

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

July - August 2020 Newsletter

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

CARS generally 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, August 10, 2020 at the Golden Corral near Tanger Mall.

JULY MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

From your President,

Every now and then, I receive an email offering to donate equipment to the club so that it can be put back to use. Usually it's from someone who's downsizing, or from the family of an SK. Such donations are always appreciated and I try to get the donated equipment into the hands of a new ham just starting out in the hobby. The most recent donation, much to my surprise, turned out to be two US Navy transmitter/receiver sets dating back to May 1944 and January 1945 rather than the ham radio gear I was expecting. I put up a blog post about them which you can read

at <https://blog.ab4ug.net/2020/05/23/more-boat-anchors/>. Cosmetically, they need quite a bit of cleaning up but the insides look in reasonably decent shape for 75 year old equipment. I don't know if they can be restored to operating condition, but I think at least one set can be cleaned up enough to make a nice display piece for the club room. The ID plates on the radios seem to indicate they were never placed into service, but having them on display in the club room on the Yorktown seems fitting. If restoring old boat anchor equipment is one of the things you like to work on, let me know and maybe we can make a club project out of this.

If you're looking to upgrade to an Amateur Extra class license, keep in mind that a new question pool goes into effect July 1.

Effective July 1, the VE team is changing its affiliation from the ARRL VEC to the Laurel

VEC. Under the Laurel VEC, the team will be known as the Charleston Amateur Radio Exam Team (CARET). One notable change is that there will be no fee for taking the license test. Pending test location availability, the test schedule and locations will remain the same (see <https://www.laurelvec.com/index.php?team=CARET> for the schedule). Anybody with an Amateur Extra class license who would like to become a Laurel VE should send an email to Connie/NR4CB at nr4cb.ve@gmail.com

ARRL requires ARRL VEs to participate in a test session once in the past 5 years to keep their credentials current. The team has one more ARRL test session scheduled for June 13 so any ARRL VEs who wish to participate in the June 13 session should RSVP to Connie/NR4CB at nr4cb.ve@gmail.com.

I haven't had a chance to check on the status of our normal meeting place, so our June meeting will probably be another on-the-air meeting like the last two meetings.

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
73, Eugene/AB4UG

NEWS FROM THE VP

Hurricane season is ramping up, and by the time you get this, we should have had our first local event. You can go through back issues of the Carrier on the web site and read all the disaster preparation advice. The bottom line is that you should already be ready.

We did not make a quorum at our July membership meeting on the air, so we did not vote in new officers. Please make every effort to attend August's meeting so we can finish that important business. Stand by for an announcement on the venue for the meeting on the tenth.

Eugene Mah could not continue to serve as president past his term, and has stepped down. We thank him for his time as president. He will still work on the 50th anniversary celebration events. I'm sure he'll accept any offers of help, especially from the club's long-time members.

73, Tom/AJ4UQ.

MEMBERSHIP

We have received four new applications for membership this month so we are making the slow climb back up from the dip in our numbers after February's purge. The big reminder!! Since we are not having in person meetings at this time I would like to request that everyone send in their dues money to me. If you do it now you will help save the club money as I won't have to turn around and send you a reminder in the mail, just so you can send me the dues then anyway. It's still cheap at \$20 a year and only \$10 a year for each additional family member at the same address. For those of you who don't remember I

took over membership from Bryce and Jenny last year so please don't send Bryce your money as he then just has to get it to me somehow.

For those who need it my address information is:
Lee Miller KI4LLJ
207 Glebe Rd.
Summerville, SC 29485

Make sure you have your name and call either on the check or on an accompanying note. Please make checks out to CARS (or Charleston Amateur Radio Society if you wish). I will also ask that you exercise patience in waiting for the checks to post as after I get them and record and receipt them, I then have to get them to the treasurer, and she has to get them to the bank. This process sometimes takes a little longer than charging your purchase to Amazon so please hold off the nasty emails about why my check hasn't cleared (I used to always wonder that too until I was the one that had to do the process).

I look forward to when we can meet again face to face (and face to fried chicken) but it won't happen immediately and that's because these restrictions really are necessary to help protect us (old) folks from the virus.

73 all,
Lee KI4LLJ
CARS Membership Committee Chairman

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - JUNE

New month new issues. This is now officially 2020 Hurricane season, June to November. Two names have already been used, Tropical Storm Arthur and Tropical Depression Bertha. Bertha showed up at 0800 and was ashore by 1030 not much warning was there. Need to be prepared now not later. Next name is Christabol. Weather channel is showing conditions in the Southern Gulf could be interesting for future forming of storms. Keep watching the weather.

