

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

10/21/2024



**President** - Steve Anderjack, KO4AFL – Welcome  
**Vice President** - TW Kirkpatrick, KF4CQH –  
**Treasurer** - Jim Self, KW4PW – see Treasurer's Report  
**Secretary** - Renata Sierzega, KQ4ASH –  
**Board Member at Large** - Chris Benoit, KC4NW –  
**Board Member at Large** - Glenn Stephens, WA4NMW –  
**Membership** – Ron Davis, K4TCP -  
**Testing** – Ron Davis, K4TCP / Steve Anderjack, KO4AFL –  
**Programs** – Greg Mitchell KB1AWM  
**QSL manager** –Chris Benoit KC4NW-  
**Repeaters** – Bryce Myers, K4LXF –  
**Fund Raising** –Jim Self, KW4PW –  
**Properties** – TW Kirkpatrick, KF4CQH –  
**Education and Scholarship**- Jim Wasson KO4MNB, Stephen Behr K4OPZ  
**Field Day**- Ron K4TCP, TW KF4CQH, John Satterfield KK4JS, Steve KO4AFL

**Call to order:** 1900 Adjourned 1900

**Location:** American Red Cross 2424 A City Hall Lane, N. Charleston, SC  
46 members present

**Upcoming Events:** Note: All participation for events must be approved by the Board prior to any members signing up the Club to participate.

**“ANNUAL EVENTS”: Mark your calendars!**

Winter Field Day: **January DATE \_\_\_\_\_**

Hunley Museum Ships: **February**

Summer Field Day: **June**

Little David: **October**

**Citadel Events:** POC: Jim, KO4MNB

- COL Linda Riedel, Deputy Director of the Cyber Institute, invited TARC to set-up and operate at their Cyber Village located in the Capers Building on 18 October, 12:00 to 14:00. However, the location they had planned for us was in an enclosed courtyard of a four-story building. As such, we had to decline as our antennas would not be able to propagate in that location and we were not permitted on the roof.
- Rover Day: 20 Nov 24
  - TARC Table
- Dr. Jennifer Albert, Director of the STEM Center invited TARC to set up and operate for the “Storm the Citadel” event on 8 February 2025. Details are pending.

**ARISS:** Dec 2024

## Old Business:

### Trailer Maintenance and Deployment Committee: POC Steve KO4AFL

Members: Chip WB4ZVR, Jim KW4PW, Mike KJ4TAC, Ron K4TCP and Glenn WA4NMW

- Club, educational and promotional use.
- Request for trailer use to be submitted to the committee 60-90 days in advance.
- Work left to be done:
  - Mount propane tanks after continued floor repair (weld frame “C” channel support)
  - TW suggested we mount the two tanks on the tongue and buy a cover for them. Steve advised against having that much weight on the tongue.
  - Some rust spots noted on the trailer frame and needs to be removed
  - Small dehumidifier for the trailer: The membership approved \$350 for a dehumidifier. Consider providing Glenn a stipend to use his outdoor outlet.
  - GPS repeater \$80 approved: Need to mount antenna on the roof upright.
  - Solar panels and charge controller have been mounted. Need to run conduit through the roof and into the trailer electrical system.
  - Soundproof curtain obtained and needs to be installed.

### Education and Scholarship Committee: Jim KO4MNB and Stephen K4OPZ

Palmetto Scholars Academy POC Steve K4OPZ – PSA has a new principal, a new vice principal and many new teachers. Requested Ricky Reyes, new vice principal, to meet to discuss the K4PSA equipment and location, but we have had no response. The site needs a teacher to run the club.

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

- The HF/VHF/UHF radios are fully operational. Great work by the TARC team!
- Principal Karen Durand, KQ4TVY, who joined our meeting tonight, asked TARC to teach electronics starting in **January 2025**. TARC team proposed a flashing LED multi-vibrator circuit kit for the students to build. Additionally, Durand requests TARC team to teach soldering to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders so their kit will include printed circuit boards. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders would not be soldering, but use push pin press boards. **We need at least four volunteers to be team leaders to mentor the students.** Contact Jim KO4MNB to volunteer.

