

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society September 2022 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, September 12, 2022 at the Golden Corral near the Tanger Mall.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

School will be back in session by now so be careful of the kids and buses on the roads mornings and evenings.

Where does the Club and membership want to be next year?

What new modes do you want to try or learn?

Please ask the membership for any aid you need. Many members will have the knowledge and desire to help with your projects or leaning a new skill or mode. At the meeting last month a new member hinted he needed help with an antenna choice and install. By the time he finished explaining the situation we had three (3) volunteers to aid in antenna selection and installing it.

Always put out good behavior on the air. Be over polite and try and aid the person on the other end of a QSO. Respect other operating modes or styles, learn from them and always try to improve your own skills as an operator, technical skills, and the best side of Amateur Radio. This is NOT an out of control radio service, we have FCC Part 97 Rules to follow, but other radio services don't have the same Rules.

Cooler weather will make outside work easier. Plan your antenna work carefully. Always have a ground crew. Never climb a tower or tree without a ground crew and safety equipment to assist you or just to observe you. Make a day with friends, many hams

can't climb towers anymore for many reasons, but friends will make your plans happen.

Remember Dues are due, contact our Membership Chair Lee Miller, KI4LLJ.

Check your gear for emergency use. The peak of Hurricane season is starting now. (September 10 to be exact)

See everyone at the Club meeting.

73 Rick Valentine, N8BKN

NEWS FROM THE VP

Not much to report from here, it's been too hot to go out and operate. It's about time to drag the generators out and top off the gas cans. I've been getting an extra case of water from Costco from time to time, so hurricane season shouldn't catch us without supplies. As Rick noted elsewhere, on top of the usual panic buying, supply chain issues mean there might not be anything in the stores to fight over!

As usual, your contributions for the newsletter and web site are appreciated. Share your workbench project, operating adventure, or what you're doing for fun.

73 Tom, AJ4UQ.

MEMBERSHIP

Once again the membership committee has managed to spend over three of the last four weeks out of state (and out of country). Jennette being a

big NASCAR fan and me being a (somewhat less enthusiastic) fan as well, we went to a race weekend at Richmond, followed by a race weekend in Watkins Glen, NY, and since I had never taken her we scooted over to Niagara Falls for a week after that.

So once again I'm behind the eight ball and playing catch-up. The good news is there are more people paying dues and less people behind on their dues (funny how that goes together).

We have 3 first readings so far for the September meeting and 1 second reading to vote on. Hope to see many of you there.

Lee Miller KI4LLJ,
CARS Membership Committee Chairman

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Danielle is in the Atlantic but going away from Charleston. Fourth (4) named storm this season. Peak of season is September 10th and Hugo came in late September. Keep an eye on the Atlantic and the Gulf because storms will come faster now.

Preparedness is always a good practice. Having an emergency supply of basics is also good. You do not need a major disaster to cause problems. Look to Jackson, Mississippi or Michigan. No water in Jackson because of flooding (never floods in the Low County) and Michigan lost power due to downed power lines. After Hugo I went three (3) days without water and another three (3) days before the water was safe to drink. A couple of cases of water would come in handy and there is no shortage now but if you wait the supply chain will fail and you be without. Check around your neighborhood for clogged storm drains, keep them cleaned out so water drains and streets do not flood damaging your property. In recent weeks we have gotten a bunch of rain saturating the ground and leaving trees vulnerable to falling over. Trees only fall on power lines cutting your power or in the middle of roads trapping you in your neighborhood.

Double check your evacuation plan and routes. Construction or accidents can cause a massive

traffic jam. Even a rain storm can cause accidents and tie up traffic for hours..Secure your house if you decide to stay. Anything left outside will be a hazard, trash cans, outdoor furniture, hanging plants, these will all become missiles or floating problems. If possible help your neighbors that haven't been in a wide spread event, they may be overwhelmed and not have a plan. Look out for people on a fixed income, the prices have put them in situations they may not have the means to evacuate or stock up on critical supplies.

