

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society January 2026 Newsletter

CARS Web Site --- <https://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, January 12, 2026 at the Golden Corral near the Tanger Mall.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Happy New Year to everyone. New Year means new changes and challenges. We are going to have to move the current Clubroom on the Yorktown from the forward most area into a location on the Starboard side just aft of the Island. On the plus side it will make mobility easier for members because it will be very near the elevator with NO ladders to navigate.

We will need to coordinate the moving of equipment with the Yorktown and will need assistance from members to facilitate the move. It will also give the Club an opportunity to inventory everything and only keep the necessary equipment. Stay tuned for further details and dates and times.

This Club has done some Special Events in years past so let's start thinking about different events the Club could operate as an example how about operating on Vietnam Memorial Day which is March 29th? Or continue the W2Z event remembering the loss of the USS Yorktown CV-5 at the Battle of Midway in June of 1942. Maybe try operating during Joint Base Charleston Air Show week-end to encourage STEM at the show. If there is anything else please contact a Club officer with your ideas.

Remember the ARRL has created the America 250 Worked All States award and each State will get two periods of this year with South Carolina operating W1AW/4 in January and again in July. All bands are usable except 60 Meters, and you can

use CW/Phone/ or Digital modes. More details are in the QST magazine or ARRL website.

Go to "You Tube" and watch the Roanoke Division town hall meeting. A lot of information made available from ARRL Headquarters and our Section Manager.

See everyone at the meeting and remember Club dues are due before 1 February.

73

Rick N8BKN

NEWS FROM THE VP

The email service behind our membership database has been acting up recently and one or two email blasts were impacted. I'll keep monitoring it, and don't be surprised if the underlying email address of the sender changes again.

The HEARTS/CARS-affiliated IRLP node 4557 has been dormant for a few years. It was hosted on MUSC Rutledge Tower and will need someone with MUSC links to handle the internet connectivity when restored. If you are interested in taking over this project let me know. Skills needed include Linux system administration, networking, and IRLP scripting.

73 Tom, AJ4UQ.

MEMBERSHIP

If there is any question in your mind whether your dues are up to date, please contact Lee KI4LLJ by texting him at 843-518-0669 or emailing him at

ki4llj@arrl.net ASAP as if your dues are not current by the end of January it is required that your name be removed from the roster.

The January meeting is also the last chance you have to pay your dues in person before the roster purge. Please don't depend on being reminded. If you don't have a yellow membership card there is a good chance that you may not be caught up. Contact Lee.

Lee KI4LLJ
CARS Membership Committee

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

2025 was a unique year for Hurricanes, none came ashore they all hooked out to sea. I would not plan 2026 that way, prepare now then you will already be prepared.

Remember January and February are the months for Snow or Ice events in the Low Country. Stock up on foods that will survive with no power, refrigeration, and still feed you and help your neighbors too. Hoping we see no super cold events too. Cold weather brings down power lines, frozen water pipes, and stalled vehicles due to weak starting batteries. Keep a blanket or survival blanket in your vehicles, these items don't take up much space and can prevent freezing if stuck in traffic. Try to keep at least half a tank of fuel too, running on empty can get risky if gas stations lose power too.

Check the SCEMD training calendar on the website or sign up for Learning Management System e-mails. There might be a subject you are interested in learning about how EMD is preparing to assist your community in an emergency.

Spend time practicing with all the new Santa provided radio gear you received. A disaster is NOT the time to be searching for the manual or reading about your new equipment.

The State ARES group is only running a net once a month usually on the Second Sunday. This system will run through May 2026, unknown about

Hurricane Season nets, will keep everyone posted. I will continue the Low Country ARES nets every Sunday at 20:00 (8:00PM) just to stay in practice and as a way to update ALL ARES members on events in the Low Country. Everyone please stay safe, warm, and take care of your neighbors.

Until Next Month, Stay Safe

Rick, N8BKN
Charleston County Emergency Coordinator.

FIELD DAY

This year's FD cycle is about to begin. It is my privilege to be the FD Captain again this year and Avery Hill, W4QYV, has agreed to be our FD Co-Captain again. Thank you, Avery!

Since I've had some great coaching and built up some experience with this over the past couple of years, I'll try to give a short summary of the process so there's something written down for future generations.

The first step is to ask the club's support for holding a FD event. I plan to do that by calling for a vote at our January meeting.

Second is to request a budget. We have always stayed well below budget, but it's important to be ready for any expenses before they occur.

The first real work should be completed by the end of January and is the sending of letters and emails inviting elected officials to join us. All invitations carry the signatures of myself and our Club President, Rick Valentine, N8BKN. This is a more important step than one might realize. Not only does it get the FD ball rolling, but the officials seem to appreciate (and even anticipate) being notified well in advance. Those who have attended in the past have told me they look forward to hearing from us. Letters on the clubroom wall and photos in the Carrier from past FDs can attest to that. Since it's an election year we'll also invite candidates for important local, state and national positions.

