



CFARS Officers	3
Repeaters	3
Minutes	4
CFARS Nets	6
CFARS VE Testing	6
Upcoming Hamfests	6
Parks on the Air	7
Contest Corner - Field Day	8
CFARS Swapfest	14

The President's Corner: Ron K4FET

It seems like the Newsletters start where the previous monthly meetings end. Reminds me of a dog chasing his tail, but with patience from the editor, Mike, KN4XP, we manage to get it out in a relatively timely fashion. It seems I am the last person to cross the finish line with my input. I would like to think that will improve but no promises.

At the last meeting we watched three new Life Members and one regular member voted in. There were also a plethora of new members who weren't present to get their packets. I guess that begs the question WHY... I guess there are things we will never understand. Overall our membership is trending up and that is a good thing. And really guys annual membership fees equate to the price of one breakfast.

We had the opportunity to meet David, KM4USW, the new Emergency Coordinator. He briefed us on the upcoming shelter tests, to be conducted on 3 August at 9:30 am. The ultimate goal is to get as many people as possible in line with the required FEMA courses to bring us in conformance with the guidance from AUXCOMM.

The coordinators attendance or written reports are pretty well in compliance with the guidelines. Try as I may there is a reluctance on the part of some to acknowledge the fact they are coordinators. I am weighing options to these. I realize these are volunteer positions as I have stated on previous occasions. It is also my belief that there are others who would be willing to fill the positions. This shouldn't be an issue, but rest assured I will make it one if need be!

The heat of summer is advancing in full scale it seems, but that doesn't appear to be a major issue to the growing contingent of the club participating in POTA, Parks On The Air, a fun way to practice/apply our skills as Amateur Radio Operators which can be accomplished individually or as a group. Try it, it may open up a new avenue to you.

I would be remiss if I didn't express my appreciation and gratitude to all who assisted in the erection of my latest tower and antenna. This operation started on 2 February of this year and was completed on the 19th of June. Granted most of that time was spent waiting for materials and components. The actual antenna didn't arrive until 4 May, in more pieces than I ever imagined. I consulted with Chuck, KJ4RV, on more than one occasion for guidance and picking his brain, as my self appointed Elmer. I wound up setting up a production line concept to build it, just in time to disassemble most of the components on the day before we reassembled it and raised it. It took just a shade more than 90 minutes to assemble and raise it. It went off without a flaw! Again, thanks guys.

(Continued on Page 2)

President's Message (Continued)

(Continued from Page 1)

Field Day Observations

Statistically, this was one of the most successful Field Days CFARS has participated in. However, when you peel the onion back, the Devil is in the details. Realize I spent most of my time in the CW tent, so it may appear I am overly critical of that section. Not so, it is where most of my observations took place. I am sure other sites had their problems.

Participation: Attendance was disappointing, there were a lot of new members that we expected to show up that did not, as well as a number of the older members didn't show. I may be old fashioned, but I believe that when you are a member of a club, that really only has one major function a year, you should make every possible effort to support the club in that endeavor. I must ponder when a member makes plans that excludes their participation. Hey guys, Field Day happens every year at the same time. It shouldn't be too difficult to plan around it. Nuff said!

Operationally: Realize I am a neophyte when it comes to setting up a Field Day site but I do have a modicum of common sense. The recommendations I am offering are based on my observations and past experience setting up major base stations in the Army.

I believe that we need a larger footprint for the Field Day deployment. I feel we need to open up more to minimize the inter station sound distractions. I realize it is one of those things that we have "always done that way" but that doesn't mean we have always been right. Maybe if we had a "Field Day Committee" they could scout around for several optional sites ahead of time, as well as address several of the problems that that tend to sneak in at the last moment. The generators should be set up with provisions for a shroud to minimize the sound impacting on the operational area. Maybe a set up rehearsal by discipline, SSB, CW, GOTA, to ensure everything needed is packed, checked out, and ready to go. Evaluate what is necessary, and what is fluff. I realize that in the case of the CW section, (which is where I spent most of my time) each operator wants his own key/ set of paddles, but they should be checked out ahead of time for compatibility with the rest of the components prior to actual set up. Cabling appeared to be more of a problem than it should have been.

