

# CARS WA4USN CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

August 2017 Newsletter

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

CARS meets the second Monday of each month at the Golden Corral near Tanger Mall.

*Our next meeting will be held at 7:00 PM, Monday, Aug. 14, 2017*



## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings from your President-elect! If you haven't been to any of the monthly club meetings recently, I probably haven't met you yet so I'll begin my first newsletter blurb with an introduction.

I'm Eugene Mah, AB4UG. I'm still a relatively new ham, having received my General class license in June 2012 and have been a club member since then. My ham radio baptism by fire was Field Day just a few weeks after getting my license. The following October I upgraded to Amateur Extra at a CARS testing session. By day I'm a medical physicist at MUSC where I spend most of my time working with much higher frequency electromagnetic radiation than in amateur radio.

On the radio, I enjoy casual contesting, doing state QSO parties and tuning around the RF spectrum to see what interesting things there are to listen to. I gravitate to topics like antenna and propagation physics, electronics, and tinkering. I'm really good at taking things apart trying to figure out how they work. Putting them back together...not so much (but I'm working on it). I've got a few projects on the workbench that I'm figuring out how to fix, and a few homebrew projects rolling around in my brain to work on. I'm also a sucker for vintage gear and books.

I look forward to serving the club as President. Feel free to reach out to me at [eugenemah@gmail.com](mailto:eugenemah@gmail.com), [imabug@ab4ug.net](mailto:imabug@ab4ug.net), or on Twitter at @imabug and let me know what you'd like to see the club doing as we head towards the club's 50th anniversary in a few years.

73, Eugene, AB4UG

## FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT

We have a major event coming up... the solar eclipse on August 21st. There are a lot of radio-related activities, from the colleges and high schools doing high-altitude balloon launches to ionospheric studies. Look around and participate as you can.

There is a new operating mode, FT8. It's curious how open the bands have become, suddenly 6m is open regularly, but only on the FT8 frequency (50.313MHz). 20m is dead, except around 14.074MHz. Just as the bands die minutes after a contest ends, people claim there's nothing out there now. Get on the air. Try a new mode. Call CQ, you might be surprised.

73, Tom, AJ4UQ

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Starting Tuesday is August already. August is one of the peak months for Hurricane development in the Atlantic. According to the "Farmer's Almanac" August 15<sup>th</sup> is the earliest a major storm hits Charleston so "Beware the Ides of August." Now is also the time to check out your evacuation stuff and route and fine tune everything.

A predicable event in August is the Solar Eclipse on August 21<sup>st</sup>. Officials are expecting a million + (1,000,000+) visitors and watchers. Currently the Charleston County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be open between 0900 to 2100 if aid is needed in the area. Because of this, I will have an ARES net with a Roll Call sometime between 0915 to 0930 and another Roll Call between 1345 and 1400 just before the event. Nothing is expected to happen but please have a radio tuned to the local

linked repeaters just in case (CARS and TARC). Please continue with your regular plans for the eclipse just listen in case and protect your eyes.

Another new month means the usual ARES meetings: Second Saturday – Dorchester ARES, Third Saturday - Charleston ARES – CANCELLED to support Eclipse, Last Saturday – Berkeley ARES.

Correction to last month: The pet shelter in Charleston County to be determined since school has been torn down. So plan accordingly.

Currently the Charleston County Emergency Management Division is installing Ham radio equipment into county Local Fire Stations for emergency communications. Right now these stations have Ham stations installed:

- Low Country Fire Support Building  
6390 Dorchester Rd.
- Isle of Palms Fire Station
- St. Paul's Fire Station #1
- Awendaw Fire Station # 2
- Town of James Island City Hall
- St. Andrew's Fire Station – Coming soon

Remember these stations if you are away from your home station, you now have a back up location (s). As more stations come on line I will keep you all informed.

Right now your next chance to practice public service/emergency communications are:

- August 21, 2017 - Solar Eclipse
- September 30, 2017 – Cystic Fibrosis Bike Ride
- October 7, 2017 - Isle of Palms Connector Run

Make sure to sign up and enjoy these up coming events to practice communications skills and improve your skills.

Welcome to new members of ARES:

David K8UM and Mario KI4HKB

Always need more support and help. Keep checking into the ARES nets: Low Country ARES net every Sunday 2000 – 2020 on local repeaters, SCARES net every Sunday 2020 – 2100 (Approx) on SCHEART repeaters. We are EMD Area 5.

