

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society July 2024 Newsletter

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

CARS generally 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 8, 2024 at the Golden Corral near the Tanger Mall.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Election month is here. The Club votes for Club Officers at the July meeting. Come out and vote or run for office.

The nomination committee has presented the same officers that are currently serving. If any member has a different recommendation, please come out and propose your candidates.

The required Board of Advisors meeting will be held at 1845 before the regular meeting. The Board meets to at least elect a Chairman and Secretary as required by the Club By-Laws.

Thank you to everyone that came out and supported the June events.

- Museum Ships weekend June 1-2, 2024
- 82nd Anniversary of the Battle of Midway and the loss of the USS Yorktown CV-5 on June 7
- ARRL Field Day June 21-23, 2024. Our event Captains did an Outstanding Job. Michelle, KK4WQO did a wonderful job with the food service, and the brownies were greatly appreciated by everyone.

Dues are due, See Lee, KI4LLJ at the meeting. Cards expire on 31 July 2024. Don't make Lee chase you down. Please pay your dues.

Lastly, enjoy the scorching summer weather but stay hydrated, safe, and remember the cost of treasure and blood to make the 4th of July our Independence Day.

Until next month maybe.
73 Rick Valentine, N8BKN

NEWS FROM THE VP

As expected, June was a very busy and fulfilling month. Congrats to those who have been participating in monthly activity days and applied their skills to events this month. Now is the time to build your skills for the next opportunity.

Thanks to Steve and Bill for leading Field Day and the W2Z Special Event Station activities this month.

73 Tom, AJ4UQ.

MEMBERSHIP

Hear Ye, Hear Ye,

The flood gates are open to accept dues payment for fiscal year 2025, which begins the first of August. That makes this meeting (July 8) the last meeting to pay your dues and be "on time". Dues are still \$20/yr (first family member), \$10 for each additional member of the same household, and can be paid at a club meeting, at Ham breakfast (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 0900-1100 or thereabouts), or by mailing a check (made out to CARS) to Lee Miller KI4LLJ, CARS Membership, 207 Glebe Rd, Summerville, SC 29485. If you have questions about your dues please email ki4llj@arrl.net and I will let you know where you stand. You don't have to wait for my "friendly reminder" letters after you lose your good standing in the club in order to pay. Everyone who is paid ahead already should receive their new (green-ish)

card in the mail before the meeting, so if you don't get one by then and think you are paid ahead, please email me and we'll figure out what's what.

Currently:

Total Membership = 176
Associates = 7
Voting Members = 169
Quorum = 26

At this writing, there are no first readings this month.

Second Readings:

Chris Hochreiter KQ4DYV General
Greg Fowler KM4FBY General
David Carlough W5USR Extra

Lee KI4LLJ and Jennette KO4BPH
CARS Membership Committee

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Month one of Hurricane season completed, five more to go. We had a close call near Jacksonville, FL. Storms this early do not give 7+ days of warning. Of concern is the water temperature offshore is currently like the temperatures in late July or August. This means a Cat 1 storm offshore could become a Cat 3 or 4 as it moves to shore. Stay alert. *[note: a category 4 storm originating off Africa has just formed, the first ever in June – Ed.]*

Heavy rains in Florida and the Dakotas caused flooding. Remember heavy rains in the Midlands or Upstate will flow down to the Low Country. Do not drive through flooded roads please, “Turn Around Don’t Drown.” Besides stalling your car in deep water will block the road from other vehicles and especially emergency vehicles.

Enjoy the 4th of July fireworks but be careful. Injuries are always reported because of fireworks and malfunctions. Also, as hot and dry it has been watch out for fires created by the fireworks or crazy cook outs. Keep hydrated and lots of sunscreen when visiting the beach or outside fun stuff.

Upcoming events in July:

- July 23, 2024 the Town of Mt. Pleasant earthquake exercise.
- July 31, 2024 Charleston County hurricane exercise.

