tone of 123.0.

Announcements:

The Yorktown Club Room is in operation, contact Jim KK4REM for information.

The Rookie Roundup went well. The new Digital system is now set up for use.

Drawing:

The drawing for a one year ARRL membership was won by Brian, KK4OHS.

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

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423 Beaufort Rd., Summerville, SC 29483-1989

