

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

November 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, Nov. 9, 2015



DUES FOR THE YEAR AUGUST 1, 2015 – JULY 31, 2016 ARE PAST DUE

\$20.00/Year, \$10.00 for each additional member in the same household. Please make check payable to CARS. You may pay at the meeting or mail to membership chairman: **Bryce Myers, K4LXF, 2630 Dellwood Ave., North Charleston, SC 29405-6814**

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

I hope every one got the notice that we would not have a booth at the fair this year. They wanted us to pay for it this year. That may have been good since everyone gets so busy this time of year. We voted to have the Christmas Party, it will be on our Regular meeting night in Dec.. I hope everyone will try to attend. The food is good and a good time is had by all. See you at the meeting.

73, Jenny, WA4NGV

EMERGENCY PREPARATIONS

Another month without major incident. Hopefully this will continue. The recent flooding in the area showed just how well Amateurs can support the community and back up the first responder network. It also showed some areas for improvements in both the areas of communication and served agencies participations. Luckily a large number of shelters were not needed and the need for communicators was reduced. Please remember some Amateurs are also first responders and have limited time for community service.

Now is the time to review your personal and family preps. Remember the most important item is your

personal safety, then your family's safety, and finally community service. Check your family assembly location if separated, check your family communications, and make sure your escape plans will work if tasked with evacuation. This includes me as well, my Aunt in Virginia called me worried that the flooding was affecting me so think about keeping distant family and friends in your loop too.

As always new members are always welcomed and needed. There have been several radio classes and newer hams may need encouragement to join ARES so try to encourage them. Remember the Sunday evening ARES net at 2000 (8:00pm) local time on the Low Country repeaters and the SC ARES net on the SCHEART linked system at 2020 (08:20pm) local. Currently the local linked repeaters will NOT link in to SCHEART system automatically so QSY to a SCHEART repeater such as 146.760 – T123.0 Awendaw, VHF, 147.105 + T123.0 Wallace, VHF, or 145.450 – T123.0 MUSC VHF (linked to Awendaw UHF).

Another great idea for Tri-County preparations would be to make sure you have the frequencies of repeaters pre programmed into your radios.

Charleston County: 146.790 – T123.0

Berkeley County: 146.610 – T123.0

Dorchester County: 146.180 – T123.0

Last thoughts are, public service events are excellent practice sessions for emergency communications. Join your fellow hams supporting the non emergency events like the Charleston Marathon, Cooper River Bridge Run, Isle of Palms Connector Run, MS walk, and other events. Better to learn new communications methods and proper procedures when it is not a crisis. Stress free is always better. Till next month.

73, Rick Valentine, N8BKN

SEPT. FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance - 9/1/15	\$4,633.28
Cash Receipts:	
Raffle Proceeds	19.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - Sept. CARS Carrier	(32.46)
AT&T - September	(80.98)
Ending Checking Balance - 9/30/15	\$4,538.84

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of OCT. MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy.61,
Monday, October 12, 2015 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President Jenny Myers, WA4NGV, at 7:05 PM on Monday, October 12, 2015 at Ryan's Steak House in Charleston, SC.

Introductions: There were 39 people present.

Secretary's Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI

The September 2015 meeting minutes were published in the October 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 August 2015 Financial Report was published in the October 2015 newsletter and accepted as information.

Museum Ships: Tom, AJ4UQ

A request was made for some Air Cadets, to participate in the Museum Ships. Jim, KK4REM, will be sending out a schedule for operating at the Yorktown, through John, WA4GPS.

Field Day: Tom, AJ4UQ

Still looking for someone to assume the Captains position.

Races: Doug, KU4OC

Tom, K4WJC, mentioned that the Cystic Fibrosis Bike Ride had been rescheduled to Oct. 24, 2015. There will be a 100 and 60 mile bike ride. Tom is still asking for Hams to volunteer to work the ride. They will be using the Adams Run Repeater.

Hamfest Report: Greg, KI4TVA

The Hamfest Committee will try to have a meeting sometime during the week of the 18th.

Coastal Carolina Fair: Linda, K4MPY

Nothing heard yet. Does the Club want to work a booth? The dates for the Fair will be October 29 through November 8.

Repeater Report: Bryce, K4LXF

The repeaters seem to be working but with problems. The Trident Hospital repeater is not working 100% of the time. The Moncks Corner repeater power supply failed, replaced the power supply, seems to be working fine now. The Georgetown Repeater had a problem also with the power supply, replaced the power supply and it seems to be working now. The Summerville repeater 149.985 wasn't receiving and had to be reset. The St Francis repeater would not check in and was not linking into the Wallace repeater. The Knightsville repeater was not linking in, found the tone setting was wrong? Reset the tone and it is working now.