ARES communications and communicators will definitely be needed for the recovery. Folks evacuating may not have a place to live post event. Shelters will need to be staffed and the communication grid could be destroyed or overloaded. Remember that hams will find a way to communicate "When all else Fails".

Until Next Month, 73 Rick Valentine, N8BKN

FIELD DAY

No report.

KN4EXJ, Brian Smith, Field Day Captain

HAMFEST

Nothing new For the Hamfest. I'm still seeing some of the smaller Hamfests being canceled in the NC/SC/GA areas.

Steve, KE4THX

MUSEUM SHIPS

Nothing to report.

Tom, AJ4UQ

RACES / PUBLIC SERVICE

The Lowvelo ride is Sat. Nov. 5 ... they haven't contacted me yet but I'm sure they will want our help ... check out <https://lowvelo.org> ... it supports the MUSC Hollings Cancer Center. I'll be at the

Sept. 12 meeting to start a sign-up and an on-line sign up would be appreciated.

Tom, K4WJC and Doug, KU4OC

SCHOOL CLUBS

K4PSA has a new principal who is receptive to the club, but a little reluctant to let us run around the roof installing antennas. We'll keep working with them.

Tom, AJ4UQ

COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

CARS trailer inventory complete. Trailer will be at next meeting at Golden Corral for members viewing.

Mike, KY4BO

FINANCIAL REPORT

CARS Treasurer's Report July 2022			
Checking Balance June 30, 2022			\$ 5,050.96
Cash Receipts - July			
	Dues	150.00	
	Memberships	40.00	
	Raffle Proceeds	63.00	
	Interest	<u>0.04</u>	
Total Receipts			253.04
Cash Disbursements -July			
	Domain Name Renewal	(18.85)	
	Field Day	(820.00)	
		-	
	ARRL 1	(47.00)	

	Membership		
	Bank Fee	(5.00)	
Total Disbursements			(890.85)
One Time Adjustment	Old Uncleared Checks Located	50.00	50.00
Checking Balance July 31, 2022			<u>\$ 4,463.15</u>

Annual Financial Report				
For the Year ended July 31, 2022				
Beginning Checking Account Balance - August 1, 2021				\$ 5,727.79
Revenues				
	Memberships	300.00		
	Dues	2,425.00		
	ARRL Drawing	540.00		
	Membership Dues & ARRL Drawing		<u>3,265.00</u>	
	Bank Error on Deposit		0.60	
	Interest Earned		0.46	
			-	
			=	
	Total			3,266.06
Expenses				
	ARRL (memberships)		(444.00)	
	Misc. expenses (printing, stamps, bank charges, etc)		(267.30)	

Christmas Party		(1,744.97)	
Pinckney Carter Co.- Gen Liab Insurance		(355.00)	
US Postmaster-12 mos PO Box rental #70341		(182.00)	
Field day food and gas		(820.00)	
Website hosting		(114.91)	
Domain Name Renewal - W4USN.org - 1 yrs		(18.85)	
Trailer Maintenance		(246.27)	
Weather Alert Radio		(57.40)	
Refund of Life Member Prepaid Dues		<u>(280.00)</u>	
Total			<u>(4,530.70)</u>
Ending Checking Account Balance - July 31, 2022			<u>\$ 4,463.15</u>
Net Decrease for Year		\$ (1,264.64)	
Savings Account Balance		\$ 27.39	

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

Monday August 8, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Presiding Rick Valentine, N8BKN, Club President
 35 attending, 33 members and 2 guests
 Officers Present
 Rick Valentine – President
 Charlotte Groves – Treasurer
 Lee Miller – Membership
 Brian Smith – Secretary

Introductions of members and guests.

Announcements: Charleston County ARES meeting @ 0900, 20 August 2022 in club room aboard the USS Yorktown, Patriots Point Maritime Museum.

CARS Club operating day August 20, 2022 from 1100 till...