I will activate the County EOC for both exercises for training. It may be necessary to unlink the 146.790 MHz repeater to simulate either a failure or for tactical use. We may even evaluate the capability of the Adam’s Run repeater to fill in, that repeater is 147.345 MHz Tone 141.3. This would be done for emergency use. Stay Alert and Stay Safe.

Until Next Month,
73 Rick, N8BKN

FIELD DAY

The CARS Field Day was a huge success! We operated sideband, digital, and CW from the port catwalk of the Yorktown and had a GOTA station at the forward entrance to the hangar deck. We made well over 500 contacts worth over 1400 points, before inclusion of bonus points for media coverage, section manager report, educational activities, solar powered contacts, satellite contacts, and copying the ARRL bulletin. Three elected officials visited our event: Sylleste Davis, House Representative, District 100, Daniel Brownstein, Mount Pleasant Town Council, and Mark Smith, House Representative, District 99. Rep. Smith provided us a House Legislative Proclamation in support of our efforts for Field Day which is now hanging proudly in our club room.

As Field Day Captain, it was my privilege to lead a group of club members whose volunteerism and hard work made the event virtually seamless and a pleasure to be a part of. Full report to follow next month.



Steve, AA2BB

GOTA Station Report from KN4EXJ

Well, another Field Day has past and we all seem to have survived thanks to Michelle and her magical brownies and food. She truly looks out for those who come out and man the radios in support of the club. A great big thank you Michelle.

Not to be over looked are the club engineers and those that set up and take down the antennas, radios, tables and chairs. Without their dedication and selfless efforts Field Day just would not happen.

Field Day for the GOTA Station (Get On The Air) started when Rick, Bryce, and Lee strung the long wire (130 ft) from the flight deck to the dumpster on the pier. Perhaps not the best direction, but having four antennas in close proximity together has

always been a challenge. The coax cable was run from the flight deck to the forward brow quarter deck located on the hanger deck. With the antenna up and the coax cable laid, all was in place when I arrived Saturday morning at Patriots Point.

Gaining access to the pier, the station equipment was driven down to the gangway and Dr. Steven and Ed lent a hand getting everything on board. With table and chairs in place and the helping hands of club members, banners were hung.

The equipment for the station consisted of a UHF/VHF Yaesu FT 7900 radio with a mag mount antenna powered by a 20 amp/hr Bioenno battery. This was set at the simplex frequency at 146.580 MHz. The HF radio was a Yaesu FT 891 with a LDG tuner, a 20 amp/hr Bioenno battery, and a 10-meter band pass filter. The SWR for the antenna was 1 to 1.3. A small laptop was brought for recording contacts.

Literature was placed on clipboards for people to see and take. The GOTA Station is a windy place.

All was in place and ready to go by noon Saturday. Greg, my co station operator was busy checking the 10-meter band and picked up a Brazilian contest station making contact with a station in Massachusetts. It looked like the band would be good. If Greg was not playing with the radio, he was giving direction and answering questions from the many tourists visiting the Yorktown. We were in the perfect spot for the club PR station.

A notable guest was a young man from Poland, David. He was here in the states learning about jet engines and was given a tour of the club room and Field Day Station located on the forward port side gun gallery.

We had the pleasure and honor of being visited by two of our state legislators and a representative from the town of Mt. Pleasant. A group photo was taken. The ARRL South Carolina Section Manager John Gendron, NJ4Z stopped by near closing and visited with the club. See his Facebook report at ARRL South Carolina Section. Other visitors were

from the many states and some were amateur radio operators.

A rather full day, the station was secured at 1800 hrs. as the museum closed.

Sunday the GOTA Station was back in swing around noon again with visitors and fellow hams stopping by and chatting. During the lull in activity, I took the opportunity to make a couple of field day contact under my own call sign KN4EXJ one to Texas and the other to Arkansas. This would prove to be fortuitous as luck would have it two young men stopped by as Dr. Steve visited the station and were given a tour of the club room. Upon their return the both requested an opportunity to make a contact. Arkansas to the rescue. He had just finished a contact with a 9-year-old girl (hams come in all sizes) and was happy to make a twofer contact with operators using the call sign WD4PBR. One is headed to Alaska and the other is living here has a Technician License and is interested in attending the next club meeting.

