

Columbia Amateur Radio Club-Monthly Meeting Minutes for May 2015

May 4, 2015

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

- Past Month's Meeting Minutes: Ronnie announced that last month's meeting minutes can be found on the club's website (www.w4cae.com).

- Treasurer's Report: Andy (KK4DSD) announced that the club's bank account balance was \$1688.00 in April, after the last club meeting. Since that time, the club has made several deposits from memberships (\$40.00) and the club debited our account by \$68.00 for additional SC QSO Party plaques and \$95.00 for the Port-o-pot used during the CARC tailgate event. That currently leaves \$1565.00 in the club account.

- CARC Net Report: Net Manager, Steve (W4SJD) announced that in April 2015 there were 9 nets held with a total of 201 check-ins. Steve also mentioned that the club will have a Net contest during June and July. For each check in during that time a ticket will be placed in the hopper with the call sign for each check in. For every operator that sticks around for comments a second ticket with their call sign will be put in the hopper. The prize will be a new, hand- held UHF/VHF transceiver. And the drawing of the lucky ticket will happen during the August CARC meeting. Details on the contest can be found at the club website www.w4cae.com.

- Kershaw County Amateur Radio Club Update: Lee (K4ELG) announced that the KCARC holds their monthly meetings on the 2nd Thursday of the month. All are invited to attend. Details can be found at the Kershaw County Amateur Radio club website for further details at www.KC4RC.com. Lee also mentioned that the Meals Ready to Eat (MRE's) have been delivered and are ready for pick up. Lee also announced that they have improved the club shack with the addition of four stations.

- Old Business:
 - CARCERT- Club Communication Trailer: Dwayne (N4LDL), Steve (W4SJD), & Jay (W4TFX), informed the club that the operational manual

for set-up, use, and tear-down of the CARCERT trailer has been prepared in rough draft, and will be reviewed/refined by the trailer committee. Angelo (AC2BC) provided an update on the CARC trailer voltage controller. He also indicated that the voltage controller is something that could be designed and built by CARC members. If you would be interested in this electronics project and would like to be part of a club build, please contact Angelo at ac2bc@ss.rr.com.

- New Business:

- SCQSO Party: Tom (W1TEF) announced that the new rule changes for the SCQSO party were approved by CARC without any changes. The new rules can be found at www.w4cae.com.
- Upcoming Event: Tammy (N4TAL) announced that the Tour de Cure Bike Ride) will be on May 30, 2015, starting in downtown Columbia. She is seeking plenty of hams to help out with this event. If you are interested, please contact Tammy at N4TAL@att.net or register to work this event at the CARC web site www.w4cae.com.

Meeting Topic: Radio Operation Basics by Tom Francis (W1TEF).

Tom delivered the evenings PowerPoint presentation on radio operation, proper NATO phonetics, radio operation, and proper check-in/conduct for radio Nets. In addition, Tom explained the reasons and protocol to break into a Net/radio conversation when you had an emergency, when to use the terms “contact” and “break”, and how to use Q-codes. This information was very useful for new operators and provided some good refresher training for those that have been operating for years. Thanks Tom.

All were reminded that prior to the next CARC meeting the Board will be meeting on June 1, 2015, at SCETV at 6:30 pm. The CARC club meeting will follow the Board meeting on June 1, 2015, at 7:00 pm.