

# CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society February 2025 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, February 10, 2025 at the Golden Corral near the Tanger Mall.**

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Another month has passed, and we are now one month closer to the summer. Many events occur during the summer and late spring so clear your calendars and enjoy all of the amateur radio that you are able to.

Upcoming events include the MARS cross-band weekend in May. It is a chance to work military stations and demonstrate that Ham radio could be a back up communications network in an emergency. Second, in June you can help with Museum Ships since the USS Yorktown, USS Laffey, and the PBR-105 are available at Patriot's Point. Communicate with museum ship chasers worldwide and get an opportunity to advertise the Charleston area. And of course there is ARRL Field Day weekend near the end of June. Give the Club Field Day Captain Steve, AA2BB, a call about supporting this weekend event. Any and all help is appreciated.

Get in contact with another Amateur operator and offer to assist them with any projects that you can assist. Antenna work, help with a station set up or layout, perhaps even a different mode of operation that you can assist them. Look to help and offer your skills. Many hams are not going to ask but they do need help, so seek them out.

There are currently many Extra class hams available but there seems to be many technical experts but limited operational expertise. Politely make suggestions to improve the operational skill sets of everyone, don't discount someone for not knowing the recommended protocols show them a way to be a more complete Amateur Radio operator. Explain

the very complicated Low Country repeater system, and the SCHEART linked repeater system. Remember back when someone helped you understand the systems, so give them a hand too.

Parking at Patriot's Point is different now. As Club members we should park in the employee parking area, but you will need a badge issued by Patriot's Point. To get a badge you have to contact me as President, I have to send your name to Security, and you have to call and make an appointment with security. The person to call is William Dillard at 843-881-5927, please don't try to get an appointment except Monday thru Friday there is no one available on the weekend.

There have been several requests for Technician class training. As we get more information, I will inform the Club membership so start recruiting new Hams.

Rick N8BKN

## NEWS FROM THE VP

I just got a new computer to replace the 13-year-old desktop in my shack. In addition to getting rid of a decade's worth of unused programs, I'm discovering how much basic ham software is just old and not compatible with modern operating systems without a lot of equally old supporting code. Perhaps this is an opportunity to attract new hams with coding experience.

73 Tom, AJ4UQ.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership bad news, had to send 48 reminder letters to pay dues. Good news, dues are coming in now. Bad news, mail was disrupted by the little dusting of snow. Good news, it's back up to full speed again. Bad news, I still have a bundle of CARS name badges that haven't been collected by members. No good news about that. I am slowly adding up the members who haven't paid or contacted me about payment, so I haven't started rubbing out folks yet, but the time is coming when I will start to catch up. Thanks to everyone who has paid or contacted me about paying. We are glad you're staying with us. If you didn't get a reminder letter, one of two things probably happened. Either the post office lost it, or you were a good member and were already paid up (or ahead). Any questions about your membership, please email [ki4llj@arrl.net](mailto:ki4llj@arrl.net), or text me at 843-518-0669. If you call and I don't answer, please leave a message with at least your name and I'll get back to you.

Lee KI4LLJ and Jennette KO4BPH  
CARS Membership Committee

## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

Another month completed in 2025. One month closer to Hurricane season. Don't relax because in the past there have been ice/snow events in February just like last month (January). Also, as spring approaches severe thunderstorms and even tornadoes have visited the Low Country. Stay weather alert.

Hope everyone survived the snow event but now is the time to restock supplies to prepare for the next event. Also, start preparing for spring and summer events like a road trip to check out your planned evacuation route. Don't forget to get road trip snacks now since supplies may get slim as events get closer. Drive your route in the rain because roads do flood here as Summerville residents found out last fall.

Now is the time to start outside events like POTA. Activate a park while temperatures are comfortable, and bugs are still sleeping.

Always need more ARES members. Contact your County Emergency Coordinator and offer your

services. Requirements are minimal and only require 4 FEMA computer-based courses. They are IS-100, 200, 700, and 800. They will take about an hour and a half for each course. You can also take Emergency training courses on the ARRL website.

Other considerations from ARRL and FEMA are these: Make sure you are safe first, make sure your family is absolutely safe, if conditions one and two are met and you still want to volunteer you are very needed and welcome. Check into emergency training nets like the Low Country ARES net on Sundays at 2000 (8:00 PM) and follow on to the State ARES net at 2020 (8:20PM) Both of these nets provide practice in net procedures and check in protocols.

Until Next Month,  
73 Rick, N8BKN

## **FIELD DAY**

Nothing to report.

Steve, AA2BB

## **HAMFEST**

Nothing new for Hamfest

Paulette, KJ4AIK.

## **MUSEUM SHIPS**

Museum Ships Weekend is the first week of June. The club will also have a 1x1 special event call sign, W2Z, for the USS Yorktown CV-5.

Tom, AJ4UQ

## **RACES / PUBLIC SERVICE**

Nothing coming up for a while.

