

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society August 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, September 14, 2026 at the Golden Corral near the Tanger Mall.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Mike Maheu
W4KWC

Well, we made it out of the two hottest months of the year, July and August. We've seen some disturbances in the Atlantic, but none have stuck around. Having said that, let's continue to keep an eye out for storms as we continue our way through hurricane season.

Quick update on the Yorktown. Tom AJ4UQ and I did a final walkthrough of the old radio room. There were some interesting finds as we dug through the last few boxes and hiding places. At this point the last load has been staged for pickup. We will be scheduling a final move session that will include the new antenna outside. Again, I thank everyone that helped in the previous sessions. We have all expressed sadness, but the day that we walk away from the old ship one last time is coming up this month.

Also, we have moved the club trailer from the EOC to Clarence's N9HQC property for easier access moving forward. Let's all thank Clarence for his help in storing the trailer as well as the bulk of the equipment from the Yorktown.

Lastly, Hamfest is planned to take place on February 13th 2027 based on location availability. After several discussions, pricing negotiations, and a tour of the facilities at the Elks Lodge in West Ashley, it is looking like this could be the new home for Hamfest Charleston.

Again, thank you all for your support. I am excited to see where we can take CARS this year.

NEWS FROM THE VP

Lots of changes are happening, especially the return of the Charleston Hamfest. A lot of work goes into Hamfest, and we'll need a lot of support from you.

We also plan to do more with the communications trailer, giving members an opportunity to operate bands, modes, and equipment they can't at home.

73 Tom, AJ4UQ

MEMBERSHIP

Brrrrrr, almost had to break out the hoodie and gloves as I sit here writing the membership input. It's only like 85 degrees. Seems like it's been months since we had that kind of high temp. I mean sometimes at breakfast at Bojangles we have to wear outergear, especially when we pull into the parking lot and see that the windows look like it just rained even though there isn't a cloud in the sky. The A/C works good there. And that reminds me, we still do have breakfast at Bojangles on Ashley Phosphate Rd, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings starting around 0800 and solving world problems usually until around 1000 or 1100. Attendance is down a little so if you get a chance stop on by sometime. We like to have diverse solutions for International difficulties.

Membership is now 162 members and we have two folks up for vote at the September meeting. Tim Herold NA4EB is an Extra Class Ham who is

retired and lives in the Smmerville area. Taft Navarro KQ4LTA is a General Class Ham, an electrical engineer, and lives in Hanahan.

91 members have coughed up their dues for the year which, using my vast mathematical skills means 71 folks have yet to pay. The club has bills to pay guys. Dues are currently our main income and our dues are still the best deal in town for a ham radio club. Help us out here and get caught up, please. If you don't know your status, email me at ki4llj@arrl.net. I will gladly tell you if you are already up to date (or if you're not). I'll leave my mailing address at the bottom of this article but please remember that any checks sent in must be make out to CARS (or Charleston Amateur Radio Society, Inc if you write really small).

Sadly this cool spell is only supposed to last a day or two and then it's back to the mid 90's.

73,
Lee KI4LLJ
CARS Membership Committee
207 Glebe Rd
Summerville, SC 29485
ph: 843-518-0669 (text preferred so I have a record to act on)

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

As of September 1, 2026, Tropical Storm Eduard is near or ashore by the Texas and Louisiana area. Lots of rain, flooding and some winds. September is the peak of Hurricane season so now is the time to prepare and watch because the storms can come fast and have multiple areas of concern. Hurricane Hugo arrived in late September so start now.

The current mode of preparation procedures was developed from the Military and FEMA. This is the way Emergency Management will think and uses for emergencies. This program is called P.A.C.E.

- P. Primary method (Plan A)
- A. Alternate method (Plan B)
- C. Contingent method (Plan C)
- E. Emergency method (Plan D)

As an example: Communications with family pre disaster or event.

P. Primary may be your cell phone or text message

A. Alternate may be a landline phone or VOIP connection

C. Contingent may be Amateur Radio, FRS/GMRS, CB, etc.

E. Emergency may be a known meeting location, everyone meets there

This is an example of how PACE can assist or aid you in whatever goals you need completed. Keep in mind no plan is the whole answer nor will it survive without updating or situational needs. Just keep the principles in mind.

Until next month, stay safe.

Rick, N8BKN

Charleston County Emergency Coordinator.

FIELD DAY

I received a very nice text from Daniel Brownstein, MP Town Council, saying that they had discussed ham radios during their recent Fire Committee meeting. They would like us to be sure to invite the MP Fire Chief Mike Mixon to our event next year. I replied that we would be happy to do that.

Steve, AA2BB

HAMFEST

We have identified a location to bring back the Charleston Hamfest, and have tentatively scheduled Saturday 13 February 2027. The venue is the outdoor pavilion at the Elks Lodge in West Ashley. In order to get the best rate we will need an Elk member from CARS to be at Hamfest for the whole time (no tag-teaming).

If approved by the club, we will need to start all the behind-the-scenes work needed for success. There is a lot of corporate knowledge that we need to tap, and we will need to reach out to vendors.

Unfortunately this is the same weekend as Hamcation in Orlando, but I'm sure we can find plenty of members who want to rent a table to sell their excess equipment. Hamfest is also a great

opportunity to make eyeball QSOs, or meet in person, with the people you hear on the radio.

MUSEUM SHIPS

Nothing to report.

Tom, AJ4UQ

RACES / PUBLIC SERVICE

The Isle of Palms Connector Run is coming on October 3rd.