Logistics: Each section needs to have a complete list of what is needed to operate. This ranges from radio equipment, to computers and monitors, to basic supplies such as pens, pencils, note pads, and considering a portion of every Field Day is in the dark, lighting should be a major consideration. It is a lot easier to plan for these scenarios than to jump through hoops at the last minute.

Antennas: Do we really know what the actual rules say about the timing of setting up and hooking up antennas? I feel we are playing by antiquated rules when it comes to the timing, and in fact, hooking up our antennas. Check the rules. The Hex Beam should be fully wired. The back side of each band serves as a reflector. I shudder every time I watch the mounting of the CW stations beam. I bet there is a safer way to do it.

In Closing: More detailed planning, pre-packing, try to locate a couple of different locations, consider having a Field Day Committee with one overall director.

Remember: Although I can be a horses butt, in spite of this critique I fully realize, CFARS excelled operationally!

Ron Dahle K4FET
CFARS President

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The Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society News is the official newsletter of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society. It is published monthly as a PDF. The newsletter is emailed monthly when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Newsletter Editor. The CFARS News welcomes articles and other contributions. **Please email submissions to the newsletter to cfarsnews@gmail.com.** The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's News is the last Friday of the preceding month. The views expressed in the CFARS News are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or CFARS.

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 right to vote on issues for the club comes with club membership. PO Box 36106, Fayetteville, NC 28303



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



June 2021 Club Meeting Minutes

The June Monthly Meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at Peace Presbyterian Church at 3203 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC on Monday evening, June 21, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. We had 35 members and guests present.

President Ron K4FET welcomed all for coming and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country. Perry N4LBB gave the invocation. Ron K4FET led the introductions in the usual CFARS Fashion.



Ron K4FET asked if all had the opportunity to read the minutes of the last meeting. Mike KN4XP and George KM4ODS moved to accept the minutes as published and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Chuck KJ4RVV gave the Treasurer's Report. We had money, we made money, we spent money, we have money remaining. The Club is solvent.

Net Manager: Chuck KJ4RV gave the Net Manager report:

April 814 check-ins	May 880 check-ins
April 29 traffic	May 30 traffic
April 1165 minutes	May 1212 minutes
April 28.4 avg min	May 39.1 avg minutes

Health & Welfare: No report.

Repeater: Mike N4JWX was not present to give **Repeater report** – repeaters are working fine.

Membership: Chuck KJ4RV and Ron K4FET presented Life Membership packets to David KO4PPQ, Travis KM4JJJ and Jeremy KE4JUY and Rick N1GNF was read as a new member. They introduced themselves, then Jim KI4YRH and Ed N4ESA moved to accept them as members and the motion carried.

Field Day: Ron K4FET reminded all of **Field Day** on June 25, 26, and 27 at Methodist University. He asked all who could to meet at the storage building at 9:00 am Friday to load trucks and trailers and we could begin setting up Friday @ 12:00 at Methodist University from there. We will be setting up the stations on Saturday June 26 after breakfast. Methodist will open the gates at 7:00 am Saturday. George KM4ODS will send an email to all regarding who/what/where and when. Satellite communication, specifically the ISS will be able to be used as a repeater for the event. Dale AK4YS will provide food for the event (burgers, hot dogs and the like) as well as a grill. George KM4ODS moved that Dale AK4YS be reimbursed by the club for the cost of food and supplies and the motion carried.

Swapfest: David KI4W sent an email reminding all of the **Swapfest** at the Cumberland County Shrine Club in August, and we have two vendors committed to coming, and that table regenerations were still available.

(Continued on Page 5)

(Continued from Page 3)

Emergency Coordinator: David KM4USW gave the Emergency Coordinator report. He is putting together a group for the shelters. All volunteers need to complete the 4 required FEMA courses to comply with current guidelines for AUXCOMM. We will be holding Shelter Checks on August 3 at 9:30 am. Anyone who can come out to make the checks. Times and places will be published via email.

Public Relations: Marty W4MLW our **Public Relations** person said he had updated the repeater announcement for the meeting and reminders for Field Day.

Advertising: Marty W4MLW is looking at the Spectrum Community Calendar for ad space for the club.

Newsletter: Mike KN4XP welcomes any input for the newsletter. If you are not receiving the newsletter contact him at cfarsnews@gmail.com with your call sign and email address.

