

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

March 2020 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, March 9, 2020 at the Golden Corral near Tanger Mall.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

From your President,

My wife and I made a trip to Chattanooga recently to visit with her dad. He's been a ham for a long time now (almost 50 years now), and still spends time tinkering and exploring new things. While there, he introduced me to his newest toy, an MMDVM dongle he was using to connect a laptop to listen to the D*Star network. I spent some time playing with it, and thought it was pretty nifty. He's also been experimenting with Arduinos and addressable LED light strips. I always find it inspiring to find out what the newest and latest thing he's working on is. That there's always some new aspect of amateur radio to discover is one of my favorite things about the hobby. What new thing are you learning about?

In radio news, the FCC is seeking comments on another Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) regarding the 5 cm (5.9 GHz) band. In WT Docket 19-138 (<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filing/1217200308588>), the FCC proposes making 5.850 - 5.895 GHz available for unlicensed operation, with a smaller sub-band (5.895 - 5.925) for transportation related communications. The 5.650 - 5.925 GHz secondary allocation to amateur radio would be unaffected.

Have anything to contribute to the monthly newsletter? WAS and want to brag about it? New addition to the shack? Discover something new to you about amateur radio? Have a project you want to talk about? The whole point of the club's

monthly newsletter is to keep club members informed, not just about what's going on with the club, but also what club members are up to. Write it down and send it in! We want to hear from you!

Feel free to send me any comments, suggestions, and/or questions to CARSinfo@wa4usn.org, or to my personal email, 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

NEWS FROM THE VP

No further updates, since the February publication of the CARS Carrier.

MEMBERSHIP

Although membership had dropped down to 133 following the Feb 1 deadline, we have started the slow climb back up the ladder. The club members in attendance voted in two new members and one upgrade from Associate to Full Member at the last meeting and there are two more scheduled to be voted on at the next meeting. The roster will be purged over the next few weeks to reflect our current members in good standing. I'm taking my time purging the list in order to make sure I'm not deleting anyone I shouldn't.

If for some reason we haven't contacted you but you have questions about your membership, please

contact me ASAP: ki4llj@arrl.net or call or text me at 843-518-0669.

73,
Lee Miller KI4LLJ and Jeannette Miller, KO4BPH
CARS Membership Committee

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Third month of the new year, time to start looking for a change in the season's. Spring usually brings severe thunderstorms and the potential for tornadoes both here and the upper State. Also we in the Low Country also are facing flooding both localized and being downstream of several rivers in the Up State that flow through the Low Country to the ocean. Remember the saying when getting to a flooded street/intersection, "Turn around Don't Drown". It only takes a few inches of moving water to knock you off your feet and approximately a foot/12 inches to float your vehicle and move your vehicle into a ditch or into a river from the road surface. And remember most vehicles today have their air intakes low in the front grill/bumper area NOT on top of the engine/carburetor like older vehicles.

Every year a certification exercise must be run and completed to learn from errors, new equipment features, new problems, and changes to procedures or protocols. In the Amateur universe the ARRL calls it Simulated Emergency Test (SET), usually done the first week-end in October. The State of South Carolina is doing the State certification exercise in March, 2020. This year SLED (State Law Enforcement Department) is the lead agency and it is called "Phoenix Dawn". Starting March 9 through March 13 SLED will led the full scale exercise from Columbia. Amateurs will be participating as back up communications/communicators on March 12th from 0800 till 1700. Communications equipment and procedures will be tested so expect some exercise sounding radio traffic. Currently the Thursday morning SCHEART 0900 net will be conducted as usual just shorted. Remember the procedures – Report to your county Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on your county designated tactical frequency(s), the county EOC

will report all traffic to the STATE EOC call sign: K4EMD in Columbia.

Berkeley EOC W4BRK
146.610 – T 123.0

Charleston EOC KA4CHS
146.790 – T 123.0

Dorchester EOC KX4DOR
147.180 + T 123.0

The Low Country linked repeater system should stay linked as usual so any Low Country repeater you can reach will be OK. State Check ins will be at the start middle and end of the exercise. Contact your county Emergency Coordinator for the county roll calls and check in.

The official Charleston County FSX will be in the last part of May in 2020. Probably the last week in May but stay tuned for more information to come about participating.

Everyone stay safe, watch for severe weather events, and look out for your neighbors.

Until next month, 73,
Rick Valentine, N8BKN

JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance – 12/31/19	\$9,264.96
Cash Receipts:	
Dues	280.00
Bank Error on Deposit	0.02
Raffle Proceeds	66.00
Cash Disbursements:	
Christmas Party	(349.00)
Lee Miller, Postage, Record Book	(122.52)
Marshall Young Memorial	(25.00)
Marshall Young Flowers	(105.20)
ARRL – 1 Membership	(47.00)
Bank Fee	(5.00)
Ending Checking Balance - 1/31/20	\$8957.26

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of the JANUARY MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

The monthly Club Meeting was held at the **Golden Corral** at 4968 Centre Pointe Dr. in North Charleston 29418

Monday February 10, 2020 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. Meeting was called to order by the President Eugene Mah, AB4UG, at 7:02 PM on Monday February 10, 2020 at the **Golden Corral** in North Charleston, SC.

Introductions:

There was only about 36 members and guest present.

Secretary's Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI

The January 2020 meeting minutes were published in the February 2020 CARS Carrier. A motion was made to accept the minutes, the motion was seconded and passed. The note about the Clamagore's legal lock-down was mistakenly listed as July and should have been January.

