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The President's Corner: Van N4ERM

Meeting Minutes

Make sure you read the meeting minutes in each monthly issue. Our Recorder, Bill KJ4OFD does a super job of capturing what took place at our monthly meetings.... Even captures much of the humor that takes place! A lot was accomplished at the last couple of meetings, and lots more is in the works.

Net Participation

Those of us who monitor our local repeaters and check into our local nets can tell that repeater activity and net participation are low. Maybe it's just a seasonal thing. Marty KD4YQE and Leighton KN4ZZ have ideas on how to increase participation. Be sure to check out Joe's W4NSU list of local 2-meter nets elsewhere in this issue. I love his definition of **Rag Chewers**: "*Purveyors of fine conversation!*"

Benson JARSFEST

The Johnston (County) Amateur Radio Society Hamfest (or JARSFest) is on Sunday, 15 November 2015. CFARS has reserved two tables inside the building. If you've got ham stuff you'd like to exchange for cash or other ham stuff, feel free to bring the stuff to our tables.

Nominations/Elections

Time has come to make your nominations for the CFARS officers for 2016. The Council of Past CFARS Presidents meets each Saturday during breakfast at the K&W Cafeteria to nominate a slate of officers. If you wish to run for office or to proffer a nomination, give it to one of the past presidents. Elections will be during the November CFARS meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

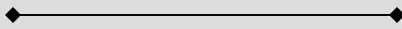
Annual Show and Tell Event

This annual event will be held during the November meeting. If you've discovered something new, built something clever, or bought and tried something neat that you'd like to share with the group, bring it to November's meeting. We'd love to see your antennas, power supplies, transceivers and ancillary equipment at *Show and Tell*.

73 de Van N4ERM

CFARS Officers

President Van, N4ERM n4erm@arrl.net
 Vice Pres.....Dale, AK4YS dale.mohr@yahoo.com
 Sec./Treas..... Chuck, KJ4RV kj4rv@arrl.net
 Recorder.....Bill, KJ4OFD kj4ofd@arrl.net
 Newsletter Editor...Mike KN4XP kn4xp@yahoo.com



Coordinators

Membership.....David, KR4OE kr4oe@nc.rr.com
 Net Manager.....Chuck, KJ4RV kj4rv@arrl.net
 EmergencyVACANT
 Information.....Kelly, N4EWG n4ewg@nc.rr.com
 Repeaters.....Bill, KU4W kc4swy@embarqmail.com
 Sky Warn.....Jim, KI4YRH ki4yrh@aol.com
 Field Day.....Dale, AK4YS dale.mohr@yahoo.com
 Health & Welfare...Mya, mya@embarqmail.com
 VEC..Pat, N4UGH n4ughpat@aol.com
 SwapfestDavid, KR4OE kr4oe@nc.rr.com
 ARRL Bulletins....Irv, K3IRV irv47mc@gmail.com
 Webmaster.....Reggie KK4NJC, info@neondawg.com

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

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.



The **CFARS NEWS** is published monthly by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 36106, Fayetteville, NC 28303

Cfars_newsletter@yahoo.com

THE CFARS NEWS IS NOW PUBLISHED AS A PDF DOCUMENT OBTAINABLE ON THE CLUB'S WEB SITE AT WWW.CFARSN.C.ORG/NEWS.PHP

CFARS Club Patches are available for purchase. Contact **Chuck KJ4RV** for your patch today!



October 2015 Club Meeting Minutes

On October 19th the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by **Van N4ERM**. The meeting was held in Room 219 of the Science Building at Methodist University. **Van N4ERM** led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Elton W4GWV** led the invocation. **Van N4ERM** led the introductions in the normal CFARS style.

A motion was made by **Marty KD4YQE**, seconded by **Pat N4UGH**, to approve the minutes of the last meeting with the corrections and **Kelly N4EWG** call sign correction. By vote the motion carried.



COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: **Chuck KJ4RV** gave the treasurer's report. The club is still solvent.

Repeater: **Bill KU4W** told the club the repeaters were operational. Possum Trot Chapter of 10-10 International had come in 1st Place in the Spring Digital Contest. A certificate was presented to the club. **Chuck KJ4RV** placed #2 in the world. The next 10-10 contest will be held in August.

