

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

August 2009 Newsletter

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

CARS meets the second Monday of each month at Ryan's Steak House on Highway 61.

Our next meeting will be held at 7:30 PM, Monday, August 10, 2009



DUES FOR THE YEAR AUGUST 1, 2009 – JULY 31, 2010 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

At our last meeting, the club elected a new slate of club officers for the next year. It is an honor for me to be able to serve as President of the CARS club, and in doing so become only the second woman to serve in this role. I would like to thank Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, for his leadership this past year as our President. Bill will continue to serve the club and the ham community in general as the ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Charleston County. In addition, I appreciate the willingness of fellow club members, Greg Amirault (KI4TVA), Mark Caragher (KE4KMD), and Linda NeSmith (K4MPY), to serve as officers with me for 2009-2010.

I mentioned before that I will be only the second woman President of CARS. Jenny Myers, WA4NGV, was the first woman elected to this office, and she modeled a spirit of service in the role. Her tireless dedication to the club's events, traditions, and welcoming new members set the standard regardless of gender, I think. I'll try my best to live up to the confidence you have placed in me. I look forward to continuing the work of our past presidents and engaging current members to ensure that the CARS club remains a relevant resource to local hams and the community.

In reading the recent issue of *The ARRL Letter*, I saw that the ARRL Board of Directors was reviewing their Strategic Plan and expect an update to be shared in their October meeting. The first two items listed on the longer term "10 – 30 Year" plan are: (1) the ARRL will be extremely successful in protecting Amateur Radio frequencies and creating an enlightened regulatory climate and (2) the ARRL will strongly and proactively improve the overall image and relevance of Amateur Radio with the public, especially as the only fully redundant and failsafe communication system in the country during an emergency. I think we all appreciate the efforts of the first item, but the second item made me stop and truly appreciate the value of our hobby. And as an ARRL affiliate club, I began thinking about how we play our local part in helping with this national agenda.

I hope to continue this dialog with the club, and welcome your input.

Please join me and your fellow CARS members at the next meeting on August 10th at 7:30pm.

73, Tracey, KG4HTW

ARES NET REPORT

South Carolina is certainly doing its part in being ready for disasters and emergencies. We have come a very long way. We are using a linked system that can breach distances we never thought possible in the 2 meter band. Should we ever have an event that required calling on nearby communities for help, it is in place. Soon the SCHEART system will have a repeater in Rock Hill, S. C. This of course will be an additional repeater incorporated into the SCHEART system. Many states are looking at SC and thinking about following suit. Can you imagine the scope of

this? States will be helping other states in a network done by you, the hams. You can be proud to call yourself a ham.

There is a need for ARES net controllers and, if you would like to run one, get in touch with your area's net scheduler. If ever a time comes where you are needed to control traffic on the radio, at least you will have a little experience in knowing how to call a net. Think about it. We do need you. So far we have 6 areas in SC that are lined up to do the net. Area 1 will take August, Area 2 Sept., Area 3 Oct., Area 4 Jan. 2010, Area 5 Nov., and Area 6 Dec. All of these areas need net controllers. Hope you can get in touch with your area's District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) and let them know you want to help out. If you are not sure who to contact, call me at 873-7684. I will be glad to help you.

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 13, 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 July 13, 2009 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

Introductions:

There were 34 members and 9 guests present.

Secretary's Minutes/Report: Alene KG4NKD

In a motion by Wes Leitch, W4RUX, and second by Ken Bible, AF4ZV, the June 2009 meeting minutes were approved as published in the July 2009 CARS Carrier.

Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

The May 2009 Treasurer's report was in the July 2009 CARS Carrier and accepted as information.

Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

Jenny reported that she is waiting on the contract from the Exchange Club Fairgrounds manager. We have already been notified that the price will increase by \$100. No additional information at this time.

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

No new information to report.

Field Day: Doug Clark, KU4OC

Doug provided a detailed report of the 2088 points earned during the 2009 Field Day event, which was held for the first time in Marion Square. A few items noted included: 83 phone contacts; 24 digital mode contacts; 189 CW contacts; and additional points were earned for operating on 150 watts or less; the channel 4 visit; and the visit by Mayor Riley. Thanks to Bob Ramos, W4HGW, for copying the W1AW bulletin & for making the 189 CW contacts and to all the volunteers who helped make this 2009 Field day come together. Doug appealed to members who visited or participated to share their digital photos of the public information table, interview with the mayor, and the channel 4 visit – for backup in our submission to ARRL.