To top off the day a young couple from Russia visited for a few minutes as they toured the ship.

All in all, it was a successful GOTA Field Day. Meeting our state representatives that are supportive of amateur radio legislation before the state senate and our club efforts in the community. The visits from and support of the town of Mt. Pleasant. The visit from John from the ARRL and his kind words on Facebook. The many wonderful people visiting the Yorktown and at last after 6 years finally activating the GOTA Station.

With the station broken down and the equipment in the Tahoe, I stopped at the gate going off the pier and offer some brownies to the volunteer there. He jokingly asked if they were hash brownies. (Vietnam Vet) I replied no, but with a smile he took two anyway. I had a couple left when I got home and as I reflected on this year's GOTA Field Day I was grateful for Dr. Steve's efforts in making this field day a success as to all of the club members' efforts and time. And of course, to Michele's magical brownies.

73, Brian Smith, KN4EXJ



HAMFEST

Nothing new to report.

Paulette, KJ4AIK.

MUSEUM SHIPS

Our Museum Ships Weekend logs were submitted to the NJ2BB club.

CV5 and the Battle of Midway Special Event Station – from Steve AA2BB

Our club operated a special event station that ran from Tuesday, June 4th through Sunday, June 7th, commemorating the Battle of Midway and the sinking of the original USS Yorktown, CV5. The event was led by Bill Oendorf, K4KOA, who obtained a 1x1 special event call sign, W2Z. Over the four days of the event, approximately 200 stations answered our call. We set up in front of the Midway memorial on the hanger deck to be out with the public and put up a temporary antenna on the starboard side that worked well for contacts across the US and seven other countries. Bill had a special banner prepared and a QSL card printed for the event. The staff of Patriots Point showed great interest and took videos of our operation. One even made a contact! Lots of visitors stopped by and asked questions about the history of the Battle of Midway and the original Yorktown, CV5.

Participants of whom I am aware included the event Captain, Bill, K4KOA, club VP Tom, AJ4UQ, Avery, K4QYV, Mike, N4PSU, our club president,

Rick, N8BKN, among others. Based on this experience, we hope to hold more special event stations to remember the sacrifices of our veterans and share their history with our visitors.



Tom, AJ4UQ

RACES / PUBLIC SERVICE

The next planned event is the Isle of Palms Connector Run in October.

Tom, K4WJC and Doug, KU4OC

SCHOOL CLUBS

Nothing to report.

Tom, AJ4UQ

COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

CARS trailer is still intact and ready for action.

Mike, KY4BO

FINANCIAL REPORT

CARS Treasurer's Report			
May 2024			
Checking			\$ 3,152.00

Balance April 30, 2024			
Cash Receipts - May			
	Dues	55.00	
	Memberships	100.00	
	Raffle Proceeds	47.00	
	ARRL Commission on renewed membership	5.00	
Total Receipts			207.00
Cash Disbursements -May			
	ARRL Membership	(59.00)	
	Postage	(30.00)	
		3152	-
Total Disbursements			(89.00)
Checking Balance May 31, 2024			\$ 3,270.00

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of the JUNE MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society June 10, 2024 Monthly Meeting

Meeting Called to Order: 1900 Hrs. by President Rick Valentine, N8BKN

Introductions: Members attending: 31 Associate: 1 Guest: 6

Announcements: Rick, N8BKN,

Thanks to Michelle, KK4WQO, for the Museum Ship food. Well Done. Brian likes the brownies.

June 10 – 14 ZOOM classes 1800 – 2100 info on SCHEART.US Licensing classes

ARRL Field Day weekend June 21-23, 2024

Secretary's Report –Brian, KN4EXJ Accepted as information

Treasurer's Report – Charlotte, KJ4PLX –Accepted as information

Standing Events Reports:

Field Day Steve, AA2B- SC Proclamation from Mark Smith SC House Representative, House Resolution.

