

# CARS CARRIER



Charleston Amateur Radio Society May 2025 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, May 12, 2025 at the Golden Corral near the Tanger Mall.***

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

The installed antenna on the Yorktown has been replaced and is operational. 15 and 10 meters need some adjustments but are workable.



Remember the Club is supporting the May 10<sup>th</sup> MARS Cross Band event on the Yorktown. Anyone wishing to operate from the ship please come down the MARS operators can use the help, and they can serve as Control Operators so you can operate on the MARS frequencies and reply on the Amateur bands. For off ship work the MARS operators will be transmitting on MARS frequencies and listening for Amateurs on Ham frequencies. This is called "Split ops" and is a long-tested operating mode for Hams.

There will be a May Operating day on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Lee, KI4LLJ will open the Clubroom so please come down and operate. Good preparation for Museum Ships weekend and later for ARRL Field Day. Plus, it will test the new antenna. So "Come on Down."

In June we will operate Museum Ships and ARRL Field Day. There will be NO operating day on the third Saturday. Please enjoy the two other chances to operate from the Yorktown.

Get any other operating ideas into action. Lots of Club members will help or assist you just ask.

Last reminder for Patriot's Point ID badges, you will need one to get on the ship after the Museum site is closed to the public so the procedure is you contact me, I sent an e-Mail to Bill Diilard at Yorktown Security and then you call him and make an appointment to get your ID made. William Dillard phone numbers: Office: 843-881-5927, Cell: +1 530-957-0483.

Until next month, 73  
Rick N8BKN

## **NEWS FROM THE VP**

Computers in ham radio continue to grow in importance. They allow for weaker signals to be heard, detailed lists to be passed for emergency communications, more reliable and actionable logs, sending pictures, and much more. Most newer radios have USB computer interfaces built in, so there shouldn't be much to stop you from experimenting with digital modes. If there's a mode that sounds interesting to you, there's probably another club member who can help you learn it.

73 Tom, AJ4UQ.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Voting members: 154

Meeting Quorum for May 12 meeting: 24 Voting members

First reading: None as of this report

Second Reading: Sammy Shuford KX4SAM

Lee KI4LLJ and Jennette KO4BPH  
CARS Membership Committee

## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

We are one month away from the start of the 2025 Hurricane season. Storms do occur in May; they form offshore and only give a day or two warning unlike African storms that provide a week or more preparation time. Stay vigilant and plan now to stay or evacuate.

If you choose to evacuate, make a route A, route B, and a route C. Drive your route on a sunny day and a rainy day. Look for gas stations or recharging stations, look for food services and other safety needs. Have your medications ready to go, may take you some time to refill a prescription outside of this area. Pack important papers so they are available to you.

If you are planning to stay, start stockpiling supplies that may get scarce after the storm hits. Get some cash out because plastic might not work initially, small bills because making change will be difficult.

Operate your generator if you have one to make sure it still works and is in a safe area not located where you will be breathing the exhaust fumes. Tune to the weather radio frequencies for the latest weather reports, you can get a dedicated weather radio or most Amateur HT's will tune in the weather frequencies. Remember FEMA's safety rules: Make sure YOU are safe, then make sure your FAMILY is safe. If steps one and two are met then you can aid the community through ARES or other voluntary agencies. Help your local neighborhood out, CERT is trained to seek out a Ham operator to communicate with the Municipality or County Emergency Management Departments. Review a copy of the current SC Tactical communications plan for procedures, frequencies, and individual County repeaters and Simplex frequencies.

Next month we will talk about lessons learned.

Until Next Month, Stay Safe

Rick, N8BKN Charleston County Emergency Coordinator.

## **FIELD DAY**

The ARRL Field Day is always the last full weekend in June and runs for 24 hours. This year it will start on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 2pm and continue until Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. We will operate from the USS Yorktown on the catwalk overlooking Charleston Harbor. This is always a fun event with plenty of food and friendship. It's a terrific opportunity to build operating skills in CW, SSB and digital. All club members are welcome to participate.