Recruiting time again, we will have multiple shelters open in the Low Country and the powers that be realize that communications will be

necessary and cell phone systems will be overwhelmed or damaged in a major event. Time to volunteer to provide communications where needed and do it effectively and professionally. Review the South Carolina Communications Plan and check your radio's have the correct frequencies and tone's in memory and get a copy of your radio manual to travel with you as a back-up for memory.

Also remember to get supplies for at least 3 days for you and your family. Stores will be out of stock on many items. Remember the toilet paper outage for COVID – 19, get supplies now.

The National Hurricane Center tested their communications systems on May 30th so they are ready for the season, Primary frequency is 14.325 MHz USB daytime with 7.268 MHz LSB at night or bad conditions on 20 meters. There are other emergency frequencies in the Caribbean area and you can “google” them.

Everyone Stay Safe and check up on your senior friends lockdown affects people differently, help neighbors out especially neighbors that have no experience with hurricanes.

Until next month, 73 Rick Valentine, N8BKN

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS – JULY

8 named storms, first 2020 hurricane (Hanna) hitting south Texas and more to come. August is when storms start coming off of Africa and travel across the Atlantic. These storms provide time and warning so you can prepare. Please start preparing NOW. Get or make a check list of your tasks, whether evacuating or staying. Round up your important papers, pictures, medical records and medicines, etc., etc., etc.,. If evacuating make a plan, go over your primary route, a secondary route, and a good current map for plan C. Call a family member and explain your plans so if you don't show up as expected a search can be started with authorities. Get snacks, water, games for small ones if necessary otherwise listen to “Are we there yet?” for miles. If staying get everything nailed down,

stored inside, try and eliminate any missile hazards. Check your supplies like tarps, rope, food stuffs, water, medicines, etc., etc., etc.,. Cash is king after a major event – ATM's won't work or be empty – get small bills you do not want to pay for a \$ 3.00 loaf of bread with a \$ 50.00 dollar bill and no change. Watch out for wildlife and stray left behind animals they are scared and displaced too. Help your neighbors out, many folks have moved to the Low country without Hurricane experience, remember storm shutters are sharp and cause many injuries – wear gloves, help elderly neighbors get their house and yard ready too.

Now let's talk shelters and COVID – 19. Multiple shelters will be open and available BUT the numbers of people allowed inside has been cut in half due to COVID.

Example:

North Charleston High School
Pre – COVID allowed 1143 people
COVID – 19 limits 570 people

This will cause shelters to fill up faster and you may have to change your plans. And you MUST bring your own Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and food stuffs. Not going to be an easy time.

Charleston area is about 4 inches above normal so far this year. That means the ground is wet which makes it easier for trees to fall down cutting power lines and for flash flooding. The streets that flood during heavy rains will flood during a hurricane which brings lots of rain so stay safe driving – remember - “Turn around Don't drown”.

Emergency communications become more critical during a disaster so prepare your gear NOW. Get that extra battery pack for an HT or a battery shell for AA or AAA alkaline batteries. Check out your vehicle charger works, maybe a spare mobile antenna or homemade roll-up antenna

Disasters usually overload regular communication systems so prepare a back – up plan.

Until next month,
73, Rick, N8BKN

MAY FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance – 4/30/20	\$8827.37
Cash Receipts - June:	
No Receipts	
Total Receipts	None
Cash Disbursements:	
Field Day	(500.00)
Host Gator-Website Host Renewal	(115.98)
Bank Fee	(5.00)
Total Disbursements	<u>(620.88)</u>
Ending Checking Balance – 5/31/20	\$8206.39

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

JUNE FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Checking Balance – 5/31/20	\$8206.39
Cash Receipts - June:	
No Receipts	
Total Receipts	None
Cash Disbursements:	
Stop Payment Fee	(35.00)
Bank Fee	(5.00)
Total Disbursements	<u>(40.00)</u>
Ending Checking Balance – 6/30/20	\$8166.39

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of the MAY NET MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Due to the Current STAY at HOME policy, the May meeting was again held on-line using the Low Country Linked Repeater system

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. Meeting was called to order by the President Eugene Mah, AB4UG, at 7:00 PM on Monday May 11, 2020, using the Low Country Linked Repeater System. Tom, AJ4UQ took Roll Call at 6:45 PM

Introductions:

There was only about 31 members and guest present.