Membership: Bryce, K4LXF

Yearly dues are due.

No new applications for membership:

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

Next ARES meeting is October 17th at the Fire station on Dorchester Road, at 9:00 AM. They plan

on having radio training. In the future, in case of an emergency, will need to have Ham support for the area Shelters. Watch the news for a backup source for news, school and road closings. Make sure your "To Go" Kits are ready for use. Don't drive through high water.

Nets: John, KK4KBQ

Newcomers Net: meets on Thursdays at 8:00 PM. If you are interested in trying to conduct a net, send John, KK4KBQ, a note and he will get you the information. John is also looking for more participation and Net Controllers to help out. 10 to 15 people have been checking in.

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. The State Wide Net has a problem. The Wallace repeater is not linking into the system. You may need to switch to the Awendaw 146.760 Repeater or the Wallace 147.105 Repeater, until repairs are made.

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 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.

DMR Net: Meets Sundays at 8:00 PM.

SC STATE GUARD Net: Meets Thursday evenings at 8:00 PM on SCHEART linked repeaters.

PALS Net: 9:30 nightly on 145.230 Tone 123.0

CARA Whitehall Net: 8:00 PM Thursdays on 146.910 tone 156.7

Newsletter/Website: John, WA4GPS

Nothing new to report.

Education & VE Testing: Sheila, KT4YW

The next scheduled exam will be 09:00 AM on December 12th at the Trident Hospital conference room near the cafeteria. During the last testing session, all 4 people passed. During the last training class, 4 of 5 people passed.

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

Tom, AJ4UQ, reported: A new club was formed at Palmetto Scholars Academy, K4PSA. TARC is taking the lead. School Club Round-up coming up.

Communications Trailer: Willie, WB4SOG

Nothing new to report. Plan to work on trailer this weekend. Looking into option of putting a canopy on the outside of the trailer.

Old Business:

New Business:

A motion was made, asking if we wanted to have a Christmas Party again this year. The motion was passed. The Christmas Party is scheduled for December 14th, instead of the usual Monday club meeting. It will be held at the Harbor Breeze again this year.

Announcements:

Drawing:

Tom, AJ4UQ, won the drawing for a one-year ARRL membership.

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

IS OXYMORON AN OXYMORON?

Huh? Webster defines oxymoron: A figure of speech in which opposite or contradictory terms or ideas are combined. (Example: The silence was deafening.) The word oxymoron derives from two Greek words. The prefix oxy- from oxys, meaning point or sharp; and suffix moron from moros, meaning foolish, stupid, or dull. You might say an oxymoron is a sharp-dull, so the word oxymoron is itself an oxymoron.

You can find oxymora (plural of oxymoron) everywhere including Ham Radio. If early morning band conditions are beginning to get bad on 75 meters, you might decide to go up to 40 meters. Why would you go up to a smaller number? And why is 160 meters referred to by old timers as Top Band when it covers the lowest frequencies in the HF spectrum? These are oxymora.

For those of you who are mathematically inclined, note the equations below which tell us how to calculate the number of Decibels for a given power or voltage ratio (these are found in the ARRL Handbook):

$dB = 10 \log(P1 / P2)$ Where: $P1 / P2 =$ power ratio being converted

$dB = 20 \log(V1 / V2)$ Where: $V1 / V2 =$ voltage ratio being converted

$dB = 20 \log(I1 / I2)$ Where: $I1 / I2 =$ current ratio being converted

So why are the equations so different? Is that an oxymoron?

If you double the voltage across a fixed resistance, the current will also double ($I = E / R$). In other words if you double E, that will result in doubling I, if R remains the same. Since power is voltage times current ($P = E I$) and both E and I have doubled, power will quadruple.

Let's look at an example:

Let $P1 = 4$ watts and $P2 = 1$ watt
Then $dB = 10 \times \log(4 / 1) = 10 \times 0.60206 = 6.0206$

Let $V1 = 2$ volts and $V2 = 1$ volt
Then $dB = 20 \times \log(2 / 1) = 20 \times 0.30103 = 6.0206$

(Rarely is that kind of accuracy required, so we hams round it off at 6 dB.)

Maybe this example qualifies as a pseudo-oxymoron.

73, Doc, W4MUR

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