

# CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society June 2023 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, June 12, 2023 at the Golden Corral near the Tanger Mall.**

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Announcements:

July CARS meeting events:

- 1830 to 1845 Board of Advisors meeting
- 1845 to 1900 Charleston PBR Group meeting
- Election of Officers for Charleston Amateur Radio Society in July

A new month and the start of 2023 Atlantic Hurricane season. There is a Tropical Storm in the Gulf of Mexico off Florida right now. Start preparing now.

This is by far the busiest month for the Club. Museum Ships Weekend, Hurricane Expos, and finally Field Day. Come out and participate, learn to log, work a pile up, or just help set up and tear down antennas. Get hands-on experience with a more experienced operator by your side. Learn a new or different operating mode, and maybe enjoy the company of other Hams.

A report from the Nominating Committee about the new officers will be read out in preparation for the July vote. Nominations from the membership will be accepted at the July meeting before voting.

The Membership can expect reports of June Club events in July via the CARS Carrier and at the July meeting.

I would like to thank our Vice President Tom, AJ4UQ for the excellent training he gave on the uses and types of digital modes during the May

operating day on the Yorktown. He gave an overall class and then did individual training with anyone who asked. Great Job Tom.

Any other suggestions for operating days on the Yorktown, ask an officer or better yet hold a class yourself. Share your knowledge and skills with the Membership. I am sure that whatever you can offer will help the membership and overall enjoyment of Amateur Radio.

Hope to see lots of members at June events and Club meetings.

73 Rick Valentine, N8BKN

## NEWS FROM THE VP

Thank you to those who provided photos and articles for the Carrier and web site. Ford, KK4MRG, has volunteered to help with the web site maintenance.

The Digital Modes demonstration on May's Operating Day went well. We covered quite a bit of material with a focus on getting members on the air. If there's a topic or mode that you want to learn – including setting up a station or how antennas work – suggest it for an operating day.

Did you know we have an IRLP node? It's been off-the-air for a while, and I'd like to find someone with a bit more time than I have to get it back on the air. It was the project of N4SJW at MUSC, and after he left, it became a zombie – the hard drive died and it was running only what remained in the computer memory. I recovered the PKI ID and have been keeping it alive on the system, but need someone to

take over the new PC and work with MUSC to get it back on their internet. I'll be happy to lead, but I need someone too do the detail work.

73 Tom, AJ4UQ.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Our official count of VOTING members is 166. 15 percent needed for a quorum is therefore 24.9 (25). We will be voting on three additional members at the meeting on the 12th. Our associate supporters number 4.

We will have 1<sup>st</sup> reading for Don Harrison KJ7GEB. The hams we will be voting on at the June meeting are David Shaw KQ4HGP, Richard Robinson KA2VKU, and Michael Fitzsimmons N2LMU.

On a side note, I would like to ask for a volunteer for the membership committee to assist in collecting dues this year. Jennette and I will be traveling the entire month of August, when many dues come in. If you would be interested in helping out please contact me at ki4llj@arrl.net or text me at 843-518-0669. It will also help if as many members as possible could pay their upcoming dues in July, or wait until September. Thanks for your cooperation and assistance.

Lee Miller KI4LLJ,  
CARS Membership Committee Chairman

## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

Atlantic Hurricane Season has started, June 1 to November 30. The first Tropical Storm named Arlene is off Florida in the Gulf of Mexico, but it is heading South towards Cuba then predicted to turn East. So far, no threat to the US; keep a weather eye out though. Check your equipment out to listen to the NOAA/NHC amateur frequencies 20 meters is 14.325MHz, and 40 meters is 7.268MHZ. The Caribbean Emergency frequency is 7.188MHz as another warning frequency to help track the storm's path. Now is the time to check your preparations.

Download the South Carolina Tactical Communications Plan from the [www.ares-sc.org](http://www.ares-sc.org)

site or from [www.scheart.us](http://www.scheart.us) site. This document will give you the State Emergency Management plan for communications statewide and the frequencies of repeaters, simplex, and even HF frequencies to use for the State and County. Look at all three counties because the Tri County will have to work as a team in a real disaster.

