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The President's Corner: Ron K4FET

As several of us know, we had a whirlwind meeting in September. In addition to regular Club business, we voted in a new Vice President, George Davenport, KM4ODS, a new Secretary/Treasurer David Hall, KO4RKR. These assignments are to fill in the existing vacancies for the rest of this year. Speaking of elections and since we will be electing new officers in October and appointing new committee chairpersons for 2022; there are factors to ponder when you are considering running for an Office or volunteering for a committee or other club position:

- 1 Am I actually qualified?
- 2 Will my job or personal situation be in conflict with the Office?
- 3 Am I really willing to go that extra mile for the club.
- 4 You need to have thick skin, the accolades are few and far between. And the pay sucks.

We also talked about needing a viable Elmer program, we have a long way to go on that. I sincerely believe there is a direct correlation between the access to and the availability of willing Elmers, and the retention of new members. I believe a study/comparison of our year-to-year rolls will support that assertion. I am probably not the typical newcomer, as I was well into my 70's when I decided to become a ham. I was relatively proficient at CW but knew very little about the rest of the "Ham World". N4ERM came forward with a 2 meter transceiver and assisted me in hanging a dipole for my HB-1-B. Beyond that I would hand pick my Elmers and extract information from their cranial cavity. I called it selective brain draining usually accomplished through conversation. I still do it to this day. That is a bit much to expect new young operators to do. We need to help them. If you have any ideas/suggestions, text me, call me, message me on my Facebook page. If you are willing to help, let us know, and we will try to link newcomers with our pool of Elmers. Jump into the pool guys! The one thing I will say is on numerous occasions I have asked for assistance with projects and there was never a shortage of personnel from the club that showed up to work willing to help.

Another thing I touched on is that as a club we don't do anything that is just pure fun. A picnic, a BBQ. Outdoor antenna classes of various types. There is virtually no limit to things to do, we are only limited by our imaginations. All we have to do is just think it and do it. I was told that we don't do BBQ's because we don't have a cook. While possibly true, that takes the prize as the lamest excuse I have ever heard for anything. Here we are in the heart of Dixie, and we can't figure out a way to do a BBQ.

Another just plain fun thing we did last year was our Santa Claus program. We kicked it off on the nights of the 23rd and 24th Dec, and I do believe the adults involved got as much enjoyment out of it as the kids did. Marty, W4MLW, played Santa last year, and has agreed to do it again this year. I wouldn't be surprised if he dressed up as Santa this year.

The President's Corner: Ron K4FET

We then modified the normal flow of the meeting to facilitate conducting an election for Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer. George Davenport was elected Vice President and David Hall was elected as Secretary/ Treasurer.

I am going to bore you with a recap of the last meeting's Minutes.

Anything in red is my explanation or clarification on what transpired.

(NOTE: To those reading these minutes, the assumption has been made that everyone is familiar with the rules of The Possum Trot net. I doubt this is the case so anywhere you see the word krow used either alone or as part of another word just replace it with the word work which is krow spelled backwards. I know... K4FET)

The monthly club meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at the Peace Presbyterian Church at 3208 Ramsey Street in Fayetteville, NC at 8:30 pm, September 20, 2021, with Ron K4FET as President. He opened the meeting, welcomed all for coming, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country. Will KN4OTA gave the invocation. Ron led the introductions in the usual CFARS fashion. We had 33 members and 3 guests at the evening's festivities. Ron K4FET asked if all had an opportunity to peruse the minutes on the club website <https://cfarsnc.org> Jim KI4YRH and Fred N4ZCG moved to accept the minutes as published and the minutes were approved.

Bob WA4WHV gave the Treasurer's Report, read a letter outlining an audit he had done, thanked the club for entrusting him with the books of the club. He reported Chuck KJ4RV(SK) had done an outstanding job for many years, and he would be missed. The Club had money in the bank, received some money, didn't spend any money, so we still have money left.

