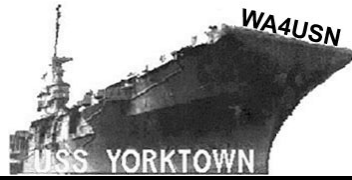


CARS



CARRIER



Charleston Amateur Radio Society

April 2006 Newsletter



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

*The CARS club meets the second Monday of each month at Ryan's Steak House on Highway 61.
The next club meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on Monday, April 10, 2006*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By the time this edition of our newsletter goes to print, the 29th Annual Cooper River Bridge Run will have come and gone – and been a great success. Thank you to all who helped, and to Doug (KU4OC) for his leadership in the effort. Basic communications capability is often taken for granted, until we lose it. In those times, radio amateurs have always had a very practical ability to make existing technology work to keep information flowing. But we sometimes forget that there have been many technical advances made by Hams, and that sometimes, we have helped shape national policy and new technology.

As an example, I have been writing about Broadband Over Powerline (BPL) for a couple of years. This is intriguing technology that allows the power infrastructure to become a conduit for Internet connectivity. Unfortunately, in its zeal to make a profit, industry has pushed for the technology without thinking through all of the ramifications – most notably the potential for massive interference across a great deal of the HF spectrum. Unchecked, industry would likely fast-track the technology with investments too broad to abandon, and the negative effects etched in stone. But, thanks to the efforts of radio amateurs and the ARRL, BPL technology is getting a thorough examination. And it's a good thing too, because the very HF frequencies at risk proved vital to international aid efforts after the Indonesian tsunami in December 2004, and became the last thread of communication to the Gulf Coast in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina.

Recent testing done at ARRL Headquarters with some industry BPL equipment suggests that chip set developers and manufacturers are working to minimize interference from their products on amateur bands. On March 9, a company named DS2

Incorporated brought a pair of modems using their latest-generation technology to ARRL Headquarters. Vice President of Technology and Strategic Partnerships, Chano Gómez, and Product Manager, Eduardo Lluna (EA5ETP) came along to participate in the experiments. ARRL Lab Manager, Ed Hare (W1RFI), described a 40 dB notch depth across the 20 meter band, and noted this was typical of all bands measured. This is encouraging since DS2's chip sets are used by several key BPL equipment makers; including Ambient, Amperion, Corinex and Mitsubishi, among others.

The natural disasters of the last year have punctuated the importance of careful thought about how we utilize both radio frequency spectrum, and the amateur radio service. Good technical knowledge maintained by Hams nationwide not only helps in times of emergency, but also helps shape policy, protect the frequency spectrum, and assist industry in developing better, more capable products. You can read more about the BPL issue at URL <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>

I look forward to seeing you at our next club meeting on April 10th.

73, Ken (AF4ZV)

HAMFEST COMMITTEE & HELPER PARTY – May 20, 2006

The Hamfest Committee Party will be held Saturday May 20, 06. The party will be at Bryce and my river house in Orangeburg. The party is for the Committee and those who helped (family included) with the Hamfest. Lunch will be served at 2:00 PM. Come as early as you like. Spend a fun day at the river. If you enjoy fishing you may want to bring your fishing equipment. Fish bite better early in the morning.

Please let me know by May 14 if you and yours plan to attend, so I will know how much food to buy. If you want anything to drink other than soft drinks, tea or coffee please bring your own. My phone number is 747-2324.

Directions: Take 1-26 West to Orangeburg Exit 154A, Hwy. 301. Go toward Orangeburg staying on 301. Once in Orangeburg look for the Edisto River. After you cross the Edisto River take a left turn at the first traffic light onto the Cannon Bridge Road. Go approximately 7 miles and watch for the river house sign on the left. The sign reads MRH. We will monitor our linked repeater system. For talk in switch to the 147.045 CTCSS 103.5 repeater.

Committee: The committee is invited to come up for the weekend. We will go up on Friday. Weekenders should bring their own bed linens, blanket, or sleeping bag, pillow, towels, and wash cloth. We do not have these things up there. Friday night is a covered dish supper. Please bring a covered dish and, if you like, a dessert. Also, if you want anything to drink other than soft drinks, tea or coffee, please bring your own.

Hope to see you there. Please RSVP by May 14, 06 to phone number 747-2324.

