

# CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

March 2018 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, Mar. 12, 2018*



## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Correction: In the January newsletter, I incorrectly gave the USS Laffey's call sign as NH4TI. The Laffey's call sign is NT4HI.

I hope everybody had a chance to make it to the hamfest in February. Thanks to the hamfest committee and everybody else who came out to help out the day before and the day of the hamfest. I had a pretty good time there and it seemed like a pretty decent crowd to me.

Thanks to Ed Walker, KQ4DC, for giving me a box full of club related memorabilia, QSL cards and documents. I haven't had a chance to go through them yet, but it looks like there will be a lot of material that can be used to construct a recent history of the club's activities. I'm looking forward to going through it all. If anybody else has any tidbits of club history they want to find a home for, please let me know.

Will Ravenel, AI4VE, gave us a nice presentation on operating QRP at the last meeting. Based on some of the feedback I've received, I think we'll do future presentations after the business part of the meeting. The floor is open for anybody who wants to give a presentation at a meeting and share what they know with others. Just send an email to [CARSinfo@wa4usn.org](mailto:CARSinfo@wa4usn.org) to let me know what you'd like to talk about, or demonstrate.

The Cooper River Bridge run is coming up April 7, so sign up now if you're interested in helping out. A week later, April 14, is the Coastal Cyclists Spring Century ride and they could use a few hams to help out at the aid stations for that event. There's a link to a signup form for both events at the club website, <http://www.wa4usn.org/>.

Feel free to send me any comments, suggestions and/or questions to [CARSinfo@wa4usn.org](mailto:CARSinfo@wa4usn.org), or to my personal email, [eugenemah@gmail.com](mailto:eugenemah@gmail.com). If you're on Facebook, there's a CARS group page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WA4USN/>. We also have the @WA4USN account on Twitter that you can follow as well.

73, Eugene, AB4UG

## FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT

We're moving into the busy season for the club -- upcoming public service events include the Cooper River Bridge Run and the subsequent 100 mile bike ride; operating events include Museum Ships Weekend and Field Day. Now is the time to get familiar with your equipment. Re-read the user manual (ok, read it for the first time) for your radio now that you can better understand what it means. Come to an operating day on the Yorktown and learn how to operate on HF. The club is planning on getting more active with the communications trailer, which will offer even more opportunities to learn.

73, Tom, AJ4UQ

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Spring is here. With spring comes unpredictable weather. We can have severe thunderstorms which could lead to tornado conditions. Also heavy rains cause river flooding and of course the usual local streets in Charleston County. Remember the words, "Drive around Don't Drown". A few inches of water can turn your vehicle into a hydroplaning boat and right into a ditch. Always remember high water areas can move local wildlife around too. Several years ago an alligator got hit on Ashley-Phosphate road near Dorchester intersection.

For those who are ARRL members and ARES members you should sign up for the two newsletters the ARRL provides weekly in the form of an e-mail. These newsletters have a lot of good information in them weekly. As an example, FEMA is re-working the main ARES courses in the ICS system. FEMA is re-working IS-100,200,700, and 800. FEMA is working on the forms used, best practices, and reevaluating volunteer service worth. If you haven't done the ICS courses in over ten years FEMA and ARRL recommend you redo them this year to get you up to date on new changes. According to FEMA your volunteer service is valued at about \$ 24.00 per hour.

With the March Charleston County ARES meeting we will be meeting at the CARS Communications trailer site: Low Country Firefighters Support Bldg. 6390 Dorchester Road, North Charleston (near gate 5 of Charleston Air Force base). We will be monitoring 146.790 repeater for direction questions.

The purpose is to get everybody, ARES or non ARES hams, familiar with the trailer and equipment inside. There is different equipment, antennas, power sources, etc, etc. We will also be making a list of additional improvements to help the trailer committee make recommendations to the CARS club to make this trailer a valuable asset to the Club and community as a whole.

Everybody please keep checking in to the ARES and Hospital nets. SkyWarn net will return on Tuesday April 3 2018. Remember there are two ARES nets on Sunday evening. Low Country ARES net - 2000 to 2020 local time (On local repeater network). SC ARES net - 2020 to 2100 local time (On SCHEART system).