Ron K4FET announced that due to the passing of Chuck KJ4RV(SK) and resignation of Dale AK4YS that we needed a new Secretary/Treasurer and a new Vice President and asked if there were any "volunteers." George KM4ODS was nominated by Ron K4FET, moved by Jim KI4YRH and Fred N4ZCG. (In fact, Jim, JI4YRH nominated George and it was seconded by Fred N4ZCG.) Ron asked for a show of hands and George was elected as Vice President. David KO4RKR stepped up to be Secretary/Treasurer and there being no further nominations Fred N4ZCG and Ben KM4ODT moved to elect them, and the club approved. There is much paperwork to be done, and thanks were given by President Ron for the new officers, and for the service done by those who had gone before.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Larry N4USB, our new Net Manager, will give his first report next month, but encouraged any who desired to become a Net Controller, they would be welcomed.

Carl K4CFB, Health and Welfare committee, is out-of-state but sent flowers for Chuck KJ4RV(SK).

Mike K4JWX was not present to report on the repeaters. The repeaters are up and running, (6m repeater still a krow-in-progress), the club has approved funding for internet service to the repeaters and the Carolina 440 Net, this is still in progress.

George KM4ODS was not present but sent a report that the Field Day results should be published in October. (The December QST is published in October) The CFARS 10-10 nets are being called but there is low participation. 10-10 sprint contest in on October 10, and the 10-10 CW contest on October 16 and 17.? Ron K4FET reports the Possum Trot nets are alive and well and being well checked in to.

Marty W4MLW, Public Relations reported he was still trying to get onto the Spectrum Community

The President's Corner: Ron K4FET

Calendar.

OLD BUSINESS

Van KG6HYJ presented an invoice for the repairs done to the tower trailer, and reported it was repaired and in good shape. There was also an expense for gasoline used during Field Day.

Marty W4MLW moved to spend \$400.00 to join the Carolina 440 Net and the motion was carried.

(I do believe this happened a month or two ago. Tonight's issue was a check from the Carolina 440 net for \$210.00 to help defray the expenses of a component that was not initially budgeted but will be necessary for operations.

A point to ponder, I am continually hearing how "under used" our current repeaters are, which begs the question: how will the inclusion in this new net benefit the average club member? I hate it when I have these thoughts...but. K4FET)

NEW BUSINESS

President Ron K4FET said we need to do an equipment inventory, appoint a property manager (Ed N4ESA volunteered), a QSL manager, and a krow day to clean the storage building and to have a yard sale for the excess/not used/ equipment. Please keep these items in mind and help when the call is given.

PROGRAM

Irv K3IRV was introduced as the Public Information Coordinator for the NC Section of ARRL [North Carolina ARRL Section Officials](#). He pointed out some of the things affecting the section currently and listed some of the many benefits of being an ARRL member. He reminded us of the upcoming election of ARRL officials and encouraged all to participate. Overall, it was a very good program which stressed several of the benefits of ARRL membership that few have been exposed to. The bottom line is that ARRL has a lot of benefits, they just need to do a better job of promoting them.

DOOR PRIZES

50 piece solder connectors donated by Marty W4MLW by Dale AK4YS, NetGear N9000 WiFi Router donated by Mitch KN4ONH by Michael KN4LHI, Clocks donated by Fred N4ZCG by David WO4ROG and Chris N4CDJ, FRS Radio pair donated by Ron K4FET to Bill KE4DER, Mystery Gift (Digital Camera) donated by Bill KE4DER to Berry W4IKS, Mobile Antenna donated by Ron K4FET to ??, Ammo Cans donated by Bill KJ4OFD to David KO4ROG and Don KO4RKP

Marty W4MLW needs items suitable as gifts for the door prize drawings. Proceeds from the door prize drawings to more and better door prizes at the annual Eatin' Meetin' Lets help Marty continue the great job he (and Linda KE4BGW) are doing!

ADJOURNMENT

Jim KI4YRH called for an end to this evening's excitement, with an amen from Fred N4ZCG to close the meeting, and President Ron K4FET closed the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Submitted: Bill Ivey, KJ4OFD, Recorder/Secretary

SO WHY A DETAILED RECAP OF THE MEETING ?

We have a membership of over 100 members, there were approximately 33 members present tonight. Barring the occasional cross-member conversations, that leaves a large percentage of the club clueless on what is going on in *their* club. Maybe with better attendance, some of the shortcomings mentioned would be resolved by *input* from a larger percentage of the membership. I know that is a lofty expectation... **But**, never be satisfied, continually strive to improve. It can work.

