Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society News February 2025				
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Club Minutes

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From the Secretary

Upcoming Hamfests

2025 Winter Field Day

The President's Corner: David WD4NC

& Hello

January is behind us, and it was wide open. WFD was our main event for the month and man did the club show up and show out as well. We had 27 members show up to help set up at 7AM in the morning at 27 degrees. We had just had a pretty good snowstorm, and the weather was still around.

We set up three towers. Two with Hex beams and one 100 foot tower with a little bit of everything on it. The club broke into teams and started getting the towers and beams up. The Section chiefs were setting up the radios and all that goes with that. Another crew was hanging wire antennas in the trees. 2 - 80-meter loops. 3 - End Feds and we were K4MN 3I NC. I hope to give out our raw score at the next meeting in Feb. We ran CW, SSB and a digital station.

This was a great event to train ECOMs and try different set ups and antennas. Example was that we tried a Delta Loop, and it just was not getting the job done. The team switched to the end fed and we took part of the loop down and re-hung it to a square and it worked great. We still have a lot of work to do on the digital side, but we are getting there. We made a few FM Sat contacts as well. Sent Win -Link and got the Bulletin as well. We should have a pretty good score by the time we put them all together.

Thank you all that bought out food as well. We had plenty to eat and it was nice to have hot food and coffee when needed. Hats off to the night shift and all they did. Our VP Rod KQ4FNO stayed up to 0530. There were others there as well helping out and I thank you all. Just an outstanding job by the club and all that came out to help.

STEAMS:

The club is also getting into the school system, working with FSU on 4-26-2025, I am looking forward to that event. Working on the Jan 30th with Grays Creek Middle School and going downtown in March.

VE testing happened as well with more hams getting their License and joining the club. Nice to see us growing and getting some of our old members back in the club.

The biggie to me is seeing the numbers at the meetings growing and people hanging around after

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the meeting to rag chew. We had Amanda and China from the EOC out and they briefed us on what is going on at the EOC and they were followed by Marty / W4MY who gave us a over view of the NC QSO party that for the 1st time, the club will be a bonus team.

As you can see, lots are going on with the club. Come out and be a part of it. Get Radioactive and be a part of the greatest show on Earth. CFARS!

73's David Winfree, WD4NC

From The Vice President Rod KQ4NFO

Winter Field Day came and CFARS showed up and performed well! From the start, at 0700 hours, we had 25 people show up and get started on placing radios, erecting towers and placing antennas. We were ready on time and went on the air like gangbusters! Although I have not seen the preliminary results, I have heard that we did well. I will leave results to the President to discuss. Notable items throughout the weekend include a satellite contact! Kudos to Jeremiah and his antenna operators, and the folks that supported the attempts. I think our last satellite contact was Field Day 2023, although a contact was made in 2024 it was unable to be logged. Food was available due to the donations from various people who either bought food or made it at home and brought it out. Thanks to all the donors for this presentation! Another notable item were the visitors we had. Amanda and China from the EOC spent quite some time looking at the various communication modes we had. Amanda also brought her daughter along and she was very interested too. We had about 10 visitors that came through, not including the Vet's Motorcycle Club, and some of them took interest in our setup. Without visitors we have no outlet to the public, and we need people to come and see our activity and get them interested in the hobby. Please invite your friends to come by and see us, either at a meeting or activity.

So, what are we doing next? North Carolina QSO Party and K4MN will be a Bonus Station. As David, WD4NC, has said many times on the air, this is a first for us and we need to show our best effort. Luckily, we can compete against the other Bonus Stations, so we have the #1 slot to look to get! It will be in the same place, so we know how to setup (and some will be there from last time) and we know how to operate. We should do well at this one too!

After the QSO Party, we will look to start some other outdoor adventure to keep our radio skills going and to have fun. Probably some POTA activity, where we can invite the public to come and see what we do.

The winter "storm" left us with snow and ice and the possibility of having to cancel WFD, but fortunately it cleared up in time, and although cold, we could work indoors. I hope some of you saw the photo of the USS North Carolina, covered in snow, much deeper than we had. Glad we didn't have to operate from there this time! I think we all came out OK, except that cold that went around and likes to hang on as a cough for a month.

Wish everyone well and hope we are all better next time!

Rod MacLean, KQ4FNO

Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society *News*

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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 \$20.00. CFARS offers a lifetime membership option for \$200.00. 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





January 2025 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at 7:00 pm, Monday, January 20th, 2025, in the Fellowship Hall of Peace Presbyterian Church, 3202 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC.

President David Winfree WD4NC called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country. Don KO4IHM gave the invocation. David WD4NC led the introductions in the usual CFARS fashion. Don WO4SFA moved Decembers'



minutes be approved, David K4FXCseconded, and the motion was carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Mike KC4ABE gave the financial report.

Net Manager: December net report: 793 check ins 25.6 AVG, 1137 minutes 36.7 AVG

Health & Welfare: Nina KN4KUL, David KO4RKR had surgery. John W4RDU, a previous member, had a procedure and is doing ok. Ron K4FET is also having a procedure 24 Jan. Bill KJ4OFD has a family member in the hospice. Please keep these members in your thoughts and prayers.