The Hospital net is on Thursday mornings at 0900 local on the SCHEART system. Check in and listen till the end because training sessions are educational.

Until next month,  
73, Rick Valentine, N8BKN

## **JAN. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Beginning Checking Balance - 1/1/18	\$6,165.19
Cash Receipts:	
Dues	160.00
Memberships	60.00
Raffle Proceeds	55.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - January CARS Carrier	(31.18)
Christmas Party	(328.10)
ARRL - 1 Membership	(47.00)
Bank Fee	(10.00)
Ending Checking Balance - 1/31/18	\$6,023.91

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

## **MINUTES of FEB. MEETING**

### **Charleston Amateur Radio Society**

Club Meeting at Golden Corral near Tanger Mall,  
Monday, February 12, 2018 at 7:00 PM

### **MINUTES:**

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. meeting was called to order by the President Eugene Mah, AB4UG, at 7:13 PM on Monday February 12, 2018 at the **Golden Corral** in North Charleston, SC.

**Introductions:** There were 46 people present.

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

The January 2018 meeting minutes were published in the February 2018 CARS Carrier. A motion was made to accept the minutes as published, the motion was seconded and passed.

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

The December 2017 Financial Report was published in the February 2018 newsletter and accepted as information.

**Museum Ships:** Tom, AJ4UQ & Jim, KW4UL

Planning on having Open House on the Yorktown Club Room on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month for the near future. Planning on having the Open House from about 12 noon until about 4:00 PM.

**Field Day:** Jim, KW4UL

Nothing to report.

**Races:** Doug, KU4OC

Cooper River Bridge run has less positions for Ham's to operate from. A signup sheet is being passed around and you can sign up on-line.

**Hamfest Report:** Steve, KE4THX

Steve is doing well after his surgery – Attendance at the Hamfest was down this year from last year.

**Repeater Report:** Bryce, K4LXF

The 441.575 repeater is still not linking up with the state wide system, but the 147.105 +600 T-123.0 should be back up and operating normally.

**Membership:** Bryce, K4LXF

The 2018 dues, are past due. If not paid soon, member may be dropped from the club roles.

New applications for membership:

First Reading: Michael Eckard, KE4DHK  
Martin Stapleton, KD8RGN  
Richard (Rich) Aiello, KN4HRA  
Michael Mc Sween, KD4RZV  
T. Stephen Thomason, W4IJ

Second Reading:

Associate membership: Robert Bradshaw

Robert was voted on and welcomed into the club.

**Emergency Prep:** Rick, N8BKN, Charleston; John, W4HMK, Dorchester; Linda, KJ4EVV, Berkeley

There will be no ARES meeting this month, due to a training event.

Be alert for high water levels in the Santee River.

An article in the QST magazine, Public Service Pages, showed recognition for Public Service. Awards presented to Earl KJ4OXF, Greg KG4GEK, and Warren KK4EVI, for their service to the public.

Plan to have meeting at the CARS trailer in March, bring a notebook.

**Newsletter/Website:** John, WA4GPS

Nothing new to report.

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

The next scheduled testing should be April 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 were 17 tests given at the Hamfest this year.

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

No report.

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

School Club Roundup running week on February 12<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>. Make contact with them if you can.

**Communications Trailer:** Willie, WB4SOG

The March ARES meeting will be held at the trailer.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

A motion was made and passed, to support the Coastal Cyclist Spring Century (Was the After the Bridge Run Bike Ride). Riders will travel about 100 miles. They would like Ham's to monitor rest stops. A signup sheet is being passed around.

**Announcements:**

A sad note was the passing of John's wife Alberta. She passed away on January 29, 2018 and a memorial will be held Friday February 16, 2018 at Simplicity Lowcountry Cremation & Burial Services.

Will, AI4VE, gave a presentation on QRP operation and benefits.

### **Drawing:**

Earl, KJ4OXF, won the drawing for a one-year ARRL membership,

Being no further business, at 7:51 PM, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

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