1) We are still seeking a GOTA station Captain and operators. The GOTA station will be at the entrance to the hangar deck and has direct contact with the public during the hours the ship is open. Its purpose is to demonstrate ham radio to visitors, give them an opportunity to get on the air, and recruit new hams. I heard some interest expressed at the last meeting, so if you are willing and able, please let me know by email or give me a call: saefsh@icloud.com; 843-200-5470.

2) News media has been invited (Local TV stations, the Post & Courier, and the Moultrie News.) I spoke on the phone with Channel 2 News (CountOn2) who covered us last year, and they were very encouraging about a short human-interest piece again this year.

3) I will be contacting some club members directly with specific requests regarding tasks crucial to the event. These include set-up, take down, radios, antennas, tarps, logging, digital communications, solar power, etc. If you would like to be involved, please contact me or our FD Co-Captain, Avery Hill, W4QYV.

Many thanks to all for your help and support!  
Steve, AA2BB

## HAMFEST

Nothing new for Hamfest

Paulette, KJ4AIK.

## MUSEUM SHIPS

Museum Ships Weekend is the first week of June. The club will also have a 1x1 special event call sign, W2Z, for the USS Yorktown CV-5. We have registered the USS Laffey, Mk II PBR, and USS Yorktown (CV-10 only for MSW credit).

Tom, AJ4UQ

## RACES / PUBLIC SERVICE

Nothing is coming up for a while.

Tom, K4WJC and Doug, KU4OC

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

The automatic packet reporting service (APRS) station WA4USN-5 on the Yorktown is both a digipeater and an iGate. This means it retransmits packets over the air similar to a repeater, and it has an internet connection to share packets globally, such as to the mapping service on <http://aprs.fi>. It can relay messages from a radio in Charleston to

one in a different place if that other radio has been heard by an iGate.

APRS remains a useful tool for delivering information in short chunks. It is also used by some private pilots so don't be surprised if you see packets coming from 10,000 feet in the air (or higher, from a high-altitude balloon).

Tom, AJ4UQ

## COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

The CARS trailer has undergone routine maintenance, including the remodeling of the telescoping antenna cover. Water will now run off the cover instead of standing in the center.



The main battery has been charged.

Areas of rust have been removed and spot painted.

The area around the trailer has been swept.

The trailer should now be ready for the governor's visit in May. The trailer will be on display at the Charleston County Emergency operation center.

Mike, KY4BO

## FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>CARS Treasurer's Report</b>			
<b>March 2025</b>			
<b>Checking</b>			<b>\$ 1,958.21</b>

<b>Balance February 28, 2025</b>			
<b>Cash Receipts - March</b>			
	Dues	-	
	Memberships	-	
	Raffle Proceeds	26.00	
		=	
<b>Total Receipts</b>			26.00
<b>Cash Disbursements -March</b>			
	USPS Box Rental	(210.00)	
	ARRL Membership	(59.00)	
	Pinkney Carter Insurance	(390.00)	
	Epay Fee re insurance	(13.65)	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>			(672.65)
<b>Checking Balance March 31, 2025</b>			<u>\$ 1,311.56</u>

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

## **MINUTES of the APRIL MEETING**

**Charleston Amateur Radio Society  
Monthly Meeting  
April 14, 2025**

**Meeting Called to Order:** 1900 Hrs. by President Rick Valentine, N8BKN

**Introductions:** Members attending: 37;  
Associate: 0; Guests: 1

**Announcements:** Rick, N8BKN,

Jeanette, KO4BPH has replaced Bryce, K4LXF as Chair of the Nomination Committee

Yorktown repeater now has a tone 123.00 all the time.

Tech class May17-18 and May 24-25

**Secretary's Report** –Brian, KN4EXJ - **Accepted as information**

**Treasurer's Report** – Charlotte, KJ4PLX – **Accepted as information**

### **Standing Committee Reports**

**Field Day-** Steven AA2BB- Motion to participate in Field Day 2025. Requested a budget of \$2,000.00. Discussion followed. Need a Captain for GOTA Station. Motion passed.

**Museum Ships** – Tom, AJ4UQ – Invitation for Museum Ships weekend 2025 on 7-8 June just came up. Asking the club to staff stations for NT4HI/USS Laffey, WD4PBR/Mark II PBR, and WA4USN/USS Yorktown (CV-10) with a bonus not-for-credit W2Z/USS Yorktown (CV-5).

