

CARS



CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

August 2008 Newsletter

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

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, August 11, 2008

DUES FOR THE YEAR

**AUGUST 1, 2008 – JULY 31, 2009
ARE DUE**

\$20.00/Year, \$10.00 for each additional member in the same household. Please make check payable to CARS. You may pay at the meeting or mail to membership chairman: **Bryce Myers, K4LXF, 2630 Dellwood Ave., North Charleston, SC 29405-6814**

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the newly elected President of the CARS club, I wish to express my thanks to all those who have put their faith in my abilities to keep the organization operating in the same excellent manner in which Ken Bible, AF4ZV, left it. He led the club in a quiet, calm and assuring manner. I will do my best to keep the CARS club one of the best. Ken will be assuming the task of the clubs PIO (Public Information Officer). This will assist in keeping organizations asking for help from our club talking with a person which they have dealt with in the past.

I will be available to speak with anyone about suggestions, problems or anything they may have questions about concerning the CARS club. My phone number and address are in the roster.

We have an excellent staff of officers this coming year, Vice President Tracey Bible, KG4HTW, Secretary Alene Wilkins, KG4NKD, and Treasurer Linda NeSmith, K4MPY. These are the folks who will make my job easy and keep me on the ball.

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting, clear your calendar for that evening.

73's Bill WA4WGP

REPORT ON ARES NET

July was a very exciting month as we had an earthquake drill within one of the July nets. Darrell, KB7QVG, wrote the script and had asked several hams to participate. Darrell began the net from his home in Summerville. All of a sudden, with stressed voice, said that his house was shaking and you could hear his daughter calling for help. Darrell asked for a net controller to take over the net as his home was without power and he was running on emergency power. After a brief pause, Carl, AJ4DW, from Columbia, stepped up and took over the net. He was not aware that this drill was going to take place. Emergency traffic started rolling in with many requests for help. Carl did a great job of handling each incident. For instance, there was a man, trapped in a truck with water pouring in all around him. A close by ham, hearing this told net control that he had equipment in his vehicle and could rescue him. There was a fire in a neighborhood with many trees and the fear of fire spreading rapidly. The fire trucks were alerted and the fire was put out. Of course, this was a scripted drill and so in reality, the above may not always have a happy ending. The point was to educate everyone of what could happen in a disaster and what we, as hams, can do. Darrell then took the net back and gave us insight into being prepared at any time to use your license to assist in any disaster, as this scenario could become a reality. Thanks go to Darrell for the planning and execution of this drill. In case you missed it, there are audio files of this particular net on www.w4brk.org

The July 27th ARES net was run by Katie, KI4LSZ, a fifteen year old young lady who did an outstanding job. Hopefully, this will inspire other young people to take up ham radio.

For the month of July, there was a total of 202 check-ins.

If you are interested in getting involved in your county's team, here is the list of those whom you should contact: Darrell, KB7QVG, Berkeley County; Ed Steeble, K3IXD, Dorchester County; Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, Charleston County.

I hope you consider getting involved.

73, Susannah (KE4RVF)

MINUTES of JULY MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61
Monday, July 14, 2008 - 7:30 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President, Ken Bible, AF4ZV, at 7:30 PM on July 14, 2008 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

Introductions:

There were 36 members and 6 guests present.

Secretary's Minutes/ Report: Tracey KG4HTW

In a motion by Bob Ramos, W4HGW, and second by Bryce Myers, K4LXF, the June 2008 meeting minutes were approved as published in the July 2008 CARS Carrier.

Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

The Treasurer's Report for June 2008 was accepted as information, as published in the July 2008 CARS Carrier.

Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

Jenny reported that the new contract has been received for use of the space at the fairgrounds. The costs have increased and a Hamfest Committee meeting shall be called shortly to address the changes and plan accordingly. Jenny will provide an updated report following the Hamfest Committee meeting..

Field Day: Doc W4MUR

Tim expressed thanks, on behalf of Doc, to all the volunteers who assisted with everything from

refreshments to antennas. There were a couple challenges this year: (1) interference among stations on the Yorktown due to missing filters and (2) a software application failure on both logging systems caused the loss of a significant number of contacts (about 211 on CW and 600 on SSB).

Despite the loss of the data in the logging system, both stations kept going and made about 110 contacts.

We also recorded 65 volunteers in attendance for our 2008 Field Day and we got all but one of the bonus points. And, for the first time in 3 years our GOTA station made points.

Jenny Myers made a report of Field Day expenditures:

Budget Amount:	\$550.00
Food	301.21
Gas	79.01
Staples	13.41
ARRL	9.47
Leftover Gas	- 28.95
Leftover Food	+ 3.25
Total Expense	(\$377.40)
Difference	
Returned to club	\$172.60

Museum Ships: Ed Walker KQ4DC and David KI4FSC

No new event information to report.

Ken Bible, AF4ZV reported on the hundreds of QSL cards that arrived since the June event.