The President's Corner: Ron K4FET

LET'S TALK ABOUT A CW TRAINING NET.

To learn CW, you must commit to learning CW. There are no real shortcuts. If you don't practice regularly, you will likely lose whatever gains you have made. My top speed was 35-37 WPM from my head. I was running a base station in Germany we spent a lot of time on the air. I totally stopped operating radios in 1974 as I was promoted to Team Sergeant. I never touched a radio again until 2018 when I decided to become a HAM radio operator. My first introduction was at Smith Lake where Chuck, KJ4RV(SK) and Van, N4ERM told me to take the radio and see what I could do. I sat there and was operating between 17-22 WPM after a 40+ year break. That was due to the intensity I worked as an operator prior to getting out of the field. I taught CW, I ran code labs for years in Special Forces, CW was totally imbedded in my brain.

I don't expect anyone to get carried away to that degree, but 18-24 WPM is totally attainable, contingent on your level of commitment.

I envision 2 nights a week on the air. The first night will consist of you copying code at whatever level you can handle. I will give everyone a URL or a code program (www.justlearnmorsecode.com) that allows you complete control of speed, interval, number of letters in the session. This period will last 50 minutes. You will copy at your own pace. I realize people will take periodic breaks.

The second night will be your sending 5-7 minutes contingent on the size of the class. I envision working in the 80meter and 40meter bands.

This system will work! Your results will be commensurate to the amount of effort you put into it. The choice is yours; you can become a 5WPM operator or a 20WPM operator, that is your call. The number of excuses you will hear for poor progress, really boil down to how bad you want to learn CW.

I would like a list of those individuals interested in the CW learning net to contact me so I can get a feel for the level of interest. My level of interest will match your level of interest. We should be able to be concrete with the net plans by the next meeting.

I guess I have rattled on long enough, so until next time.

"73" K4FET

CFARS Officers

PresidentRon K4FET r,dahle@yahoo.com
 Vice Pres..... Dale AK4YS dale.mohr@yahoo.com
 Sec./Treas..... Bob WA4WHV wa4whv@aol.com
 Recorder.....Bill KJ4OFD kj4ofd@arrl.net
 Newsletter Editor...Mike KN4XP kn4xp@yahoo.com



Coordinators

Membership.....David KI4W kr4oe@nc.rr.com
 Net Manager.....
 Emergency David KN4USW kn4usw@gmail.com
 ARRL Coordinator..Irv K3IRV irv47mc@gmail.com
 Repeaters.....Mike K4JWX k4jwx@outlook.com
 Sky Warn.....John KF4JDR jdray.jr88@gmail.com
 Field Day.....George KM4ODS km4ods@gmail.com
 Health & Welfare...Carl K4CFB carlbeene@gmail.com
 VEC..Pat N4UGH n4ughpat@aol.com
 SwapfestDavid KI4W kr4oe@nc.rr.com
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 Webmaster.....Steve KI4EZL cfarswebbie@gmail.com

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!



September 2021 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly club meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at the Peace Presbyterian Church at 3208 Ramsey Street in Fayetteville, NC at 8:30 pm, September 20, 2021 with Ron K4FET as President. He opened the meeting, welcomed all for coming, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country. Will KN4OTA gave the invocation. Ron led the introductions in the usual CFARS fashion. We had 33 members and 3 guests at the evenings festivities. Ron K4FET asked if all had an opportunity to peruse the minutes on the club website <https://cfarsnc.org> Jim



Jim KI4YRH and Fred N4ZCG moved to accept the minutes as published and the minutes were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Bob WA4WHV gave the Treasurer's Report, read a letter outlining an audit he had done, thanked the club for entrusting him with the books of the club. He reported Chuck KJ4RV(SK) had done an outstanding job for many years and he would be missed. The Club had money in the bank, received some money, didn't spend any money, so we still have money left.

Net Manager: Larry N4USB, our new Net Manager, will give his first report next month, but encouraged any who desired to become a Net Controller, they would be welcomed.

Health & Welfare: Carl K4CFB, Health and Welfare committee, is out-of-state but sent flowers for Chuck KJ4RV(SK).

Repeater: Mike K4JWX was not present to report on the repeaters. The repeaters are up and running, (6m repeater still a know-in-progress), the club has approved funding for internet service to the repeaters and the Carolina 440 Net, this is still in progress.