Treasurer's Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX

The December 2019 Financial Reports were published in the February 2020 newsletter and accepted as information.

Museum Ships on the air: Tom, AJ4UQ + Jim, KW4UL

Planning on having an open house on the Yorktown Saturday Feb. 15th.

Field Day: Tom, AJ4UQ + Del, KW4XQ

Del sending a sign-up pad around for people to sign up for Field Day

Races: Doug, KU4OC + Tom K4WJC

No Report

Hamfest Report: Steve, KE4THX

Went well even though we were missing some of our usual vendors. Thanked Brian, KN4EXJ, for putting up the "To go box" display and contest.

Repeater Report: Bryce, K4LXF

Repeaters seem to be doing just fine. There was a problem with the Knightsville repeater, 146.940, found the repeater was unlinked? Re-linked the repeater and seems to be working now.

Membership: Lee, KI4LLJ & Jeanette, KO4BPH,

To maintain membership, dues are way past due and may be in danger of being dropped from the rolls, paid membership is down to about 137 members.

Applications for regular membership:

First Reading:	Bryan Gapinski	KD9BMA
	Robert Warren	N5RW

Second Reading:	Russell Albright	N4QJ
	Mike Edwards	KJ4TAC
	Jennette Miller	KO4BPH

All three were voted on and welcomed into the club

Emergency Prep:

Charleston: Rick, N8BKN

ARES Team meets on 3rd Saturday of the month SCEMD will be participating in the State wide Phoenix Dawn drill March 9th to the 13th. Hams will be asked to participate on March 12th. Watch

out for severe storms during the months of February and March. There will be a Skywarn training class February 12th at the EOC building

Dorchester: John, W4HNK

Meets on 2nd Saturday of the month, at the EOC. Meeting was rescheduled to the 3rd Saturday.

Berkeley: Linda, KJ4EVV

Meet on last Saturday of the month. Their website W4BRK.

Nets:

Newcomers Net 2 Mtrs gets on the air 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. Mike KM4LDM and Tom, WW1TA,** are helping Don by becoming the Newcomers Net, Net Controller occasionally.

ARES Net 2 Mtrs airs on Sunday at 8:00 PM. Local area 5 meets from 8:00 - 8:20 PM, then joins up to the statewide link up at 8:20 PM. Repeaters are now linking so no need to switch frequencies.

SKYWARN Net 2 Mtrs Still meeting on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 9:00 PM on linked repeater systems. Will probably change to every Tuesday at 9:00 PM during hurricane season or severe weather.

SCHEART Net: 2 Mtrs will start Net every Thursday morning at 9:00 AM on state linked system

LowCountry Digital Net Tom, AJ4UQ, mentioned the net on 2 mtrs (145.700 MHz) meets on Sundays at 8:30 PM and Wednesdays at 8:00 PM using Contestia 64/1000.

Newsletter/CARS Carrier: Michelle, KK4WQO

Please send in any CARS Carrier items in Microsoft Word or Open Office Writer formats.

Website: Tom, AJ4UQ

Education & VE Testing: Connie, NR4CB - The next ODD month VE testing should be March 15th at 2:00 PM at the VA Hospital auditorium The next EVEN month VE Testing should be April 18th 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 – K4DMS

No report

School Clubs: Tom, AJ4UQ – K4PSA

School club roundup scheduled for week of February 10th.

Communications Trailer: Willie, WB4SOG

The Kenwood HF radio isn't working, will need to check out.

Old Business:

Winter Field Day did not go as planned. Several items need repaired before Field Day in June.

New Business:

Collected about \$1000.00 in memory of Harold Wade, W4MVO, went SK Members of the Hamfest Committee met and discussed the need for an additional authorized signer on the Charleston Amateur Radio Society Hamfest account. The decision was to add Bryce Myers, Assistant Chairman, to the account and to retain Charlotte Groves, Club Treasurer and Roland (Mike) Wells as authorized signers.

Announcements:

Drawing:

Mike, KN4LDM, won the drawing for a one-year ARRL membership.

Being no further business, at 7:26 PM, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

We are planning on having a Technician Training Class from 8:00 AM to about 4:00 PM March 27th (Friday) and 8:00 AM to about noon March 28th (Saturday), with an exam testing session starting at 1:00 PM at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at 8720 Antler Dr. in North Charleston (across from Otranto Subdivision). The Class is open to anyone wanting to get their Amateur Radio Technician license. The training class itself is free. In order to take a test, you are required to bring the following to the test session:

- A photo ID, or two non-photo IDs
- Your Social Security number, or better yet, go to the [FCC Registration site](#) and request a federal registration number (FRN) to use instead of your SSN. This will be mandatory soon, and you will receive an FRN if you provide your SSN to us.
- \$15 Testing Fee (this is the fee for all ARRL VE teams). Exact change or check preferred.
- If you are already licensed, the original and copy of your license
- If you have any Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCEs) that have not been used for license credit, bring the original and a copy of each CSCE
- If you are applying for credit for an expired pre-1987 General class license, bring proof of that license. A copy of an old call book showing your record should be sufficient.

If you know of anyone else that might be interested, pass the word,

Any questions I can help you with?

Warren, KK4EVI

FROM THE EDITOR

Don't forget to send me any articles, write ups, pictures with descriptions, or other helpful information you think needs to be included in the CARS Carrier. Send it to mantooml@gmail.com

73,
Michelle, KK4WQO

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