Emergency Prep: Bill WA4WGP, Charleston; John W4HMK, Dorchester; Vince KI4AOC, Berkeley

Charleston: Bill provided an update on an initiative from Charleston County to have residents register for "ALERT Charleston County" which is service the County will be using to provide emergency notifications to citizens. Bill urged all hams to sign-up in order to help speed up mobilization of volunteers during an emergency. A handout was

provided and it noted that additional information may be found at www.charlestoncounty.org/alertfaq.htm.

Dorchester: Meetings on 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at the County Sheriff's complex on Hwy 78. The July meeting time was used to aid in planning the simulated event held on July 13th.

Berkeley: Meetings on the last Saturday of each month at 9:00am – please see website at www.w4brk.org for details. There was no June meeting due to Field Day activities. Meetings will resume on the normal date and time in July.

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF

Bryce reported that the repeater systems are functioning well at the moment and he provided an overview of the various networks in the Lowcountry. In particular, Bryce noted that the statewide network is only linked up twice per week.

Nets: Linda K4MPY - Newcomers Net; Susannah KE4RVF - ARES Net
Please see website for specific dates & times for nets at www.wa4usn.org.

Skywarn Net: Bobby McBride, W4KSD, announced that the next net at 9PM would be a statewide net hosted from Charleston, with a meteorologist on hand to answer questions.

Races: Tracey Bible, KG4HTW, for Ken AF4ZV

No new requests for assistance. Bryce Myers, K4LXF, shared that Charlie Fox, KI4UIZ, sent a note that the 100 mile bike ride event went okay.

Interference: Bryce K4LXF

No new information was reported.

Newsletter/CARS Carrier/Website: John WA4GPS
John has posted a new page for the Museum Ships on the club website, www.wa4usn.org.

Education and VE Testing: Sheila KT4YW and Linda K4MPY

Sheila reported that the VE team will conduct testing the 2nd Saturday in August at Trident Hospital. In addition, the new Extra Class exams will be available.

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

No new information to report – School is out for the Summer.

Membership: Bryce K4LXF

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: Billie Thompson, KJ4BNA
John Murray, W4JOM
Richard Rice, KI4BBX

2nd Reading: Todd Schlesinger, KI4BJV
Bruce Horowitz, KJ4EIZ

Associate Membership: None

In a motion by Bobby McBride, W4KSD, seconded by JJ Lewis, KF4BZH, Todd Schlesinger and Bruce Horowitz were approved for regular membership in the CARS club.

Old Business:

Nominating Committee & Election of Officers:
Bryce Myers, K4LXF, committee chairman, read the slate of proposed officers for the upcoming year 2008-2009: President-Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP; Vice-president- Tracey Bible, KG4HTW; Secretary-Alene Wilkins, KG4NKD; and Treasurer-Linda NeSmith, K4MPY. Ken Bible, AF4ZV, then opened the floor to any additional nominations. Having none, in a motion by JJ Lewis, KF4BZH, second by Bobby McBride, W4KSD, the club voted to close the nominations. Next in a motion by JJ Lewis, KF4BZH, and second by Timothy Russell, KD5YUC, the club approved the slate of officers as presented.

Newly elected club President, Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, lead the remainder of the meeting. Bill recognized Ken Bible for his leadership of the club and the members present gave a standing round of applause. Next Bill announced that he had asked Ken to serve as the club's PIO [Public Information Officer].

New Business:

National Weather Service: Bobby McBride, W4KSD, reported that the local NWS would like an opportunity to make a brief presentation to the CARS club.

Emergency Training Opportunity: Bill Dees and Charlie Miller will be conducting a class to train hams on protocol and operating procedure during an emergency. The class will be this Friday from 8AM – 5PM at the old Navy base at 1362 McMillan. Contact Sandra McNeil, KG4ECX, to sign-up.

Announcements:

Happy Birthday to Bryce Myers, K4LXF – 75 years young!

Drawing: The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Greg Johnson, WA7TSP.

A motion to adjourn was made by George Twiddy, KI4NNK, and seconded by Dennis O’Leary, KE5IDE.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey, KG4HTW.

**IF THERE’S AN EMERGENCY,
WE’LL CALL YOU**

Charleston County Government’s free **Alert Charleston County** notification system allows us to provide real-time emergency alerts directly to you through recorded voice or text messages.

Alert Charleston County can only be effective if we have your current land line, cell phone, or broadband phone number associated with a location for which you wish to receive notifications (i.e., home, office, child’s daycare, etc.).

Sign up today via alert.charlestoncounty.org or submit a paper registration form at a drop box at a Charleston County Service Center.

Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, requests that all local hams sign up so that you will be automatically alerted to a disaster of any type when it occurs and you can check to see if Amateur Radio operators are needed to assist.

CARS CARRIER

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423 Beauregard Rd., Summerville, SC 29483-1989

