

Columbia Amateur Radio Club-Monthly Meeting Minutes for February 2014

February 3, 2014

- Introductions
 - Ronnie Livingston (W4RWL)-President
 - Individual attendee introductions

- Past Meeting Minutes: The club secretary announced that January's club minutes could be found on the club's website (www.w4cae.com).

- Treasurer's Report: Current amount in the account was \$ 2744.22.

- Net Report: Club net coordinator, Bruce (K14VRO) announced that there were ten CARC nets and 4 new ham nets held in January with a total of 244 check-ins.

- Old Business:
 - Upcoming Events: Tammy (N4TAL) provided a summary of the events coming up in which CARC would provide communication support/ outreach. All this information (plus more) will be posted on the club website.
 - Lexington Medical Center Colon Cancer Ride: This year's ride will start at Dutch Fork Middle School on March 29, 2014.
 - USMC Mud Run: April 12, 2014
 - MS Walk: The walk this year will be held at Riverwalk Park in Cayce on April 12, 2014.
 - NAMI Walk: This walk will be held at Riverwalk Park in Cayce on April 19, 2014.
 - Taylor's Ride: Dutch Fork high school on April 19, 2014
 - ADA Tour De Cure: May 3, 2014
 - Tour De Midlands: Lexington High School on May 10, 2014
 - Mini-Maker Fair: At Edventure on June 14, 2014
 - Field Day: June 28 & 29 at the Sandy Run EMS station

 - SPAR Winter Field Day: Dave (W4DMC) provided a summary of the club's participation in the SPAR (Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio) Winter Field Day on January 25, 2014. We had a great time running four stations at the Sandy Run EMS station and we made plenty of contacts.

 - Rodgers Workshop: Bill (W4FSV) will be setting up the Rodgers Workshop in the coming year. Bill wanted to let everyone know if anyone

has any suggestions about what projects we should do in 2014, to please send all suggestions to info@w4cae.com.

- New Business:
 - Oscillators: Ronnie (W4RWL) reminded those in attendance that there is still a need for code oscillators for the outreach events. Bill (W4FSV) is currently developing a simple code oscillator kit that could be easily constructed and made available for outreach programs. Further details will be presented at later meetings.
 - Club Trailer: Tom (W1TEF) provided a brief status report on the CARC trailer. The trailer is fully operational at this time, however, there are a few minor issues that need to be addressed. Specifically, several items are currently being stored in the trailer that should be removed (EZ up shelters), exterior lights need updating, the roof has a few small leaks, a fuel shelf needs to be welded to the tongue, and the trailer itself could use a new coat of paint.
 - State Museum Display: Bill (W4FSV) informed the club that he had been in contact with the curator/manager at the State Museum about updating the amateur radio display. Bill wanted to ask the members during a meeting if the club would be interested in taking on this project. Specifically, building oscillators or donating keys. All in attendance agreed that this would be a worthwhile project that would provide a potential for outreach to those who may want to become amateur radio operators. Bill will be providing further details on this at later meetings.
 - Hamfests:
 - The Charlotte Hamfest will be held at the Cabarrus Arena on March 7 & 8, 2014.
 - The Raleigh Hamfest will be held April 19, 2014.
 - March CARC meeting topic: Programming HT's. If you have an HT and would like it to be programed for the local repeaters, bring it to the March CARC meeting.
 - Next CARC Club & Board Meetings: All were reminded that the next CARC meeting will be at ETV on March 3, 2014 at 7:00 pm. The Board of Directors meeting will be held prior to the March meeting at Ryan's on Bower Parkway on March 1, 2014, with eating beginning around 8:00 am and the board meeting beginning around 9:00 am.

February's Program: Lee (K4ELG), a member of Kershaw County Amateur radio Club, presented a program on Emergency preparedness. Lee's discussion focused on the effects of Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) and how to prepare for that type of emergency.

An EMP is an instantaneous electromagnetic energy field that adversely affects electricity and battery powered items. An EMP can come from intense solar flare activity or from the high altitude detonation of a nuclear weapon. An EMP can render unprotected solid state radios inoperable. Lee provided a discussion of ways to protect radio equipment (Faraday bags/cages) and to develop a survival plan that goes beyond the 72 hour plan that most of us have. This would include food, water, medicine, power, etc. for you and your family for several weeks if not longer.