

# CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society June 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, June 9, 2025 at the Golden Corral near the Tanger Mall.***

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

June is here and many events are scheduled. Museum Ships, ARRL Field Day, and the start of the 2025 Hurricane season. Stay tuned for more as events come our way.

June is the month the Nomination Committee presents a report for Club Officers. July, we accept additional names from for the post of Club Officers from the membership. The Club also votes for Officers in July. Volunteers are always needed.

Dues can be paid at the July meeting. The Membership chairman says he will be ready to oversee dues that night.

In accordance with Club By-Laws, I will convene a Board of Advisors meeting at 15 minutes before the regular Club meeting. The Board of Advisors needs to elect a Chairman and Secretary for the Board. Current Chairman is Tom, AJ4UQ and secretary is Rick, N8BKN.

Hope to see folks at the June meeting and the many events planned in June.

- June 4-7, 2025 Special event for CV-5 W2Z call sign
- June 7-8, 2025 Museum Ships weekend at Patriot's Point
- June 27-29, 2025 ARRL Field Day on the Yorktown

Until next month, 73  
Rick N8BKN

## NEWS FROM THE VP

I finally found the issue that was preventing email attachments on the club mail lists. Ironically it was the same problem that broke the web site a while ago, but in a different module.

I was also alerted to some out-of-date information on the Club Activities page and corrected it. If you find an error on the site please let us know so we can fix it.

73 Tom, AJ4UQ.

## MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 157 voting members including 4 life voting members. That makes our quorum for the June meeting 24 voting members.

For the June meeting we have one second reading to vote on, that being Mike Maheu KQ4KOV. At the time of this article we had one first reading, that being Joe Greer WD4HPT.

Dues season is approaching so please set your reminders. Dues are due the first of August, so I will begin taking them at the JULY club meeting which is the 14th of July. You can mail them to my address at any time but please do not bring your dues to the club meeting in June as the administrative paperwork will not be ready at that time.

Jennette KO4BPH has taken a personal leave from membership committee duties, so I will be compiling all the membership cards, receipts, and keeping the records on my own this time.

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

1 June until 30 November is the 2025 Atlantic Hurricane season so prepare now. Get the list of storm names at: [www.Accuweather.com](http://www.Accuweather.com)

The number of storms predicted will change as the season progresses but here is the starting predictions and site to keep up to date:

- 13-19 Named storms
- 6-10 Hurricane
- 3-5 Major Hurricanes.

[www.nhc.noaa.org](http://www.nhc.noaa.org)

Start preparing your personal and family plans.

- Are you staying or evacuating?
- If evacuating are you prepared?
- Important papers ready
- Medications in quantity or prescriptions available
- Radios and communications gear ready
- Family notifications to where you are going
- Evacuation route planned and checked
- Check in rain for flooding
- Keep your route with someone to aid in finding you if you are delayed
- Get a map- old data but GPS may be overloaded or down

Enjoy summer but remember there are other natural and man-made disasters to prepare for, but Hurricanes are the major event.

Until Next Month, Stay Safe  
Rick, N8BKN Charleston County Emergency Coordinator.

## FIELD DAY

Field Day operations will begin on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, at 2pm and continue for 24 hours until 2pm on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. We will operate from the catwalk of the USS Yorktown as a Category 2A portable station. Our exchange will be 2A SC (2 Alpha, South Carolina). Our call sign for FD operations will be WA4USN.

We will have a Get On The Air (GOTA) station. We're still looking for a GOTA Captain and operators. This is a terrific opportunity to show off Ham Radio and be an ambassador for CARS. The GOTA station will be in full view of the public and operators can invite passerby to have a seat and make contacts. A big change this year is that every logged contact at the GOTA station counts as points for the club!

Please show up! Field Day is the premier event for the ARRL and epitomizes the spirit of ham radio. All club members are welcome anytime during the event and it's a fantastic opportunity to meet and socialize. There will be plenty of good food and soft drinks throughout. We will place a sign-up sheet on WA4USN.org for operating times, but if you're there and want to operate, we'll get you on the air. As a CW operator, I can tell you this is the best opportunity to build CW skills, and it only comes around once a year. A special plus is the chance to just hang out in the clubroom and be on the ship after hours.

We anticipate visits by elected officials and the news media. Based on last year's experience, those seem most likely to occur on Saturday afternoon.

Remember to wear your CARS name badges, t-shirts, jackets and hats (if you have them.) Being recognizable as club members helps visitors know who we are and feel at ease. It's also great advertising for our club!

