

Trident Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes FINAL

3/4/2024



Officers:

President - Steve Anderjack, KO4AFL – Welcome

Vice President - TW Kirkpatrick, KF4CQH – via phone

Treasurer - Jim Self, KW4PW –

Secretary - Renata Sierzega, KQ4ASH –

Board Member at Large - Chris Benoit, KC4NW – Absent

Board Member at Large - Glenn Stephens, WA4NMW – Absent

Membership – Ron Davis, K4TCP –

Testing – Ron Davis, K4TCP / Steve Anderjack, KO4AFL

Programs – Greg Mitchell KB1AWM -Absent

QSL manager –Chris Benoit KC4NW- Absent

Repeaters – Bryce Myers, K4LXF –

Fund Raising –Jim Self, KW4PW – Raffle: complete double set of Baofeng 8-watt radios with the big batteries for \$75. Figured we will raffle them one at a time over the next two months

Properties – TW Kirkpatrick, KF4CQH –

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

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

Call to order: 1800

Location: Hanahan Library 1216 Old Murry Ct., Hanahan, 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. Anticipate 2,000 students.
- Base provides two canopies, table and chairs.
- Still need clarification on available power.
- 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 was done 1 Mar 24, by designated members of the committee. The site is in front of a hangar near the end of the flight line.
 - Display for WINLINK and FT8.
 - Next meeting is via Zoom on Wed, Mar 6 at 6 pm.

Museum Ship Weekend: 1-2 Jun 2024

Summer Field Day 22-23 June 2024 POC John KK4JS

- St John's Episcopal Church field, 3673 Maybank Hwy, John's Island, SC 29457. POC Clark Cromwell O:843-974-5593; M:504-578-8543
- Board confirmed approval: Glenn WA4MNW and TW KF4CQH.
- Donation to church of \$200 approved by board.
- No additional insurance needed.
- Post event to the Charleston Business Club.
- Possibly allow 1 TV station to the event.

- Official request to be sent to the facility.

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 was held Feb 2024.
- The Board must define the charter of this standing committee in the Bylaws and appoint a leader. (Dec 2023)
- The committee will establish criteria/vet for deployment of trailer including STEM and school visits. Reviewing use and deployment options. A towing member will always be included in any site visit. Will be sending out a survey for areas where/when to deploy. (Dec 2023) POC Steve KO4AFL
- 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
- At the Board Meeting, Jim KO4MNB, said he created the draft survey questionnaire as a starting point for the Board’s consideration. His vision was to hand out hard copies at the next club meeting for members to complete in 5 minutes. Steve, KO4AFL, stated he had some additions to the survey and wanted to convert it to Survey Monkey to email it to the members. Update:

Education and Scholarship Committee:

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.

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.
- Karen Durand, Principal, and Molly Meyer, Science teacher, plan to attend the July 15-19 class of the ARRL Teachers Institute.
- **29 February 2024 12 noon- 1 pm** The students built and tested audio amplifiers designed to connect to their crystal radios forming a transistor radio. TARC volunteers included Glenn WA4NMW, Tim KQ4JVQ, Michael K3AMD, Helen KJ4UGH, Bob KG4UGE, Steve K4OPZ and Jim KO4MNB. We were able to get 5 out of the 6 kits built and tested on their crystal radios. We will help the last student team complete and test their kit next month. Two more lessons are planned before the end of the school year. The kids have had fun and have learned a lot.

- \$3,500 Grant was approved for the school (not from TARC). Thanks to Jim for all his efforts in promoting STEM education.

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

Dr. Patricia Ferguson has been in contact with Jim regarding an interest in submitting a proposal "Operation Space Talk SC" for the Amateur Radio for the International Space Station (ARISS) program. The ARISS Education Plan was submitted **29 February 24**. Several draft versions were presented to the committee members for review. Steve KO3AFL provided a TARC Letter of Commitment. 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.

Citadel Science Olympiad STEM POC Jim KO4MNB

Report: March event cancelled due to weather. We asked Dr. Jennifer Albert, Director, STEM Center of Excellence, to let us know a few months in advance of the next STEM event so we could possibly bring the Mobile Ham Radio Station (MHRS) trailer to the campus to get the CADETs on the air and stir interest in restarting their Citadel Bulldogs ARC (N4CIT). Citadel Adjunct Prof Mark Lester is a HAM. Jim e-mailed Mark Lester and he responded that he would be glad to help restart the Citadel Ham Radio Club.

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 come to meetings. Also, Board discussed 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 (local) (email 1/26/24). Idea: club logo on the back of the shirt and a small logo and call sign on the front.

QSL: POC: Chris KC4NW: absent from meeting

- Discussion on use of TARC specific call signs instead of sharing the W4D.
 - W4ANK: Repeater Call Sign for future for club events. Rick Valentine N8BKN is the custodian. Not Listed in QRZ. Club would need to submit paper copies. Plan?
 - A few more QSL requests came in from the Hunley event.

Media: POC Ron K4TCP

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

- 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
- Programing for Extras
- Ladder lines

TREASURER: Jim Self KW4PW
South Carolina Federal Credit Union

- Total balance: \$6,500
- Expenses:
- Earnings:
 - Winter Field Day donations: over \$230
 - 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. Found and destroyed. Closed
- MHRS Insurance premium due on MHRS **1/16/24**. Update: Cost \$431
- Club Liability Insurance: Ron K4TCP discussed changes in insurance coverage and will contact the company. We are covered until **3/23/24**. Update:
- Chris KC4NW has the key to the PO Box. Jim KW4PW needs to see the bills in a timely fashion.
- Raffle: Feb 24 MFJ Dual Band 144/440 MHz SWR Wattmeter

NEW BUSINESS:

Events:

Education and Scholarship Committee:

St John Catholic School:

POC Jim Wasson KO4MNB and Stephen Behr K4OPZ

- Scholarship applications are due by **15 Mar 24**. Dr. Patricia Ferguson was contacted to remind schools.
- 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 there is one applicant. 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 or Terry Benton at terbenster@gmail.com find out how 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. Jim e-mailed Mark Lester but has not received a response. Equipment from this station prior to COVID has not yet been located.

Repeaters: POC: Bryce K4LXF

- Summerville: POC Steve KO4AFL, Glenn WA4NMW
 - 147.27 Located on the Azalea Sq Water Tower.
 - 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.
 - Presentation on this project was presented to general membership on 19 Feb 24.
 - 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.
 - CANCELLED due to liability.
 - Club can clean out the equipment in the building and dispose of it as seen fit.
- 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. INFO
- Carl Knight detention center town has been discontinued. INFO
- 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. INFO
- Berkley County: 146.610 is currently located on Steve KO4AFL home. INFO
- 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. Update: Possibly bad capacitor. Team to investigate further.
- Awendaw repeater to be replaced. INFO

Treasurer: Jim Self KW4PW

- Board discussion on providing a stipend for those who are using their trucks to pull the trailer to club events. Further discussion is needed.

General Information:

Jim Wallace: SK Family of Jim Wallace has generously decided to donate his radio equipment to the club.

Testing: Testing is scheduled the 3rd Wed of every month.

[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:

Update:

Wednesday **28 Feb 24** rally at the Capital for the reading 9am meeting session opens at 10 AM.

Update: 35-40 people were on site. Marc Smith signed the bill.

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:

Adjourned: 1852

V/R

Renata Sierzega
KQ4ASH