Tom, K4WJC and Doug, KU4OC

## **SCHOOL CLUBS**

Nothing to report.

Tom, AJ4UQ

## COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

Trailer survived the SC blizzard! All is well.

Mike, KY4BO

## FINANCIAL REPORT

CARS Treasurer's Report			
November -December 2024			
<b>Checking Balance October 31, 2024</b>			\$ 2,933.81
Cash Receipts - November			
	Dues	120.00	
	Memberships	40.00	
	Raffle Proceeds	61.00	
		=	
<b>Total Receipts</b>			221.00
Cash Disbursements - November			
			-
	ARRL 1 Membership	(59.00)	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>			(59.00)
<b>Checking Balance November 30, 2024</b>			<u>\$ 3,095.81</u>
<b>Checking Balance November 30, 2024</b>			\$ 3,095.81
Cash Receipts - December			
	Dues	145.00	
	ARRL Commision on	25.00	

	Memberships		
	Raffle Proceeds	-	
	Memberships	-	
	Raffle Proceeds	-	
		=	
<b>Total Receipts</b>			170.00
Cash Disbursements - December			
	Christmas Party	(1,819.17)	
	Member Name Tags	(101.12)	
		=	
		-	
		=	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>			(1,920.29)
<b>Checking Balance December 31, 2024</b>			<u>\$ 1,345.52</u>

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

## MINUTES of the JANUARY MEETING

**Charleston Amateur Radio Society  
Monthly Meeting  
January 13, 2024**

**Meeting Called to Order:** 1902 Hrs. by President Rick Valentine, N8BKN

**Introductions:** Members attending: 40  
Associate: Guests: 2

**Announcements:** Rick, N8BKN,  
General Class at VA Hospital

15 March 2025

16 March 2025 with VE Test Contact Terry to register.

Food not available at the VA Hospital

Don Hill (SK)

**Secretary's Report** –Brian, KN4EXJ - **Accepted as information**

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

### **Standing Committee Reports**

**Field Day-** Steven AA2BB- Preparations continue with invitations to VIPs. Operators are wanted for CW, Digital and SSB.

**Museum Ships** – Tom, AJ4UQ – Museum Ships Weekend is in June and we'll have a 1x1 special call sign for the USS Yorktown CV-5. We can't activate the ship for MSW since we aren't the ship or it's recognized memorial, but we'll figure out how to best incorporate both Yorktowns.

**Hamfest** – Paulette, KI4AIK – Nothing to report

**Repeaters** – Bryce, K4LXF- Repeaters are doing well.

**School Clubs** – Tom, AJ4UQ – Nothing to report.

### **Race Support Reports:**

Doug, KU4OC – Nothing to report

Tom, K4WJC – Nothing to report

**CARS Carrier/ Website** – Tom, AJ4UQ – Looking for articles, stories of interest.

**Communications Trailer** – Mike, KY4BO – Trailer is well.

**Education/Testing** –Eugene –

Sunday at Reforge slots available

Tall Pines 2nd Saturday

Third wed testing

**Membership** – Lee, KI4LLJ – Membership renews in July.

Total Membership to date 186

Paid up Members – 116 - Club dues are due.

Paid Membership – 131

Regular Voting members 186

Lifetime members 4

Associates 8

First Readings:

David Semenoff, KO4UFM

Paul Morris, KQ4ZTB

Robert Breene, W2EOH

**Second Reading:**

David Smith KQ4YRV

Kevin Avery KC0GAC

**Emergency Preparedness:**

State FSX (Full Scale Exercise) will be March 15, 2025

Training ARES courses available on line via ARRL website

Berkeley County: Linda, KJ4EVV

Charleston County: Rick, N8BKN

Dorchester County: Beverly, W3BRB TARC, Will hold training session wed and thurs, this week and next week. Class is for Technicians.

National Hurricane Center **14.325MHz** and **7.268 MHz** back up

Caribbean hurricane net **7.188MHz**

Maritime net **14.300 MHz**

**Archie's Repeater back up for 146.790 is K4IUG 147.345 +600 Tone 141.3 Adams Run location.**

**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

*WinLink Net 39.150 on Tuesday*

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

ARRL Section Elections – remember to vote.

### **Old Business:**

WD4PBR QSL Cards – Rick, N8BKN, and The  
printer has provided us with a start of printing date.

Update: ETA delivery January 30.

Slow Speed Code Class 8pm Wednesday 79  
repeater

### **New Business:**

### **CARS Calendar of Events:**

### **W2Z Special Event Station: Bill K4KOA**

**Battle of Midway 4 June to 7 June – Loss of  
USS Yorktown CV-5**

**Drawing** – Conducted by Larry, KJ4GZR, Won  
by someone sitting where Earl normally sits.

**Meeting Adjourned: 1939 hrs.**

### **Repeater Test Codes**

33 date and time read back

44 read back of your message

55 test on tone buttons on your radio

Only on your local repeater

Brian, KN4EXJ

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