

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

February 2021 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, February 8, 2021 at the Golden Corral near the Tanger Mall and via radio on the repeaters.

FEBRUARY MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

January is over and February begins. Usually in February the Club has a Hamfest and I can get all of my little parts. You know like PL-259's, adapters, coax, ladder line, etc, maybe even a new-to-me radio or test equipment. COVID changes all of that, NO hamfest in February. Working on an open air event (tailgate-type) event when a venue can be found and weather is warmer. More on this subject later, stay tuned.

If you are reading this and have NOT paid your dues you are way OVERDUE and may need to rejoin the Club. Contact Lee Miller, KI4LLJ about procedures and Club By-Laws requirements.

This is also the 50th anniversary of the Charleston Amateur Radio Society. Please contact Brian, KN4EXJ or Eugene, AB4UG with suggestions for events or contribute your services and join the Committee and help the Club celebrate 50 years of service to the Low Country, Amateur Radio, and the fellowship of Ham Radio.

Because of the very slow pace of vaccine distribution to people's arms I feel a need to continue the hybrid meeting of C.A.R.S.. Hybrid means an in person meeting at the Golden Corral and an on the air net too. This situation will change rapidly but I feel at least the February, March, and maybe April will be-using this format. The difficulty comes from not very many people showing up at the Golden Corral. The room might get closed down due to only a few people showing

up. DO NOT place yourself or family in any danger of spreading or getting COVID. If you feel unsafe don't show up in person, check in the on air net. Remember between the two groups we still need a quorum to conduct Club business.

Keep informed about the FCC's requirement to charge a fee for your Ham Radio license grant. It has dropped to \$ 35.00 for a ten year grant which is only \$ 3.50 a year so as government fee's go it's not too bad. It is still a fluid issue so pay attention if you can.

73 Rick Valentine, N8BKN

NEWS FROM THE VP

It's been a year since the last Charleston Hamfest, one of the last before everything shut down. Like Rick I'm going to miss my annual chance to pick up small parts while having eyeball QSOs with the hams I see once a year.

Hopefully we'll have the Museum Ships Weekend in June; the organizers haven't said anything yet. Until then we'll be updating the FCC to assign email addresses to the licenses. Don't forget to do the same with your licenses.

73 Tom, AJ4UQ.

MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't paid your dues then as of 1 February 2021 you will be removed from the club rolls and need to re-apply for membership. Please pay your dues!

FIELD DAY

Lee Miller KI4LLJ,
CARS Membership Committee Chairman

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - FEBRUARY

January has ended without a bad weather event. No ice storms, snow, high winds that take down trees and power lines, no flooding, so good-bye January Hello February.

Charleston County Emergency Management has requested a grant to build more "shelter boxes". We currently have 6 boxes built and may get to build more soon. As long as the Hurricane is a Cat 3 or less Charleston County will have shelters to man. I would like at least 2 volunteers for each shelter assignment so we can provide a very robust communications presence.

Expect more training involving the purpose of ARES in the Low Country and some documenting of your skill sets. We are getting some training from the State Emergency Coordinator and South Carolina Emergency Management Communications Department. This is a train the trainer type training, they train me and I train you system.

It is still winter and so stick a blanket in your vehicle in case roads jam up from an accident. Try and keep your vehicle gas tank at half full or more so you can travel or idle as traffic requires. Road conditions change quickly so have decent tires and keep air in the spare. A flat spare is worse than just a flat tire because now you are really stuck/stranded.

This is also the time to plan outdoor activities, activate a park, antenna installs or repair, just remember to have a ground crew before going up a tower. Hams have become SK doing solo tower work, stay safe and plan ahead. Check in with your County Emergency Coordinator so they can offer you added training or maybe you can aid the group with your skills.

Until Next Month, 73 Rick Valentine, N8BKN

Del, KW4XQ, is getting ready to start planning field day in earnest. If anyone would like to join to assist with this event, please contact him via email, so you can coordinate in person or online meetings. KW4XQ@att.net.

HAMFEST

We still have not been able to get the use of any open air space yet. The COVID 19 restrictions are making it hard to plan for any events that could possibly be a contribution to spreading the virus. We have asked the Mason lodge in Goose Creek and waiting for a response from the Mason's Senior Leadership. We will continue to try to get a place to hold a tailgate in the next few months.

