

CARC CLUB MEETING – 08 SEPTEMBER, 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 Ross W4LED

Opening Remarks

1. Jim introduced the meeting and new visitors: Debbie – new to ham radio – not yet licensed but exploring more about the hobby.
2. Richard announced how to become a member of SCETV to help make a contribution to public television to help support our local ETV station in a time when Federal funding is being pulled.

Andy Perryman – Ham Radio Prep and World Radio League

Ham Radio Prep

1. Perryman gave us an overview of Ham Radio Prep. Our club has a coupon for a club discount. See Jim Lathan for the coupon discount code.
2. app.worldradioleague.com

World Radio League

1. app.worldradioleague.com
2. Courses varied from HF modes, satellite operations to emergency communications.
3. World Radio League – a modern 21st Century logging software. It's supposed to be intuitive yet feature rich to use. This logging software has templates for different logging situations (i.e. POTA) as well as fully customized templates for your own needs while operating. WRL also has an active visual map showing a “heat map” of HF activity around the globe.
3. Works also on a mobile app as well as a Desktop when online.
4. Logging is free, but there are paid features that free users don't get access to (i.e. limited import/export features of logs).
5. There are three (3) paid tier options:

- Basic \$36/year;
 - Premium \$68/year; and
 - VIP \$128/year subscription paid tiers with advanced analytics.
 - Basic logging functionality is FREE.
6. There is a coupon code for 15% off you can get for WRL – see Jim Lathan for details.
 7. Jim mentioned how Ham Radio Prep will be helpful in training up new hams or those interested in upgrading their licenses using this method. This allows the training to be more self-paced. We would keep the Technicians Class training more in-person and hands-on since these are beginners getting into amateur radio. Using HRP allows more freedom and less need of people to run classes for different license classes. This also helps with the need of people to teach classes but can't commit to teaching due to other obligations.
 8. Jim mentioned we could use a club meeting to be a "mentor night" to help with any questions before people take their tests for licensing after completing a HRP training course for license upgrades..
 9. HRP offers another option to allow students to learn more about different license classes. This allows club members to serve more as mentors (elmers).

Treasurer's Report

1. Amanda McKinnis – financial report: ending Balance in main checking account as of August 31,2025: \$4,062;
 - \$375.88 came in;
 - transferred from checking to savings in total of \$1,083 from donated club equipment sales from August 2025.
 - Savings account balance \$3,349.42.
2. Club roster is now linked to the financial management software so this updates the roster for who is current/not current on dues – especially important during club elections as only paid/current members can vote.
3. Club dues are payable through the club website using PayPal or you can pay Dan or Jim in person with cash/check.

Nominations

1. Jim solicited the need for nominations for trustees, treasurer, directors, and vice president – these are open for nominations. If you are interested in putting your name in, reach out to John Kiselica and Clay Reynolds who will work with Amanda to vet the nominations.
2. Jim stated to make sure to ask someone to be a nomination before nominating them as a courtesy.
3. Amanda states you will be asked if nominated to see if you are interested in the position nominated for. Members are free to say, "No."
4. Nominations need to be listed on the CARC website by October 20, 2025.
5. There will also be a link on the CARC site for an absentee ballot. Jim emphasize the rules required to submit an absentee ballot or those ballots will not be counted.
6. Next club meeting will also be open for nominations.
7. **November 2025 meeting will be in person only due to officer elections.**

8. There will be a “special” online meeting for the presenter presenting to us online: Long Island CW Club (~45 minutes/15 minute Q&A session).

2025 Fall NVIS Commex Event

1. Joe Wilson (KO4WAA) talked briefly about an upcoming (next Saturday, ?? September 13, 2025–8:00a to 4:00p) emergency communications event (Commex 2025 Fall NVIS). This is a “short-haul” communications event.
2. Part I: Try to communicate with the State Emergency HQ;
Part II: Find out how well we can communicate with each other (start calling CQ and have people call you or just listen for CQs and try to communicate in or just monitor and record information).
3. State has developed a logging system so you’ll need to use their logging system and therefore you must register.
4. You can log in paper and input the logs online later.
5. Joe stated we need a lot of participation.
6. Jim asked what antennas we need to consider: Joe stated wire dipoles or other antennas configured for NVIS;
7. Contact Joe Wilson for more information at:
jwilso75@yahoo.com and KO4WAA@ winlink email
to be added to a contact list to be sent current and future information.
8. The frequencies and other information will be provided when you email Joe.
9. Whatever gear and power you want to use is acceptable (i.e. QRO, QRP, etc.); DMR and Winlink are also being used. Modes: Phone, no CW, Winlink, DMR, basically just phone modes on 40m for HF and 2m/440/6 meters only will be tested.
10. Simplex will be used on VHF and HF. Repeaters are also an option to use to contact. So HTs are welcome to be used in this exercise.
11. This exercise is very important for any upcoming hurricane situations or other severe weather where localized communications within the state are needed via NVIS. This is an important skill to learn.
12. A lot of the need for this exercise was brought about as a result of Hurricane Helene last year.
- 13.

Freeze Dried Food

1. Jim Lathan did a show and tell of freeze dried food you can use to take on portable operations.
2. If interested in trying before you buy any, please see Jim.
3. Noah and Jim tested a few samples including chicken and mashed potatoes; ice cream sandwich; and lasagna.
4. Jim reported the food was sustaining and delicious when learning to survive during portable operations. See Noah for details as well.
5. Jim also showed a “jet boil” portable stove burner which boiled water within two minutes. There was a 12 volt system but it took over 8 minutes to make “hot” water but not boiling (but close according to Jim).
6. These were good boilers for travel and survival and/or portable amateur radio operations.
7. Jim mentioned these are also good for your “go-kit.” Some items had a shelf life of 25 years (i.e. until 2054 – Halley’s Comet returns in 2061 for reference!).
8. Noah’s wife even said the food items were actually great and is livable off of in a survival situation with good protein, etc.
- 9.

Christmas Party 2025

1. Contact Dan Cunningham if you want to participate and help out.

2. Board is working to find a location.

Winter Field Day 2026 & Harbison 50k

1. Be thinking about what you can do to participate in these events.
2. Winter Field Day 2026 is going to be at Lake Wateree, SC. We have several verbal commitments for all but two sites at this time. Cost is \$113.00 for Friday through Sunday night. This is the last weekend of January 2026.
3. Harbison 50k information is TBA.

Digital Radio Hot Spots

1. Jim went over different kinds of hot spots for digital radio.

Adjournment

The CARC meeting adjourned at 9:00p.