

# CARS



# CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

September 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, September 8, 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**

This past week I was privileged to assist the VE Team giving tests to thirteen new candidates for a Ham license. It was gratifying to see people with little or very little knowledge of electronics pass the exams. They were given the course information authorized by ARRL and questions supplied by a panel of veteran Hams with FCC sanctions. There are Hams insinuating that the VE people are giving out licenses freely. I would suggest that the people who feel this way should get a VE certification and volunteer to give the tests. Better still go to a session and take the test or sit in on an examination and also take the class before the exam. I think they will come out with a different perspective. Enough of the soap box.

This article is being written on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August and we are watching tropical storm FAY very carefully hoping that it does not turn and come close to this area. The EOC at Charleston County are sitting at their desks with fingers and legs crossed hoping for the best. We are hoping that it just delivers rain to Florida, no flooding and no wind damage. Florida has had enough the past few years.

See everyone at the meeting 8 September 2008 at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy 61 West Ashley.

73's, Bill WA4WGP

## **ARES NET REPORT**

Thanks to Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, for scheduling August's net controllers who did a really fine job of running the ARES nets on Sunday evening at 8 PM. At present, we are in the hurricane season, as you all know, so it is a good idea to stay tuned to your radio for any warnings. We need to stay informed, especially at this time of year.

Net controllers keep a log of those who check into the ARES net. These logs are important for many communication purposes. Have you wondered why they sometimes request the frequency you are using to check into the net? There are many reasons but one is so that they know how they can probably reach you in order to request you pass traffic, or perhaps to run a net on that particular frequency or any other task where you could be of help in a disaster.

Emergencies pose unlimited problems and you could be the solution to aiding someone with your skill of communication. Doesn't matter if you are an ARES or RACES member, you, as an amateur radio operator, have learned short cuts in communication. You never know when you might be the only one hearing a voice with a plea for help. Listening to the net, even if you don't feel like checking in, could improve your communication skills. Joining your local ARES group keeps you informed of new methods to cope with different disasters. It is an educational entity in that you are made more aware of what possibilities could arise and how to deal with that particular situation.

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. Stay prepared and safe.

73, Susannah KE4RVF

## August Financial Report

Beginning Cash - 8/1/08	\$1,535.25
Cash Receipts:	
August Raffle	36.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - August Newsletter	(40.87)
ARRL - WI4TVA, Greg - Aug. Raffle	(39.00)
Bell South - August	(47.86)
Ending Cash - 8/31/08	\$1,443.52
Savings HT	\$ 27.13
Savings ST - CD	\$1,306.45

Linda NeSmith - K4MPY

## MINUTES of AUGUST MEETING

### Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61  
Monday, August 11, 2008 - 7:30 PM

#### MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President, Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, at 7:30 PM on August 11, 2008 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

#### Introductions:

There were 38 members and 5 guests present.

#### Secretary's Minutes/ Report: Alene KG4NKD

In a motion by Bryce Myers, K4LXF, and second by Ken Bible, AF4ZV, the July 2008 meeting minutes were approved as published in the August 2008 CARS Carrier.

#### Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

Beginning Cash - 7/1/08	\$517.02
Cash Receipts:	
July Raffle	44.00
Jenny Myers - Dues received	930.00
Jenny Myers - Field Day refund	172.60
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - July Newsletter	(41.65)
ARRL - WA7TSP, Greg - July Raffle	(39.00)
Bell South - July	(47.72)
Ending Cash - 7/31/08	\$1,535.25
Savings HT	\$ 27.13
Savings ST - CD	\$1,306.45

In a motion by Doc Crane, W4MUR, and second by Bobby McBride, W4KSD, the Treasurer's Report for July 2008 was accepted as information.

#### Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

Jenny, WA4NGV, stated that a Hamfest Committee Meeting was held to discuss costs. The Hamfest will occur on Saturday, February 7, 2009 at the Exchange Park. This year's Hamfest will also be the State Convention.

Jenny announced that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual TARC Tailgate will occur this coming Saturday, August 16 at the Eternal Order of Police on 17A.

#### Field Day: Doc W4MUR

Doc, W4MUR, reported that we lost a large number of points due to a computer error. He also reported that we received 1290 Bonus points for various categories including emergency power, youth participation, GOTA, educational presentation, and field message. We received 172 points for 86 CW contacts and 574 points for 115 phone contacts.

Doc further stated that we will not be able to use the Yorktown for Field Day next year, due to another event occurring at Patriots Point that day.

And Doc announced his retirement as the coordinator of Field Day Activities.

#### Museum Ships: Ed Walker KQ4DC and David KI4FSC

No official report. Wess Leitch, W4RUX, presented information concerning the Coastguard CW association turning over the NR4DL station call sign to CARS. A motion to accept will be addressed under new business.

