

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

July 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, July 9, 2018



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Amateur radio knowledge transfer. A comment by Bryce/K4LXF at the June meeting about using the area repeaters got me thinking about the subject. There's a lot of collective knowledge about amateur radio in the Charleston area. How does one get to it, especially if you're a new ham? There are a few regular opportunities to meet up with other hams, like the Monday/Wednesday/Friday breakfast gatherings at the Bojangles at I-26 and Ashley Phosphate, Saturday morning breakfast at the IHOP/IHOB across from the same Bojangles, the monthly meetings, and operating days on the Yorktown. You can also call someone up over the phone, or on the radio.

I think the operating days would make a great opportunity for hams of all experience levels to get together and share what they know. Let me introduce the concept of Barcamp, for those who might not be familiar. Barcamp is a type of conference/meeting where the attendees set the agenda and decide on the presentation topics, rather than being set beforehand. The origins of Barcamp come from the early days of the computer tech world (search the Internet for Barcamp and FooCamp if you want to learn more). People get together, throw out some topics that they want to present on or something they know about, and give a short talk on the subject. It could be just an overview, a deep dive, or something in between. It could be a demonstration, a workshop, or just a Q&A session. It can be a topic you're deeply familiar with, or something that you just learned about yesterday. The whole point is that everybody knows something, and is sharing it with other people who want to learn about it.

What are your thoughts on ways to share knowledge with fellow hams?

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

As I write this I'm recovering from Field Day weekend. Despite the beastly temperatures we did very well. Setup and takedown were done with great efficiency, and we had secured the site within an hour of shutting down operation. We didn't have any thunderstorms, and we did operate continuously. The initial QSO count is 582, with a final push for 600. By the time the club meets again we should have a submitted score based on our GOTA station, public location, Agency Representative, renewable power, and many other bonus points. For reference we had 503 QSOs last year.

What I noticed was CW is where the action is. Let's think of ways to increase the club's CW proficiency. Even as a logger I was able to copy much of the 25+ WPM exchanges and contribute to the operator's success.

Now summer really starts. There are plenty of QRP contests, and the Trident club is activating SC State Parks on the air. Get out and give them a hand, it's a lot of fun.

73, Tom, AJ4UQ

MAY FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance - 5/1/18	\$6,117.57
Cash Receipts:	
Raffle Proceeds	49.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - May CARS Carrier	(18.22)
Memorial	(107.40)
Bank Fee	(10.00)
Ending Checking Balance - 5/31/18	\$6,030.95

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of JUNE MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Golden Corral near Tanger Mall,
Monday, June 11, 2018 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. meeting was called to order by the President Eugene Mah, AB4UG, at 7:00 PM on Monday June 11, 2018 at the **Golden Corral** in North Charleston, SC.

Introductions: There were 36 people present.

Secretary's Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI

The May 2018 meeting minutes were published in the June 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 April 2018 Financial Report was published in the June 2018 newsletter and accepted as information.

Museum Ships: Tom, AJ4UQ & Jim, KW4UL

There were about 50 contacts on Saturday (from the Yorktown), about 120 on Sunday (from the Laffey) and about 120 (from the Clamagore).

Still plan on having the Yorktown Operating days on the third Saturdays, when people are available.

Field Day: Jim, KW4UL

Making plans for operating 3 stations. Hopefully the Scouts will be there to get on the radio. Patriots Point has offered to make a wall sized poster for Field Day. There will be a tinyURL on the wa4usn.org website, to sign up for Field Day.

Races: Doug, KU4OC

We are in a holding pattern, until the IOP run in October. More information to follow.

Hamfest Report: Steve, KE4THX

No report.

Repeater Report: Bryce, K4LXF

Bryce reminded everyone that when you key your microphone, you are required to ID your station. There seems to be a lot of doubling when checking into the Nets. Might be a good idea to review Net Check-in recommendations.

The repeaters have small glitches that are being worked out.

It seems a lot of people are using phonetics instead of just letters and numbers. Overkill?

Membership: Bryce, K4LXF

New applications for membership:

First Reading: William Mark Petit, KN4MJB

Second Reading: Don Damewood, KJ4WP
Jeffery Eglen, N9JLE
Richard Morgan, KM4WVA

All three Second Readings were voted on and welcomed into the Club.

Emergency Prep: Rick, N8BKN, Charleston; John, W4HNC, Dorchester; Linda, KJ4EUV, Berkeley

No report.

Field Day will take the place of this months Charleston meeting.

Newsletter/Website: John, WA4GPS

Nothing new.

Education & VE Testing: Sheila, KT4YW

The next scheduled testing should be August 11th at 9:00 AM at the Tall Pines Baptist Church. The church is located on 645 Treeland Drive, near the American Biker store.

Last testing session – 11 people took various tests, 2 didn't make passing grades.

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

No report.

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

No report.

Communications Trailer: Willie, WB4SOG

The trailer was used at both of the recent EXPO's. Planning on perhaps having a show and tell at trailer. Date to be announced. Don't plan to use the trailer for Field Day.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Club Office election nominations: Eugene, AB4UG, for president; Tom, AJ4UQ, for vice-president; Warren, KK4EVI, for Secretary; and Charlotte, KJ4PLX, for Treasure. Anyone wanting to run for any Office, contact Bryce, K4LXF.

Announcements:

Tom, K4WJC, Wanted to know if there would be any interest in purchasing an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) to keep in the trailer or club room? Will look into the cost.

Drawing:

Sonja, WA4WVD, won the drawing for a one-year ARRL membership,

Being no further business, at 7:33 PM, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

A few comments about joining a Net

To help the communications on the Net go smoothly, please remember these few items:

Most Nets are open to all licensed Hams, to participate in. There are some Nets that want you to register with them, on line, to receive a member number. Other Nets will ask specific members to check-in first, they then open the Net to all licensed Hams.

Nets are a good way to get experience participating in Ham Radio protocol. Most Nets ask for check-ins, for example, from Alpha to Foxtrot, then Golf to Lima, then Mike to Romeo, and finally Sierra to Zulu. They are asking for check-ins using the first letter after your Call Sign's number. For example if your call is "X X 4 C X X", you would check in with the Alpha to Foxtrot section. This is just to try to organize the number of people checking-in. If you check-in early or late, don't worry, no one will punish you.

Here are a few more items, to remember about checking-in to a Net:

First – Please do not call the Net Controller by his/her call sign. All stations should please just call "Net Control". This way if the Net Controller is changed or replaced, there will be less confusion.

Second – To give the repeaters (about 20 repeaters locally and about 30 repeaters statewide) time to link up, when checking in, please follow these guidelines:

Listen to make sure no one else is calling Net Control. There is no prize for being first.

Key your microphone and wait a second or two, to give all of the repeaters time to link up.

Call Net Control (not his/her call sign) and then un-key your microphone.

If you don't hear anyone else talking, key your microphone and wait another second or two,

Then slowly identify your station using standard international phonetics, give your call sign, name and location slowly.

Then un-key your microphone and listen to see if Net Control ask you any questions.

Third – Listen in as others check in; if Net Control has trouble hearing a station, you may be able to relay to him/her.

Fourth - If you hear an emergency announced, stand by to help with any assistance required.

Lastly – Just have fun and enjoy the hobby.

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