The race committee is depending on us to provide support and appreciates our efforts!

Please go on line as soon as possible to sign up.
<https://tinyurl.com/CARS-events> The race committee needs to order our t-shirts.

We will meet on the south side of the Harris Teeter parking lot at 6:30 a.m. to get our t-shirts and prepare for deployment on the bridge at 7:00 when the bridge will close to vehicular traffic and allow us to set up at our designated locations. The race will last until about 10 a.m. or so. We'll get together afterwards at the Sea Biscuit restaurant for brunch if you desire to join us.

I'll be putting out a communications plan in the next few weeks, so again, I'll need those who want to participate to sign up as soon as possible.

I appreciate all the help our club contributes.

Doug, KU4OC

COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

We relocated the CARS Trailer from the Charleston County EOC to my QTH in Ravenel just outside Summerville. This move will make the trailer more accessible for use. With this move Mike, W4KWC, has asked me to be the Liaison/Chairman of the Trailer Committee/Team that will help maintain and update it as the Club desires. If interested in being part of the Team, let me know.

Clarence N9HQC.

FINANCIAL REPORT

CARS Treasurer's Report July 2026			
Checking Balance June 30, 2026			\$ 774.67
Cash Receipts - July			
	Dues	770.00	
	Memberships	-	
	Raffle	23.00	
	Donation	5.00	
Total Receipts			798.00
Cash Disbursements -July			
		-	
	ARRL Membership	(59.00)	
	Field Day Food, Gas, Supplies	(359.79)	
		=	
Total Disbursements			(418.79)
Checking Balance July 31, 2026			<u>\$ 1,153.88</u>

	Annual Financial Report For the Year ended July 31, 2026			
Beginning Checking Account Balance - August 1, 2025				\$ 1,633.86
Revenues				
	Memberships	120.00		

	Dues	2,495.00		
	ARRL Drawing	341.00		
	ARRL Commission on Memberships	50.00		
	Membership Dues & ARRL Drawing		<u>3,006.00</u>	
	Donation		15.00	
			-	
			=	
	Total			3,021.00
Expenses				
	ARRL (memberships)		(531.00)	
	Misc. expenses (printing, stamps, bank charges, etc)		(156.00)	
	Christmas Party		(1,450.63)	
	Pinckney Carter Co.- Gen Liab Insurance		(498.00)	
	US Postmaster-12 mos PO Box rental #70341		(216.00)	
	Member Name Tags		(108.34)	
	Field Day and Museum food and gas		(359.79)	
	Website hosting		(158.27)	
	Domain Name Renewal - W4USN.org - 1 yrs		(22.95)	
			=	
	Total			<u>(3,500.98)</u>

Ending Checking Account Balance - July 31, 2026				<u>\$ 1,153.88</u>
Net Decrease for Year		\$ (479.98)		

Charlotte, KJ4PLX

MINUTES of the August MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society Monthly Meeting August 10, 2026

Meeting Called to Order: by President Mike Maheu, W4KWC at 1900

Introductions:

New officers:

President – Mike W4KWC

Secretary – Gregg KQ4LEH

Members attending Associates Guests

29 1 3

Announcements:

Yorktown updates

Mike W4KWC and Greg Keys KG4GEK worked on the 79 repeater

Additional equipment move dates: Friday 14 and Friday 21

Museum ships

Newcomers net – Taft KQ4LTA helping Mike W4KWC, looking for net controllers

Secretary Report: Gregg, KQ4LEH – Accepted as info.

Treasurers Report: Charlotte, KJ4PLX – Accepted as info.

Standing Committee Reports:

Field Day: Steve, AA2BB

Hamfest: Mike W4KWC on behalf of
Paulette, KJ4AIK - Feb 27 tentative
Repeaters: Bryce, K4LXF
Race Events: Doug, KU4OC – IOP Connector Run
– October 3, 2026
Museum Ships, Cars Carrier, Website, VE Testing:
Tom, AJ4UQ with Eugene, AB4UG
Museum Ships (AJ4UQ) –

Cars Carrier (Tom – AJ4UQ) – new
color scheme feedback?

Testing/Education (Eugene -
AB4UG) – Sept 20 @ Reforge,
currently, 3 are signed up

Trailer: Mike, KY4BO – Used during Field Day.
EOC parking lot, ready to go.

Need someone to take over the trailer responsibility

Membership: Lee, KI4LLJ –

Current Total Membership – 162

Voting Members – 157 including 4 life members

Associate Members – 5 members

Meeting Quorum – 24 Voting Members

No of members who paid their dues by due date –
74

First Reading: (1) KQ4LTA – Taft Navarro

Second Reading: (1) N4HUE – Heow Goodman –
accepted into club

Emergency Preparedness: Rick N8BKN:

Hurricane season started in June, now is the time to
prep

Nothing in the Atlantic yet, lots in the Pacific

Pretty well set up for ARES

Now is the time to get some small bills currency,
\$200 in \$1, \$5, \$10

Berkeley County: Linda, KJ4EVV

Charleston County: Rick, N8BKN

Dorchester County: Beverly, W3BRB

Code Practice: Larry, KJ4GZR – through this
month. Pause in September.

Old Business:

Looking for hamfest location

New Business:

Ham adventure fall – something other than SOTA?

Drawing: held by Larry – winner is K4AGF

Meeting adjourned at 19:30 hours

Submitted by Gregg KQ4LEH.

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