#### Emergency Prep: Bill WA4WGP, Charleston; John W4HNC, Dorchester; Vince KI4AOC, Berkeley

Charleston: Bill, WA4WGP, announced that there will be an ARES meeting Saturday, August 16, at 9 am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the State Guard Headquarters on Albemarle Road.

Dorchester: Meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at the County Sheriff's complex on Hwy 78.

Susannah Roth, KE4RVF, said that there was a lot of discussion at the last meeting about important emergency procedures.

Susannah also made a plea for more net operators for the Sunday night ARES net and asked if anyone had any contacts in the upstate, who might be willing to be an ARES net coordinator for those ARES areas within the state not currently represented.

Berkeley: Meetings are on the last Saturday of each month at 9:00am – please see the website at [www.w4brk.org](http://www.w4brk.org) for details. No information was presented.

**Repeater Report:** Bryce K4LXF

No news. The problems with the Knightsville repeater due to the last storm have been fixed.

**Nets:** Linda K4MPY - Newcomers Net; Susannah KE4RVF - ARES Net  
Please see website for specific dates & times for nets at [www.wa4usn.org](http://www.wa4usn.org).

**Races:** Tracey Bible, KG4HTW, for Ken AF4ZV  
No new requests at this time.

**Interference:** Bryce K4LXF  
No new information was reported.

**Newsletter/CARS Carrier/Website:** John WA4GPS  
The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booklet has been scanned onto the website for all to visit.

**Education and VE Testing:** Sheila KT4YW and Linda K4MPY  
VE testing was this past weekend and had no testers.

There is a Technicians class occurring on August 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, through DHEC. There are a few remaining spots. The class will be given at 4050 Ridgeview Drive, Suite 600. Sandra McNeil, KG4ECX, is taking names of participants. A test session for licensing will be offered after the class.

Linda NeSmith, K4MPY and Susannah Roth, KE4RVF, are also working on setting up a class based on the Fair list from last October.

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

The new school year is just around the corner. The 1<sup>st</sup> K4DMS meeting will be on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> in room 303 at DuBose from 4-5:30. Anyone interested in visiting the club are encouraged to attend. David, KI4FSC, will be reinstalling K4DMS's antennas to her new classroom during the Labor Day weekend.

Alene, also reported that she attended the ARRL Teacher's Institute on Wireless Technology in Dayton, during the week of July 13<sup>th</sup>. She personally learned a lot, brought home information and equipment to share with both her club and her students. She encourages other teachers to take the course and is willing to discuss the experience with others.

**Membership:** Bryce K4LXF

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: Richard Rice, KI4BBX

2nd Reading: Billie Thompson, KJ4BNA  
John Murray, W4JOM  
(wishes to be called Jack)

Associate Membership: None

In a motion by Bob Ramos, W4HGW, seconded by John Welton, N4SJW, Billy Thompson and Jack Murray were approved for regular membership in the CARS club.

Bryce, K4LXF, also mentioned that CARS is an ARRL affiliated club and to maintain affiliation 51% of our members must also be members of ARRL and at present our percentages are falling dangerously low. Bryce pointed out that ARRL affiliation has many benefits including door prizes and printing labels for Hamfest. He also stated that ARRL rebates CARS \$15.00 of membership fees when a member joins. He would like to have the club return the rebate to the member.

Jenny, WA4NGV, added that ARRL has stipulation about time limitation for members who are rejoining. Anyone interested in obtaining a roster that list members in alphabetical order should see Bryce to obtain one.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Motion was made by Ed Walker, KQ4DC, seconded by Wess Leitch, W4RUX, to transfer the coastguard CW station call sign, NR4DL to CARS.

Barbara Grube, Lowcountry MRC Volunteer Coordinator fro DHEC, Region 7 presented information concerning the SCserve, volunteer pre-registration online program for amateur radio operators and others who wish to share their talents during an emergency. She also discussed the ReachSC program that actually call individuals registered as volunteers in the SCserve database. If interested check out the SCserve website <http://www.scdhec.gov/scserv>.

Joe Calderone, Climate and Aviation Programs Manager Meteorologist, with the National Weather Service gave an extensive presentation on the services offered by the National Weather Service. He also explained the hazards associated with different weather conditions and what to do during such weather activity. Joe encouraged everyone to get a

NOAA Weather Radio and become involved in the SkyWarn program.

**Announcements:**

Jenny, WA4NGV, explained that the Hamfest committee is looking for individuals or businesses to sponsor our Hamfest to help cut cost for the club. If you wish to be a sponsor, contact Jenny.

Bryce reminded everyone that he still has four CARS baseball caps on sale for \$8.00.

New member, Jack Murray, W4JOM, is seeking an HT for his use. Please contact Jack if you have something that might interest him.

**Drawing:** The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Greg Amirault, KI4TVA,

A motion to adjourn was made by Ed Walker, KQ4DC, and seconded by Bob Ramos, W4HGW.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Alene, KG4NKD.

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## Charleston Amateur Radio Society

423 Beaufort Rd., Summerville, SC 29483-1989

