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***The President's Corner: Van N4ERM***

**CFARS Conducts Technician License Class on Fort Bragg**

We haven't conducted license classes in a VERY long time, but some folks on Fort Bragg have asked if we could conduct such a class, and I said "Yes!" The training will take place in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division area. Twelve soldiers have signed up for training so far. We'll use the free stuff from KB6NU as the class outline and study guide. Here's a link: <http://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/2014-no-nonsense-tech-study-guide-v20.pdf>. Training will be conducted by CFARS volunteers on Thursday and Friday, 9-10 February in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division area. VE testing for candidates who want to test will be administered by Pat N4UGH and her CFARS VE Team on Saturday, 11 February at Room 219 of the Hendricks Science Complex, Methodist University. More details to follow.

**North Carolina QSO Party CHANGES THE RULES**

CFARS has won the last four NC QSO Party contests. Possibly as a result of these convincing victories, the Raleigh group that runs the contest has changed the rules (again). You might enjoy reading the new rules at <http://www.rars.org/ncqsoparty/index.php?id=rules>.

The change will result in the NCQP looking more like a mini Field Day, and provides us with a great opportunity to "train up" for this year's Field Day.

One concept could be for CFARS to field two (2) SSB Voice Stations, one (1) PSK/digital station, and the "dream team" CW station. We could even include a 6-meter station.

Our good friend Irv, K3IRV, has volunteered to coordinate CFARS's participation. Planning/coordination continue at February's monthly meeting. Ask Irv how you can help.

**VE Testing**

As mentioned above, our next VE test will be on Saturday, 11 February 2017, in Room 219 of the Hendricks Science Complex on the campus of Methodist University. Hopefully this will include some of the soldiers who received training earlier. Registration starts at 0900 (9AM) and testing begins at 0930 (9:30AM). For details call Pat N4UGH at (910) 584-1801.

**UPCOMING STUFF**

February

- 11 VE Testing - Hendricks Science Complex Room 219
- 20 Monthly Club Meeting - Program: Carolina Weekend NC QSO Party Planning/Coordination
- 26 NC QSO Party

March

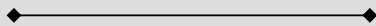
- 10 - 11 Charlotte Hamfest
- 18 VE Testing
- 20 Monthly Club Meeting

**See you there!**

**73 de Van N4ERM**

CFARS Officers

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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 cfars\_newsletter@yahoo.com. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter 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.



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



### **January 2017 Club Meeting Minutes**

On January 16th the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by **Van N4ERM**. The meeting was held at the Hibachi Grill on Ramsey Street. After dispensing with the usual Pledge of Allegiance to our flag, **Elton W4VGW** led the invocation. The introductions were made in the normal CFARS manner.

A motion was made by **Kelly N4EWG**, seconded by **Leighton KN4ZZ**, to approve the revised minutes of the January meeting. By vote the motion carried.



#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** **Chuck KJ4RV** gave the treasurer's report. We collected some money and we are still solvent.

**Repeater:** **Bill KU4W** reported the repeaters are up and krowing well. Chuck KJ4RV indicated we may need to activate the 100hz tone on the repeaters. There was some discussion about how to do so,

**Net Manager:** **Chuck KJ4RV** reported check-ins are down slightly for the month of December.

**Membership:** **David KR4OE** said we have 100 members. He presented applications for CFARS membership for **John Anderson KM4WEF**, **Tony Steen N3RWO** and **Theodore Ogden W0SMT**. Welcome to CFARS John, Tony and Theodore.

**Newsletter:** **Mike KN4XP** our newsletter editor, is looking for articles from the club to put into the newsletter. Send your articles to him at [cfars\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:cfars_newsletter@yahoo.com)

**Health & Welfare:** No report.

**Swafest:** No report.

**VE Testing:** No Report.

**Public Relations:** No report.

**Old Business:** The Digital Repeater Committee now consisting of **David KR4OE**, **Irv N3GTY** and **Leighton KN4ZZ** will consider recommendations and costs involved with new DMR repeater as a replacement for the 440 repeater. There was some discussion concerning funding, and types of digital repeaters to consider. **Van N4EWG** will send members a survey form via email.

