

**CARC CLUB MEETING – MAY 5, 2025 – 7:00 PM  
SCETV BUILDING – 1041 GEORGE ROGERS BLVD., COLUMBIA, SC  
BANK OF AMERICA CONFERENCE ROOM**

Jim Lathan  
John Kiselica  
Clay Reynolds  
Robert Bogan  
Paul Finan  
Wes Munn  
Amanda McKinnis  
Steve W4LED

### **Opening Remarks**

- SwapFest 2025 – Jim thanked everyone who participated despite the heavy rains.
- Special thanks to Sandy of keeping the table running.
- Prize winners need to claim their prizes won that weren't claimed from the SwapFest.
- The club raised \$420 from ticket sales, vendors, and items to be sold that were donated to the club.
- Jim asked for thoughts on the location. Jim will update on us on possible future use of the North Trenholm Road Baptist Church as a CARC location.

### **Treasurer's Finance Report**

N/A

### **Main Topic – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT – YouTube/Presenter on FT8 & FT4 – Digital Soundcard Modes Plus Field Day & Contests**

*[tiny.cc/ft8-plus-fd](https://tiny.cc/ft8-plus-fd)* (to access slides)

*[tiny.cc/k8zt-p](https://tiny.cc/k8zt-p)* (for all of Anthony's presentations)

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- Anthony discussed the differences between FT8/FT4 and why he works with these modes.
- He mainly operates 99% QRP at 5 watts or less.
- These digital modes are great at pulling the signal out of the noise, thus making “dead bands” come “alive.”
- These modes are not for ragchewing.
- A ragchewing software is JS8CALL or PSK31.
- This can be used with old and new radios with proper soundcard interfacing. Anthony also went over different soundcard options to operating in these modes.
- Jim Lathan demonstrated how he's using digital modes (FT8) with software to show radio traffic information with FT8 live on GridTracker and World Radio League (WRL).
- Jim also stated a practical use for FT8 – to allow you to get to know your radio and how well your antenna works and where to go from there based on propagation.

**Other Announcements**

- QRP Club has more brochures about their club.
- Gary Hester's WinLink test at EOC went well.
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**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm Eastern