

Columbia Amateur Radio Club-Monthly Meeting Minutes for April 2014

April 7, 2014

- Introductions
 - Ronnie Livingston (W4RWL)-President
 - Individual attendee introductions
- Past Meeting Minutes: The club Secretary announced that March's club minutes could be found on the club's website (www.w4cae.com).
- Treasurer's Report: Current amount in the account was \$ 2317.36.
- Net Report: Club net coordinator, Bruce (KI4VRO) announced that the March Net report was not available, but he wanted to remind all those in attendance that at the May CARC meeting there will be a drawing for several HT's based on the check-ins and participation during the Sunday and Wednesday CARC Nets and the Thursday Newbie Net.
- Old Business:
 - Eat Before We Meet: Ronnie informed the club that the location/restaurant for the "Eat Before We Meet" has been changed to the Carolina Ale House on Lady Street in the Vista. All are invited to gather at the ale house between 5:00-5:15 on the evenings before the monthly club meeting for food and fellowship.
 - Lexington Medical Center Colon Cancer Ride: Steve (KI4VGA) provided an update to year's ride that started at Dutch Fork Middle School on March 29, 2014. We had a bunch of volunteers to help out with rest stops, sweeps, and SAG's. We had a great ride, the rain held off, and there were only a few mechanical breakdowns and a few folks that got off the route. Fortunately, all riders were either provided a ride back or had good directions to get them back to the school.
 - MS Walk: Ann gave us an update on the MS walk that was held on April 5, 2014. It was a good event even with a frequency/repeater change half way through the event.
 - CARC Trailer update: Ronnie announced that Clark (K4HI) has new commitments so the trailer will be moved from his house and a future work day will be scheduled.
 - CARC Swap-fest: This year's Swap-fest will be held on April 26, 2014, at the SCETV building (around back). There will be coffee and AC power for

testing any of the equipment for sale. Keep an eye on the club web-site for additional details.

- State Museum Display: Bill (W4FSV) provided the club with a summary of the progress that is occurring to update the State Museum amateur radio display. Code oscillators and “kid-proof” keys along with a vision for the display is coming together so the display will allow all to try out their CW skills while learning the Amateur Radio is alive and well.
 - Rodgers Workshop: Bill also announced that the Rodgers Workshop’s will be tentatively scheduled for May and June. At this time it looks like this will be a build session for code oscillators and a 4:1 Balun. Stay tuned to the web site for further details. As always, the club is always looking for idea for future workshops. So if you have an idea for projects, let Ronnie or someone on the board let them know.
 - Bills Drawing: Bill also brought a 40 M VFO kit and the New and Improved Splinter (40M CW transceiver) and gave them away as part of a drawing.
 - 10 M low code net: Ronnie also wanted to let everyone know that there is an interest for starting a local 10 M slow code and Voice nets. Currently the planning is underway and plans are to start these nets later this year.
 - CARC Christmas Party: All were informed that this year’s club Christmas party will be held the first Monday of December at The Flight Deck in Lexington. The gathering will begin around 6:30
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- New Business:
 - CARC Board Meeting Breakfast: Ronnie announced that the location of the meeting of the Board has been changed from Ryans on Bower Parkway to the Lizards Thicket on Elmwood. The Board usually meets the Saturday before the monthly CARC meeting around 8 am for breakfast and then convenes the Board meeting around 9 am.
 - May Board Meeting: Due to the Tour de Cure on May 3, 2014, the Board meeting will be held May 5, 2014, at 6:30 at SCETV (1/2 hour before CARC meeting).
 - Spring Mud Run: Bill announced that the Spring Mud Run will occur on April 12, 2014. He and several volunteers will provide communication support during the event. If you are interested in working this event, please contact Bill.
 - Upcoming events: Tammy (N4TAL) reminded all in attendance that the following events are coming up and she is looking for volunteers to help out and to provide communication support. She will be asking for help for

the following events;

- Tour De Cure- On May 3, 2014, CARC will provide support for this event that will include 500+ bike riders. This ride will utilize a new route this year with the start beginning in Columbia.
 - Tour De Midlands-On May 10, 2014, CARC will provide support for this event that will begin at Lexington High School.
 - Mini Maker Fair- In June (?) CARC will have several tables at the Mini Maker Fair that will be held at EdVenture. Like last year this will include radios and other equipment that we have built, a table with oscillators to allow people to practice CW, and a table where all can make CW bracelets or design their own personal QSL card.
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- CARC Picnic: Ronnie wanted to remind the club that there will be a club picnic this August 12, 2014. At this time the details are currently being developed and details will be forthcoming.
 - Next CARC Club & Board Meetings: All were reminded that the next CARC meeting will be at ETV on May 5, 2014 at 7:00 pm.
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- April's Programs: This month we had the privilege to have two separate programs.
 - Larry Metcalf gave a brief program on "Charlie Bates Solar Astronomy Project" and his personal interest in solar astronomy. Larry discussed how he captures photographs of the sun and how folks are using 20 MHz receivers to monitor signals from the sun and Jupiter. Since we are radio people, Larry wanted to meet us and discuss any advice we would have for a portable receiver and antenna system.
 - Todd (KN4QD) provided a PowerPoint presentation on DX-ing (distance contacts). Todd provided a good over view of what DX-ing is and some valuable advice for those of us who want to want to become DX hunters. Todd shared his insight from many years of DX-ing to assist us with getting started on (or continuing on) making those elusive DX countries/entities contacts and getting in our log books.