**New Business:** **Van N4ERM** spoke about the NC QSO party. **Irv K3IRV** will honcho CFARS participation. Locations and times will be determined and put out prior to the QSO party. CFARS will sponsor the *First Place Canada Award* in honor of **Fred New KN4SS (SK)**. CFARS has been asked to teach Tech License Training for the 1<sup>st</sup> BCT, 82<sup>nd</sup> Abn Div on Fort Bragg on Thu-Fri, 9-10 Feb. Following the training, VE testing will conducted in Room 219 of the Hendricks Science Complex on Sat Feb 11. This is the first time in a long time that CFARS has conducted license classes. Let's make sure to support the effort.

**Program:** **George KM4ODS** started with program for the month, "*What Santa Brought for Christmas.*" Several members showed and told about their new prizes. All Santa brought your Recorder was a lump of coal...

**Door Prize Drawing:** **David KR4OE** held the prize drawing. **Ben KM4ODT** donated many Homeland Security booklets earlier this year. **Van N4ERM** donated a multi-meter and **George KM4ODS** took it home.

*(Continued on Page 4)*

(Continued from Page 3)

**Elton W4VGV** won a headset. David needs us to provide more prizes for the coming months. Please give him a call so he can arrange things accordingly.

A motion was made by **Irv K3IRV**, seconded by **Jim KI4YRH**, to adjourn the meeting. By vote the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm. We had fourteen (14) members and one (1) guest in attendance at the club meeting.

Submitted by **Bill KJ4OFD**  
**CFARS Recorder**



**Field Day 2017**

Field Day is not exactly "looming" on the immediate horizon but it is time to start organizing our efforts if we are not going to be caught off guard.

As last year's team leader for the event I would like to see us start things rolling for this year's contest but I do not wish to be the person in charge of the year 2017's operation. My hope is that someone with fresh ideas and energy will step forward and assume leadership. I will gladly lend assistance to whoever that person is, lending guidance as they develop their leadership team.

An alternate approach to having a designated leader would be to form a committee that would assume joint leadership of the contest this year. One thing we have going for us is the fact that we are capable of operating as a team which requires very little direct supervision. This was demonstrated during last year's FD event as well as during the Jamboree On The Air last Fall. However, my deep felt hope is that someone will step forward and pick up the reins for this year's event.

**Bob WA4WHV**

*Upcoming Hamfests*

**March 10th**  
 Charlotte Hamfest  
 Concord, North Carolina  
[www.charlottehamfest.org](http://www.charlottehamfest.org)

**April 15th**  
 Rarsfest  
 Raleigh, North Carolina  
[rars.org/rarsfest](http://rars.org/rarsfest)

*VE Testing*

**2017 VE Testing Schedule**

February 11th	August 12th
March 18th	October 14th
June 10th	

VE Testing Fee for 2017 is \$15. Bring your original license and any CSCE's plus a copy of each. Bring a picture identification.

*Items For Sale*

Icom 2730 2MTR/440MTR - \$400  
 OPC-837 controller cable (11.4FT long), MBA-5 controller bracket, MBA-4 controller bracket, DC power cord, HM-207 Mic and Manual

Contact Joe W3OJO  
 910 366 9674 or [W3OJO@twc.com](mailto:W3OJO@twc.com)

ALPHA DELTA DX-CC - \$ 85.00  
 Multi-band resonant dipole, Power rating – 1000 watts, 82 feet long  
 Bands - 80,40,20,15,10 Meters 17 with tuner

Contact Joe W3OJO  
 910 366 9674 or [W3OJO@twc.com](mailto:W3OJO@twc.com)

### CFARS Needs Your Input...

On 18 Dec 2016, I sent out a survey to all CFARS members in an effort to gather information from the members regarding club meetings, events and activities. As of our January meeting there were only 7 responses. The club exists for the benefit of its members and the community. Member input and participation is key to the success or failure of any organization. In 2017, I want to challenge every member to attempt to get involved with "your" club, help us grow and be a renewed source of camaraderie, information and knowledge which supports your interest in amateur radio.

