

CARS



CARRIER



Charleston Amateur Radio Society

October 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, Oct. 9, 2017



DUES FOR THE YEAR AUGUST 1, 2017 – JULY 31, 2018 ARE PAST 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 YOUR PRESIDENT

I hope everybody managed to weather Irma without too much trouble or damage. It was mostly windy and rainy for me with a couple power outages thrown in for good measure.

Two events coming up: the CF Ride on September 30 (which will probably have happened by the time the newsletter comes out) and the IOP Connector run on October 7. Sign up using the form on the club website.

Did you know there are two maker spaces in the Charleston area? If you're not familiar with the maker space concept, they're groups geared toward people who like to tinker, create, build, and DIY stuff, activities that are right up the ham radio homebrewer's interests. If you don't have the resources or space to have your own fully outfitted workshop at home, a maker space might be just what you need. The Charleston Makelab (<http://makelabcharleston.org/>) is located on Sam Rittenberg in West Ashley, while Reforge Charleston (<http://www.reforge.io/>) is located in North Charleston off Leeds Avenue. I recently had the opportunity to visit the Reforge Charleston space and was very impressed. Both groups have

space for crafts, electronics, wood and metal working and an abundance of 3D printers. Both groups also offer instructional classes on a regular basis to members and non-members. If DIY is your thing, I encourage you to check out both groups. You'll also find a few hams among their members too.

According to news from ARRL, the 630m and 2200m bands will soon be available for amateur radio use. There's a requirement to notify the Utilities Technology Council (UTC) with your call sign, antenna location and bands you wish to operate on. Even if you have no immediate plans to use these two bands, More info can be found at the ARRL website (<http://www.arrl.org/news/view/fcc-opens-630-and-2200-meter-bands-stations-must-notify-utc-before-operating>).

I'd love to see more content in our monthly newsletter besides just a rundown of the monthly meeting. Do you want to write an article for the newsletter? Could be anything ham radio related. Want to brag about your latest long distance DX QSO? Have a project you're working on? Just finished one and want to tell people about it? Write something and send it in. Just send it to CARSinfo@wa4usn.org and it will go into the newsletter.

See you at the next meeting.

Oh, and don't forget to pay your dues if you haven't already. If you have, fabulous and thanks!

73, Eugene, AB4UG

FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT

HF conditions have been poor, but there's still plenty going on. I've been doing a bit with the new

weak signal FT8 mode. It helped me work a bunch of stations on 6m over the summer, with regular openings into New England. I've also been racking up the contacts on 20m and 40m, even when things are too unstable for PSK31. There have also been some 2m openings. Want to learn how to do these things? Ask the club! A huge benefit of amateur radio is clubs where members share their expertise. CARS has members with a large range of skills.

The storms have been active this summer, and fortunately have been giving us a pass for the most part. Efforts to get more hams in the Caribbean have been paying off, except they forgot to pack extra antennas! (<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2017/09/21/552649149/in-devastated-dominica-hams-become-vital-communications-link>). How's your emergency kit?

The Palmetto Scholars Academy club, K4PSA, is meeting again on Friday afternoons. Listen for them on 146.52 simplex or the linked repeaters between 4 and 5 pm. They're also planning to be active in October's School Club Roundup contest.

73, Tom, AJ4UQ

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Another month and new events. Hopefully everyone fared well during Hurricane IRMA and Maria hopefully misses this area. We are over the peak of Hurricane season that occurred around September 10th. Stay prepared though, the season runs till 30 November so time left for more storms.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the ARES nets, local and State for IRMA and for everyone that checked into IRMA's SkyWarn net on Monday. The flooding in the area was at the usual locations and because of a king tide more flooding than normal. Remember, don't drown, drive around, not through. Expect the State to use the SCHEART linked system more each time, they are learning it's usefulness.

Only two (2) shelters were opened in Charleston County, both run by the Sheriff's office so no hams were needed but if more get used next time we hams may be tasked to support the Red Cross and

it's shelters. Volunteers are always wanted and needed. Also post incident shelters would be open and require hams for returning folks who find there own property damaged or evacuees from say Florida or Georgia needing a place to stay while transiting back to their area.

Next is the ARES group along with AUXCOMM and SCHEART groups are looking to revitalize the Hospital Radio Response Teams (RRT). These teams of Amateurs went into assigned Hospitals to provide emergency communications in the event the Hospital lost all communications with the world. What has happened is people who did it in the past have moved away, or don't want to do it, or the teams have just evaporated. Because of training on Hospital radio's and Hospital credentialing, I would like to set up 3 or 4 hams per hospital to be in the neighborhood (a mile or two) so travel time would be minimal and quick response for service. I have a few volunteers but need more. The time to get up to speed is now, not during a failure. Remember that was the purpose for putting repeaters on the hospitals to begin with.