Net Manager: **Chuck KJ4RV** gave the Net Manager's report. He reminded all that these were our repeaters and everyone should use them. The *Possum Trot* net runs Monday - Friday mornings from 5:30ish to 7:00 am. The evening net was every evening Sunday - Saturday at 7:00 pm local time. There was some discussion about how to make the nets longer and more interesting, ways to make the new folks feel welcome. **Kelly K4EWG** reminded us he needs a Net Control for Tuesday mornings. **Leighton KN4ZZ** and **Marty KD4YQE** volunteered as a committee to find ways to reformat the way nets were run and different formats for the nets. **John N4RDU** volunteered to get together a list of the various nets in the area and to put them out for the next meeting.

Membership: **David KR4OE** presented Life Memberships to **Charlotte KI4EZK** and **Shawn K1RZZ**. **Darren KM4ODS** and **Ben KM4ODT** received regular memberships.

Health & Welfare: **Pat N4UGH's** house was hit by lightning and there was extensive damage to the ceiling and water damage to most of the house. She hopes to be back in the house in December.

Swapfest: **David KR4OE** said the Swap Fest will be held at the Cumberland County Shrine Club on August 13, 2016. **Pat N4UGH** will make the necessary notifications for the VE Testing sessions.

VE Testing: **Pat N4UGH** spoke of the last VE testing session two people tested and two people got their license. Both joined CFARS. In fact it was **Ben KM4ODT** who saved our monthly program by volunteering his laptop for **Joe W4NSU** to use for his presentation. Thanks, Ben!

Public Relations: No report.

Field Day: **Dale AK4YS** will be stepping away as Field Day Coordinator and **Bob WA4WHV** will be taking his spot. Thanks Dale and Good Luck Bob.

Old Business: JOTA was cancelled this year due to a lack of scout participation. The Club had a fine showing. **Kelly N4EWG** needs a Tuesday morning Possum Trot Net control. **Chuck KJ4RV** has need of a pocket spare CFARS Evening Net controller. **Van N4ERM** thanked **Jackie KJ4XK** for her contributions and the club now has a 40' push up pole for an antenna. Hex Beam antennas were discussed briefly and tabled until next month's meeting. The NC QSO party was discussed. There were some changes to the rules... More at our next meeting.

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The NC QSO party Canada Award in honor of Canadian citizen and CFARS member **Fred New KN4SS (SK)** was discussed. A motion was made by **Bonnie KF4LVF**, seconded by **Pat N4UGH** the club allocate \$50 for the award. By vote the motion carried.

Van N4ERM mentioned that the club recently came into possession of a trailer mounted electric crank up tower and that it was in need of some TLC to get it into shape. **Bill KJ4OFD** gave an update on what would be needed to make the tower usable and the trailer road-worthy. **Leighton KN4ZZ** made a motion, seconded by **Kelly N4EWG**, for the club to allocate not more than \$1500 to get the trailer/tower into working status. By vote the motion carried. **Kelly N4EWG** said he would donate \$100 toward the repairs. The tower is currently parked at the Cumberland County Shrine Club. **Gene N4ANV** spoke about labels for magazines and other ideas for getting Ham Radio to the attention of the public. The labels can be stuck over the mailing labels of our magazines etc, and with the permission of the owners dropped off in Dentist & Doctors offices, Beauty (boy, do some of us need help there...) and Barber shops, libraries, etc. Kudos go to **Bill KU4W** for the idea and to **Gene N4ANV** for seeing it through to completion. Updated labels will be available at next month's meeting.

New Business: **Chuck KJ4RV** mentioned the *10-10 Sprint* contest only took ½ weekend. He mentioned dxmaps.com and dx cluster and reverse beacon networks to help out during the contest to see where you are propagating. Eating Meeting – **Jim KI4YRH** was missing but is making arrangements for the Western Sizzlin' for this year's Eatin' Meetin'. **Kelly N4EWG** will head a posse of Past Presidents to nominate officers for next year's slate of officers. Names will be bandied about at breakfast.

PROGRAM: **Joe W3NSU** gave an interesting and informative presentation on Operations for New Hams dealing with the various modes of operations, contesting, rag chewing, emergencies, etc. that are of interest to new hams.