Website: Steve KI4EZL was not present for the **web manager report**, but the website is alive and doing well, looks good at <https://www.cfarsnc.org> He welcomes any input, photos, articles, etc. for inclusion in the website.

Possum Trot Net: Ron K4FET reported that **Possum Trot** check-ins have steadied out at @ 50 check-ins per net. George KM4ODS reminded all of weekly 10-10 Possum Trot Chapter nets. The CW net is on Tuesday evening at 20:00 local at 28.150, and the SSB net is Wednesday evening at 28.345 MHZ. Join us on the nets if you can participate. He said we won the Spring CW contest and presented awards for the members who placed in the contest.

Old Business: Fred N4ZCB brought a KD1JV code trainer and a Morse tuner. Check them out after the meeting.

New Business: David KM4USW informed us of Shelter Checks on August 3 at 9:30 am.

Announcements: Marty W4MLW reminded all that the Shelby Hamfest is a go on Labor Day Weekend, and will not be able to attend and asked anyone who could to take the CFARS materials to Shelby and sell the material.

Door Prize Drawing: Marty W4MLW and Linda KE4BGW pulled tickets for the following prizes: a Baofeng UU5R HT donated by CFARS went to Laird WA2COU, an ASTATIC speaker donated by CFARS went to Mike KI4UHI, a large Main Trading Company T-shirt donated by CFARS went to David KO4PPQ, a box of solder connectors donated by Marty W4MLW went to Will KN4OTA, a set of hand-made cloths crafted by Linda KE4BGW went to ?, a 12V gel cell battery donated by Ron KD4QMS went to N1GNF, a mystery gift presented by Jim KO4INQ went to Doug WA4CW (chick-fil-a gift card), a mystery give presented by JIM KO4INQ went to Billie W4IKS (Mission BBQ gift card) a weather-proof enclosure donated by Mitch KN4ONH went to Steve W4SMD, a set of stereo speakers donated by Ben KM4ODT went to Ron K4FET, a backpack donated by Ben KM4ODT went to Ferguson KK4MCY, a wireless computer mouse donated by Ben KM4ODT went to Will KN4OTA.

Come out and do what you can. Jim KI4YRH and Ferguson KK4MCY moved to close the meeting. Ron F4FET closed the meeting at 8:45 pm. There were thirty-three (33) members and three (3) visitors in attendance for the meeting.

Submitted:
Bill KJ4OFD

CFARS Reoccurring Nets

Net	Day (s)	Time Local	Band / Frequency
Evening Net	Daily	1900	146.910 Repeater
Possum Trot	M-F	0500-0700	146.910 Repeater
ADY Net	M-F	0810	SSB 3.852
CW Fix Net	Tues/Thurs	0730	CW 3.555
PTN 10-10	Tues	2000	CW 28.150
PTN 10-10	Wed	2000	SSB 28.345
DMR Net	Sunday	2000	TGIF 910 Talk-group



Upcoming Hamfests

July 24
WCARS Hamfest
 Waynesville, NC

August 14
CFARS Swapfest
 Fayetteville, NC
cfarsnc.org

September 3
Shelby Hamfest
 Shelby, NC
shelbyhamfest.org

October 16
W4NC Fallfest
 Winston-Salem, NC
w4nc.com

CFARS VE Testing

The CFARS VE team will offer VE Testing in 2021.

Testing will be held at the following location:

Cumberland County Shrine Club
 7040 Ramsey Street (US Hwy 401 N)
 Fayetteville, NC 28311-9322

Testing Dates

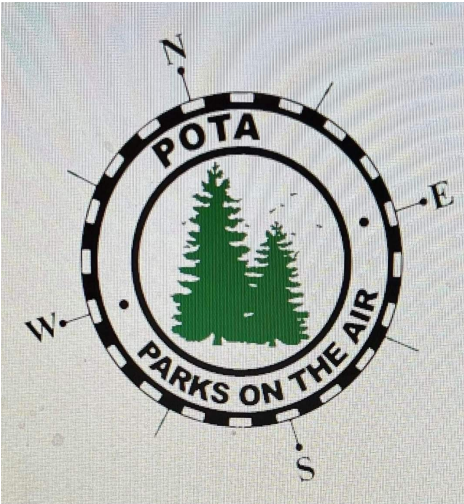
August 14th
 October 9th

Please note that if anyone wants to test, they will need to get a FRN number first.