Repeaters: Brightspeed internet service at the repeater site was down for some time but is now back up.

Field Day: No report.

Membership: Club dues need to be paid by March 31 or members will be removed from the club roster. Unless you are a Life Member or paid for multiple years your membership with CFARS expired January 1. If anyone needs information about CFARS please contact me. My contact information is readily available. Our club's information on the ARRL Website will be updated after March 31. The club's officer information has been updated to reflect Chris KR4I as the new Recorder.

Contesting: No report.

VE Coordinator: Jim K4BUC, next VE test session will be listed on the website. Bring an FRN number.

Swapfest: David KI4W the next CFARS Swapfest will be Saturday, August 9, 2025 at the Cumberland County Shrine Club. This will be our 25th Swapfest.

Public Relations: Hector KB4LOA continue posting ham radio and club activity on the CFARS Facebook page.

Emergency Coordinator: No report.

Newsletter: Any submissions please send to Mike KN4XP by end of month, ideally in Microsoft Word format. <u>cfarsnews@gmail.com</u>

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Web Site: Any submissions please send to Jim K4BUC. Jim asked that anyone having pictures to put on the website send them to him. <u>jbuccieri@twc.com</u>

ARRL Liaison: No report.

Possum Trot Net: Greg NC4GK, PT net continues 5:00am to 7:00am.

Skywarn: No report.

Event Coordinator: Rod KQ4FNO Jan 25-26, Winter Field Day: setup at 0700 at the SFA compound on Saturday 25 Jan, event details on Facebook CFARS event page. Jan 30th, STEAM at Gray's Creek Middle School. Meet at 6pm on site. POC Christine Scott. NC QSO Party Feb 23rd 10am to 8pm at the SFA compound, details are forthcoming as we get closer to the event.

Emergency Coordinator: David WD4NC will have an Emergency drill at EOC, Feb 8th10:00 hours. The goal will be to check and then operate from the EOC via repeater and simplex. If you would like to come assist please let David know otherwise you can help from home by checking in on the club 910 repeater or on simplex.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Rod recommended we buy headphones for the club radios 2 each, at a cost of approximately \$10 each. Motion made by Juan NK2MC to purchase the headphones and was seconded by Jeremy KB4D.

Program: Amanda Shreck and China from the EOC representatives from the Cumberland County Emergency Management Center presented some information about the EOC and its use of amateur radio. They recently picked up some equipment to enhance and upgrade related to the SHARES program. They are looking for gaps in local fire stations, shelters, and other locations to have a better plan to cover these with communications during an emergency event. They mentioned having members come in every 30 to 45 days to test their equipment to ensure its usability. They want to include the ham radio community in tabletop exercises and full operational emergency tests soon.

W4MY, Marty, Chairman NC QSO Party, presented some information on the NC QSO party. There are some changes to this year's event which includes the Club Bonus and the weak Signal Showcase. Marty recommended we read the rules again thoroughly regarding the changes. The FT8/4 showcase will be separate from the main party and not be included in the main NCQP log, but in its own section.

Door Prize Drawing: Pete won an Ammo can, Luis KQ2L won some coax jumper and an Ammo Can, Rod won Coax jumper, Jeremy KB4D won a power cable and a coax jumper, Tim KO4VEC won a Coax jumper, Don KO4IHM won a coax jumper, Liard WA2COU won ammo can, Ed WO4SFA won a tumbler, DC WP4TGK won connectors, Tracy KF4KFL won a coax jumper, Ed N4ESA won a coax jumper and Don KO4IHM won an ammo can.

50/50 Drawing: Tyler K4TTN collected \$106 – Chris KR4I had the winning ticket 2289 for \$53

Announcements: CFARS nonprofit status is currently 501 C7, Rod KO4FNO Is looking at changing our designation to 501C3, there may be some advantages to this that he will brief later. WD4NC David mentioned that anyone using the clubs name or callsign must get the clubs permission when using it in social media, email etc.

Adjournment: Tim KO4VEC made a motion to adjourn the meeting Juan NK2MC seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM. There were 36members and 6 guests present.

Submitted: Chris KR4I

From the Secretary/Treasurer:

At this coming Club meeting we will be doing the State of the Club address. I will be giving the yearly financial report for this past year of 2024. So, if you would like to know how we did for the Club financial aspect then please attend the meeting. I will also be collecting Club dues. The dues are \$20.00 for the year and \$200.00 for life membership. We also have the Zella payment on the website so if you would like to make the payment that way you are more than welcome to. If you have changed your callsign or email address or have moved in the past year. Please send me an email so that I can update the Club roster. If you have any questions, please email me as well. My email is below. Hope to see you at the Meeting.

73 from your Secretary/Treasurer Mike Grant (KC4ABE) Kc4abe@gmail.com (757) 439-8607

SKYWARN / Emergency report

Following remarks at the January CFARS meeting by our visitors from the Cumberland County Emergency Management Planner, Ms. Amanda Scheck, here is a quick review of basic FEMA courses you can complete on-line at your own pace to establish interoperability with Emergency



Services. "Introduction to Incident Command System", ICS-100 (IC-00100.c) is the starter. "Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response", ICS-200 (IS-00200.c) delves further into the topic. "An Introduction to the National Incident Management System" (IS-00700.b) covers an additional system. "National Response Framework, An Introduction" (IS-00800) rounds out the framework.

