

# CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

May 2018 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, May 14, 2018*



## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

The USS Yorktown 75th commissioning anniversary special event station on April 14 and 15 went off fairly well. Thanks to everybody who came out to participate in the event: KQ4DC, KM4QE, AJ4UQ, N8BKN, N4VGE, K4WJC, W4BFZ, N4MLF. No HF contacts were made on April 14, but we did make repeater contacts with about 21 Cub Scouts who were camping at Camp Seewee near Awendaw for the weekend. Thanks to KM4YYG for running the amateur radio station at the camp. April 15 we managed 55 contacts on a mix of SSB and digital. Band conditions were ok, but not great with a lot of noise and QSB. On 40m, we received a report of a lot of RF noise in our audio and spent some time trying to track that down. Apparently we have very noisy computers in the club room. By afternoon 20m had pretty much died away, and with storms moving in and a tornado watch issued, we decided to wrap up the special event station around 3PM. I'm quite happy with how the special event station turned out.

HF propagation blues got you down? The new FT8 and related weak signal digital modes are all the rage these days. I have yet to try them out, but it's pretty much all I see people talking about online these days. One of the upcoming operating days on the Yorktown would be a good opportunity to do an introduction to these weak signal modes for people wanting to find out more about them.

It's May already and that means two big radio events coming up. Museum Ships Weekend happens the first weekend in June, and all three ships (USS Yorktown/WA4USN, USS Laffey/NT4HI, and USS Clamagore/NJ4DU) have been submitted for the museum ships list for activation. It's a fun weekend to be on the air

chasing other museum ships. After that is Field Day the last weekend of June. Sign ups for both events will open soon. I encourage everyone who can to come out for one or both of these events. They're great fun events to participate on the air in.

One of the things that I've wanted to learn since getting my amateur radio license almost 6 years ago is Morse code. My problem is making myself sit down long enough for practice sessions to learn Morse code. Too many distractions and other projects calling my name at home. While I was at the last operating day in the club room on April 21, it occurred to me that the club room would make a great place for a CW group to get together for practice sessions. If this is something you'd be interested in, send me a message.

Feel free to send me any comments, suggestions and/or questions to [CARSinfo@wa4usn.org](mailto:CARSinfo@wa4usn.org), or to my personal email, [eugenemah@gmail.com](mailto:eugenemah@gmail.com). If you're on Facebook, there's a CARS group page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WA4USN/>. We also have the @WA4USN account on Twitter that you can follow as well.

73, Eugene, AB4UG

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

With the Cooper River Bridge Run, the Century Bike Ride, and the MS Walk now completed April has been a busy month for Ham radio support. Thanks to everyone who supported these events and in doing so made Ham radio's abilities look good, give community support, and hopefully you learned some new operating tricks to be used in a real emergency.

May starts out with a disaster learning event at James Island Lowe's store for the James Island area.

Come out on May 5<sup>th</sup> from 0900 to 1300 and see what we Hams can provide to the community as well as the other government and Non Government Organizations (NGO) agencies can provide in the event of a disaster in the Low Country. It was only a year ago that Tropical Storm “IRMA” hit Charleston dumping 5+ inches of rain and 65 mph winds. The folks that stayed found downed trees, power lines and flooded streets. This Hurricane season the “experts” are predicting 12 – 14 named storms, 7 Hurricanes, and 3 Major Hurricanes meaning Category 3 or stronger. So now is the time to start preparing.

Remember May events, ARES meetings in Dorchester County on the Second Saturday, Charleston ARES will be on May 5<sup>th</sup> at the James Island Expo, Berkeley County will be moved up from last Saturday because of Memorial Day week-end. Also we have the Annual M.A.R.S. Cross Band Test, May 12, where Hams listen on M.A.R.S. Frequencies and reply to them on Amateur frequencies. The M.A.R.S. Operators will be listening on Amateur frequencies to relay messages to Department of Defense communications system. This proves that Hams can back – up DOD communication systems in an actual emergency. Take advantage of this opportunity to work with a different amateur organization and learn new and different techniques.

June is also coming up and there are two (2) events in June. Museum Ships gives you a chance at a contest type week-end on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, a great way event to get on HF and contact Museum Ships in the United States and from around the world. And of course June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> is ARRL Field Day. Test yourself in the great outdoors and prove again what Hams have been doing for 90+ years, we communicate “When All Else Fails”. Hope to hear everyone on the air or better yet an eyeball at these upcoming events.