REMINDER: Exam Candidates are REQUIRED to register in the FCC CORES system and receive a Federal Registration Number (FRN) before exam day. Direct candidates to the FCC CORES User Account and Registration page: <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/user>

Parks on the Air (POTA)

**By
Mike KN4XP**



Are you looking for an exciting challenge in amateur radio? If so, look no further than Parks on the Air. Some may ask just exactly what is this Parks on the Air. Some may have already heard of it. So many questions may come to mind? What does it cost? What equipment do I need? Where and how do I participate?

Parks on the Air is a challenge to work parks across the United States, Canada and several other countries. You can work the parks in several different ways. Depending on your license class and preferred operating mode you may have everything you need to get started.

If you hold a general, advanced or extra class license you already know the world is open to you. There are so many different activities in amateur radio that no one can be proficient in all of the areas. So pick out your mode of operation whether it be ssb, cw or

digital. Get ready for a fun time on the air.

Let's discuss parks in this program. Not every park is eligible to be included in Parks on the Air. For a park to be considered it must not be a private park. It must be one of the following a state park, a federal (national) park, state game lands, state forest or a national trail. You must be able to gain access to the park by a public access road. You can't just go out to a local park, usually owned by a city or county, to activate it for credit in the program.

So just how do you get involved in Parks on the Air? First thing you need to do is go to parksontheair.com. You will need to create an account, which is free. There are some rules that you must follow. Give it a little bit of time and your account will be approved. The reason for the account is so you will get credit for the parks you work. On the website you will find a frequently asked question tab. It has a lot of good information to help you out.

There are different ways to participate, either as a hunter or an activator. Let's do some operating as a hunter to get the hang of working parks. Sometimes it is like a rare dx country when they say QRZ. You might hear a pileup of stations. You will learn to work through the pileups in a quick timeframe. Once you get the hang of working as a hunter you will decided to go out to activate a park.

More to come next month.

Contest Corner
Field Day
by
George KM4ODS

Well, another Field Day has come and gone and we made it through without any broken bones or serious injuries. We had a fair share of cuts and scrapes but it sometimes seems that's just a part of erecting antennas, towers, shelters and just generally setting up.

First things first. Congratulations to all the Operators who worked hard making those contacts. I'm still consolidating all the information to submit to ARRL but it appears that we bettered our 2019 score of 6142. With the COVID crud going on last year, 2019 was our last group outing. Also, a big thank you to those that came out and helped with the set-up and tear-down of all the equipment, antennas and stations.

Overall, CFARS did good. I say good, because while we made a lot of contacts and the station operators did a great job of making QSOs, there were a lot of things that didn't happen or could have happened better. As "that guy" who was trying to orchestrate this event, it was sometimes frustrating and other times disappointing watching it all come together. Maybe it was due to having 2020 off and not operating as a group. I hope so. But, as always, CFARS somehow made it happen. I'll take responsibility for most of the hic-ups in that I "assumed" a lot. I figured that because some of the people involved had done their particular task for so long that they didn't need a time-line, specifics or a little supervision. I was wrong. It's all in the details and I wasn't detailed enough in some cases it seems. Regardless, we got 'er done.

I decided to put together a CFARS Field Day planning and Operations Guide. This will cover all aspects of Field Day from planning to packing up equipment at the end of the event. This guide will be put together and organized from my own notes and observations and from the input I receive from CFARS members. As a "guide" it will be a living document that can be improved upon and modified with each passing year. I sent an email out with a request for your comments. Please take time to respond if you have input. Be honest. Whether you have a comment about something that needs improvement or something that you feel we did well, your comments will help in the conduct of future Field Day events.

Again, KUDOS to that small percentage of the club that did participate in some shape, form or fashion. The few handfuls of folks that came out and helped, worked extremely hard to make this Field Day a success. There are a few that went above and beyond and to them I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation.

Until next month...

