

**Trident Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**  
**Membership Meeting Minutes FINAL**

2/19/2024



**Officers:**

**President** - Steve Anderjack, KO4AFL – Welcome

**Vice President** - TW Kirkpatrick, KF4CQH – Absent

**Treasurer** - Jim Self, KW4PW –

**Secretary** - Renata Sierzega, KQ4ASH –

**Board Member at Large** - Chris Benoit, KC4NW –

**Board Member at Large** - Glenn Stephens, WA4NMW –

**Membership** – Ron Davis, K4TCP – 89 paid members

**Testing** – Ron Davis, K4TCP / Steve Anderjack, KO4AFL

**Programs** – Greg Mitchell KB1AWM -

**QSL manager** –Chris Benoit KC4NW- See below

**Repeaters** – Bryce Myers, K4LXF –See below

**Fund Raising** –Jim Self, KW4PW – RAFFLE TONIGHT:

**Properties** – TW Kirkpatrick, KF4CQH – See below

**Education and Scholarship**- Jim Wasson KO4MNB Absent / Stephen Behr K4OPZ

**Field Day**- Ron K4TCP, TW KF4CQH and John Satterfield KK4JS

Call to order: 1900

Location: Am Red Cross, 8085 Rivers Ave., N Charleston, SC

**Upcoming Events**

JBC (Joint Base Charleston) Air Show: 19-21 Apr 2024 POC Chip WB4ZVR

- Discussed this STEM event and all supplies and equipment needed
- Friday is the STEM and Military Day.
- TARC call sign N4EE will be used. Application has been approved. There will be approx. 3 planning meeting prior to this event.
  - A site visit is being done this Friday 23 Feb 24, by designated members of the committee. Post meeting note: rescheduled for 1 Mar 24.
- If you are interested in joining, contact Chip WB4ZVR

Citadel Science Olympiad STEM 2 Mar 24 POC Jim KO4MNB

- TARC has been invited to set up a table at the event on Saturday, March 2. Need volunteers. Contact Jim KO4MNB or Steve K4OPZ for more details.
- The Plan is to arrive at the Citadel at 0730 to set up a table and an HF station in a grassy area right next to Jenkins Hall, as shown on the attached picture. I am bringing an IC-7300 radio and WRC with hopes to get the CADETs on the air. I will also have a VHF HT to make contacts with you'll via the Yorktown repeater.
- The first event starts at 0815. There are 6 event periods each hour between 0815 and 1330. It will be a long day. We could certainly use more help. Please let me know if you can spare an hour or two on Saturday.

Summer Field Day 22-23 June 2024 POC John KK4JS

- Potential site: St John's Episcopal Church field, 3673 Maybank Hwy, John's Island, SC 29457
- Steve KO4AFL went to the site. Still a go. Asked other board members to take a look.

## OLD BUSINESS:

**Maintenance and Deployment Committee:** POC Steve Anderjack KO4AFL Members: Chip WB4ZVR & Jim KW4PW & Mike KJ4TAC & Ron K4TCP & Glenn WA4NMW

- First official meeting of this group pending.
- The second intercom system has arrived and the computers and monitors were installed. Sound dampening foam were installed decreasing the dB from 77 to 74. A “curtain” specifically for sound proofing may need to be installed to decrease the sound further. Work left to be done: mount propane tanks after continued floor repair, clean and organize the trailer. An 8 foot cleanable rug runner may be helpful. POC Ron K4TCP

## Education and Scholarship Committee:

### EDUCATION:

Palmetto Scholars Academy POC Steve Behr K4OPZ

Discussion continues to restart of K4PSA. Steve will also be in contact with PSA teacher. Donna Heisler (engineering teacher, sponsors robotics) Update: New interim principal is interested, but has other pressing responsibilities. Steve met with MacKenzie Bennett, office administration, while returning the ICOM HF radio. She will be in contact with the science teachers and the school club coordinator. A teacher sponsor is needed.

Joint Base Charleston: See info under Events.

St. John Catholic School: POC Jim Wasson KO4MNB and Stephen Behr K4OPZ

Jim KO4MNB met with Karen Durand, Principal of St. John Catholic School about the proposed 2024 Education Program.

- ARRL education curriculum. One lesson per month.
- **29 February 2024 12 noon- 1 pm** The students will be building and testing audio amplifiers designed to connect to their crystal radios. TARC volunteers team is complete to assist the students building and testing audio amplifiers designed to connect to their crystal radios. Stephen Behr, Ron Davis and Jim Wasson are donating the parts. We have 6 teams of 4 students each.

SC Department of Employment and Workforce: POC Jim Wasson, KO4MNB

Dr. Patricia Ferguson has been in contact with Jim regarding an interest in the Amateur Radio for the International Space Station (ARISS) program.

The ARISS Education Plan is to be submitted by 29 February 2024. The draft was presented to TARC for review on 8 February. A TARC Letter of Commitment has been prepared for Steve KO4AFL to sign. Tom, AJ4UQ, is named in the proposal as the Technical POC to set up the station for the ISS contact. Greg KB1AWM has also volunteered to assist.