Until next month,  
73, Rick Valentine, N8BKN

## **MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT**

Beginning Checking Balance - 3/1/18	\$6,436.70
Cash Receipts:	
Raffle Proceeds	41.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - March CARS Carrier	(25.15)
U.S. Postal Service - 1 Year Box Rent	(96.00)
Pinckney Carter Insurance	(254.00)
ARRL - 2 Memberships	(94.00)
Bank Fee	(10.00)
Ending Checking Balance - 3/31/18	\$5,998.55

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

## **MINUTES of APRIL MEETING**

### **Charleston Amateur Radio Society**

Club Meeting at Golden Corral near Tanger Mall,  
Monday, April 9, 2018 at 7:00 PM

## **MINUTES:**

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. meeting was called to order by the President Eugene Mah, AB4UG, at 7:00 PM on Monday April 9, 2018 at the **Golden Corral** in North Charleston, SC.

**Introductions:** There were 42 people present.

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

The March 2018 meeting minutes were published in the April 2018 CARS Carrier. A motion was made to accept the minutes as published, the motion was seconded and passed.

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

The February 2018 Financial Report was published in the April 2018 newsletter and accepted as information.

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

Still getting QSL's from last year's Museum Ships. Plan on working the Yorktown all day Saturday April 14<sup>th</sup> and perhaps working the Clamagore and/or Laffey for a couple of hours on Sunday.

Will work the Yorktown Saturday and Sunday for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commissioning of the Yorktown.

The Yorktown will be open around 7:30 on Sunday April 15<sup>th</sup>, to conduct the Water Way Net on HF frequency of 7.268.

**Field Day:** Jim, KW4UL

No report.

**Races:** Doug, KU4OC

CRBR over for another year... Yea... Thinking about cutting the wheelchair race 3 minutes, to start regular runners on time.

Century Bike Ride – Tom K4WJC

Will have the Awendaw repeater unlinked for the ride. Asking for CERT team members to help, will start Saturday morning 8:00AM from Seewee Outpost. Race will cover about 100 miles.

**Hamfest Report:** Steve, KE4THX

So far the results of the Hamfest showed it was again a successful event.

**Repeater Report:** Bryce, K4LXF

The 441.575 repeater is still not linking up with the state wide system and the repeater is out for repair, may be back on line in a few weeks. Trident Hospital VHF 146.730 had a problem but should be working now. The Trident 442.150 UHF repeater is out for repairs, has not been working for a while.

**Membership:** Bryce, K4LXF

New applications for membership:

First Reading:

Second Reading: Jason Griffith, KN4AEC  
Mike Whisenant, KN4LDM

Both were voted on and welcomed into the club. Mike was an Associate member until he received his call sign.

**Emergency Prep:** Rick, N8BKN, Charleston; John, W4HNK, Dorchester; Linda, KJ4EUV, Berkeley

No Charleston meeting this month. The Rookie Roundup will be held on Sunday April 15<sup>th</sup>, for Hams with less than 3 years being licensed.

The Hurricane (Emergency) EXPO will be held May 5<sup>th</sup> at the James Island Lowe's parking lot, from about 9AM to 1PM.

The Hurricane Center predictions for this year are; 13 to 15 storms, 7 named hurricanes, and 3 major hurricanes. Possibly 4 hurricanes may hit the East Coast. Get your supplies ready, do not wait for the day before the storm hits.

**Newsletter/Website:** John, WA4GPS

Nothing new to report.

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

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

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

No report.

**School Clubs:** Tom, AJ4UQ - School Radio Club - K4PSA

No report.

**Communications Trailer:** Willie, WB4SOG

During the show & tell exercise, several items were found that needed attention and/or worked on. Now they have 2 receivers and only 1 antenna.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

Bryce K4LXF asked for about \$90.00, to cover paper supplies and printing cost. Voted on and approved.

Willie, WB4SOG, asked for about \$500.00 to purchase supplies for the comm trailer. These included: a scissor jack, 2 Nebo lights, 2 sets of wheel chocks, lug wrench, Finger Cots (to protect cable ends), MFJ939K auto tuner, an end fed antenna for 80-10 meters and 100 feet of RG8X cable. Willie also asked if members had any small hand tools, they would be willing to donate to the trailer. Money was voted on and approved.

### **Announcements:**

Tom, AJ4UQ, plans to register all 3 ships, for Museum Ships on 2 & 3<sup>rd</sup> of June.

Doug, KU4OC had a bag of "T" shirts left over from the CRBR, for anyone that wanted one.

Marshall, KM4PAY, wants to build a radio room over the church. Anyone have any radio gear that they would like to donate?

### **Drawing:**

Marshall, KM4PAY, won the drawing for a one-year ARRL membership,

Being no further business, at 7:52 PM, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

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