73, Jenny, Co-Chairman, Hamfest Committee

Updates from K4DMS

A BIG thank you to Bryce, K4LXF, Doc W4MUR and David, KI4FSC for installing the RadioJove Telescope antenna outside my classroom at DuBose. In order to use the radio telescope to collect data for the RadioJove NASA project, I need a computer with at least WindowsXP capacity. I would also use the computer for digital work with my amateur radio club and then as a way to expand amateur radio into my science teaching. And recently I learned that I need a coupler to connect the uplink and downlink bands with my satellite antenna if I am to make a contact with the satellite antenna. If anyone has any of the above equipment that they would be willing to donate to K4DMS, DuBose Middle School amateur radio club, we would greatly appreciate it.

73, Alene KG4NKD

MARCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Beginning Cash - 3/1/06 | \$1,571.88 |
| Cash Receipts: | |
| March Raffle | 35.00 |
| Addition from January | 289.71 |
| Cash Disbursements: | |
| WA4GPS - John Meyers | (63.57) |
| Pinckney Carter - Insurance | (250.00) |
| SERA | (20.00) |
| ARRL-Thomas Petroski-Mar. Raffle | (39.00) |
| Postmaster | (50.00) |
| Ending Cash - 3/31/06 | \$1,474.02 |
| Savings HT | \$ 26.69 |
| Savings ST - CD | \$1,257.05 |
| Linda NeSmith - K4MPY | |

MINUTES of MARCH MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61
Monday, March 13, 2006 - 7:30 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President, Kenneth Bible, AF4ZV, at 7:30 PM on March 13, 2006 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

Introductions:

There were 35 members and 9 guests present.

Secretary's Minutes/ Report: Tracey KG4HTW

In a motion by Don, KA3ZYP, seconded by Sam, KX4SAM, the minutes were approved as published in the March 2006 CARS Carrier, with a correction under applications for membership for the name Steven Tully [was incorrectly listed as Tulley]. Tracey also read aloud an acknowledgment card received from the Camp family.

Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

Linda read the treasurer's report for February 2006, which was accepted, as information.

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Beginning Cash - 2/1/06 | \$1,468.97 |
| Cash Receipts: | |
| February Raffle | 26.00 |
| Jenny Myers | 60.00 |
| Jenny Myers | 160.00 |
| Riley Stone - QSL Card refund | 109.95 |
| Cash Disbursements: | |

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Bank fee - returned check | (26.00) |
| ARRL - Joe Cannon - Oct Raffle | (39.00) |
| Bell South – Dec, Jan, Feb | (109.14) |
| WA4GPS - John Meyers | (38.40) |
| WA4NGV – Jenny Myers | <u>(40.50)</u> |
| Ending Cash - 2/28/06 | \$1,571.88 |
| Savings HT | \$ 26.69 |
| Savings ST - CD | \$1,257.05 |

Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

The Hamfest Committee met on March 4th to close out the 2006 Hamfest. The committee thinks that some of the Hamfest funds should be put in another account, so as to get the most for our money. We have \$20,337.85 in the Hamfest funds and it takes over \$4,000 to put on a Hamfest. The main Hamfest account has John Langley, K4CSB, Bryce Myers, K4LXF, and Daniel Lykins, KM4GT as the ones who can sign checks. Due to Dan’s health we would like to put Linda NeSmith, K4MPY, on the account to replace Dan. The signers should be authorized to handle the transaction. Jenny will make a motion under new business for these actions and for a 2007 Hamfest.

The Hamfest Committee and Helper party will be on Saturday, May 20 in Orangeburg at the McMillan (Myers) River House. Full information and directions will be in the April & May newsletters.

Field Day: Doc W4MUR

Doc noted that he is starting the sign-up process early this year and asking for members to volunteer and coordinate the annual stations. Field Day 2006 will start on 2 PM June 23 and run through 2 PM June 25. QSOs do not start until Saturday, June 24 at 2 PM. Volunteers for setup and tear-down are always needed and appreciated. More information to follow.

Museum Ships: Ed KQ4DC

The next event is the last weekend in April for Subs on the Air and there are normally 15 subs participating, including the US and Germany. Two volunteers are needed per shift to operate on the Clamagore. Please contact Ed at kq4dc@arrl.net. Next, on the first weekend in June, is the Museum ships on the Air, which will be coordinated through NJSBB. More information to follow on this event at the next meetings.

