

CARS



CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

November 2017 Newsletter

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

CARS meets the second Monday of each month at the Golden Corral near Tanger Mall.

Our next meeting will be held at 7:00 PM, Monday, Nov. 13, 2017



DUES FOR THE YEAR AUGUST 1, 2017 – JULY 31, 2018 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**

If you have not responded to the proposed Bylaws change, please do so ASAP.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

If you registered with the Utilities Technology Council (UTC) to inform them of your desires to operate on the new 630 m and 2200 m bands, some responses have been going out. I received an email notification from the UTC telling me that the antenna location I submitted was good to go.

If your amateur radio interests tend toward the more technical side, the TAPR/ARRL DCC conference videos recorded by Gary Pierce, KN4AQ, (of the Ham Radio Now podcast) might be of interest to you. You can find a link to the videos on the Ham Radio Now website (<https://www.hamradionow.tv/home>) under the Episodes link at the top of the screen. I've listened to a few of them already during my w**k commute and it seems like a pretty interesting conference. Hopefully I'll be able to make it to one in the near future.

The editorial column by ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, in the October 2017 issue of QST reflects on the question of how we mentor and educate newly licensed amateur radio operators. On many of the online amateur radio forums and communities I frequent, I often see stories about people having terrible club experiences: being made to feel unwelcome, being looked down on, having questions and requests for assistance rejected. In general, the complete opposite of

the close-knit, elmering community that's so often projected. Every time I read these accounts, I'm thankful that my experience with CARS has been a good one. I remember walking into my first meeting and being a bit intimidated by all the old people around, but I was welcomed into the fold. I've been able to learn a lot about amateur radio without needing to have active elmering like the kind NY2RF talks about with his mentor, but I feel like if I did need some, it would be freely offered by many CARS members.

That brings me to the question of how we as a club and as individuals, can Elmer newly licensed and newly upgraded hams, and welcome them into CARS. There are operating days at the club station on the Yorktown. Field day in June is something of a baptism by fire for many new hams. Invite some new hams to the Monday/Wednesday/Friday morning breakfasts at Bojangles, or the Saturday morning breakfast at IHOP. Group builds for the DIY crowd? Would those of you interested in upgrading to General or Extra find a study group helpful? I'm open to suggestions on other things that we can do.

Feel free to send me any comments, suggestions and/or questions to CARSinfo@wa4usn.org, or to my personal email, eugenemah@gmail.com

73, Eugene, AB4UG

FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT

Hurricane season isn't over yet, so keep www.nhc.noaa.gov and other sites handy. One of the most valuable products is the forecast discussion. That's where the meteorologists explain the reasoning behind the official forecast. It talks about the conditions the storm will encounter, how models are performing, and other decisions that will help you better understand what is coming.

Eugene has talked about making our meetings more interactive. I have a projection screen; if someone has a projector we can do slide shows and demonstrations. I'm not sure we can open the windows and run coax to the

parking lot, but there's nothing to stop us from doing VHF/UHF/microwave projects inside the Golden Corral.

An operating day is scheduled for Veterans Day on the Yorktown. A warship ought to be a big draw, so come get behind the microphone. We're also making changes to the communications trailer configuration, so get some operating time to familiarize yourself with it. When we roll out the trailer to support an event, operating should be reflexive.

73, Tom, AJ4UQ

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Still have a month of Hurricane season left, season officially ends on 30 November so not out of season yet. Also National Weather Service (NWS) says that hurricanes this late in the season form in the Gulf or Caribbean so not a lot of warning time. Keep alert and ready. Please remember to prepare for yourself, your family, and maybe someone else just in case.

Weather is getting colder now that it's fall. Make sure to check your "Go Kits" for warm clothing and extras like gloves, a hat, a pair of boots for walking, etc, etc.

Also this is the the time to get your vehicle checked out. As temperatures drop so does the starting capacity of a battery, especially an older battery. Check your belts and hoses. New style belts and hoses wear out from the inside out so they look good but might not be good. Check coolant strength to be sure your protected for colder temperatures. Good time to check tires for plenty of tread, penny check – see Lincoln's hair not much tread left. Fall and winter usually means rain so hydroplaning happens more when tires are worn out.

As temperatures drop watch for school kids bundled up from the cold or parents parked on side of road waiting for the bus. Start planning for the up coming holidays. Don't wait until last minute to make a trip plan, contact list if leaving area, and having vehicles checked out no time for a breakdown while on a trip.

Please keep checking into the Sunday night Low Country ARES net at 2000 local time, local repeaters, and again at 2020 local time to the South Carolina ARES net on the SCHEART system after the Low Country net. Questions about ARES or Emergency Preps can be directed to any County Emergency Coordinator:

Berkeley County: Linda Selleck, KJ4EVV
Charleston: Rick Valentine, N8BKN

Dorchester: John Place, W4HNK

Remember the M.A.R.S. Communications test on November 3, 2017 and November 4, 2017 on the low country linked repeater system. Check in, give actual report and listen for instructions. This is a nationwide event to test a back up system to get conditions in all 3,100+ counties in United States. Pointy of contact will be Dave, K8UM.