Dr. Ferguson has also requested the clubs help moving forward. As more details are available, the club will discuss how we can assist. See plan outline below received after this meeting.

- I. Build an AR and ISS Culture
- II. Host In-school Pre-Activities with AR, ISS and STEM concepts
- III. Host an ARISS Day
- IV. Host ISS Contact

## V. Implement an AR Build and License Project

### **Properties:** TW Kirkpatrick KF4CQH

Items donated were available for purchase at the Winter Field Day. Update: Over \$250 was donated.

### **Membership:** POC Ron K4TCP

- 89 paid members. This is the highest number in a few years.
- Steve brought in a name tag design. Will bring additional options next meeting. Steve KO4AFL
- Ron K4TCP sent targeted emails to members that have not yet paid their membership fees. 4 additional members have paid. 2 new members from Winter Field Day. Discussed connecting with members that do not/cannot come to meetings. Also, Board made a motion offering a free club membership for the remaining of a year when a person passes their Technician License Exam.
- Discussion on obtaining TARC items such as hats, name tags etc. Ron K4TCP will bring samples to the Feb 24 Board Meeting. Renata: Seaboard Traders in N Charleston. Idea: club logo on the back of the shirt and a small logo and call sign on the front.

### **QSL:** POC: Chris KC4NW

- 1 Hunley event request from 2 years ago.
- 3 requests from Winter Field Day.
- Discussion on use of TARC specific call signs instead of sharing the W4D.
  - W4ANK: Repeater Call Sign for future for club events and repeaters. Rick Valentine N8BKN is the custodian. Not Listed in QRZ. Club would need to submit paper copies.
- N4EE: Maintain N4EE for Special Events and Field Day. David Merritts AE4ZR is the custodian and uploads into QRZ.
- N4HLH: Use for Hunley Events. Ron K4TCP is the custodian and uploads into QRZ.

### **Media:** POC Ron K4TCP No updates.

### **Program ideas:** The following ideas to be considered for future club programming for members.

- January: John KK4JS - "ADIF Master Basics" Well done!
- February: Mike KJ4TAC- VHF "Building a Low-Cost VHF-UHF Ground Plane antenna or "What do I have in my junk box that I can use." The presentation will consist of a short video, a discussion on construction techniques and alternatives, and tuning the antenna for perfect SWR. Great presentation and discussion.
- March: Chip Mack WB4ZVR - "It's About Time" A 'Whitman's Sampler' presentation about the terminology and technology for computer timing and frequency control in the modern hamshack, and why it's important we move toward it.
- April: Glen WA4MNV: Technician Session: Portable Radio Testing: VHF and UHF.
- Radio modes: APRS
- Radio activities: satellite
- Propagation information
- J pole and antennas
- Programming for Extras
- Ladder lines

## **TREASURER: South Carolina Federal Credit Union**

- Total balance: \$6,400
- Expenses:
  - \$135 Portalet Winter Field Day
  - \$125 key drilling for safety deposit box. Now closed.
- Earnings:
  - Winter Field Day donations: over \$500
  - Potential \$100 if radio works from Leo
- Social media: Website: Dream Host
  - Hosting due **1/20/25**.
  - Domain registration: \$17.99 yearly due **1/16/25**
- John Satterfield KK4JS still has a working debit card but hasn't used it unless asked by the President or Treasurer.
- MHRT Insurance premium due on MHRT **1/16/24**. Update:
- Club Liability Insurance: Ron K4TCP discussed changes in insurance coverage and will contact the company. We are covered until **3/23/24**.
- Raffle: MFJ Dual Band 144/440 MHz SWR Wattmeter

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Events:**

**Past EVENT: Winter Field Day: 27-28 Jan 2024:** POC John Satterfield KK4JS Report: Contacts 260 on 6 bands: 40, 20, 15, 2, 1.25, 70cm. Ron K4TCP has the file. Uploaded to QRZ and POTA. Great time was had by all. Trailer was used and successful.

## **Education and Scholarship Committee:**

### **EDUCATION:**

#### **St John Catholic School:**

POC Jim Wasson KO4MNB and Stephen Behr K4OPZ

- Scholarship applications are due by 15 Mar 24. Dr. Patricia Ferguson will be contacted to remind schools.
- The leadership of the Trident Amateur Radio Club (TARC) has asked those club members who volunteer to instruct students at St. John Catholic School to complete the Diocese of Charleston's "Safe Haven" course. <https://charlestdiocese.org/child-and-youth-protection/safe-haven-training/>  
Although the club will not track members to ensure completion, the certificates will be on file electronically by TARC. Members are to send completed certificates to club secretary.
- TARC has been working with St John Catholic School on writing and winning a STEM grant to transform an entire classroom into a Science Lab. The Lab would be complete with an Amateur Radio Station, Robotics Lab, AI/AR Futures Lab, etc. The Ham Station has a budget of around \$3,500. The Committee will of course be asking for TARC members to volunteer to help design, procure, build and operate the station. It will be another fun project, similar to the MHRS trailer which has served us well. Karen Durand, SJCS Principal, said her vision is that the school ham radio station would be for use of TARC members to get on the air and encourage students and teachers to learn about radio and electronics and maybe get trained and licensed.