**Hamfest** – Paulette, KI4AIK – Nothing to report

**Repeaters** – Bryce, K4LXF HEART System placed the repeaters in the hospitals.

**School Clubs** – Tom, AJ4UQ – Changing it to **Special Projects** for club members interests.

### **Race Support Reports:**

Ride the Low Country report went well 650 riders some minor mishaps.

**CARS Carrier/ Website** – Tom, AJ4UQ – Looking for articles, stories of interest.

**Submissions/announcements send to** [CARSINFO@wa4usn.org](mailto:CARSINFO@wa4usn.org)

**Communications Trailer** – Mike, KY4BO – Trailer is well.

**Education/Testing** –Eugene, AB4UG – TEST results 8 passed 9 attended.

Looking for Extra Class Licensees to act as VE examiners. Contact Eugene, AB4UG.

**Larry**, KJ4GZR, Code practice still continues, Larry is suffering from arthritis.

**Membership** – Lee, KI4LLJ – Membership renews in July.

Total Membership to date 161

Regular Voting members 148 with 5 life members

Lifetime members 5

Associates 7

**First Readings:**

Sammy Shuford, KX4SAM, Extra

**Second Reading: None**

**Special Notice:**

**If your name is on this list please contact Lee in reference to picking up your name tag.**

Brant KE8CTH	Don KN4EXI
Michael N2LMU	Stuart KZ4LN
Fred KE4NHT	Peggy KJ4OZV
Ron KQ4SIP	Travis KQ4SJI
Paul N6VOY	Christopher KO4VEN
Kerry KQ4VPK	Patrick KO4WSC
Dan KN4YII	Daryl KQ4YRV
Mitch Associate	

**Emergency Preparedness:**

Berkeley County: Linda, KJ4EVV- No Report

Charleston County: Rick, N8BKN – Note the Rock Hill repeater was destroyed in the Rock Hill wildfire.

Ares meeting is on the 19th of April with workday on the carrier to follow.

Dorchester County: Beverly, W3BRB, A reminder that there will be a Hurricane Expo May 31, 2025 at Ashley River Park.

18 April is the **World Amateur Radio Day**.  
Dorchester County is hosting an Open House from 10:00am to 3:00pm in the parking lot at 212 Deming Way, Summerville, SC. This is a global event covering regions of the International Amateur Radio Union. This will be a hands on event for the public.

National Hurricane Center **14.325 MHz** and **7.268 MHz** back up

Caribbean hurricane net **7.188MHz**

Maritime net **14.300 MHz**

**Archie's Repeater back up for 146.790 is K4IUG 147.345 +600 Tone 141.3 Adams Run location.**

**Nets:**

Sunday: Low Country ARES net 2000 Hrs. – 2020 Hrs.

SC ARES net 2000 Hrs. -2130 Hrs. On the SCHEART repeaters

Tuesday: SC ARES HF net at 1800 Hrs. on 3.990MHz

*WinLink Net on Tuesday*

TARC Net 2000 Hrs. -2100 Hrs. on the Low Country repeaters

Wednesday: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Weather Training net 2000 Hrs.

Thursday: SCHEART Training net 0900 Hrs. – 1030 Hrs. on the SCHEART

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

ARRL Section Elections – remember to vote.

**Old Business:**

WD4PBR QSL Cards – Rick, N8BKN- Still pending.

Slow Speed Code Class 8pm Wednesday 79 repeater

MARS Cross Band Event May 10th from 9am-5pm off of USS Yorktown acting as a base station Check ARRL listing of frequencies.

**New Business:**

**CARS Calendar of Events: June 7-8**

**Museum Ships Event June 7-8. 9-5 Saturday, 9-4 Sunday**

**W2Z Special Event Station: Bill K4KOA**

**Battle of Midway 4 June to 7 June – Loss of USS Yorktown CV-5**

**Drawing** – Conducted by Larry, KJ4GZR, and Doug KU4OC winner.

**Meeting Adjourned: 1945 hrs.**

Brian, KN4EXJ



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