Also the state wide Full Scale Exercise on November 15, 2017. This years drill is a loss of electrical grid event starts on day 3. Generators for SC Communications and upstate hospitals may only have a 3 day supply of fuel unlike low country requirement of a 7 day supply. Should be interesting event.

Until next month

73, Rick, N8BKN

SEPT. FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance - 9/1/17	\$4,913.65
Cash Receipts:	0.00
Cash Disbursements:	
Charlotte Groves - Raffle Tickets	(11.43)
Bank Fee	(10.00)
Ending Checking Balance - 9/30/17	\$4,892.22

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of OCT. MEETING **Charleston Amateur Radio Society** Club Meeting at Golden Corral near Tanger Mall, Monday, October 9, 2017 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. meeting was called to order by the President Eugene Mah, AB4UG, at 7:00 PM on Monday October 9, 2017 at the **Golden Corral** in North Charleston, SC.

Introductions: There were 41 people present.

Secretary's Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI

The September 2017 meeting minutes were published in the October 2017 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 2017 Financial Report was published in the October 2017 newsletter and accepted as information.

Museum Ships: Tom, AJ4UQ & Jim, KW4UL

Received some certificates for the Museum Ships QSO party.

Field Day: Jim, KW4UL

No Report.

Races: Doug, KU4OC

CF Ride – The ride went smoothly with the exception of a flat tire on one of the bikes.

IOP Run – Things went very well.

Hamfest Report: Steve, KE4THX

The adds have been placed, the Armory has been reserved, the flyers were put out at the Shelby Hamfest and there will be a Hamfest ticket stuffing party sometime next month.

Repeater Report: Bryce, K4LXF

The 441.575 repeater is still not linking up with the state wide system.

Nothing new to report.

Membership: Bryce, K4LXF

Sheila, KT4YW, and Sonja, WA4WVD, are collecting the 2018 dues, which are past due.

New applications for membership:

First Reading: David Tawes, KJ4BUF
Brian Smith, KN4EXJ

Second Reading: Robert "Rob" Dean, W4VRD
John Guerry, KN4EDN
Donald Hagan, KN4EXH

All second reading applicants were voted on and welcomed into the Club.

Emergency Prep: Rick, N8BKN, Charleston; John, W4HNK, Dorchester; Linda, KJ4EVV, Berkeley

Next Charleston ARES meeting on October 21st at the St. Andrews Public Service Building at 09:00 AM.

The American Legion has an established Ham group but would welcome more members.

There was a well written article about Net Login Etiquette, in last months CARS Carrier. Thanks goes out to the SCHEART website for the information.

There is a new hurricane, Ophelia, but it will pose no problem to land, heading up north.

There will be an ARES exercise on November 15th. The exercise will be about what happens after losing the electrical grid for 3 days.

There will be a JOTA QSO party October 20, 21, and 22. Listen and answer contacts for the new Hams.

Newsletter/Website: John, WA4GPS

Looking for more show and tell articles for the CARS Carrier newsletter.

Education & VE Testing: Sheila, KT4YW

The next scheduled testing should be October 14th at 9:00 AM at the Tall Pines Baptist Church. The church is located on 645 Treeland Drive, near the American Biker store.

There will be a General Class at the VA Hospital on Bee St., on October 14th and 15th. There will be an open testing session on the 15th.

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

No report.

School Clubs: Tom, AJ4UQ - School Radio Club - K4PSA

They have an HF station starting up.

Communications Trailer: Willie, WB4SOG

Wayne Graham, (AA4WG) donated a portable gasoline generator to the club a while ago. Storage of the generator has become a problem. Since we have

generators for the trailer and in the club room, we may look at donating or selling the generator.

Willie would like to consider rebuilding the Trailer Committee. Would like to have a mechanic join the Committee, to help repair and maintain trailer.

New Business:

Dave K8UM talked about the MARS group. MARS has moved from Health & Welfare to HF backup for DOD. They would like to get more Hams interested in feeding local conditions to the MARS HQ. Will be sending out an E-mail with more information. MARS will be having an exercise on November 2nd to the 6th. Expect more traffic on networks.

Announcements:

If there is enough interest, thinking about having another picnic perhaps sometime next spring.

The By-laws Committee chair-person has asked to revise one of the by-laws. Accordingly an E-mail ballot will be sent to all voting club members, asking permission to make change to quorum requirement.

Drawing:

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

Being no further business, at 7:40 PM, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

423 Beaufort Rd., Summerville, SC 29486-1989