Secretary's Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI

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

Treasurer's Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX

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

Charlotte requested that anyone requesting funds sent the request to her and let her know where to send the check

Museum Ships on the air: Tom, AJ4UQ + Jim, KW4UL
no report

Field Day: Tom, AJ4UQ + Del, KW4XQ
Del made a request for \$500 for fuel, food, paper products, etc. Hope to run two stations and also run the GOTA station.
Still hoping to have Field Day on the Yorktown.

Races: Doug, KU4OC + Tom K4WJC
no report

Hamfest Report: Steve, KE4THX
no report

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF –
Tracked down interference down to the 146.730 (Trident Medical) repeater, unlinked the repeater and interference went away. Linked the repeater back up and so far interference has not returned. Could be MRI interference again.

Membership: Lee, KI4LLJ & Jeanette, KO4BPH,
To maintain membership, dues are way past due and may be in danger of being dropped from the rolls.

Applications for regular membership:

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Emergency Prep:

Charleston: Rick, N8BKN – ARES Team meets on 3rd Saturday of the month
No ARES meetings until further notice, due to COVID-19
County EOC's still on lockdown
Hurricane predictions are for 14 to 18 storms, 8 to 9 hurricanes and 6 major storms

Dorchester: Beverly, W3BRB – Meets on 2nd Saturday of the month, at the EOC.

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
Website yearly fees of about \$115 are due.

Education & VE Testing: Connie, NR4CB - Due to the current Stay at Home policy, VE Testing has been canceled until further notice
VE test sessions may be starting again, more information to follow

School Programs: Alene, KG4NKD – K4DMS - no report

School Clubs: Tom, AJ4UQ – K4PSA- no report

Communications Trailer: Willie, WB4SOG: no report

Old Business:

New Business:

Brian asked Eugene about plans for the Club's 50th anniversary plans. Still in the makings.
Del requested \$500 dollars to fund the Field Day, voted on and no objections, motion passed.
Tom requested \$115 dollars to renew website fees, voted on and no objections, motion passed

Announcements:

Warren mentioned the SC ARES HF Net on 75/80 meters with a frequency starting at 3.803 and working up to 3.810 MHz, depending on conditions. This Net is held every Tuesday evening at 18:00 (6:00 PM). Not a long Net, just checking conditions and equipment

Drawing:

No drawing was held for the one-year ARRL membership due to online Meeting

Being no further business, at 7:23 PM a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting and return the repeaters back to normal usage

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

MINUTES of the JUNE NET MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Due to the Current STAY at HOME policy, the June meeting was again held on-line using the Low Country Linked Repeater system

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. Meeting was called to order by the President Eugene Mah, AB4UG, at 7:00 PM on Monday June 8, 2020, using the Low Country Linked Repeater System. Tom, AJ4UQ took Roll Call at 6:45 PM

Introductions:

There was only about 24 members and guest checked in.

Secretary's Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI

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

Treasurer's Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX

The April 2020 Financial Reports were published in the June 2020 newsletter and accepted as information.

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

KW4UL

Cancelled

Field Day: Tom, AJ4UQ + Del, KW4XQ

Plan to have Field Day on Yorktown. You need to bring your own food and drink

Races: Doug, KU4OC + Tom K4WJC

Plan to have IOP run this October (Oct. 3rd). IOP requested we attend.

Hamfest Report: Steve, KE4THX

no report

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF – 147.270 repeater – worked on announcements other repeaters seem to be doing well

Membership: Lee, KI4LLJ & Jeanette, KO4BPH, To maintain membership, dues are way past due and may be in danger of being dropped from the rolls.

Applications for regular membership:

First Reading: Rex Conner KO4BPL

Second Reading:

Emergency Prep:

Charleston: Rick, N8BKN – ARES Team meets on 3rd Saturday of the month. No ARES meetings until further notice, due to COVID-19. Will look into having the next ARES meeting on the Yorktown in July due to COVID restrictions. Charleston EOC still in condition 2 Classes should be beginning again soon, contact

Rick, N8BKN, for more information

Dorchester: Beverly, W3BRB – Meets on 2nd Saturday of the month, at the EOC.

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.

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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
no report

Education & VE Testing: Connie, NR4CB - Planning on having the final VE test session at 9:00 AM on June 13, at the Tall Pines Baptist Church. The church is located on 645 Treeland Drive, near the American Biker store.
If you wish to join the new Laurel VE team, contact Connie at nr4cb.ve@gmail.com

School Programs: Alene, KG4NKD – K4DMS -
No report

School Clubs: Tom, AJ4UQ – K4PSA-
No report

Communications Trailer: Willie, WB4SOG:
No report

Old Business:
Try tuning into the ARES HF Net on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM on 3.810 MHz
Check out the BoJangles Net every night on 10 meters at 28.433 MHz, at least until Bojangles reopens.