2021 CFARS Field Day

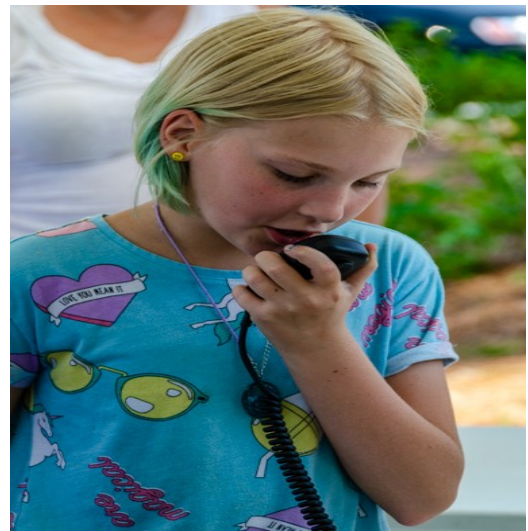
CQ FIELD DAY---CQ FIELD DAY
KILO FOUR MIKE NOVEMBER
KILO FOUR MIKE NOVEMBER
CALLING CQ FIELD DAY
STANDING BY
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
(STATION CALL SIGN) WE ARE
2 ALPHA - NOVEMBER CHARLIE
2 ALPHA - NOVEMBER CHARLIE QSL?
RECEIVE THEIR INFO
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
ROGER (REPEAT THEIR INFO) 73
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
QRZed KILO FOUR MIKE NOVEMBER



2021 CFARS Field Day



2021 CFARS Field Day



2021 CFARS Field Day



2021 CFARS Field Day



22nd Annual Ole Fashioned

CFARS SwapFest

Sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Saturday

August 14, 2021

8:00am to 12:00 noon

**Cumberland County Shrine Club
7040 Ramsey St (US Hwy 401 N)**

**No Admission!! No Fee for Tables!!!
Please help us keep this event free
by placing a monetary contribution in
the donation box so we can cover the rent
on the building!!!**

Talk-in: K4MN Repeater 146.910 (-) CTCSS 100Hz

VE Test Session Walk-ins Only Registration 9:00am Testing 9:30am

**Information and Table Reservations: David KI4W kr4oe@nc.rr.com
(910)624-1394**

**ARRL VE Testing: Pat N4UGH n4ughpat@aol.com
(910)584-1801**

**Set-up begins at 6:30am. If you need tables please call or email in
advance. On the morning of the Swapfest see David KI4W for tables.**

**Table Reservations recommended.
*Tail Gating available -- also FREE!!!***



The "Chris Keen Memorial UnFest," July 31st, 2021 Tailgating Extravaganza! (Behind the 1st PH Church)

Talk-In 146.85 PL 88.5

1100 The First Church Rd, Goldsboro, NC

The Wayne County Amateur Radio Association (WCARA) is sponsoring the third annual "Chris Keen Memorial Un-Fest". The Un-Fest is strictly a "Tailgating" event. There will be No Vendors and No Fee to enter or to sell.



Date: 31 July 2021

Time: 8 am - 12 Noon

Location: Behind the 1st PH Church

Pete (WA5T) pete@wene.net

UNFest Rules

1. Tailgate spaces are on a first-come, first-serve basis and not assigned.
2. Public Restroom available inside the 1st PH Church
3. This event is on Church grounds. No alcoholic beverages, firearms or pornographic material.
4. Radio, computer, electronic and emergency preparedness related items are preferred but open to all items of radio relate nature.
5. "Caveat Emptor" (Let the Buyer Beware!) - Tailgaters are responsible for quality and condition of the items they sell.
6. No security provided. WCARA/1st PH Church is not responsible for items that are lost or stolen. Take reasonable precautions to protect your property.
7. No electric outlets available for test of equipment.
8. Pets must be on a leash and not allowed to run free
9. All fire lanes, access roads, entrances and exits to the "Un-fest" must be kept clear at all times.
10. No left-over's please. If you brought it, you take it home. No computers, monitors, televisions, circuit boards or other hazardous material is to be discarded or placed in any trash container! Clean up your area before you depart.



1st Ph Church, Goldsboro, NC
Directions From the West - take the old Hwy 70 By Pass to Wayne Memorial Dr. Turn Rt at the light. 500 feet turn left on 1st Ph Church Road.
Direction From the East - take the old Hwy 70 By Pass to Wayne Memorial Dr. Turn Rt at the light. 500 feet turn left on 1st Ph Church Road.