After letters to politicians and candidates are sent, there is a short hiatus followed by notification of the media beginning in April. Usually this results in a short spot on the news, though last year we did not receive a media announcement. That was our major deficiency in 2025 so I will work hard to do better this year. Reminders will be sent to the media in May and June, just to keep them attentive to our efforts.

Volunteers will be sought to help with food, equipment, setup and takedown. I'll first approach the folks who've helped in the past, but additional helpers are always welcome! Operators must be recruited and a signup sheet will be posted in June. Please let me know if you want to help with FD.

Various other requirements tend to declare themselves as we get closer to the event. I'll have frequent talks with our club leadership to make sure we stay on top of things. The morning breakfasts at BoJangles on Ashley Phosphate Road (MWF at 9am) are a great place for discussion.

FD is always a special time and a real summertime thing to look forward to. We did very well last year, with results near the top of the list for our category of operation, besides having some great food and a terrific time!

Thanks in advance to all!

Steve, AA2BB

HAMFEST

Nothing new for Hamfest

Paulette, KJ4AIK

MUSEUM SHIPS

Participation certificates for Museum Ships Weekend 2025 have been received.

Tom, AJ4UQ

RACES / PUBLIC SERVICE

Nothing to report.

Doug, KU4OC

COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

CARS trailer is sitting quietly in the EOC parking lot.

Mike KY4BO

FINANCIAL REPORT

CARS Treasurer's Report			
October -November 2025			
Checking Balance September 30, 2025			\$ 1,965.63
Cash Receipts - October			
	Dues	300.00	
	Memberships	20.00	
	Raffle Proceeds	-	
	ARRL commision on Membershi[	<u>10.00</u>	
Total Receipts			330.00
Cash Disbursements - October			
	Christmas Party Deposit	(500.00)	
		=	
Total Disbursements			<u>(500.00)</u>
Checking Balance October 31, 2025			<u>\$ 1,795.63</u>
Checking Balance October 31, 2025			\$ 1,795.63
Cash Receipts -November	Dues	80.00	
	Memberships	-	
	Raffle Proceeds	-	
	Memberships	-	

	Raffle Proceeds	-	
	Raffle Proceeds	<u>40.00</u>	
Total Receipts			120.00
Cash Disbursements - November			
	ARRL 1 Membership	<u>(59.00)</u>	
		-	
		=	
Total Disbursements			<u>(59.00)</u>
Checking Balance November 30, 2025			<u>\$ 1,856.63</u>

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of the NOVEMBER MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society
Monthly Meeting
November 10, 2025

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

Introductions:

Members attending Associates Guests

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Announcements:

USMC Birthday

Veteran's Day

Secretary Report: Paul, KQ4ZTB -Accepted as info.

Treasurers Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX – Accepted as info.

Standing Committee Reports:

Field Day: Steve, AA2BB – Nothing to report

Hamfest: Paulette, KJ4AIK – Nothing to report

Repeaters: Bryce, K4LXF – Nothing to report

Race Events: Doug, KU4OC and Tom, K4WJC

Museum Ships, Cars Carrier, Website, VE Testing:

Tom, AJ4UQ with Eugene, AB4UG

Museum Ships (AJ4UQ) – Nothing to report

Cars Carrier (AJ4UQ) –

Testing/Education (AB4UG) - Next test session will be Sunday, November 16,2025 at 1500 at Reforge in Citadel Mall.

Trailer: Mike, KY4BO ready to go

Membership: Lee, N4PSU –

Current Total Membership – 173

Voting Members – 118 including 4 life members

Associate Members – 7 including 1 life member

Meeting Quorum – 18 Voting Members

First Reading: (0)

None

Second Reading: (0)

None

Emergency Preparedness:

Berkeley County: Linda, KJ4EVV

Charleston County: Rick, N8BKN

Dorchester County: Beverly, W3BRB

Code Practice: Larry, KJ4GZR – Weds – 8pm, Code Class

Old Business:

Nets and participation

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

SC ARES net 2000 Hrs. -2130 Hrs. On the
SCHEART repeaters (Every Other Sunday)

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

December CARS Meeting – December 8th
(Second Monday) will be held at the
Holiday Inn Charleston-Riverview (Round
Holiday Inn). 301 Savannah Hwy,
Charleston SC. Cost is \$25 per person.

New Business:

Meeting with Patriot's Point Staff

Drawing:

Meeting adjourned at 19:35 hours

Paul KQ4ZTB

MINUTES of the DECEMBER MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society
Monthly Meeting
December 8, 2025

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

Introductions:

Meet the people you don't know

Announcements:

Thank you to Jeanette and Paulette for
arranging the Christmas Party

Membership: Lee, N4PSU –

First Reading: (1)

Pete Johnson

Second Reading: (0)

None

Meeting adjourned at 19:00:55 hours (New Rick
Record)

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