



**In this issue:**

Presidents Corner .....	1
Meeting Minutes .....	2
Club Officers .....	2
Club Repeaters .....	3
Hamfests.....	3
2015 Budget.....	3
Club Dues.....	3



**The President's Corner:**

*Van N4ERM*

First of all, a BIG Thanks to **Dale AK4YS** for his four years at the helm of CFARS. He accomplished a lot during his tenure. CFARS is all the stronger for his leadership. Of course Dale didn't do it all by himself. Special thanks go to **Tripp KJ4BKD** and **Bill N3GTY** for their stalwart support.

This will be my fourth time as President having served in the 1980's, 1990's and now the 21st century. After all this time, let's see if I'm able to get it right!

This is the 45th anniversary of our affiliate charter from the ARRL. The actual date is September 28, 1970. What say we make a fuss over the anniversary with a one-by-one call sign, weekend field event and/or celebratory dinner? Anyone want to play? Any other ideas?

The North Carolina QSO Party takes place 1 March 2015. CFARS has taken first place in the club category for the past two years. Let's make this year number three and continue the winning streak. We've already reserved two cabins at Smith Lake for the QSO Party weekend. **Dale AK4YS**, **Dan KW4BG** and **Van KG6HYJ** have been working on identifying and fielding a CFARS Club HF "GO" Radio for use in this sort of activity, for Field Day and any potential CFARS deployment. The current "GO" radio includes auto antenna tuning, voice keying and power supply. Antennas are the next item of interest.

We've got some members who really fall into my "New Hero" category. Let me mention a couple. **Chuck AE4FZ** is a dedicated SOTA (Summits on the Air) Chaser and Activator. An Activator is one who climbs to the top of a SOTA mountain with his radio gear, sets it up and makes at least four contacts for the effort to count as an activation. Points are gained according to the difficulty of the mountain. Chasers are Hams who make contact with Activators in order to gain Chaser points. During the first week of December, Chuck activated six Tennessee and North Carolina mountains.

Sometime ago I mentioned I thought digital voice would be the coming thing on HF radio. It would be a great thing to investigate. **Dan KW4BG** took the challenge. Dan is the first member of CFARS to make a digital voice contact on HF on December 21st. His contact was made on 14.236 with **Dwight WB9TLH**. I was running about 20 watts. Digital voice is like digital tv, it either works or it doesn't.

By the time you read this, we will be well into the new year. Best wishes to you all for health and happiness in 2015!

**73 de Van N4ERM**

CFARS Officers

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## December 2014 Club Meeting Minutes

On December 12th the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by **Dale AK4YS**. **Dale AK4YS** led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Elton W4VGW** led the invocation. **Dale AK4YS** led the introductions in the normal CFARS style.

A motion was made by **Jim KI4YRH**, seconded by **Gene N4ANV**, to approve the minutes of the November meeting. By vote the motion carried. **Dale AK4KS** welcomed **Blair** and **Kaylee Brown** (new hams). He mentioned the free 1 year membership was theirs if they wanted it.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Treasurer: Chuck KJ4RV** gave the treasurers report. With income from club dues we are still solvent. We had no outgoing funds this past month.

**Repeater: Bill KU4W** told the club the repeaters are working as usual but are a bit temperamental at times.

**Net Manager: Chuck, KJ4RV** gave the net report. Net time and traffic are down a bit from November. Due to Christmas and family activities this is to be expected. Total check-in's - 331 (11.3/net). Total time - 532 minutes (17.7/net). **Dale AK4YS** mentioned the Possum Trot CW net on Sunday evenings.

**Membership: David KR4OE** told the club the year is ending. 2015 club dues are due. If you want to vote on club business you must be a paid member.

Photos were taken of the Outgoing and Incoming Officers. **Dale AK4YS** gave a warm welcome to the new President **Van N4ERM** and new Recorder **Bill KJ4OFD**. **Dale** wished everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. **David KR4OE** thanked everyone that donated door prizes throughout the year and making this Christmas raffle a success. The following prizes were won; **Chuck KJ4RV** Kenwood TM-281 2 meter mobile radio, **Larry KI4DQF** Pofung handy talkie, **Trip KJ4BKD** a Pofung handy talkie, **Bill KU4W** soldering station and MFJ speaker, **Bill KJ4OFD** a soldering station.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



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### Newsletter Submissions

Please submit any items you would like published in the CFARS Newsletter to Mike KN4XP

**Cfars\_newsletter@yahoo.com**

**Upcoming Hamfests**

- January 10 Winston Salem Hamfest
- February 7 Richmond Frostfest  
Richmond, Virginia
- March 13 Charlotte Hamfest
- March 21 Charleston, SC Hamfest
- April 4 Rarsfest  
Raleigh, North Carolina

**2015 CFARS Budget**

Thanks to **Chuck KJ4RV**, our Secretary/Treasurer, Vice-President **Dale AK4YS** and our “kitchen cabinet” (the Saturday morning K & W crew), we’ve been able to develop a proposed annual budget for 2015 of \$3,000.00. This is inline with our expenses for the past several years. Details of the analysis and proposed budget will not be published here, but are available from any of the CFARS Officers.

One a more sensitive subject: Our revenue from annual dues is less than \$1,000.00. CFARS relies on the generosity of its members and estate sales from Silent Key members for the bulk of its income.

**Club Repeaters**

(PL 100 Hz)

**K4MN**

2 m 146.910/146.310  
70 cm 444.400/449.400

**K4MN**

6 m 53.810/52.810

**WA4FLR**

2 m 147.330/147.930

**Club Membership Dues**

It’s that time of year once again. CFARS club membership dues are due and payable in January each year. CFARS does offer you the option to pay your dues no later than March.

Yearly dues are \$15.00. CFARS offers a lifetime membership option for \$150.00.

If your dues are not paid by March you will not be a voting member of the club. The newsletter is part of your club membership. The right to vote on issues for the club also comes with membership. Club dues can be paid at any regular club meeting. We currently have ninety-eight (98) club members.

Don’t forget to pay your club dues at the next meeting! CFARS needs you.



CFARS Club Patches are available for purchase. Contact Kelly N4EWG for you patch today!

**THE CFARS NEWS IS NOW PUBLISHED AS A PDF DOCUMENT OBTAINABLE ON THE CLUB'S WEB SITE AT [WWW.CFARSN.C.ORG/NEWS.PHP](http://WWW.CFARSN.C.ORG/NEWS.PHP)**