Door Prize: **David KR4OE** held the Door Prize Drawing. An ARRL coffee mug was won by **John N4RDU**, a \$10 gift certificate was won by **Steve KA4CZL** and **Ferguson KK4MCY** won a multi-meter. Thanks to **Elton W4WHV** for donating the coffee mug.

A motion was made by **Kelly N4EWG**, seconded by **Van N4ERM**, to adjourn the meeting. By vote the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. Our next meeting will on November 16th!



Facebook and Your Call Sign

Chances are you have a Facebook account. There are many reasons people like Facebook, to keep up with old friends, hobbies, family and class reunions. CFARS has its own Facebook page. You can list as little or as much information about yourself. Sometimes less can be better. If you are an amateur radio operator (HAM) most people may know you by your call sign. Is there a way to add your call sign to your Profile? It turns out it is an easy addition.

To Add Your Call Sign...
Go to your Profile
Click About...Details About You
Under Other Names...Click add a Nickname
Name Type...Other
Enter Your Call Sign
Click Show at the top of the profile

Be sure to save changes. Now when you go to your own page you will see your call sign beside your name.

Joe W3NSU was asked during his October program to list some of the area nets. Here's his initial listing:

Our own CFARS has one official net and hosts an additional net on the K4MN 146.91- (100Hz) repeater:

- CFARS 2-meter evening net - - Nightly @ 7:00pm
- Possum Trot Net - - Weekdays from ~ 5:30am to 7:00am
- And don't forget the ADY (Ain't Dead Yet!) Net - - Weekdays from 8:10am to 8:30am

The Johnson County Amateur Radio (147.27 MHz) club has:

- Every Night @ 8:30pm - Jars Net - Nightly Rag-Chew
- Every Tuesday Night @ 9pm - Jars Preparedness Net
- Every Wednesday Night @ 9pm - JARS Trader's Net

The South Wake ARC sponsors several nets on the K4ITL 145.21- (82.5 Hz) repeater.

- The **Nightly 2m Rag Chew Net** nightly at 7:30pm
- The **Traders Net** on the second through the last Tuesday of each month at 8pm
- The **Tech Net** on the first Tuesday of each month at 8pm.

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society (RARS) nets are on 146.64 mhz.

- RARS 2-meter Evening Net- every evening at 8:00 p.m. On Saturday this net is a Tech and Trader's net.
- Apex ERC Net - - Sunday at 9:00 p.m.
- RARS also sponsors a weekly news broadcast – RARS Amateur Radio News Hour - -Sunday Evenings following the 8:00 net.

The Southeastern NC Traffic Net (<http://www.senctn.org/>) operates over the W4LBT repeaters, 147.045 and 147.360 MHz,(+ pl tone 82.5), to pass traffic, provide communications during emergencies, provide training in all aspects of net operations; serve as a forum for discussion and to foster fellowship among radio amateurs. They meet 7 nights per week on the 147.045 MHz 2-meter repeater, W4LBT or on the backup repeater, 147.360 MHz, both in Lumberton at 8:00 pm local time.

Steve KI4EZL added some quick click bookmarks that he uses on his computer to help with his Ham Radio hobby. If you don't have these bookmarks on your computer, you should. Then check out how each of them can help you in this great hobby.

<http://www.voacap.com/prediction.html>
<http://www.reversebeacon.net/index.php>
<http://www.dxmaps.com/spots/map.php?Lan=E&Frec=7&ML=M&Map=W2LN&DXC=N&HF=S&GL=N>
<http://www.obriensweb.com/sked/>
<http://hamspots.net/40-30-20/>
<http://www.dxsummit.fi/#/>
<http://www.qrparci.org>
<http://www.fistsna.org>
<http://www.fpqrp.org>
<http://naqcc.info>
<http://www.skccgroup.com>



2015 Field Day Results...

(CFARS participated in Field Day in the 2A Class)

Nationwide	84th out of 384 entries
Roanoke District	7th out of 33 entries
North Carolina	2nd out of 16 entries

Way to go CFARS!!! Field Day is over for 2015.
 Let's start thinking about our effort for
 Field Day 2016.

A Look Back to Field Day 2001



