

# CARC Monthly Meeting Minutes for May 2017

**May 1, 2017**

- Introductions and Opening: Club President Earl Dean welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Meeting Minutes: Dan Cunningham announced that the minutes for the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting are on the club website, W4CAE.COM.
- Financial Report: Treasurer Jim Donelan (W4KNI) reported that balance in the checking account at the end of March was \$2008.60. As of the end of April, the balance was \$2008.00. Membership at the end of April was 124, down a net of two from the end of March.
- CARC Net Report: Net Manager, Gary Anderson (K4HGA) reported that there were 9 sessions in April. There were 264 check-ins, an average of 29 per session. 39 messages (traffic) were handled during the 9 sessions.
- There were several announcements:
  - TOUR DE CURE: Volunteers are still needed to provide communications support for the Tour de Cure to be held on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Amateurs with portable radios who have or have not participated before are asked to contact Gary Anderson.
  - REPEATER OPERATING PROTOCOLS: Net Manager Gary Anderson reminded folks how to request the repeater for emergency traffic when the repeater is busy. When you have emergency traffic and the repeater is busy, simply break in by transmitting "Emergency. Emergency. Emergency." Well-behaved hams should immediately stop their rag chewing or other activities to make the repeater available for the emergency work. If you hear an emergency call, be courteous. Free up the repeater, and stand by to assist!

To protect itself, the repeater will shut itself off if it is in use too long. Don't be long-winded! Listen to the channel, and don't talk over others who are always operating. And, after you key your mike, be sure to listen for the squelch to drop before continuing to talk.

- QSO PARTY AND CONTESTING: Tom Francis announced that the logging software is still undergoing revisions. Scores should be up in a week or so. There will be an IARU weekend contest in July, including categories for CW, Digital, and Phone.
- ARES: Earl encouraged everyone to sign up with ARES at their website, [ARES.SC.ORG](http://ARES.SC.ORG). For additional information contact your local EC or Duane Livingston.
- VE SESSIONS: The next session will be on 17<sup>th</sup> of June. Training for all three license levels will be conducted at the ETV building in the evenings during the week prior. The class times will be announced.
- NEW HAM TRAINING: Tom Francis announced that the training and orientation materials for new hams is nearly ready. There will be a session in the weeks ahead. The date will be announced!
- EVENTS COMMITTEE: If you can help in any way with any of the upcoming events, please contact Tammy Livingston or Earl Dean. Many hands make little work. Please consider helping where you can!
- CW CLASS: Bill Minikiewicz conducted four Saturday morning CW training sessions in April. Bill Johnson attended all four, and Bill was able to make a CW contact during the last class. Bill will offer the training again in the months ahead, and the schedule will be announced.
- AIR SHOW: There will be an air show at McEntire Air Base on Saturday and Sunday. Consult their web site for details.
- FOREST LAKE SCHOOL: A presentation on ham radio and ham radio operations is planned for the students at Forest Lake School. An objective is to have the kids contact the space station when it is overhead at that time. Volunteers are needed.
- HAM FEST: The Upstate Hamfest will be in Spartanburg at the Piedmont Fairgrounds on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Check the website for details.!!

Presentation:

Earl Dean shared a video clip about the Code Talkers, the Navaho Indians who served in World War II in the Pacific. Their native language was never translated by the Japanese, and the radio traffic they sent was vital to our victory in the Pacific Islands.

**Everyone is reminded that they may contribute to the Feed Line, the club newsletter, by contacting Andy Haworth (KK4DSD).**