Steve, KE4THX

FINANCIAL REPORT

CARS Treasurer's Report December 2020		
Checking Balance November 30, 2020		\$ 10,519.13
Cash Receipts - December		
	Dues	210.00
	Memberships	-
	Interest	<u>0.09</u>
Total Receipts		210.09
Cash Disbursements -December		
	Christmas Party	(582.41)
)
		-
		=
Total Disbursements		<u>(582.41)</u>
Checking Balance December 31,		<u>\$ 10,146.81</u>

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of the JANUARY HYBRID 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 January 11, 2021 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES: The Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. Meeting was called to order by President Rick Valentine, N8BKN, at the Golden Corral and Vice-President Tom Glaab, AJ4UQ, on the linked repeater system at 7:02 PM on Monday January 11, 2021, at the Golden Corral in North Charleston, SC. Tom started taking on-line check-ins around 6:45 PM.

Introductions: There was only about 9 members and 1 guest at the meeting and 14 on-line members and 3 guest check-ins.

Secretary's Minutes: Warren, KK4EVI
The November/December 2020 meeting minutes were published in the January 2021 CARS Carrier. A motion was made to accept the minutes as published, the motion was seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX
The November/December 2020 Financial Reports were published in the January 2021 newsletter and accepted as information.

Museum Ships on the air: Tom, AJ4UQ + Jim, KW4UL
NJ4DU Trustee received notice, from ARRL, that call sign was needing to be renewed. Renewal paperwork already sent in.

Field Day: Tom, AJ4UQ + Del, KW4XQ
No report

Races: Doug, KU4OC + Tom K4WJC
No report

Hamfest Report: Steve, KE4THX
No report

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF
Noise on 146.730 repeater, looking into the cause.

Membership: Lee, KI4LLJ & Jeanette, KO4BPH

Its past time to pay yearly Dues for 2021 year. Due to COVID problem, Lee request you mail your dues to him. If dues not paid by Feb. 1St, you will be dropped from roster

Applications for regular membership: Only 133 paid members out of about 162 roster members.
First Reading:

Second Reading:

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

No ARES meeting Saturday Jan. 16th. Will have an Operating Day on the Yorktown on Sat. Jan. 16th between noon to 4:00 PM.

Rick mentioned new training classes on EMD's website (<http://www.scemdlms.org/TRS/?ogToken=SCEMD>). Calendar shows new classes, location and dates/times. Most classes are now virtual.

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.org.

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.

ARES HF Net 3.990.00 meets on Tuesday evenings at 5:00 PM.

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/ Website: Tom, AJ4UQ

Tom, AJ4UQ, would like someone to take over. Contact Tom if interested in helping out.

Education & VE Testing: Connie, NR4CB

February 13th 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. Still working on having a Technician Training class on January 30 and 31st, down at MUSC, provided COVID-19 will allow us.

School Programs: Alene, KG4NKD – K4DMS

Nothing to report

School Clubs: Tom, AJ4UQ – K4PSA

Nothing to report

Communications Trailer: Willie, WB4SOG:

No report

Old Business: Still looking for information on where to have the Hamfest tailgate meeting.

Brian is looking for ideas to celebrate the CARS 50th anniversary. Email Brian with ideas at (bsmith4210@yahoo.com).

New Business: Brian made a motion requesting \$2000 for 50th anniversary recognition cost, voted on and approved. Bryce said they had a good 25th anniversary celebration would like to make 50th anniversary twice as good.

Rick mentioned that FCC new rule required a valid email address on license database. If license information is invalid, and FCC can't contact you by phone or email, you may lose your license.

Bryce mentioned he would like the engineers to use the money from last years estate sale, to fund projects. 3 engineers would still be needed to approve. Voted on and approved.

Announcements: Open House in the Yorktown Radio Room Saturday Dec. 19th, noon until...

Drawing: No drawing this month for a one-year ARRL membership

Being no further business, at 7:28 PM a motion was made, seconded and passed to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by 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 or the club web site. Send it to aj4uq@arrl.net.

The club has a Twitter account, @wa4usn. If you have an item to post, send it to AB4UG or AJ4UQ.

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