Join the ARES nets every Sunday evening at 2000 hours local time (8:00 pm) and learn the proper way to use the linked repeaters. The Low Country net is from 2000 to 2020 with a total of 11 repeaters linked up just like always but in a disaster the individual county repeater designated in the Communication will be unlinked and stand alone. The South Carolina ARES net starts at 2000 and links into the Low Country at 2020 hours. The State system will be 61 linked repeaters so proper check-in procedures are needed. Locally we are in Emergency Management Area Five so it can take 20 minutes to get to taking check ins from the Low Country, that is why two check-ins are required. If ordering new equipment check out delivery times and learning curve to get up to speed on the gear. Learning during an emergency is never fun. It can be frustrating and cause a loss of efficiency as a great communicator.

Anything you can think of for the variety of emergencies that can occur in the Low Country feel free to suggest a fix or as Joe, K4LTF says, "always ask what if?" Stay alert the season is just starting.

Until Next Month, 73 Rick Valentine, N8BKN

## **FIELD DAY**

No report.

KN4EXJ, Brian Smith, Field Day Captain

## **HAMFEST**

Congratulations to our new chairman, Paulette, KJ4AIK.

## **MUSEUM SHIPS**

Museum Ships Weekend was held at Patriots Point 3-4 June 2023. We activated the USS Yorktown (WA4USN), USS Laffey (NT4HI), and Mark II PBR 105 (WD4PBR), on phone and CW. The bands were decent, and overnight on CW we participated in the German Field Day event, earning us an unusual amount of DX contacts. Some ship-to-ship contacts were made, but our focus was on giving the chasers museum ship contacts.

The MS Walk at James Island County Park was a successful, low-key event. Thank you to those who came out to support it.

Tom, K4WJC and Doug, KU4OC

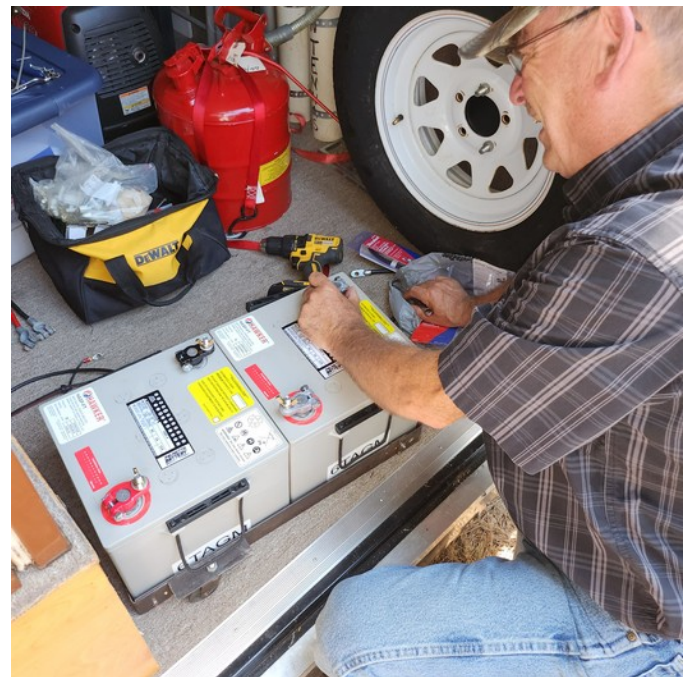
## SCHOOL CLUBS

Nothing to report.

Tom, AJ4UQ

## COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

Last month the club approved the purchase of new/used batteries for the trailer. Here's a picture of David KB9UJF installing them.



Mike, KY4BO



The PBR boat was activated from the parking lot next to the boat, but for some reason conditions were terrible. Perhaps it's the new construction site next door. We're still waiting for the QSL cards.

Tom, AJ4UQ

## RACES / PUBLIC SERVICE

## FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>CARS Treasurer's Report April</b>			
<b>Checking Balance March 31, 2023</b>			<b>\$ 4,151.48</b>



Cash Receipts - April			
	Dues	40.00	
	Memberships	40.00	
	Raffle Proceeds	51.00	
	Interest	0.03	
Total Receipts			131.03
Cash Disbursements -April			
	Members Name Badges	(93.89)	
		-	
		-	
	ARRL 1 Membership	(47.00)	
		=	
Total Disbursements			(140.89)
<b>Checking Balance April 30., 2023</b>			<b>\$ 4,141.62</b>

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

## **MINUTES of the MAY MEETING**

### **Charleston Amateur Radio Society May 8, 2023 Monthly Meeting**

Meeting Called to order by Rick Valentine,  
N8BKN, President at 1900Hrs

**Introductions:** Members Present 43 Guests 3

#### **Announcements:**

Awendaw Repeater is back on line at a reduced capacity.