New Business:
Nominees for Club Officers:
Pres – Rick, N8BKN Secretary – Warren, KK4EVI
Vice Pres – Tom, AJ4UQ Treasurer – Charlotte, KJ4PLX

Announcements:

Club received a thank you letter from Ed Walkers Family for donations
If Golden Corral does not reopen, where to have monthly meetings? If you know of a place use the “Contact CARS” tab on the website

Drawing:

No drawing was held for the one-year ARRL membership due to online Meeting

Being no further business, at 7:24 PM a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting and return the repeaters back to normal usage

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

MINUTES of the JULY NET MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Due to the Current STAY at HOME policy, the July meeting was again held on-line using the Low Country Linked Repeater system

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. Meeting was called to order by the President Eugene Mah, AB4UG, at 7:00 PM on Monday July 13, 2020, using the Low Country Linked Repeater System. Tom, AJ4UQ took Roll Call at 6:45 PM

Introductions:

There was only about 28 members and guest checked in.

Secretary’s Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI
No CARS Newsletter sent out

Treasurer’s Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX
No CARS Newsletter sent out

Museum Ships on the Air: Tom, AJ4UQ + Jim, KW4UL
No report

Field Day: Tom, AJ4UQ + Del, KW4XQ

Entered Field Day results, had about 852 points. If you still have receipts from Field Day, need to turn them in to Del ASAP

Races: Doug, KU4OC + Tom K4WJC
Still on for the IOP connector run on the 1st Saturday of October, 10/3/2020, unless COVID-19 cancels Run.

Hamfest Report: Steve, KE4THX
Steve would like to have a committee member meeting, Zoom video or on-line? To discuss plans for 2021 Hamfest scheduled for February

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF –
Nothing really – there was some interference that lasted a short time, but went away.

Membership: Lee, KI4LLJ & Jeanette, KO4BPH,
It's time to pay yearly Dues for 2021 year. Due to COVID problem, Lee request you mail your dues to him.

Applications for regular membership:

First Reading: Richard Wysocki K1JOP Henry Ravenel Jr WAUD
James Southard Jr W4OOM Andrew Berlin AB4IC

Second Reading: Rex Conner KO4BPL
With no objections heard, Rex was voted into the Club. Virtual clapping was heard.

Emergency Prep:

Charleston: Rick, N8BKN – ARES Team meets on 3rd Saturday of the month ARES meeting to be held July 18th on the Yorktown at 0900 AM. Will conduct an HF operating day after the meeting. Emergency Prep still in limbo due to COVID 6 named storms so far – due to COVID shelters are limited in number of people they can take in. If you are able to get to a shelter, be prepared to bring your own supplies

Dorchester: Beverly, W3BRB – Meets on 2nd Saturday of the month, at the EOC.

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.

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Newsletter / Cars Carrier: Michelle, KK4WQO –

Website: Tom, AJ4UQ
No report

Education & VE Testing: Connie, NR4CB -
New VE team conducted first VE session, went well. July 25 will be next test session. August 8th, will be regular test session at Tall Pines Baptist church at 9:00 AM. Contact Connie, nr4cb.ve@gmail.com, by email to register

If you wish to join the new Laurel VE team, contact Connie at nr4cb.ve@gmail.com

School Programs: Alene, KG4NKD – K4DMS -
No report

School Clubs: Tom, AJ4UQ – K4PSA-

No report

Communications Trailer: Willie, WB4SOG:

No report

Old Business:

Nominees for Club Officers:

Pres – Rick, N8BKN Secretary – Warren, KK4EVI

Vice Pres – Tom, AJ4UQ Treasurer – Charlotte,
KJ4PLX

*Due to not enough voting members, canceled until next month.

New Business:

Eugene requested funds to renew domain name (wa4usn.org). Not enough members to approve will try to get approval again next month.

Announcements:

Due to not having enough check-ins for a quorum vote, new officers were not voted in.

Golden Corral – Bryce had meeting with manager – Manager wants us back, but he can't give us the room due to COVID restrictions.

Drawing:

No drawing was held for the one-year ARRL membership due to online Meeting

Being no further business, at 19:25 PM a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting and return the repeaters back to normal usage

Respectfully submitted by Warren, KK4EVI

FROM THE EDITOR

My apologies for not getting a newsletter out in in July and being late getting the August newsletter to the membership. I have had more on my plate teaching college lectures on-line and making up labs and clinicals from the spring semester.

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

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

