

Trident Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Membership Meeting Minutes Final

3/17/2025



President - Steve Anderjack, KO4AFL

Vice President - TW Kirkpatrick, KF4CQH

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

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:** 8:00PM

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 Weekend: 7 Jun 2025 (Saturday only).

David will be setting up a ham radio station from 9:00am to 2:00pm for all to operate at the boat landing across from the Hunley Museum at 1250 Supply Street in Charleston. There will also be a W2ZED Battle of the Midway Special Event that weekend. 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. See Mike Edwards KJ4TAC to register for a Slim Jim J pole antenna building class. \$20 donation is needed for materials. POCs: Ron Davis and John Satterfield.

SC First Robotics: 21-22 March. North Charleston Athletic Center, 5794 Casper Padgett Way, N. Charleston 29406. 40 teams compete with large (up to 115 pounds) and fast 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. We are 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:

General Class: 15-16 Mar 2025. Ralph H Johnson VA Medical Center, 109 Bee St, Charleston 29401. Class Sat 8-4 and Sunday 8-12. General Exam Sunday afternoon. All five technicians passed the license exam. POC: Rick Valentine N8BKN

Club Parks-On-The-Air (POTA) Event: 8 Mar 2025. 9am to 2pm. Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site, 300 State Park Road, Summerville, SC 29485. There were 4 stations up and running with 2 to 3 operators at any given time working 40, 20, 17, 15, 10 and 2 meters. The new filter kits the club bought worked great. POC: Dave Merritts AE4ZR

Overland South: 6-9 Mar 2025. Woodlands Nature Reserve, 4279 Ashley River Road, 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, 7 March. Not a TARC club sponsored event. POC: Rich Lorenzo K4ZRL

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.
 - Replaced emergency brake battery. Both that battery and the GPS tracker battery needs to get charged while sitting parked as now it only get charged from the truck towing it. Jim KO4MNB donated a small solar panel to be propped up on the tongue to charge the battery. Need to install posts on the battery box to attach the alligator clamps from the solar panel.

Education and Scholarship Committee:

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

- On 17-18 March, ten TARC Volunteers helped 20 middle school students build Siren Sound Generator kits (oscillator circuit) to marry up with the LED Flashing Light kits (multi-vibrator circuit) that we helped them build on 8-9 January. A DIP switch selected a program on the IC for either a police siren, fire engine, ambulance or a phaser gun.
- The 7th and 8th graders learned how to solder components on to printed circuit boards (PCB), while the 5th and 6th graders used breadboards designed by K4OPZ to build their kits. The school paid for the siren kits and TARC provided the soldering stations.
- Please visit "Latest News" on the TARC website to watch the school video.

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: Ham radio operators who want to check into the Tuesday 8:00pm VHF Net via WINLINK should send an e-mail to TARCNET@WINLINK.ORG before 7:00pm on Tuesday. POC: Ron K4TCP

Membership: POC Ron K4TCP

Current membership: 104 members, all currently paid.

QSL: Chris reported that we received 5 new QSL cards including one from M0CQL, dated 5 March 14:26 UTC on 14.203 MHz, which he cannot verify in our logs – it will be noted as unconfirmed. Regarding the 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 on both sides. Steve said he is waiting to hear back from Patricia Ferguson, SC DEW, as to if they will donate an engraved placard to place on the frame. POC: Chris KC4NW

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: N3FJP Field Day Contact Logging Ron K4TCP
- April: View video of ARISS event Rich Lorenzo K4ZRL
- May: Set-up and operation of headsets in trailer. Soldering headset adapters will occur on Summer Field Day. Steve KO4AFL
- June: Slim Jim J-pole antennas building. Making the antennas will occur on Summer Field Day.

- July: WINLINK. Ron K4TCP
- Radio activities: satellite
- Programing for Extras
- Computer Aided Transceiver (CAT) via YouTube

TREASURER: Jim KW4PW

South Carolina Federal Credit Union

- Total balance: \$6,945 (does not include \$473 for insurance bill just received)
- Expenses: Approximately \$1,500/year. No unforeseen expenses beyond that.
- Expecting a \$145 trailer insurance bill from State Farm.
- Earnings:
 - Dues received: To date 104 are currently paid
- Social media: Website: Dream Host
 - Hosting due every January.
 - Domain registration: \$17.99 yearly due every January
- Raffle: Large Apache Radio box

NEW BUSINESS:

Summer Field Day: 28-29 June 2025. There was a discussion about scheduling a special CW session for late night operation. We would need a board member present to secure the generators and lock up the trailer when the session is completed.

K4PSA Asset Disposition: Steve Behr reported that Palmetto Scholar Academy has no interest in resurrecting their ham radio club. Steve called the new Vice Principal to ask him about transferring their equipment to the club for educational use with other schools, but he hasn't yet returned the call. PSA has lost the antenna, feed line and a power supply.

Dorchester EOC: The state is looking to spend money on repeaters. As such, 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 WA4MNV 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 Nov 2024. Steve KO4AFL will talk to Justin Newman about the Hurricane Expo to get people to sign up for the technician class the first week of May, and will use this opportunity to discuss repeaters as well.

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. Chip will confirm that the airshow is still on. We would prefer the tarmac location we had last year as that is where the traffic is, rather than be in the hanger where the STEM displays will be.

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. This is an opportunity for ham operators, and those studying for their license, to come out to the park to learn how to conduct portable operations by setting up antennas and making contacts using battery power. The first event of the year was held on March 8 at Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site with future events mid-month on a Saturday in May, June/July and October of this year.

General Information:

Repeaters: Bryce said the 27 machine announcement is back up. If it loses power it will continue to keep time. See repeater list on TARC website. POC: Bryce K4LXF

Lending Library: POC Owen KF5BLK. TARC members are encouraged to bring books to the monthly meetings. We have 10 books so far. Owen will give Ron the list of books available for publication 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 be due at the following membership meeting.

Testing: POC: Steve KO4AFL. Testing is scheduled at 6:30pm the 3rd Wed of every month at the Hanahan Public Library, 1216 Old Murry Ct., Hanahan, SC 29410. We have two applicants thus 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