### SC Department of Employment and Workforce (SCDEW): POC Jim Wasson, KO4MNB

TARC and the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce (SCDEW) was selected to participate in a scheduled Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact.

The four schools that are vying for the ISS contact are as follows:

- Woodland Middle School in Dorchester
- Ronald McNair School in Lake City
- Hillcrest Middle School in Dalzell
- Lake Marion Middle School

Steve K4OPZ and Jim KO4MNB developed Virtual Training Lessons with six pre-recorded audio-visual presentations. The six narrated PPT files are posted on the SCDEW Dropbox.

The presentation dates are 2-6 September (done), 16-20 September (done) and **7-11 October**. Each school will do their own hands-on activities to augment the lesson plans.

35 teams of students prepared 235 questions to ask the astronauts during the ISS contact. TARC will select the 20 best questions to be asked. Scoring sheets are due to Jim KO4MNB no later than **28 October** to send a compilation to SCDEW, ARISS and NASA by **31 October**.

The **first week of November**, will be the selection of the host school for the contact and selection of those students who will be asking questions to the astronauts **the first week of December**. We expect a turnout of 400-500 people with TV News crews to attend.

The Board approved taking the TARC Trailer to the event for PR purposes. Jim KO4MNB offered to tow the trailer with his GMC Yukon, once he is trained by the trailer committee.

A recommendation was made to submit a write up for QST magazine. Jim KO4MNB volunteered.

The TARC ARISS team includes Jim KO4MNB, Tom AJ4UQ, Greg KB1AWM, Steve K4OPZ, Steve KO4AFL, and Glenn WA4NMW

**Properties:** TW KF4CQH

Add GOTA Box to inventory, serialize, and take a picture. Done. No updates.

**WINLINK:** To be discussed further. "My only recollection was that ARES is going to practice using WINLINK for sending practice messages." Steve K4OPZ Suggestion made to do an in-service on WINLINK.

**Membership:** POC Ron K4TCP

Current membership: 111

55% of members have paid dues for this year. September is a grace month and members drop off the rolls in Dec. **DUES DUE!**

3 new members at this meeting.

**QSL:** POC: Chris KC4NW

- No new QSL card requests as of 10/21/24.
- ZW2WSP: Brazil: Need confirmation
- Summer Field Day: Dig: 33 Phone: 574 CW: 0 numbers. Ron K4TCP

**Media:** POC Ron K4TCP - No update

**Program ideas:** POC: Greg KB1AWN

The following ideas to be considered for future club programming for members. Please note: The ideas listed below need to be confirmed with an ELMER presenting.

- Oct: Mike, N4OBR, discuss the area's new digital repeater (DStar/DMR/fusion). Outstanding presentation. Club would like to learn more so Part 2 requested.
- Nov: ARES, Rick, N8BKN
- Dec: Holiday Party
- Jan: DX Mission Report, Van N4VGE: To date 84,000 contacts. 10 more days on the air.
- Radio activities: satellite
- Propagation information: solar cycle

- J pole and antennas
- Programing for Extras
- Ladder lines
- Slim Jim Building: POC Ron K4TCP

**TREASURER:** Jim KW4PW

South Carolina Federal Credit Union

- Total balance: \$6952
- Expenses: Approximately \$2,500/year
- Expenses: Dehumidifier and GPS Repeater \$400
- Earnings:
  - Dues received: To date: \$1500, Expect another \$1500
- Social media: Website: Dream Host
  - Hosting due **1/20/25**.
  - Domain registration: \$17.99 yearly due **1/16/25**
- Raffle: Approximately \$700/year additional revenue

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**TREASURER:** Jim KW4PW

Discuss plan for future use of club finances.