Mike Edwards, KA4TJE, is selling tickets for a new in the box Icom 7300 \$20.00 Per ticket for the 50th anniversary of the TARC club. Drawing in 2023.

Reports: Secretary's Report was accepted as noted in the July CARS Carrier. Thank you to Warren Richey, KK4EVI, for his service as past secretary. Treasurer's Report was accepted as noted in the July CARS Carrier.

Standing Events Reports:

Hamfest: Steve, KE4THX – Nothing to report.
 Race Support: Doug, KU4OC, and Tom, K4WJC
 Just a reminder of the IOP Connector Run in October and the LOVELO Ride.

School Clubs: Tom, AJ4UQ: No Report

Museum Ships: Tom, AJ4UQ: No Report

Education/Testing: Tom, AJ4UQ: Testing at Tall Pines Baptist Church on August 13th, Check the CARS website for details.

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of the AUGUST MEETING

CARS Carrier/Website: Tom, AJ4UQ: No Report

Communications Trailer: Mike, KY4BO: Mike is still working on the trailer inventory and will report when completed.

Emergency Preps:

Berkeley County: Linda, KJ4EVV – No Report

Charleston County: Rick, N8BKN, noted that we are drawing closer to the peak of our hurricane season reporting that there is a disturbance coming off the coast of Africa that is being watched. Note Charleston County ARES Meeting listed earlier.

Dorchester County: Beverly, W3BRB –No Report

Field Day: Brian, KN4EXJ: Information has been submitted to ARRL and waiting for the December issue of the QST magazine for the Field Day results.

Membership: Lee, KI4LLJ: 169 members, 164 voting members.

Over ½ members have paid their dues.

First Reading:

Thomas Jordan
Don (Chip) Mack, WB4ZVR

Second Reading:

Steve Meadows, KM4DWJ
Ivy Howerton, KI7WJC

Accepted as members.

Nets: Please note the listings in the CARS Carrier and on the CARS website. It should be noted that the Storm Watchers net has been discontinued due to lack of participation.

Repeaters: Bryce, K4LXF: Bryce gave an informative presentation on the Low Country and SC state repeater system including its origin and history. He also covered how the repeater system works and how to best use it improve system operation. Noting the following:

First Repeater freq. 144.940 located on the Round holiday inn 1971.

Holiday VHS Society first name. Changed to CARS in 1977.

History of the repeater system, to provide communications for local hospitals during an emergency.

How a repeater works

Repeaters have to ID every 10 minutes – FCC rules

Key 33 unkey – Time

Key 44 unkey– Record voice- unkey. Is there a time limit to record? Answer 8 seconds. This will give the calling station a true test of how they sound on the radio.

Key 55 unkey– test for key pad tones

Controllers have specific messages that are pre-recorded

Engineers have control of the messages

When using a repeater at the end of your transmission if you hear 1 beep it means that you are going into that repeater selected, if 2 beeps are heard another repeater has picked up.

Repair money was not included in the initial grant. CARS has monies set aside for repairs.

None of the machines are tied into the ECHO Link system.

Linking is only via 440 MHz

Lee – Key up wait a second for the repeater to connect then transmit your message.

How to respond to NET Control or call NET Control

Net control, unkey wait a second and listen for other traffic. Then call net control and go with your message.

Repeater cost is approx. \$8,000 per. Repeater. History of SCHEART system.

Old Business: QSL Cards for the PBR are ordered. The discussion for the power supply for the 146.790 repeater has been tabled pending further research.

New Business: Christmas Party, Paulette has been asked to look for venue for party.

Bryce report on repeaters. See above report.

Raffle drawing: Winner Archie, K4IUG

Reminder to tip staff

Erwin, KM4QE, free QST mag. got sent five by mistake.

Motion to adjourn: Passed Meeting closed 1949hrs.

Respectfully submitted by Brian, KN4EXJ.

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email: carsinfo@wa4usn.org