Membership: David KI4W presented new packages to Sean Lynch KM4KEG, David Nix KO4OXF, and Jeff Clark KO4NON, each introduced themselves to the members. Mitch KN4OTH and Jim KI4YRH moved to accept them as new members and the motion carried. David KI4W also had the final packages prepared by Chuck KJ4RV/SK for: Jason Capps KO4NFN, John Larch KK4MZS, James Dawdy WO4NDC, Bennett Rogers KK6SHQ, Victoria Wilson KD2TYQ, Blake Wilson KD2OUQ, Jason Kimokeo KO4OXH, Bill Manigo KJ4FYV, Dane Kealoha KO4RKQ, and a life membership packet for David Dominga NC4XL. Folks, if you would please contact David KI4W and make arrangements to pick these packages up.

Field Day/Contesting: George KM4ODS was not present but sent a report that the Field Day results should be published in November. The 10-10 nets are being called but there is low participation. 10-10 sprint contest in on October 10, and the 10-10 CW contest on October 16 and 17.

Possam Trot Net: Ron K4FET reports the the Possam Trot nets are alive and well and being well checked in to.

Swapfest: David KI4W reported on the recent Swapfest. 27 tables were allocated, attendance was down @25%, 2 people asked for tables but were no-shows. Ed N4ESA did an outstanding job with the refreshments. He really has to go out of his way to pick these up fresh for you, and really

appreciated all of you who stopped at Hardee's, McDonald's, and Bojangle's and ate breakfast before you came to the Swapfest. Donations and sales fell some \$20 short of covering costs, fortunately Marty W4MLW did a great job with the Club table and door prizes and made @\$500 extra for the Club coffers. As a final note, David KI4W mentioned that it might be nice of some of the younger, healthier, stronger members could possible see it clear to help out in setting up/taking down, and cleaning up the venue in the future.

Public Relations: Marty W4MLW, Public Relations reported he was still trying to get onto the Spectrum Community Calendar.

Possum Trot Net: Ron K4FET reported on the Possum Trot net. He is feeling better, but still needs much adult supervision.

Old Business: Ron K4FET announced that due to the passing of Chuck KJ4RV(SK) and resignation of Dale AK4YS we were in need of a new Treasurer and a new vice president, and asked if there were any "volunteers." George KM4ODS was nominated by Ron K4FET, moved by Jim KI4YRH and Fred N4ZCG. Ron asked for a show of hands and George was elected as vice president. David KO4RKR stepped up to be Treasurer and there being no further nominations Fred N4ZCG and Ben KM4ODT moved to elect them, and the club approved. There is much paperwork to be done, and thanks were given by President Ron for the new officers, and for the service done by those who had gone before. Van KG6HYJ presented an invoice for the repairs done to the tower trailer, and reported it was repaired and in good shape. Marty W4MLW moved to spend \$400.00 to join the Carolina 440 Net and the motion was carried.

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Announcements: George KM4ODS: reminder that due to the Haiti earthquake remain OFF frequencies related to the relief efforts: 3.750, 7.150, and 14.330 MHz.

Program: Irv K3IRV was introduced as the Public Information Coordinator for the NC Section of ARRL <https://www.ncarrl.org/officials.html> He pointed out some of the things affecting the section currently, and listed some of the many benefits of being an ARRL member. He reminded all of the upcoming election of ARRL officials and encouraged all to participate.

Door Prize Drawing: 50 piece solder connectors donated by Marty W4MLW by Dale AK4YS, NetGear N9000 WiFi Router donated by Mitch KN4ONH by Michael KN4LHI, Clocks donated by Fred N4ZCG by David WO4ROG and Chris N4CDJ. FRS Radio pair donated by Ron K4FET to Bill KE4DER, Mystery Gift (Digital Camera) donated by Bill KE4DER to Berry W4IKS, Mobile Antenna donated by Ron K4FET to ???. Ammo Cans donated by Bill KJ4OFD to David KO4ROG and Don KO4RKP. Marty W4MLW needs items suitable as gifts for the door prize drawings. Proceeds from the door prize drawings to to more and better door prizes at the annual Eatin' Meetin' Lets help Marty continue the great job he (and Linda KE4BGW) are doing!

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