

# CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

November 2012 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, Nov. 12, 2012*



## **DUES FOR THE YEAR AUGUST 1, 2012 – JULY 31, 2013 ARE PAST DUE**

**If you have not paid, please pay right away.  
We don't want to lose you.**

\$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**

## **CARS Christmas party is Dec. 10th.**

Hope to see you there. More information later.

**If you have something with the CARS logo on it, CARS shirts, jackets and hats, please wear it to the next meeting.**

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

I can't believe it is November already. This year has flown by and despite a lackluster economy, most local businesses are doing well. As work has increased where I am employed, I have been finding it harder to make time for amateur radio and other hobbies. Nonetheless, I am undeterred from making time for club activities and am looking forward to the CARS Christmas party. If you haven't been, you are really missing out on a good time. The food and fellowship are always great and the "Chinese" gift exchange never fails to be a big hit. I encourage you to come join us this year.

Something that concerns me a lot of late is our new members. As we increase our ranks and welcome new Technicians every month, I wonder if we are doing enough to fully engage newbies in the hobby. Most buy an inexpensive handy-talkie and dip a foot in the water talking on the local repeaters. But beyond that are we providing opportunities for them to participate in the all the modes of communication available? How many new members have had a chance to sit with a General or Extra class ham and learn how to operate an HF rig with proper amateur radio protocol? How about demonstrating how to set up a radio/computer interface for digital modes? Also there is the hotly debated best way to learn Morse code. Many newcomers are reluctant to ask for help with learning these things and may grow tired of only talking on local repeaters.

To that end I have been having some good conversations with members that are willing to step up and spend time with new members. Wes, W4RUX, has offered to teach a CW class, Joe, KJ4BNC, has offered to pull the club Comms trailer out and set up the HF rig for operating sessions on Saturdays, and Tom AJ4UQ has already held a Rookie Roundup with digital modes. Over the next few weeks we will put together some schedules for these activities.

In the meantime, if you are interested in participating in these or any other activities, please send me an email at [geamirault@sc.rr.com](mailto:geamirault@sc.rr.com) or call me at 469-5305 and I will put together lists of names for each activity so we can make sure you know when these activities are scheduled. Thanks to these and other volunteers the Charleston Amateur Radio Society truly embodies the slogan: Amateur Radio, Pass it on!

73 de KI4TVA, Greg

## BARCAMP CHARLESTON

BarCamp Charleston is the ad-hoc, user generated un-conference where attendees determine what will be presented. Sessions, discussions, demos, and interaction occur from everyone attending, not a pre-selected panel of speakers. BarCamp Charleston provides local area techies, developers, designers, entrepreneurs, and more with an open environment for learning and sharing.

Previous Barcamp topics have included computer technology/programming, social media, robotics, bacon, home brew (beer) and amateur radio. This would be an excellent opportunity for amateur radio operators to gather and share what they know with other hams, and with people interested in learning more about ham radio.

Barcamp Charleston will be held November 10 from 9-5 at the College of Charleston. Further information about Barcamp Charleston can be found at <http://www.barcampchs.org/>

## SEPT. FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance - 9/1/12	\$3,555.07
Cash Receipts:	
Raffle Proceeds	30.00
Cash Disbursements:	
September Newsletter	(27.95)
AT&T - September	(63.92)
Ending Checking Balance - 9/30/12	\$3,493.20

Charlotte - KJ4PLX

## MINUTES of OCT. MEETING

### Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61  
Monday, October 8, 2012 - 7:30 PM

### MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President Gregory Amirault, KI4TVA, at 7:30 PM on Monday, October 8, 2012 at Ryan's Steak House in Charleston, SC.

**Introductions:** There were 35 people present.

**Secretary's Minutes:** Warren, KK4EVI

The September 2012 meeting minutes were published in the October 2012 CARS Carrier. A motion was made to accept the minutes as published, the motion was seconded, and passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Charlotte, KJ4PLX

The August Financial Report was published in the October newsletter and accepted as information.

**Museum Ships:** Ed, KQ4DC / David, KI4FSC / Tom, AJ4UQ

No report.

**Field Day:** Greg, KI4TVA / Tom, AJ4UQ

Tom is still looking for someone with an interest, to step forward and take over as the new Captain (or perhaps Co-Captain) for Field Day next year.

