

Trident Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Membership Meeting Minutes (FINAL)

2/17/2025



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: 7:00pm, Adjourn: 7:35pm

Location: Am Red Cross 2424-A City Hall Lane North Charleston, SC 29406

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!

Museum Ships: 7-8 Jun 2025.

- David will be setting up a ham radio station for all to operate at the boat landing across from the Hunley Museum at 1250 Supply Street in Charleston. POC: David Merritts AE4ZR

Summer Field Day: 28-29 June 2025.

- Renata will reach out to Saint John's Episcopal Church to lock in the date. POCs: Ron Davis and John Satterfield.

Overland South: 6-9 Mar 2025. Come enjoy a weekend camping event for overlanding enthusiasts at the private, 6,000 acre Woodlands Nature Reserve at 4279 Ashley River Road in Charleston. Bring your camper, RV, roof-top tent, converted van, refurbished school bus, stealth camper, motorcycle tent, or whatever. Ham Radio Operation at noon on Friday, March 7. Not a TARC club sponsored event. POC: Rich Lorenzo K4ZRL

General Class: 15-16 Mar 2025. Ralph H Johnson VA.

Class Sat 8-4 and Sunday 8-12. General Exam Sunday afternoon. Bring your own food and drink. POC Rick Valentine N8BKN

SC First Robotics: 21-22 March. North Charleston Athletic Center

40 teams compete with really complex large size robots. POC: Glenn WA4NMW

RARSfest: Raleigh Hamfest, 5 April 2025

100,000 all-indoors, 250 flea market tables, testing, forums, and dealer of new equipment. Clubs get a free table to sell memberships. Admission tickets required. Volunteers get free admission, an event T-shirt, and entry into a "volunteers only" drawing for a Yaesu FT-70D HTI. POC: Nancy Torborg KB2TNR

Ride the Low Country: 12 April 2025. Looking for operators to support vehicles and operate from rest stops along the way. POC: Linda Selleck KJ4EVV

Saturday Meetups at the Park:

Every Saturday a group of hams get together at Hayward Community Park, just south of the intersection of I-26 and I-77 in Calhoun County, to operate QRP and vintage radios. Elmers are there to give advice. POC: Richard Kline, KQ4AMK, 803-347-5566

Past Events:

Hunley Special Event: 15 February 2025, Fort Moultrie. POC: Steve Anderjack

- We have filters for 20 and 40 meters but there was bleed through on other bands. Jim Self was asked by Steve to buy filters for 10, 14 and 80 meters. Cost approx \$80/ea.
- Set-up was at 9:00am. Operation was from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Event was well attended. 182 contacts made on 40 and 20 meters. Logs have been uploaded on to QRZ. David Merritts will upload the logs to LoTW.

Technician Class: The class was held February 4, 6, 11 and 13 from 7-9 pm at the Dorchester EOC, 212 Deming Way, Summerville, SC on the following dates:

- All 6 attendees passed their license examination on February 13.
- Next class will be in May. The club will be asking for volunteers to help teach at least one class. ARRL slide set will be used. POC: Ron Davis.

Winter Field Day: 25 Jan 11 am to 26 Jan 2025 5 pm

- St John's Episcopal Church, 3673 Maybank Hwy, John's Island, SC.
- Setup started at 9 am. Operated on Saturday until 9 pm and reopened on Sunday 8:30 AM until 1 PM. The club provided pulled pork for the potluck dinner held on Saturday evening.
- We made 652 QSOs and scored more points than last year. David Merritts AE4ZR asked that we send him the logs so that he can respond to QSL requests on QRZ.

HamCation 2025 7-9 February 2025 (2nd weekend)

- Located at the Central Florida Fairgrounds and Expo Park in Orlando
- It is one of the world's largest hamfests, featuring over 150 commercial booths, 200+ swap tables, and a massive tailgate area. HamCation is a major event for amateur (ham) radio operators. Craig, Steve and Van attended.

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). Steve will schedule a welder to come to the trailer to make repairs. Chip Mack suggested installing hinge pins for easy removal of the tanks.
 - 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.
 - Need to wire in 110 VAC power for dehumidifier.
 - GPS repeater \$80 approved: Need to mount antenna on the roof upright.
 - Solar panels and charge controller have been mounted. Conduit has been run through the roof and the system has been wired into the trailer electrical system to keep the batteries topped off during field operations.
 - Replace emergency brake battery that needs to get charged while sitting parked as now it only get charged from the truck towing it. Mike Edwards suggest a small solar panel to be propped up on the tongue to charge the battery.

