

# CARS CARRIER

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

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Welcome to spring I hope. March is a transition month for weather in Charleston, stay weather ready and alert for severe events. Good weather means planning and fixing antenna damage or trying new ideas. Ask for help if you need any. This Club has many Hams with antenna experience and the tools needed to make the installation seem easy and safe. Ask for assistance save yourself the frustration of having to re do your work.

There will be NO Operating day in March. There is a coordination problem with getting the Club room opened. Sorry, always next month.

Larry, KJ4GZR will start the slow code lessons up again when his eyesight allows so stand by it will be returning. Learn the code and participate in Field Day that way the Club gets extra points and Steve, AA2BB our Field Day captain will appreciate the extra points.

Try learning a new to you operating mode this year. Help is available from Club members who use the mode you might be interested in, ask around and be surprised how much help is available.

Hope to see everyone at the Club meeting; enjoy the nice weather.

Until next month, 73

Rick N8BKN

## NEWS FROM THE VP

If you missed LowVELO in the fall, try to work Ride the Lowcountry next month. These bike rides are a good opportunity to show off amateur radio where mobile phones don't work. It's also great practice for emergency communications on the move. If you're in a SAG (support and gear) vehicle you'll get to move around the course all day; Rest Areas are a good place to plant yourself for a few hours.

73 Tom, AJ4UQ.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is around 160 and there will be rosters available at the next meeting. Currently no new applications as of this writing.

Lee KI4LLJ and Jennette KO4BPH  
CARS Membership Committee

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Get ready for Spring. Now is the time to prepare for the surprise severe weather events. The Upstate is preparing for Severe Thunderstorms and Tornadoes. The Low Country does get severe thunderstorms, but tornadoes are rare events. Check out the local Weather Service website for training and preparations available and keep a weather eye during these volatile months ahead.

Waiting for the Hurricane predictions which should be coming out soon and be aware the National Hurricane Center is looking for net control operators for the up coming season, check it out and help if possible. Start your planning like evacuation supplies, evacuation routes (have more than one),

and have recommended documents organized. The Low Country has been lucky so far but stay prepared anyway. A Hurricane Helene is always a possibility in the coastal region of South Carolina.

There will be NO Charleston County ARES meeting in March.

Try learning a digital mode like Winlink. Emergency Management Departments are trying to use this mode. A radio is NOT required to use the application, use "Telnet" which is the internet. Yes, the internet could fail during an event but knowing the app will help you with a radio or operate from another station as an alternate operator. There are ARES members with experience and willing to help you learn and you can go to "Wavetalkers" website for videos too. Check into the SCWinlinkTuesday net for experience.

With the better weather there will be the annual Full-Scale Exercises that the State and Counties have to perform for certifications. Listen closely to radio traffic on the repeaters, all exercise traffic should say "This is an exercise or drill" listen for the whole message and don't jump to a conclusion about a training exercise.

There will be outdoor events soon for disaster information. Try and make some, you can help demonstrate Amateur Radio and pick up latest information about other services available.

Until Next Month,  
73 Rick, N8BKN

## **FIELD DAY**

The 2025 ARRL Field Day will take place the last full weekend in June beginning at 2pm on the 28<sup>th</sup> and ending at 2pm on the 29<sup>th</sup>. It's the signature event of Ham Radio and is particularly special for us because of our opportunity to operate from the USS Yorktown.

We need a volunteer Captain and 3 or 4 operators to work the GOTA (Get On The Air) station. The GOTA station will operate the entire time the ship is open to the public and our team will be ambassadors for CARS and Ham Radio to all

visitors. Hence, the GOTA station is crucial to our success. The station will be set up at the entrance to the hangar deck in full view of the public. It's a terrific opportunity to show off our hobby and recruit new hams. It's also fun and highly rewarding to welcome the folks to the ship and offer them a chance to GOTA. Please consider helping our club with this important task!

Local, state, and national elected officials have been invited. So far we have one acceptance, Gary Santos, Mount Pleasant Town Councilman, who said he would be honored to attend.

Media invitations are being prepared.

Anyone who is interested in helping or participating please notify me or our FD Co-Captain, Avery Hill, W4QYV.

Many thanks!

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. We have registered the USS Laffey, Mk II PBR, and USS Yorktown (CV-10 only for MSW credit).

Tom, AJ4UQ

## **RACES / PUBLIC SERVICE**

We will be supporting the Ride the Lowcountry bike ride (<https://ridethelowcountry.com/>) on 12 April 2025. This ride puts us out in the National Forest away from cellular coverage, making it a great candidate for ham radio support. Work the whole day (starting around 0700) or do a shift during the day.