Operators are welcome.

Hamfest – Paulette, KI4AIK – Check CARS Carrier

Race Support Reports:

Doug, KU4OC – Next event IOP run

Tom, K4WJC – No Report
Repeaters – Bryce, K4LXF – Ok

Communications Trailer – Mike, KY4BO – nothing new

Emergency Preps:

Berkeley County, Linda, KJ4EVV – Last Saturday of month

Charleston County, Rick, N8BKN –Start of hurricane season is June 1st. Important frequencies to monitor are:

National Hurricane Center 14.325MHz and 7.268 MHz back up

Caribbean hurricane net 7.188MHz

There is a change in the hurricane evacuation zones. Please check SCEMD website with a new map. Rick reported on the state ARES training including the go box assembly. Review of the Earthquake drill held earlier in the year. Read the state tactical communication plan. Looking at including Winlink

or shares software. Need at least 180 operators to man all the stations in an emergency.

Maritime net 14.300 Mhz.

Dorchester County, Beverly, W3BRB – Dave and Lee were at the Dorchester Hurricane Preparation at the park. Some participants were interested in joining DART or getting their license.

Nets:

Sunday: Low Country ARES net 2000 Hrs. – 2020 Hrs.

SC ARES net 2000 Hrs. -2130 Hrs. On the SCHEART repeaters

Tuesday: SC ARES HF net at 1800 Hrs. on 3.990MHz

TARC Net 2000 Hrs. -2100 Hrs. on the Low Country repeaters

Wednesday: 1st and 3rd Wednesday Weather Training net 2000 Hrs.

Thursday: SCHEART Training net 0900 Hrs. – 1030 Hrs. on the SCHEART

New Comers net 2000 Hrs. -2100hrs on the Low Country repeaters

School Clubs – Tom, AJ4UQ – Jim from TARC, is working on an ARISS program with the State Department and the Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) procuring equipment, plan development, and a curriculum, for in the in the fall making contact with the ISS.

Saint John Catholic school in North Charleston has purchased new ham equipment under a STEM grant.

Education/Testing –Tom, AJ4UQ –Technician Class in Mt Pleasant 20-21 June, testing on Friday 21st. POC Rick N8BKN This course is not open to

the public. The next public class will be in September at the VA Hospital.

VE testing Saturday June 8th, one candidate. Next testing at Reforge the third Sunday in July (21 July at 3 pm.)

Planning a Technician class at the VA hospital September 3 Sat and Sunday

CARS Carrier/ Website – Tom, AJ4UQ – Always looking for content. A thanks to Steve AA2BB for contributing articles and photos.

Museum Ships – 176 Yorktown, Laffey 148, PBR 15 contacts. MSW went well, operated CW, Phone, and Satellite. Got all three ships on the air. Logs need to be uploaded, cleaned up, and submitted.

W2Z special event went well, 200 phone contacts, most were made from the Yorktown in recognition of the USS Yorktown CV-5 action in WWII and her eventual loss. QSL via K4KOA or WA4USN.

Membership – Lee, KI4LLJ – Membership renews in July.

Total Membership to date 173

Paid up Members

Regular Voting members 166

Lifetime members 4

Associates 7

First Readings:

Chris Hochreiter, KQ4DYV

Gregory Fowler, KM4FBY

CARS CARRIER
Charleston Amateur Radio Society

David Carlough, W5USR

Second Reading:

Robert Denman, K4RWD

Greton Williams, KQ4PYS

Nomination Committee Report: Bryce, K4LXF

Checked with the current officers and they are willing to continue to serve in their current positions.

Old Business:

WD4PBR QSL Cards – Still waiting.

New Business:

Field Day – those willing to serve contact Steve AA2BB

Membership Recruiting: We can use new members and activities

Larry suggested that a slow code course be developed and promoted. He volunteered to head the project.

Any Other New Business?

Drawing – Larry, Mike, KY4BO won.

Tip the wait staff

Meeting Adjourned: 1955Hrs.

Brian, KN4EXJ