Education and Scholarship Committee:

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

- On January 8 and 9, TARC taught the students how a transistor can be used as a switch and RC time constants. This included each student building a flashing LED multi-vibrator circuit. The 7th and 8th graders learned how to solder components on to printed circuit boards (PCB), while the 5th and 6th graders used breadboards to build their kits.
- The Principal has requested another project before the end of the school year as this was so positive with the students. They would like us to teach them about Integrated Circuits and have them build a Siren Sound Generator on March 17 and 18, 9:00am to 11:00am. We have at 7 volunteers signed us for the breadboard class on the 17th and the PCB solder class on the 18th. Flux and solder wicks were procured for each station.

Scholarship Program: POC: Owen Trott, KF5BLK

- Owen presented a proposal regarding an overhaul of the TARC Scholarship Program to the Board at the 3 February 2025 board meeting.
- Owen has donated \$500 to the scholarship fund with hopes that members (not club funds) will add to that initial contribution to make a \$1000 scholarship award possible by next school year. There was discussion how to generate a revenue stream to continually fund the scholarship award program.
- Owen plans to talk to the PTAs in the tri-county area about program to gain interest, in addition to the Boy Scout Council and other youth groups.
- The TARC website information on the scholarship has been removed for now. Owen will get with Ron to revamp the page with new information.

WINLINK: WINLINK Tues Net. Prep for hurricane season. Contact Ron if interested. He has additional information on this. Ron K4TCP

Membership: POC Ron K4TCP

Current membership: 125 with 101 that are currently paid, which is an all-time high.

QSL: POC: Chris KC4NW reported that we received 3 new QSL cards including 2 QSL cards from NA1SS International Space Station for the N4EE ARISS contact made at Dorchester School on 2 Dec 2024. Steve Behr will frame the card both sides.

Programs: POC: Greg KB1AWN

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

Greg is looking for volunteers to present a relevant ham radio topic.

- Jan: DX Mission Report, Van N4VGE Well done! Thank you.
 - Other DX info [Rotuma DX-pedition 2024 | PIDXG - 3D2Z](#)
- Feb: Propagation information: solar cycle Greg KB1AWM
- March: Contact Logging Ron K4TCP
- April: View video of ARISS event pending Talent Release approval
- May: WINLINK Ron K4TCP
- June: Slim Jim J pole and antennas building. Making the antennas will occur on Saturday, June 28th during Summer Field Day. \$20 donation needed for materials. Ron will sent out a Survey Monkey to order the kits from Mike Edwards KJ4TAC.
- Radio activities: satellite
- Programing for Extras
- Computer Aided Transceiver (CAT) via YouTube

TREASURER: Jim KW4PW

South Carolina Federal Credit Union

- Total balance: \$7369
- Expenses: Approximately \$1,500/year. No unforeseen expenses beyond that.
- Expenses: \$250 paid out to church and \$102 for groceries for Winter Field Day. Expecting a \$145 trailer insurance bill from State Farm in January.
- Earnings:
 - Dues received: To date 101 are currently paid
- Social media: Website: Dream Host
 - Hosting due **1/20/26**.
 - Domain registration: \$17.99 yearly due **1/16/26**
- Raffle: Large Apache Radio box

NEW BUSINESS:

K4PSA Asset Disposition: Steve Behr reported that Palmetto Scholar Academy has no interest in resurrecting their ham radio club. Steve will talk to the new Vice Principal about transferring their equipment to club for educational use with other schools.

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 located at Glenn's WA4MNW property to augment the 610 repeater that Steve KO4AFL has running on his property. Glenn had an initial discussion with DART President, Beverly Boyd, on 20 November 2024. Noted: State looking to spend money on repeaters.

Joint Base Charleston Air Show: The membership confirmed Chip Mack's WB4ZVR request to set up the trailer to operate at the May 2026 airshow as it was well attended last year. This will be a good opportunity to promote our Scholarship program. We will need a daylight monitor.

Club POTA Events: Steve Anderjack reported at the 3 February 2005 Board meeting that there has been a request by the members to restart club-sponsored Parks-On-The-Air (POTA) activations for portable operations (no trailer) quarterly. David Merritts suggested March 8 at either Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site or Givens Ferry State Park with future events mid-month on a Saturday in May, July and October of this year.

General Information:

Repeaters: Status will be reported monthly. Nothing new to report.. POC: Bryce K4LXF

- See list on TARC website

Lending Library: POC Owen KF5BLK. TARC members are encouraged to bring books to the monthly meetings. We have 10 books so far. Books available will be listed on the TARC website. Check out is from one Membership meeting to the next, or Owen can be reached by email at owen.trott.landman@gmail.com to arrange a meeting to pick up a book, but it would still however be due at the following membership meeting.

Testing: POC: Testing is scheduled at 6:30pm the 3rd Wed of every month at the Hanahan Public Library, 1216 Old Murry Ct., Hanahan, SC 29410. One is schedule so far. Pre-register for the exam session at <https://hamstudy.org/sessions/glaarg>

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

Jim Wasson KO4MNB filling in for Renata Sierzega KQ4ASH Secretary