I spelled out the course titles here precisely as you can search them in the FEMA Independent Study Program's catalog at the following web site. <u>https://training.fema.gov/is/crslist.aspx?lang=en</u> There is a wealth of free self-paced learning available at that portal, but the bundle of four courses I listed are the stepping stone into operating at the EOC's radio room and extended on-line and in-person courses and exercises. As I completed each course, I filed the .pdf certificate for

easy retrieval when I needed to produce it for entry.

You will want to follow the instructions at <u>https://training.fema.gov/is/isfaqdetails.aspx?</u> <u>id=2&cat=General%20Questions</u> on how to access your training records and certificates. If you get stuck on something, please feel free to reach me at jdjfbncphone@gmail for Jeremiah n0nv.

73, Jeremiah N0NV

CFARS Nets					
Net	Day (s)	Time Local	Band / Freq		
Evening Net	Daily	1900	146.910 Repeater		
Possum Trot	M - F	0500 - 0700	146.910 Repeater		
ADY Net	M - F	0810	SSB 3.855		
CW Fix Net	Tues / Thurs	0730	CW 3.555		
DMR Net	Sunday	2000	TGIF 910 Talkgroup		

Upcoming Hamfests

March 7 - 8, 2025 Charlotte Hamfest Concord, North Carolina charlottehamfest.org

April 5, 2025 Rarsfest Raleigh, North Carolina rarsfest.org

CFARS VE Testing

The 2025 VE exams will take place at one of these two locations - as noted.



Peace Presbyterian Church 3203 Ramsey Street Fayetteville, NC 28301

Cumberland County Shrine Club 7040 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville NC 28311

Dates: March 15, 2025 - Peace Presbyterian Church August 9, 2025 - Cumberland County Shrine Club October 11, 2025 - Peace Presbyterian Church

Jim K4BUC

The testing was conducted on January 11th. There were three in attendance for testing. One achieved a Tech license, another received the upgrade to Extra and the third person did not pass.

Next testing session is March 15th.

Best,

Jim K4BUC

EOC Drill Summary - February 8th, 2025

First off, let me thank the 23 CFARS hams that took the time to help on this drill. You all did a great job, and we learned a lot. This was our second event for the ECOMs drill, and we are getting better.

I am getting some great notes on how we can do things better. We also had an ARR with China and Amanda at the EOC. Once we get the antennas set up at the EOC, I am sure we will be able to receive the simplex part of the drill better. I am wondering if the Teams at the FD were changing their radios up to high power for that part of the drill? What antennas were they using as well?

As far as the EOC, we were using a J-pole in a small oak tree in front of the building and just about 15 feet up. It worked great getting into the 91 repeaters, and I could hear all the FD stations that were checking in. The only issue we had was when we started working simplex on 146.520. I do think that once we get the antenna at the EOC installed and higher, that will fix a lot of that issue. I also would like to install two runs of 100 feet of LMR 400 back to the Shack so we can have a second set of antennas on the outside of the building. We can talk about that at the meeting.

I have also asked for a course on what and how they want us to send reports to the EOC. What type of weather reports and how to send in needs. We should have that soon and be able to take a class at the EOC to learn how they want it.

So far, it has been two great events, and we are doing good. We could have used some more base relay stations for the Simplex side of the drill, and we can work on that as well.

We sent in a Winlink message to Raleigh as well as a 2m contact with two hams there as well. We have comms; we did what we set out to do. Now we just need to clean it up and add some better gear on sites, and I think we will be good to go.

Once again, thank you to everyone that helped on this drill.

David/WD4NC

EOC Drill, 02/08/2025 - CFARS

Field Deployments

FD#4: K4PGM Paul Melvin FD#5: KQ4NTM Mark Faulkner FD#8: KQ4QEM Alan Sealey FD#9: DC FD#11: KQ4VFM Ken Wright FD#13: N4ESA Ed Allison FD#15: KO4VEC Tim Capps FD#17: NC4PB Paul Bridgeman FD#18: KQ4FNO Rod Maclean FD#20: W4HDF Tim Capps FD#22: KC4ABE Mike Grant FD#28: KM4ODS George Davenport

Emergency Operations Center EOC: WD4NC

Base Relay: KN4KUL Nina Base Relay: WO4SFA Don Base Relay: KO4EHI Pam

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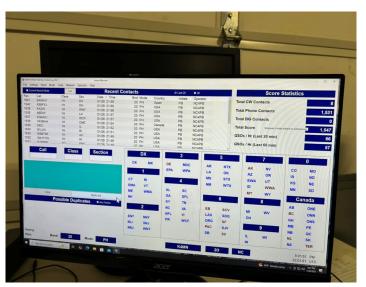
2025 Winter Field Day CFARS Style

TASK FORCE CFARS













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