

# CARS



# CARRIER



Charleston Amateur Radio Society

February 2009 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, February 9, 2009***

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year is starting to look like we will have lots of projects starting up. We will begin with the earth quake project which, by this time, everyone has heard the presentation by Brian Fletcher, K6NWS. Incidentally, he will have an article published in QST this next issue. He will generate the awareness, possibly around the world, of the activity that is happening in Charleston. This will be an excellent promotion for Amateur Radio, which we will be able to get excerpts or copies of the article to use as publicity. We can use all the help we can get to promote amateur radio. We also have the Hamfest coming soon, February 7 to be exact, which creates interest in the Ham world. There is going to be some updating of the EOCs with new equipment, which will assist in better communications with outside areas and within our area. Later we will participate in the Bridge Run which gives us a high profile. The communications we use there is absolutely the best and the coordination the best you can find.

This year looks like it will be very productive and exciting. So fasten your seat belts.

See you at the next meeting February 9 at our usual place.

73's, Bill, WA4WGP

## ARES NET REPORT

Thanks go to Ed, K3IXD, for scheduling the nets last month. The net controllers did a fine job. In December, under Darrell's guidance, KJ4EUV, a new ham, ran the net and did a fine job!

For the last few months, radios have been obtained through grants to be used in the area counties. These radios will go into containers and will be placed throughout the area in strategic places, such as a fire station, etc. so that a ham can go and get them and operate them should there be a disastrous event. To be prepared for any event is of the utmost importance. ARES members are taking these radios home and learning how to use them. They will be passed around to members of ARES so that members can become familiar with them. These radios are all the same. They are Yaesu's FT-897. This radio is a menu driven radio and has a tuner that fits on the side and a power supply plus antennas will also be in the container. The beauty of them all being the same is that we have been able to relate and compare usage to one another. We are thankful to Brian Fletcher, K6NWS for obtaining this grant for all three of the counties. We are a busy bunch as you can see and ask that you consider joining us.

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

### **NEWCOMERS NET REPORT**

We are presently looking for net controllers for the lowcountry newcomers net. If you have never run a net before, this is the place to learn. We have a preamble that we can send you to read over the air before you take check-ins. Anyone who is interested can call Susannah at 873-7684.

73, Linda, K4MPY and Susannah, KE4RVF

### **MINUTES of JANUARY MEETING**

#### **Charleston Amateur Radio Society**

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61  
Monday, January 12, 2009 - 7:30 PM

#### **MINUTES:**

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President, Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, at 7:30 PM on January 12, 2009 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

#### **Introductions:**

There were 49 members and 6 guests present.

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

Motion to accept the minutes was made by Greg, KI4TVA and seconded by Dennis, W4LXG. The minutes were accepted as published in the January CARS Carrier.

#### **Treasurer's Report:** Linda K4MPY

#### **Nov. / Dec. Financial Report**

Beginning Cash - 11/1/08	\$1,721.41
Cash Receipts:	
Jenny Myers - Membership dues	960.00
Cash Disbursements:	
Jenny Myers - CC Fair & Office Supplies	(102.18)
John Meyers - November Newsletter	(41.13)
SERA Membership	(20.00)
Ed Steeble - K4DMS Power Supply	(129.95)
Bell South - November & December	(61.69)
Ending Cash - 12/31/08	\$2,326.46
Savings HT	\$ 27.17
Savings ST - CD	\$1,306.45

Linda NeSmith - K4MPY

#### **Christmas Party 2008 - Final Report**

Paid Dinners - 62	Children Free - 2	
Total for meals at \$14 each		\$840.00
Tips		126.00
Tax		79.80
Sub-Total		1,045.80
Deposit		(150.00)
Balance paid to the Point Grill		895.80
Paid by club members		(806.00)
Remaining Point Grill cost to CARS		89.80
Stamps (extra stamps to membership chair)		84.00
Favors		16.52
Xmas paper for letters(enough paper for '09)		10.00
Total owed Jenny Myers by CARS		200.32
Deposit to the Point Grill		150.00
Total cost to club for '08 Christmas Party		350.32

Jenny Myers - WA4NGV

#### **Hamfest Report:** Jenny WA4NGV

- we have commitments from 5 dealers at this time.
- All information concerning the Hamfest can be found on the club website: WA4USN.org
- Hamfest committee meeting on Saturday, 1/17 at 3 pm at the Myers home
- Everybody is reminded that help will be needed on February 6<sup>th</sup> for set-up, call Jenny for details

**Field Day:** Doug Clark, KU4OC

A new logging program has been obtained.

**Museum Ships:** Ed Walker, KQ4DC, and David, KI4FSC

The Laffey has been closed, equipment has been removed, Ed, KQ4DC is hoping to get special permission to operate on the Laffey on April 16<sup>th</sup> for the anniversary celebration of the Kamikaze attack on the Laffey.

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

Charleston: Monthly meeting is this Saturday, 9 am, at EOC on Leeds Ave. to work on radios for the “Emergency Containers” being setup around the tri-county area.

Dorchester: Meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at the County Sheriff’s complex on Hwy 78. This past Saturday, DCART members put together six radios and accessory equipment and took the equipment home to determine if it is working correctly and to get familiar with the equipment.

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

**Repeater Report:** Bryce K4LXF

Autopatch problems on the .25 machine have been solved.- due to a controller switch-out.

**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).

Still looking for new operators for the Sunday night ARES net and the Thursday evening Newcomers Net – any and all hams including New Hams can help.

**Races:** Ken AF4ZV

We have been asked to support communications on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 for a 5K and 15K race. A motion was made by Bobby, W4KSD and seconded by Ed, KQ4DC. The club voted to support the race.

**Interference:** Bryce K4LXF

None.

**Newsletter/Website:** John WA4GPS

A new page has been added for the New D-Star Repeaters (2) and the Hamfest page has been updated.

**Education & VE Testing:** Sheila KT4YW and Linda K4MPY

VE testing occurs on the second Saturday of even months of the year at Trident Hospital.

The next testing will occur at the Hamfest – please note that the cost of the test has increased to \$15.00.

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

K4DMS meets on Tuesdays, in room 303 at DuBose from 4-5:30. Anyone interested in visiting the club is encouraged to attend.

Just returned from Christmas Break – nothing to report.

**Membership:** Bryce K4LXF

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: Al Husenitza, KB2QXT

Larry A. Groves, KJ4GZR

Ronald Eugene Beltz, KJ4IPB

2nd Reading: None

Associate Membership: None

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

Brian Fletcher, K6NWS gave an informative presentation on the disaster containers program. Brian Fletcher can be reached at k6nws@yahoo.com

**Announcements:**

None.

**Drawing:** The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Greg, WA7TSD.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tracey, KG4HTW, and seconded by David, KI4FSC

Meeting adjourned at 9:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Alene, KG4NKD.

**COMING ATTRACTIONS**

New “Lithium Air” batteries being developed already pack a whopping 3,000 – watt hours per kilogram --- enough to power a cell phone for 250 hours! Lithium Air batteries may power your future car and wouldn't it be great to have solar cells on the roof of your car, that during the day, would recharge those Lithium Air batteries running the car thus creating a vehicle that wouldn't use an ounce of gasoline.

Other new energy-related research includes work developing infinitely rechargeable supercapacitors, cost-effective wind turbines that generate energy in a variety of wind conditions, and ways to convert our abundant supply of coal into jet fuel.

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