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

Most of the APRS nodes on the CARS and HEARTS system consist of a 2m FM transceiver and a Kantronics KPC-9612 TNC (terminal node controller, a type of modem). The KPC-9612 runs in native digipeater mode.

In order to interface with the internet, the node on the USS Yorktown also has a Raspberry Pi to process packets. The KPC-9612 offloads all processing to the Pi using the KISS protocol.

The Pi runs a software package called APRX that uses the USB serial port to speak KISS to the TNC and the ethernet port to talk to the internet. While the APRX package is capable of routing traffic between multiple radios, we only have one connected. APRX also has a library of beacon messages.

You can set up your own APRX node using a TNC and APRX – if using a Ubuntu Linux build, aprx is available through *apt-get* to install. If you don't have a TNC, you can experiment with a soundcard interface like a Signalink USB and UZ7HO's software *soundmodem* program.

Tom, AJ4UQ

## COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

Nothing to report.

Mike, KY4BO

## FINANCIAL REPORT

CARS Treasurer's			
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Report			
April 2025			
Checking Balance March 31, 2025			\$ 1,311.56
Cash Receipts - April			
	Dues	-	
	Memberships	-	
	Raffle Proceeds	23.00	
		=	
Total Receipts			23.00
Cash Disbursements -March			
		-	
	ARRL Membership	(59.00 )	
		-	
		=	
Total Disbursements			(59.00)
Checking Balance April 30, 2025			\$ 1,275.56

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

## MINUTES of the MAY MEETING

### Charleston Amateur Radio Society Monthly Meeting May 12, 2025

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

**Introductions:** Members attending: 41

Associate: 1      Guests: 1

**Announcements:** Rick, N8BKN,

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

Yorktown repeater now has a tone 123.0 all the  
time.

Tech class May 17-18 and testing at the Charleston EOC 8500 Palmetto Commerce Parkway.

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

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

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Field Day-** Steven AA2BB-

**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).

**Reminder you need to get a photo ID from the Yorktown to avoid parking and entrance fees and for after hours operation aboard the ship. This needs to be done during the week.**

**Operators are needed. Sign up sheet on cars carrier web site.**

**Hamfest** – Paulette, KJ4AIK – Nothing to report

**Repeaters** – Bryce, K4LXF Nothing to report

**School Clubs** – Tom, AJ4UQ – Changing it to **Special Projects** for club members interests. Special projects covers the club's APRS and IRLP services.

**Race Support Reports:**

Doug, KU4OC – Nothing to report. IOP Run in October

Tom, K4WJC – Nothing to report.

Linda, KJ4EVV - New repeater on the uhf band waiting for the climber to install.

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

Mike KY4BO for the photo.

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

Hosting bill is coming due shortly \$160.

**Communications Trailer** – Mike, KY4BO – Trailer is well. See the CARS Carrier for article on the trailer. Photos are there as well.

**Education/Testing** –Eugene, AB4UG – Looking for Extra Class Licensees to act as VE examiners. Contact Eugene, AB4UG.

Testing at the EOC add info above

**Larry**, KJ4GZR, Code practice still continues.

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

Total Membership to date 162

Regular Voting members 148 with 5 life members

Lifetime members 5

Associates 7

**First Readings:**

Michael Maheu KQ4KOV, Technician

**Second Reading:**

Sammy Shuford, KX4SAM, Extra

**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                      Christopher KO4VEN

Paul N6VOY            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. Governor will be visiting the Charleston EOC this week in reference to hurricane season. ARES FEMA required courses 100, 200, 700, 800

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

National Hurricane Center **14.325MHz** 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: 1st and 3rd 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.

[Check the state emergency comms plan](#) [Check with rick on web sites](#)

### **Old Business:**

WD4PBR QSL Cards – Rick, N8BKN- Still pending.

Slow Speed Code Class 8pm Wednesday 79 repeater

### **W2Z Special Event Station: Bill K4KOA**

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

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

**Nets participation is based on the number of persons checking in. Check in procedures have changed. Take a minute to listen before transmitting.**

### **New Business:**

#### **CARS Calendar of Events:**

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

**Navy Net started in 1979 in Charleston 0600 to 0700 chat then 0700 to 0900 everyday 7.245. Round table 1600 every Wednesday.**

**Drawing** – Conducted by Larry, KJ4GZR, and won by KY4BO Mike

**Meeting Adjourned: 19:47 Hrs**

Brian, KN4EXJ

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