**Races:** Doug, KU4OC

The IOP Race went smoothly and started on time.

**Hamfest Report:** Jenny, WA4NGV

The Hamfest is scheduled for February 2<sup>nd</sup> and looking for volunteers to help with setup. Planning on Hamfest Team meeting sometime during week of October 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Engineer Appointments:

Rick Valentine N8BKN, Joe Chapman KJ4BNC, Mike Wells WA4HVP and Tom Glabb AJ4UQ have been appointed as new Club Engineers.

**Repeater Report:** Tom, AJ4UQ, for Bryce, K4LXF

Backup time clocks on Yorktown and Knightsville repeaters were removed and sent off for repairs and upgrades. The two control boards sent off for repairs and upgrades, were returned and ready as spares.

There may be a problem with the Knightsville repeater, still investigating.

**Membership:** Greg, KI4TVA, for Bryce, K4LXF

**Dues are due.** If you are not sure if you're paid up or not, contact Bryce.

Applications for regular membership:

First Reading: None

Second Reading: Phil Hawkins, KI4ZOQ

Phil Hawkins, KI4ZOQ, was voted in as a new member and welcomed into the club.

**Emergency Prep:** Rick, N8BKN, Charleston; John, W4HKN, Dorchester; Dennis, KG4RUL, Berkeley

Rick, N8BKN – Discussed the ARRL SET. The simplex test with the State, Berkeley and Dorchester Counties failed to connect. They did check out a MAR's station.

Bobby, W4KSD, gave a recap on the Simplex and SET. Found some dead spots in the county.

Charleston: Next ARES meeting is on October 20<sup>th</sup> at St. Andrews F.D. Hwy 61 & 7. We need a lot more ARES members.

Dorchester: Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at EOC Bldg., Hwy 78.

Berkeley: Meets Last Saturday of Month.

**Nets:** George, KI4UIW - Newcomers Net

Newcomers net needs net control stations and more of you to check in, Thursdays at 8PM on VHF system.

ARES Net meets at Sunday 8PM. Local area 5 meets from 8-8:20PM then joins the statewide link up at 8:20PM.

QCWA Net will begin starting at 9:30 PM on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>, due to conflict with other nets. If you don't hear

them on the CARS system, QSY to 146.76 or 147.105 or another SCHeart System frequency.

Young Hams net: no report.

SKYWARN Net will go back to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks starting Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>, meets Tuesdays 9PM on Linked system.

**Newsletter/Website:** John, WA4GPS

No report. All okay.

**Education & VE Testing:** Sheila, KT4YW

Next test session will be October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 9:00 AM at the Trident Hospital. Rick N8BKN to handle.

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

School has started and the Club will air on Tuesdays from 4:00 PM to about 5:30 PM. The school is also having a School Club Round-up on October 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> from around 4:00 PM till 6:00 PM.

**Communications Trailer:** Willie, WB4SOG

Wess, W4RUX, said new antenna is in place and working.

**Old Business:**

Christmas Party Discussion - Will be held at the same place (New name Harbor Breeze), on December 10<sup>th</sup>. This year the cost will be \$13.50 per person. The diner will start at 7:00 PM until... There will also be a \$10.00 limit for a Chinese Gift Exchange (I don't know about this..).

**New Business:**

Voted on having a CARS booth at the Fair this year, vote passed. Sign up sheet and more information to follow.

This years Charleston Marathon was voted on and accepted. To be held on Jan. 19th, 2013 from 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Shrimp and beer dinner afterwards.

Looking for volunteers. More information will be put out later.

Eugene KK4JRP asked if anyone would be interested in helping set up a Ham Station at CofC for their BarCamp Charleston on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 till. To give students an introduction to Ham radios.

### **Announcements:**

The TARC team is planning on have a Fox Hunt Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00 AM at the Aviation Square at the Aviation and Rivers intersection. Cost will be \$10.00 Entry fee and \$15.00 for parts to build a RDF kit (if needed). \$100.00 prize will be paid. Plan to use 146.580.

**Drawing:** The drawing for a one year ARRL membership was won by Rick, N8BKN.

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM. Ryan's will start closing at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI.

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Charleston Amateur Radio Society

423 Beauregard Rd., Summerville, SC 29483-1989

