

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

April 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, April 13, 2020 via radio on the repeaters.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

From your President,

While everybody is hopefully staying (or at least keeping your distance from others) during the COVID-19 pandemic, don't forget that hurricane season is around the corner. I've seen some early forecasts indicating that this year could be an above average season.

In lieu of getting together for our April club meeting, we'll be having an On The Air meeting instead. Depending on how things shake out, the May club meeting will also probably be conducted OTA (looking pretty likely at this point). Look for an email in the next week or so with additional information.

Free to a good home: I recently received a donation of equipment from a local ham who's downsizing, and requested that it be given to a "freshly caught ham". There ended up being 4 boxes of gear and miscellaneous parts. Among the items I have are: Kenwood 430S HF radio, 20A linear power supply, 5/8 wave VHF mag mount antenna, low pass filter, home brew antenna tuner, 2m amp, Kantronics KAM TNC, Uniden BC170 scanner, several parts bins of antenna parts, electrical components, connectors (decent junk box fare), and an assortment of cables and wires. I verified that the Kenwood and power supply power up, but lacking a microphone or proper antenna setup, I can't say how functional the radio is aside from turning on. The radio might work perfectly, or it might not. This is perhaps not the ideal piece of equipment for

someone completely new to HF, but would be good for someone looking for something to tinker with. Anybody who is interested in any or all of this stuff, send me an email.

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

The great shut-in continues. Some of you are probably like me and have enough work backlog to keep busy for months (I'm in a project review cycle, so it's lots of phone conferences). Others are getting more time to play radio. If that's you, get on the air and try a new mode or band.

The 2m skip is starting up, and FT8 is popular there. If you have an all-band-all-mode radio like a Yaesu FT-991, turn your VHF antenna horizontal and see what you find. My best DX on 2m FT8 is Texas!

On my to-do list is explore LoRA, a low power networking protocol for internet of things devices. There are a few gateways in my part of West Ashley, so I plan to use RTL-SDR to find them, then explore sensor devices to connect. Look for it in the 900MHz ISM band.

It's almost certain that we won't be able to meet in person for our April membership meeting. The club officers are discussing having a meeting-on-the-air. On Monday at 7pm an officer will call it into session on the linked repeaters and we'll proceed through our regular reports. The bylaws require a quorum to conduct business, so if needed we'll call for members to check-in. We're also looking into a telephone conference call to support those without repeater access. Watch the club website at www.wa4usn.org for updates.

73, Tom, AJ4UQ.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership roster has been updated for the purge of members due to non-payment. If 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

No updates received by the time this newsletter was ready to send to the membership.

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance – 1/31/20	\$8957.26
Cash Receipts:	
Dues	260.00
Memberships	20.00
Raffle Proceeds	46.00
Cash Disbursements:	
ARRL – 1 Membership	(47.00)
Bank Fee	(5.00)
Ending Checking Balance - 2/29/20	\$9231.26

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of the MARCH 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 March 9, 2020 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. Meeting was called to order by the President Eugene Mah, AB4UG, at 7:00 PM on Monday March 9, 2020 at the **Golden Corral** in North Charleston, SC.

Introductions:

There was only about 41 members and guest present.

Secretary's Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI

The February 2020 meeting minutes were published in the March 2020 CARS Carrier. A motion was made to accept the minutes, the motion was seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX

The January 2020 Financial Reports were published in the March 2020 newsletter and accepted as information.

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

No report

Field Day: Tom, AJ4UQ + Del, KW4XQ

There is a sign-up sheet going around, so you can select what times you would like to participate in

this year's Field Day event. Plans are to put a TinyURL on the website.

Races: Doug, KU4OC + Tom K4WJC

No Report

Hamfest Report: Steve, KE4THX

After expenses it looks like the Club cleared about \$1100.00.

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF –

The system seems to be working correctly right now. Still planning to put a tone of 123.0 on the Adams Run Repeater (147.345), trying to reduce the interference getting into the system.

No new announcement on future plans for the Club Room.

New Policy at the Golden Corral, everyone that enters must pay for a meal. No more just coming in to attend the meeting.

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:

Chris Helgens, KO4BPJ

Second Reading:

Bryan Gapinski, KD9BMA

Robert (Bob) Warren, N5RW

Both were voted on and welcomed into the club.

Emergency Prep:

Charleston: Rick, N8BKN – ARES Team meets on 3rd Saturday of the month

Next ARES meeting on March 21st at the St. Andrews Public Service Building at 09:00 AM

There will be a State Wide Exercise Thursday March 12th. FEMA will be conducting the drill. Will try to keep the LowCountry repeater unlinked from the State system. Just looking for medical facilities and hospitals.

There will also be a tornado drill on Wednesday March 11th. No participation required.

Dorchester: John W4HNC – 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 -
Website: Tom, AJ4UQ

In the process of updating the Club's database roster

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.

There will be a Technician Training class at the Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints church on 8720 Antler drive, across Rivers Ave from Otranto subdivision

School Programs: Alene, KG4NKD – K4DMS -

No report

School Clubs: Tom, AJ4UQ – K4PSA-

No report

Communications Trailer: Willie, WB4SOG:

No report

Old Business:

No report

New Business:

Spring Centry Ride will be the Saturday after the CRB run, April 11. Would like 10 – 12 Ham Volunteers, to monitor rest areas. Sign-up sheet should be on Club web site. More information about ride at Coastalcyclists.com

Announcements:

Pastor Young's family sent a Thank You letter for flowers and donations.

Drawing:

Erwin KM4QE won the drawing for a one-year ARRL membership.

Being no further business, at 7:30 PM, a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

No updates received by the time this newsletter was ready to send to the membership.

ON THE AIR WITH THE SCOUTS

On 03/07/2020 Rick Valentine introduced three different groups of Scouts to the world of Ham Radio. They were then given the opportunity to transmit over one of our many radios in the Yorktown radio room. They also had the opportunity to listen to various stations in Europe on one of our HF radios. A good time was had by all.





Photos and Article Courtesy of Michael Whisenant, KN4LDM

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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