Jenny Myers, WA4NGV, gave a report of the \$500 appropriation for Field Day operations: \$211.21 was spent on food and the remaining \$288.79 was returned to the treasurer. The cost of the Port-o-let was less than \$100, which will be reimbursed to Doug Clark. Total event costs will be under \$500.

PIO / Races: Ken, AF4ZV

Ken reported on two events for which CARS Communication support has been requested:

- (1) Isle of Palms Connector 10K Run: October 3, 2009 – 1st Saturday in October. This run Exchange Clubs of Mount Pleasant and the Isle of Palms, which benefits the prevention of child abuse. Dr. Howard Joyner has contacted the club on behalf of the IOP race.
- (2) Riverfront Race Festival Run – half marathon: January 16, 2010. For this event, they would like to have a total of 20 stations to cover mile markers, net control, medical stations, and

event leadership. The planning committee is meeting regularly to plan early for this event & meets each 3rd Thursday at 8:30am at Pannera Bread in N.Charleston. The race benefits the YEA – Youth Endowment for the Arts. CARS member, Charles Fox, KI4UIZ, is the contact for the race event.

See new business for motions.

Emergency Prep: Bill WA4WGP, Charleston; John W4HNK, Dorchester; Vince K4AOC, Berkeley

Charleston: Bill invited members to attend the upcoming Saturday meeting on 7/18/09. The St. Andrews Fire Station will host the meeting [at their 1775 Ashley River Road location]. The meeting starts at 9AM.

Dorchester: Hector Melendez, KI4UIR, noted that at the last meeting a web-based EOC training was discussed along with the possibility of training hams in 911 call traffic. No additional information to report.

Berkeley: No Report.

Repeater Report: Bryce, K4LXF

Bryce noted that the 146.79 is on the air with a new repeater. The autopatch feature is not yet operational and remains a work in progress. We will not be able to use the “*” and “#” keys to activate – as soon as the new key combinations are assigned, a notice will be included in the CARS Carrier.

Nets: Linda, K4MPY & Susannah, KE4RVF
No new information to report.

Newsletter/Website: John, WA4GPS
No new information to report.

Education & VE Testing: Sheila, KT4YW
Sheila reported on the testing session in June: Following a class conducted by Bryce Myers, K4LXF, which was attended by 12 individuals, 11 people attempted & passed the exam. One person who completed the class was unable to make this test session, but is expected to attend the next.

A question was asked about when the next class would be held. Bryce noted that he would be happy

to plan a session as soon as 10-12 people express interest and sign up.

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

Out for the summer – No Report.

Membership: Bryce, K4LXF
There are 173 members.

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: John Borkowski – K3JCB

2nd Reading: Charles Lee Weeks, KD4TXM

Associate Membership: None

In a motion by John Meyers, WA4GPS, seconded by JJ Lewis, KF4BZH, Charles Weeks was approved for regular membership in the CARS club.

Old Business:

ARRL PR-101 Computer Course - \$25 was appropriated at the June 2009 meeting to purchase the CD. John Meyers, WA4GPS, has obtained the CD and is circulating among interested club members. To check out the CD, please contact John.

New Business:

Isle of Palms Connector Run & Riverfront Race Festival Half Marathon: In a motion by Ken Bible, AF4ZV, second by Bryce Myers, K4LXF, the CARS club approved the request for communication support for both of the upcoming events: October 2009 and January 2010.

Nomination for 2009-2010 Officers: President, Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, read aloud the names of the members nominated at the last meeting: President – Tracey Bible, KG4HTW; Vice President – Greg Amirault, KI4TVA; Secretary – Mark Caragher, KE4KMD; and Treasurer – Linda NeSmith, K4MPY.

Next the floor was open to additional nominations; hearing none, Bill called for a motion to close the nominations. In a motion by John Meyers, WA4GPS, and seconded by Ken Bible, AF4ZV, the nominations were closed.

To conclude the selection of officers, in a motion by Ken Bible, AF4ZV, and seconded by John Meyers, WA4GPS, the club approved the slate of officers as presented for the 2009-2010 year.

Announcements:

Happy Birthday Bryce! Jenny Myers, WA4NGV, announced that today is Bryce's 76th birthday.

DUES ARE DUE: Bryce Myers, K4LXF, noted that with the beginning of the new fiscal year that annual dues are due.

Drawing:

The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Doug Clark, KU4OC.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ken Bible, AF4ZV, and seconded by Bryce Myers, K4LXF.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey (KG4HTW).

Field Day at Marion Square, June 27, 2009, photo:



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