Races: Ken AF4ZV

Ken asked Doug KU4OC to provide an update on Cooper River Bridge Run planning. Doug noted that he is still taking volunteers. There will be 4 spots on the bridge and these volunteers will be transported to their stations. The packets will be available for pickup at Bryce and Jenny’s – please pickup as soon as possible. In addition, for information, there will be a wheel chair race component this year. Following the race, there will be a volunteer party at the Maritime center.

Next, Ken, acknowledged John Glover, of the Coastal Cyclists, and asked John to give an update on the April 2nd Century Ride. John thanked the CARS club for supporting communications for this event, especially as it follows the morning after the Bridge Run. John noted that the ride covers 100 miles and that route maps are available at the meeting tonight. Ken is the contact for volunteers participating in this event.

Emergency Prep: Bill WA4WGP

Ken AF4ZV noted that Bill is now serving as the ARRL Emergency Coordinator [EC] for Charleston County. Bill reported that last week he spent 2 days at the Francis Marion hotel to attend a meeting regarding Biohazard Responses to possible threats at the Port. Included at the meeting were groups from the FBI to local hospitals to DHEC. As a result of some contacts and networking, we may expect to receive additional assistance with the HEART project. In addition, the EC from Greenville contacted our group in Charleston to review our model for the hospital repeater network set up.

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF

Bryce noted that there was a report of an interference problem at the 25 repeater, testing is in progress to determine the source and resolve. Bryce mentioned that “123.0” is a standard sub-audible tone for this area. The Holly Hill repeater site had the contract expire and will need to be re-approved to continue work. The engineers plan to put the St. George frequency at the Holly Hill site and will have a 440 repeater that can tie into 2 meters at the site.

Nets: Ken AF4ZV for Riley K4HYY

Ken noted that Susannah, KE4RVF, will help coordinate nets while Riley is recovering.

Interference: Glenn WB4UIV

No new information to report.

Newsletter/ CARS Carrier: John WA4GPS

No new information to report.

Web Page: John WA4GPS

The address is www.qsl.net/wa4usn.

Education and VE Testing: Ken AF4ZV for Riley K4HYY

Members present at the meeting noted that the testing has changed from the second Saturday to the third Saturday of even numbered months. The schedule for regular VE Testing runs on even numbered months. The location of the next test session is to be announced, as the Trident Technical College is no longer an option. Cost is still \$14 and 2 forms of ID [one with picture] are required. See the CARS website for more information.

School Programs: Alene KG4NKD – DuBose Middle School Radio Club – K4DMS

Alene expressed thanks to John for including great coverage of the DuBose School Club Roundup event in the newsletter for March. Alene also thanked the CARS club members who installed the dipole antenna tuned to the sun's frequency. The school club will enjoy learning more about this project. Volunteer speakers are always welcome at the school club meetings on Tuesdays from 4pm to 5:30pm.

Membership: Bryce K4LXF

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: William H. Quednau, III - KI4LGD

2nd Reading: John Prescott - KI4LIC

Steven Tully - AG4SR

John W. King - KO4NB

Associate Membership: None

CARS CARRIER

Charleston **A**mateur **R**adio **S**ociety

423 Beaufort Rd., Summerville, SC 29483

In a motion by Don, KA3ZYP, and second by Deb, KX4DEB, the club approved the regular memberships of John Prescott, Steven Tully, and John W. King.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Hamfest Bank Accounts - Jenny WA4NGV

The Hamfest Committee makes a motion to remove Dan Lykins from the main Hamfest checking account and add Linda NeSmith. The list of authorized signers would then be: John Langley, Bryce Myers, and Linda NeSmith. Motion carried.

The Hamfest Committee makes a motion for the CARS club's approval for the Hamfest account signers to put part of the money [in the Hamfest checking account] in an account where they determine will earn the best return given the time frame for the use of the funds. Motion carried.

Hamfest 2007 - Jenny WA4NGV

The Hamfest Committee makes a motion to have a Hamfest in the year 2007, and that a new committee be formed, with the authority to use the Hamfest funds. Motion carried.

Announcements:

Tours of Channel Four – Glenn WB4UIV

Glenn invited club members to contact him if they have an interest in touring the Channel 4 Station.

Drawing: The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Tom Petroski, KC2LGS.

A motion to adjourn was made by JJ, KF4BZH, and seconded by Deb, KX4DEB.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey, KG4HTW.