RSVP direct to Linda [kj4evv@gmail.com](mailto:kj4evv@gmail.com).

Tom, K4WJC and Doug, KU4OC

## SCHOOL CLUBS

Nothing to report.

Tom, AJ4UQ

## COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

Cars trailer is doing well 🍀

Mike, KY4BO

## FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>CARS Treasurer's Report January 1, 2025</b>			
<b>Checking Balance December 31, 2024</b>			\$ 1,345.52
<b>Cash Receipts - January</b>			
	Dues	150.00	
	Memberships	60.00	
	Raffle Proceeds	-	
		=	
<b>Total Receipts</b>			210.00
<b>Cash Disbursements -January</b>			
	No disbursements in January	-	
		-	
		-	
		=	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>			-
<b>Checking Balance January 31, 2025</b>			\$ 1,555.52

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

## MINUTES of the FEBRUARY MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society  
Monthly Meeting  
February 10, 2024

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

Introductions: Members attending: 41  
Associate: 0      Guests: 2

Announcements: Rick, N8BKN,  
General Class at VA Hospital

15 March 2025 General Class License taught at  
the VA Hospital Charleston

16 March 2025 with VE Test Contact Terry to  
register.

Food not available at the VA Hospital

Secretary's Report – Brian, KN4EXJ - Accepted  
as information With Correction Archie's  
Repeater is 147.345 offset of +600 Tone 141.3

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. A Captain for the GOTA  
station is needed along with 3 or 4 operators.

Museum Ships – Tom, AJ4UQ – Invitation for  
Museum Ships weekend 2025 on 7-8 June just came  
up. Asking the club to staff stations for  
NT4HI/USS Laffey, WD4PBR/Mark II PBR, and  
WA4USN/USS Yorktown (CV-10) with a bonus  
not-for-credit W2Z/USS Yorktown (CV-5).

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.

**Submissions/announcements send to**  
**CARSINFO@wa4usn.org**

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

**Education/Testing** –Eugene, AB4UG – Last test was Saturday at Tall Pines. Next test session is in conjunction with the General class at the VA Hospital downtown. Testing is at 1300 Hrs. Sunday 16 March. Next test after that will be Saturday 12 April at 0900 Hrs. at Tall Pines Baptist Church in Ladson.

Looking for Extra Class Licensees to act as VE examiners. Contact Eugene, AB4UG.

**Larry**, KJ4GZR, Code Practice will resume in March the second week at 8 pm on Wednesday. Rate 15 -20 Words per minute. Cheat Sheets are available. Slow Speed Code Class 8pm Wednesday 79 repeater.

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

Total Membership to date 155

Regular Voting members 148 with 4 life members

Lifetime members 4

Associates 7

**First Readings:**

**Second Reading:**

David Semenoff, KO4UFM

Paul Morris, KQ4ZTB

Robert Greene, W2EOH

Donna Ireland – Associate

**Special Notice:**

**If your name is on this list please contact Lee in reference to picking up your name tag.**

Brant KE8CTH

Don KN4EXI

Frank K4FHT

Michael N2LMU

Stuart KZ4LN

Fred KE4NHT

Peggy KJ4OZV

Ron KE4NHT

Travis KQ4SJI

Christopher KO4SIP

Paul N6VOY

Kerry KQ4VPK

Patrick KO4WSC

Dan KN4YII

Daryl KQ4YRV

Mitch Associate

**Emergency Preparedness:**

State FSX (Full Scale Exercise) will be March 11 and 12, 15, 2025 Exercise will focus on Long Term Power Outage including a pipe line disruption resulting in a loss of fuel to the state.

Training ARES courses available on line via ARRL website

Berkeley County: Linda, KJ4EUV

Charleston County: Rick, N8BKN

Dorchester County: Beverly, W3BRB, Discussion ongoing concerning the 147.180 repeater improvements. Goal is to have DMR operational by the end of the fiscal year. A reminder that there will be a Hurricane Expo May 31, 2025 at Ashley River Park. Will have another Technician class

scheduled so interested parties can sign up. ARES World Wide Amateur Radio Day April 18. There will be an Open House and local exercise.

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- Still pending. Weather delay.

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**

**Bryce, K4LXF- Proposed to make John Price a Life Member of the Club.** After a brief discussion a motion was made to upgrade John Price to a Life membership. The motion was seconded and the membership voted unanimously to make John a Life member of the Charleston Amateur Radio Society.

**Drawing** – Conducted by Larry, KJ4GZR, Won by David

**Meeting Adjourned: 1949 hrs.**

**Repeater Test Codes (Only on your local repeater)**

33 date and time read back

44 read back of your message

55 test on tone buttons on your radio

Brian, KN4EXJ

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