

# Columbia Amateur Radio Club-Monthly Meeting Minutes for February 2015

**February 2, 2015**

- Introductions
  - Ronnie Livingston (W4RWL)-President
  - Individual attendee introductions
  
- Past Month's Meeting Minutes: Steve (KI4VGA) announced that last month's meeting minutes can be found on the club's website ([www.w4cae.com](http://www.w4cae.com)).
  
- Treasurer's Report: Andy (KK4DSD) announced that the current amount in the account is \$ 1,555.00. This total includes (since last meeting) the deposit of \$80.00 and the debit of a total of \$708.00. These debits include; \$320.00 for insurance, \$61.00 for office supplies, and \$327.00 for the purchase of the SCQSO plaques for 2013 and 2014.
  
- CARC Net Report: Net Manager, Steve (W4SJD) announced that in January 2015 there were 8 nets held with a total of 185 check-ins.
  
- Old Business:
  - Kershaw County Amateur Radio Club Update: Lee (K4ELG) announced that the KCARC will be making an order for Meals Ready to Eat (MRE's) in mid-March. A case of will cost you \$60.50 each. Folks that are interested in placing orders can go to the Kershaw County Amateur Radio club website for further details at [www.K4RC.com](http://www.K4RC.com).
  - Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio (SPAR) Winter Field Day: Andy (KK4DSD) provided an update from the January 24, 2015 SPAR Winter Field Day held at Sandy Run EOC. Even with challenges with operating radios that were new to some of the operators, the Club members were able to make 60 or so QSO's on 40 M, 20 M, 15 M, and 10 M. Fun was had by all.
  - CARC club e-mails issues: Ronnie asked the group if anyone was having problems with e-mails to club addresses getting bounced back as undeliverable. No one indicated that the problem was occurring and it appears that the issue has been corrected. Let's keep our fingers crossed.....
  - CARC-SWAPFEST: Tom (W1TEF) announced that the CARC Swap-fest will be held at SCETV on April 4, 2015.

- CARCERT- Club Communication Trailer: Tom indicated that in the near future, the club will be announcing an Open House so that club members can come out to see the trailer and to see what needs to be done to repair the trailer. This announcement will be sent out as an e-mail blast to club members.
- Elmer Program: Tom also wanted to let those in attendance know that CARC will be starting an Elmer program later this year. He anticipates that initially this will include radio operations. However, he would encourage suggestions for future topics.
- SCQSO Plaques: Tom brought plaques for the 2013 and 2014 winners of each operator category from the South Carolina QSO Party. These were very nice plaques and they are set to be mailed this month. Ronnie made a suggestion that for future South Carolina QSO parties, that the winners be given certificates instead of plaques. This is due to fact that CARC is the sponsor for the SCQSO party, and is responsible for the costs related to awards. CARC will be revisiting the contest rules prior to this year's QSO party to update the contact points multipliers and language about awards.
- Ridge Club Tailgate: Ken (K4KXO) wanted to remind those in attendance that on April 18, 2015, the Ridge club will hold their annual Tailgate Swap-fest in the field next to Shealy's in Batesburg-Leesville. Breakfast is available at Shealy's starting at 7 am and the Tailgate will begin at 9am.
- New Business:
  - Donations: Ronnie wanted to ask the club members if anyone had radio/radio equipment that they would be willing to donate to the club. Ronnie intent is to provide a prize for a future "Go-Kit" competition from donations.
  - Elmering Program: Ronnie wanted to restate his interest to combine the Elmering program later this year with use of the CARC trailer at field locations around the Columbia area.
  - Upcoming Events:
    - Next month's CARC meeting topic will be "Solar Power" by Lee (K4ELG).
    - Charleston Ham-fest will be held on February 7, 2015.
  - CARC Board Meeting: Ronnie announced that the next CARC Board meeting will occur on February 28, 2015 at Ryan's on Bower Parkway. The eating will start at 8:00 am and the meeting will start sometime around 9:00 am.

- Rodgers Workshop: Bill (W4FSV) announced that the next Rodgers Workshop will be held at Sandy Run EOC on February 21, 2015, starting at 9 am. This Month's build will include a 4:1 balun and a 2Meter loop antenna. Build one or both projects, each project will cost \$10.00. Although plans are still underway, Bill is considering an electronics theory or CW class for future workshops.
- John's Announcements: John (W3KH) wanted all in attendance to consider going to the Charleston Ham-fest on February 7, 2015. He also wanted to let everyone know that an emergency exercise will be held on February 6, 2015. This exercise will run from 8:30-12:00 and will be directed from the State Fire Academy on Monticello Road. Information on this exercise can be found on the SCHEARTs web page.
- CARC VE Session: Stan (N3LU) announced that the next CARC VE session will be held at SCETV on February 14, 2015, starting at 9 am. VE's are asked to be there at 8:30 am, and Stan would encourage all who are interested in testing or helping out as a VE to contact him at [midlandsve@gmail.com](mailto:midlandsve@gmail.com).

Meeting Topic: Power Supply by Angelo (AC2BC)

Angelo presented a power-point presentation about power supplies and specifically that switching power supplies can provide noise free power for your shack. This presentation provided a detailed discussion on energy, frequency, and harmonics. In addition, Angelo discussed the contributions of those men who provided so much to our hobby, including Ohm, Ampere, and Tesla. Thanks Angelo for the informational presentation and standing up for the much maligned switching power supply.

All were reminded that the next CARC club meeting will be at SCETV on March 2, 2015 starting at 7:00 pm.