## **SCHOLARSHIP: W4DAX Scholarship: POC Jim KO4MNB**

- To date no applicants. Please encourage eligible students. The application is on the TARC website.

There will be a General Class offered by CARS (Charleston Amateur Radio Society) on **16 & 17 Mar 24** to be held at the VA hospital, 109 Bee St., Charleston, SC with a VE test on 17 Mar 24. Please email Warren Richey at [w5513@hotmail.com](mailto:w5513@hotmail.com) or Terry Benton at [terbenster@gmail.com](mailto:terbenster@gmail.com) to sign up so they can prep.

Citadel Ham Radio Club N4CIT: POC: Jim KO4MNB, Steve K4OPZ

Col Linda Riedel, Dep Dir of Ops and Outreach, Citadel DoD Cyber Institute has responded to Jim's email to reactivate the Citadel Ham Radio Station. A meeting was held on January 11 with Jim, Steve K4OPZ, and Michael K3ZMD in which COL Riedel asked if we would give a presentation to the Cadets regarding the "Advantages of College Ham Radio Clubs" and bring our Mobile Ham Radio Station trailer to the campus for a demo. In the meantime, we gave her the contact information for the trustee to investigate where the equipment is stored. Linda will be back in touch with some proposed dates for our visit. Additionally, Jack, a member of CARS attended the Citadel and Adjunct Prof Mark Lester is a HAM.

**Repeaters**: POC: Bryce K4LXF

- Summerville: POC Steve KO4AFL, Glenn WA4NMW
  - 147.27 Located on the Azalea Sq Water Tower. Glenn and Steve went to the site. A presentation was given to the board regarding the needs to reactivate this repeater. This same presentation was presented at this General Meeting of TARC.
  - Board approved, pending approved use of the building (approx. 8x10) from the Gen Manager at SCPW, a total of \$1,700 to repair, clean out the building and "supplies." Electricity is provided at no cost.
  - Members approved moving forward contingent on acceptable language of the contract from the Town of Summerville Public Works. Members will, however, start cleaning out the building and assessing the value of the contents.
- Adams Run: 147.345 Archie. No longer W4ANK. Lost to Charleston County: replaced the tower. Duplexer is on loan to the West Ashley Repeater Group K4IUG.
- Knightsville: 146.94 repeater was dropping the radio link randomly. The controller was working correctly and it appeared the link radio is the issue. Bryce or the repeater team will be replacing the link radio to bring the repeater back to full status.
- Steve KF0AFL was able to talk with Ed Padgett and get access to the W4ANK QRZ page. He updated some of the info on that page and now is in control of this site.
- Carl Knight detention center town has been discontinued.

**General Information**:

**Testing**: Testing is scheduled the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of every month. 1 or 2 VE's needed.

South Carolina QSO Party: Dave Edmonds, WN4AFP seeking portable operators to be on the air during the SCQP on **February 24, 2024**. POC Jim Self.

[Bill Text: SC H4549 | 2023-2024 | 125th General Assembly | Introduced | LegiScan](#)

POC: Glenn WA4NMW

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ENACTING THE "AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA PROTECTION ACT" BY ADDING SECTION 4-1-190 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A COUNTY MAY NOT ENACT OR ENFORCE CERTAIN ORDINANCES THAT DO NOT CONFORM TO THE AMATEUR RADIO PREEMPTION; AND BY ADDING SECTION 27-30-180 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION MAY NOT PROHIBIT AN OWNER OF A PROPERTY WITHIN THE ASSOCIATION FROM INSTALLING OR USING AN AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA ON THE PROPERTY.

## **Update:**

Wednesday Feb 28th Rally at the Capital for the possible reading 9am meeting session opens at 10 AM.

There are also matching bills in NC and at the Federal level.

Members should contact their senators to support this bill.

Senators Roger Wicker and Richard Blumenthal Introduce S.3690 to Eliminate Private Land Use Restrictions on Amateur Radio

<http://arrl.org/news/senators-roger-wicker-and-richard-blumenthal-introduce-s-3690-to-eliminate-private-land-use-restrict>

## ARRL News:

- The Board approved the reintroduction of **ARRL Life Membership and 70+ Life Membership** (for members of age 70 and over) on a revenue-neutral basis. At its July 2023 Second Meeting, the Board had suspended the Life Membership Program, pending the approval of an adjusted revenue-neutral program.
- The Board approved two motions aimed at engaging young hams with a strong start to their lifelong journey with amateur radio and ARRL:
  - **FREE ARRL Membership for Students.** For decades, ARRL has offered a reduced dues rate for young hams, currently priced at \$30 per year. At this meeting, the Board established a new option for a no-cost Associate membership for full-time students of age 21 and younger.

Adjourned: 2019

V/R

Renata Sierzega  
KQ4ASH