Until next month, 73, Rick, N8BKN

## JUNE FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance - 6/1/17	\$4,239.11
Cash Receipts:	
Raffle Proceeds	42.00
AT&T Refund	40.37
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - June CARS Carrier	(17.52)
Field Day	(500.00)
Membership - Returned Check	(20.00)
Returned Check Fee	(12.50)
Bank Fee	(5.00)
Ending Checking Balance - 6/30/17	\$3,766.46

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

## MINUTES of JULY MEETING Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Golden Corral near Tanger Mall,  
Monday, July 10, 2017 at 7:00 PM

### MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President Jenny Myers, WA4NGV, at 7:02 PM on Monday, July 10, 2017 at the Golden Corral in N. Charleston, SC.

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

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

The June 2017 meeting minutes were published in the July 2017 CARS Carrier. A motion was made to accept the minutes as published, the motion was seconded, and passed.

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

The May 2017 Financial Report was published in the July 2017 newsletter and accepted as information.

**Museum Ships:** Tom, AJ4UQ & Jim, KW4UL

Still working on the QSL cards from the Museum Ships event.

**Field Day:** Jim, KW4UL

The event went well with a lot of participation and help. We scored points for 25 people attending, 1050 bonus points for emergency conditions, 748 QSO points and ended up with a score of 2546 points, compared to last year we only had 1936 points. Tom also said we may have three stations working next year (Voice, Digital and perhaps CW).

Michelle, KK4WQO – gave a summary of the money spent, about \$417.58, for food and gas.. The rest will be returned to the club.

**Races:** Doug, KU4OC

Nothing to report.

**Hamfest Report:** Jenny, WA4NGV

No report.

**Repeater Report:** Bryce, K4LXF

The 441.575 repeater is still not linking up with the state wide system.

The trailer repeater is available for use with or without a tone.

**Membership:** Bryce, K4LXF

Sheila, KT4YW and Sonja, WA4WVD are collecting the 2018 dues.

New applications for membership:

First Reading: Bill Dean, N4JKA  
Michael Hajny, NC8Z  
Nicholas Donato, N8VKK

Second Reading: None

**Emergency Prep:** Rick, N8BKN, Charleston; John, W4HNK, Dorchester; Linda, KJ4EVV, Berkeley

Next Charleston ARES meeting on July 15<sup>th</sup> at the St. Andrews Public Service Building at 09:00 AM.

Rick put out the word that Bryce, K4LXF will be turning 84 in a few days.

No hurricane development expected in the short term.

ARES will activate for the Eclipse Day, August 21<sup>st</sup> using the 146.790 repeater. No action is required, just be available in case help is needed.

**Nets:** John, KK4KBQ

**Newcomers Net:** meets on Thursdays at 8:00 PM. If you are interested in trying to conduct a net, send Don, KK4WWV, a note and he will get you the information. Don is also looking for more participation and Net Controllers to help out.

**ARES Net:** meets at Sunday 8:00 PM. Local area 5 meets from 8:00 - 8:20 PM then joins the statewide link up at 8:20 PM. The State Wide Net has a problem. The Wallace repeater is not linking into the system. You may need to switch to the Awendaw 146.760 Repeater or the Wallace 147.105 Repeater, until repairs are made.

**SKYWARN Net:** Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 9:00 PM on the linked repeater systems. May switch to weekly in May.

**Newsletter/Website:** John, WA4GPS

Need to renew the [wa4usn.org](http://wa4usn.org) Domain Name.

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

The next scheduled testing should be August 12th at 9:00 AM at the Tall Pines Baptist Church. The church is located on 645 Treeland Drive, near the American Biker store.

There will be a Technician training class at the LDS church in Moncks Corner on July 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> (Friday and Saturday). Test session should be held on Saturday around 1:00 PM.

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

No report.

**Communications Trailer:** Willie, WB4SOG

No report.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

Vote on Honorary Memberships for Dr. James Boehner, N2ZZ and Charles Miller, AE4UX. Both were voted on and approved.

New Officer election results: President, Eugene AB4UG, Vice President, Tom AJ4UQ, Secretary, Warren KK4EVI and Treasurer, Charlotte KJ4PLX.

John, WA4GPS, requested permission to renew the [wa4usn.org](http://wa4usn.org) Domain Name for another year. One year cost \$16.23 and three years cost \$48.69. The three year subscription was voted on and passed.

**Announcements:**

Brett Wadford, of the Cyclic Fibrosis Foundation, was at the meeting and asked if the Club would support the Cyclic Fibrosis Bike Ride again this year, on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Would like 6 to 8 volunteers. The request was voted on and approved. A sign-up sheet was passed around and a link will be put on the wa4usn web site, if you would like to volunteer.

Archie, KD4TXX, donated a mobile DMR radio for the Club Room on the Yorktown.

**Drawing:**

Earl, KJ4OXF, won the drawing for a one-year ARRL membership.

Being no further business, at 7:48 PM, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

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