Education Committee: The Board discussed providing philanthropy support to St. John School for their 2025 hands-on electronics project. Last school year, we relied on member donations to purchase the crystal radio kits and transistor amplifier kits. For this school year, an estimate was provided of approximately \$173 for 25 flashing LED kits and \$270 for 6 soldering stations (30W soldering irons, cage, tools, third-hand stand and safety glasses), plus taxes and shipping. A motion was made, seconded and passed as follows:

Subject to final approval by the membership, the Board recommends to appropriate approximately \$500 to purchase the materials and tools for the St. John School 2025 student electronics project. The club will take ownership of the soldering station equipment. Update: members approved up to \$525 to support the St John School program for soldering kits and push boards. Hams are needed to work with the students. Approximately 12 hands were raised to support hands on learning.

Scholarship Program: POC: Owen Trott, KF5BLK, reported that Tom Lufkin had terminated his W4DAX scholarship. There was a discussion on how to continue this program and how to fund it. Owen suggested we have an online application instead of a paper form, and we launch an advertising and promotional campaign. He will be sending out letters to various Government agencies to obtain feedback and will talk to school superintendents. A motion was made, seconded and passed as follows:

Owen KF5BLK will present his proposal regarding an overhauled TARC Scholarship Program to the Board at the **6 January 2025** meeting. The proposal will address how to obtain interest within tri-county high schools in applying for the scholarship and fundraising activities to fund the program for the 2025-2026 school year.

A member noted it might be better to invest in the school programs rather than the scholarship program.

TARC Banner: There was a brief discussion about purchasing a TARC Banner that can be displayed at events where we set up a ham radio station without the trailer, such as at the Citadel, so as to have some visibility to aid in recruitment. The banner we had previously was old and tattered, and thus it was discarded. Vista Print sells vinyl 2.5' x 4' vinyl banners with grommets for \$39.99 plus tax and shipping. The decision was tabled.

Update: Club approved up to \$100 to be used to purchase a banner. The Board will make final decisions.

**Club Christmas Party:** POC Renata KQ4ASH

The Party will be on Monday, Dec 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm or arrive at 6 pm which is the normal Club meeting day.

Location: Bahama Breeze, 7811 Rivers Ave., North Charleston. It is near one of the entrances to the Northwoods Mall.

Ron will send out the Monkey Survey so we know how many will attend. There will be Chinese gifts (max \$20) to exchange up to 3 times. Bring others to share in the fun!

**Dorchester EOC:** There was a discussion about meeting with the Dorchester Amateur Radio Team (DART) regarding a location to install our 270 repeater in Summerville to augment the 610 repeater that Steve KO4AFL has running on his property. Jim KW4PW took the action to contact DART President, Beverly Boyd, to schedule a meeting date.

**SC Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) ARISS Contact:**

- TARC has been invited to set-up and operate a ham radio station on **November 20 at 9:30am** at the Citadel Stadium for ROVER DAY in which there will be robotics competition starting at 11:00am. Steve K4OPZ will bring his POTA Equipment and Jim KO4MNB will bring the club canopy. Citadel will provide a table and chairs. We need a banner at our booth to identify who we are. **Volunteers are needed** to help operate the station. POC: Stephen Behr K4OPZ

**General Information:**

**Repeaters:** Status will be reported monthly. POC: Bryce K4LXF

- See list on TARC website
- No issues

**Lending Library:** We now have 4 books in the library. TARC members are encouraged to bring books to the monthly meetings. POC Owen KF5BLK

**Testing:** Testing is scheduled at 6:30pm the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of every month. Preregister for the exam session at <https://hamstudy.org/sessions/glaarg>

- 1 was scheduled this month and was a no show

**Club Call Sign Info:**

- 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.
- W4ANK: Repeater Call Sign for future for club events. Rick N8BKN is custodian.

73

Renata Sierzega KQ4ASH  
Secretary