In November the State is running a Full Scale Exercise concerning a loss of the Electrical grid statewide. The event starts at day 3, which means power has been out for three days. That means many supplies are running out like fuel for emergency generators, stockpiled food and medicines, gas for first responders vehicles, etc, etc. It could get interesting so stay tuned for more info as I get it.

Keep sharp and best wishes to everyone. Till next month.

73, Rick, N8BKN

AUGUST FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance - 8/1/17	\$4,196.80
Cash Receipts:	
Dues	640.00
Memberships	100.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - August CARS Carrier	(17.15)
Bank Fee	(6.00)
Ending Checking Balance - 7/31/17	\$4,913.65

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of SEPT. MEETING
Charleston Amateur Radio Society
Club Meeting at Golden Corral near Tanger Mall,
Monday, September 11, 2017 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society meeting scheduled for 7:00 PM on Monday, September 11, 2017 was cancelled by President Eugene Mah, AB4UG, because of Hurricane Irma. On Monday, September 11, 2017 the entire Charleston area was pelted with heavy rain and wind from early morning till late at night with a total of over five inches of rain. Some parts of the Charleston area were flooded and some parts lost electric power.

Introductions: There were zero people present.

Secretary's Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI

The August 2017 meeting minutes were published in the September 2017 CARS Carrier.

Treasurer's Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX

The July 2017 Financial Report was published in the September 2017 newsletter.

Races: Doug, KU4OC

IOP connector run is coming up on October 7th. A sign up sheet is being passed around and a TinyURL site has been created for the IOP and the CF ride on Sept. 30th. The CF ride would still like to have 3 or 4 more volunteers. The CF Netcontrol will need to be operational around 6:30 AM.

Membership: Bryce, K4LXF

New applications for membership:

First Reading: Robert "Rob" Dean, W4VRD
John Guerry, KN4EDN
Donald Hagan, KN4EXH

Second Reading:

Education & VE Testing: Sheila, KT4YW

The next scheduled testing should be October 14th at 9:00 AM at the Tall Pines Baptist Church. The church is located on 645 Treeland Drive, near the American Biker store.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

JOINING A NET.

To help the communications on the Net go smoothly, please remember these few items:

Most Nets are open to all licensed Hams, to participate in. There are some Nets that want you to register with them, on line, to receive a member number. Other Nets will ask specific members to check-in first, they then open the Net to all licensed Hams.

Nets are a good way to get experience participating in Ham Radio protocol. Most Nets ask for check-ins using the following order, for example, from Alpha to Foxtrot, then Golf to Lima, then Mike to Romeo, and finally Sierra to Zulu. They are asking for check-ins using the first letter after your Call Sign's number. For example if your call is "X X 4 C X X", you would check in with the Alpha to Foxtrot section. This is just to try to organize the number of people checking-in. If you check-in early or late, don't worry, no one will punish you.

Here are a few more items, to remember about checking-in to a Net:

First – Please do not call the Net Control by his/her call sign. All stations should please just call "Net Control". This way if the Net Control is changed or replaced, there will be less confusion.

Second – To give the (about 10 repeaters locally and about 30 repeaters statewide) time to link up, when checking in, please follow these guidelines:

Listen to make sure no one else is calling Net Control.

Key your mike and wait a second or two, to give all of the repeaters time to link up.

Call Net Control (not his/her call sign) and then un-key your mike.

If you don't hear anyone else talking, key your mike and wait another second or two,

Then slowly identify your station using standard international phonetics, give your call sign, name and location slowly, or whatever information the Net Control is asking for.

Then un-key your mike and listen to see if Net Control ask you any questions.

Third – Listen in as others check in; if Net Control has trouble hearing a station, you may be able to relay to him/her.

Fourth - If you hear an emergency announced, stand by to help with any assistance required.

Lastly – Just have fun and enjoy the hobby.

Here is the correct Amateur Radio Phonetic Alphabet

A = Alpha (AL fah)	N = November (no VEM ber)
B = Bravo (BRAH VOH)	O = Oscar (OSS cah)
C = Charlie (CHAR lee)	P = Papa (pah PAH)
D = Delta (DELL tah)	Q = Quebec (keh BECK)
E = Echo (ECK oh)	R = Romeo (ROW me oh)
F = Foxtrot (FOKS trot)	S = Sierra (see AIR rah)
G = Golf (GOLF)	T = Tango (TANG go)
H = Hotel (hoh TELL)	U = Uniform (YOU nee form)
I = India (IN dee ah)	V = Victor (VIK tah)
J = Juliet (JEW lee ETT)	W = Whiskey (WISS key)
K = Kilo (KEE loh)	X = X-ray (ECKS RAY)
L = Lima (LEE mah)	Y = Yankee (YANG key)
M = Mike (MIKE)	Z = Zulu (ZOO loo)

When to use upper or lower side band:

< 10 mHz use LSB

>10 mHz use USB

CARS CARRIER

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423 Beaufort Rd., Summerville, SC 29486-1989