We had 19 club members show up for the James Island Hurricane Preparation Expo. The trailer was on display along with the cornhole game. Thank you to all who came out and supported the event.

**Secretary's Report: Brian KN4EXJ** – Accepted as information

**Treasurer's Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX --**  
Accepted as information

### **Standing Event Reports:**

**Field Day: Brian, KN4EXJ:** I'm still looking for someone to head up the SSB portion of field day. Now is the time to start planning your participation in this event. A schedule will be made up for the June meeting. We are looking forward to your support. Name tags for after-hours operation will be required. These can be obtained during the week onboard the Yorktown from security. Check in at the main desk and they will be able to assist you.

**Hamfest: New Chairman, Paulette, KJ4AIK** –  
Congratulations

**Race Support: Doug, KU4OC & Tom, K4WJC --**  
MS Walk at James Island County Park. Meet at the Wappoo shelter looking for signups Date May 13th 0930 hrs.

**Repeaters: Bryce, K4LXF,** Nothing new to report. Awendaw repeater is up.

#### **Nets:**

Sunday: Low Country ARES net 2000hrs – 2020hrs

SC ARES net 2000hrs -2130hrs On the SCHEART repeaters

Tuesday: SC ARES HF net at 1800hrs on 3.990MHz

TARC Net 2000hrs -2100hrs on the Low Country repeaters

Wednesday: 1st and 3rd Wednesday Weather Training net 2000hrs

Thursday: SCHEART Training net 0900hrs – 1030hrs on the SCHEART repeaters

New Comers net 2000hrs -2100hrs on the Low Country repeaters

**Communications Trailer: Mike, KY4BO** –  
Generators, Hurricane season is upon us and now is the time to service the generators.

#### **Emergency Preps:**

Berkeley County: Linda, KJ4EVV – No report

Charleston County: Rick, N8BKN – No report

Dorchester County: Beverly, W3BRB – No report

## Vice President Tom, AJ4UQ, Reports:

### Schools:

**Education/Testing:** 21 people participated at the VE session

**Museum Ships:** June 3-4 is an overnight event if staffing is available sign up on the website. Ships represented are the USS Yorktown CV-10, USS Laffey DD 724, and the PBR 105.

**Membership:** Lee, KI4LLJ -- Name Tags and membership cards pick up from Lee.

### First Readings:

David Shaw, KQ4HGP

Michael Fitzsimon, N2LMU

Rich Robinson, KA2VKU

### Second Readings:

Michael Walford, N4PSU vote accepted for membership

### Old Business:

WD4PBR QSL Cards Still Waiting – Rick, N8BKN, was assured that they would be here for Museum Ship weekend.

MS Walk May 13th, 2023 still looking for volunteers. This is an easy event to support as it is contained to the James Island County Park.

MARS Carl, May 13th at the Yorktown operate on military frequencies 9am to 5pm.

### New Business:

Trailer Batteries – Dave, the battery in the trailer has expired. We are looking to acquiring some used military batteries that have recently been changed

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out. AGM battery type. Cost for two batteries is \$350.00 plus safety switch. Charger is a standard battery charger.

Operating Days? May 20, 2023 Tom AJ4UQ Will be conducting a class onboard the Yorktown titled *Learn Digital Modes*. Start at Noon Class will last about 3 hours.

Membership recruiting – currently at 170 members.

New General Test is coming up.

FCC requires an RF exposure survey for your radios. The ARRL website has a plug and play formula that is easy to use.

**Drawing:** Larry, KJ4GZR Conducted the drawing for an ARRL membership. The drawing was won by KG4ULR Stephen.

Reminder to tip you waiter.

Meeting adjourned at 1949 hrs.



Carl WD4CXW/AAR4TV operates in the cross-band test. Watch for a full article on the club web site, <https://wa4usn.org>.