There are three readily available club resources available to all club members.

1. Our webpage contains club information and also a club forum where members can post questions, activities, and in general have on-line discussions regarding amateur radio. If you are not already a member of the forum group, just go to the website and create a username and password to begin participation. Go to <http://cfarsnc.org/>
2. Additionally, there is a CFARS Facebook group. If you are on Facebook, you can join this group by going to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/191193530892100/> and click join. Here you can post information, ask questions and generally interact with other CFARS members.
3. Last but not least is the weekly "Saturday morning breakfast gathering" at the K&W cafeteria. A great time is always had by all.

73, KM4ODS [KM4ODS@gmail.com](mailto:KM4ODS@gmail.com)

### San Andres Update

Remember when our home-town former CFARS member **Will Roberts AA4NC** came to our meeting last year? Looks like he won't be playing in this year's North Carolina QSO Party.

5J0/5K0, SAN ANDRES (Update). **Will AA4NC** informs OPDX he FINALLY received his call sign from the Colombian authorities after 5 months. He will be active as 5K0N on San Andres between February 12th and March 8th. He will be using low power with wire antennas on CW, RTTY and SSB. Will is one of the **LW9EOC** team for the upcoming *ARRL International DX CW and SSB Contests*, signing **5J0NA** as a Multi-Single entry (see OPDX.1295/1299/1302). Will states that **Ron AA4VK** will be joining him for the first two weeks and operating holiday style as **AA4VK/HK0** on SSB. Will may also be active as **5K0N/HK5** on a trip to visit his friend **OZ1AA** who now lives in Cali, Colombia. Look for updated info on the QRZ.com **QSL - 5K0N direct via AA4NC and LoTW.**

### North Carolina QSO Party

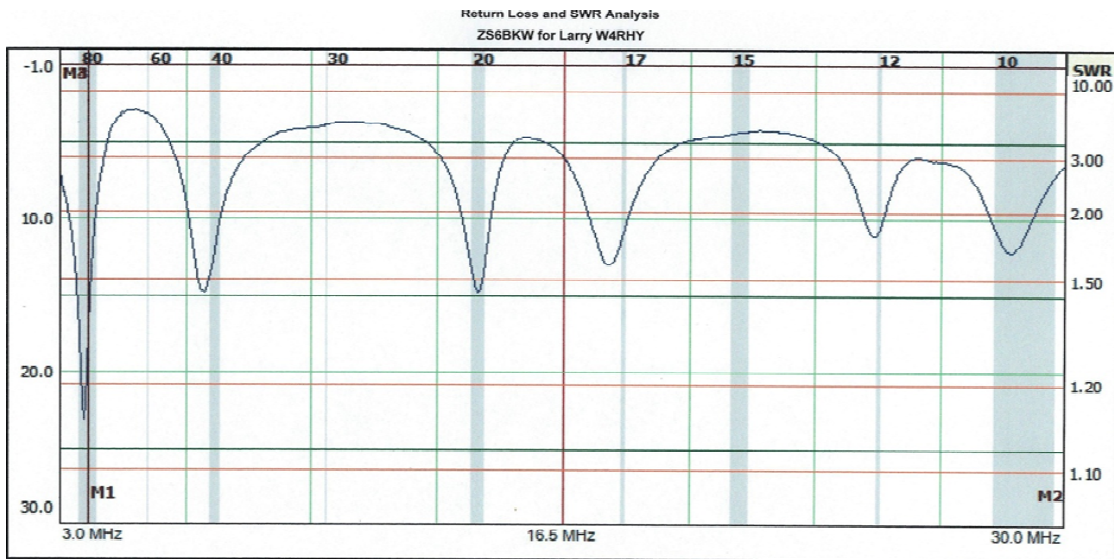
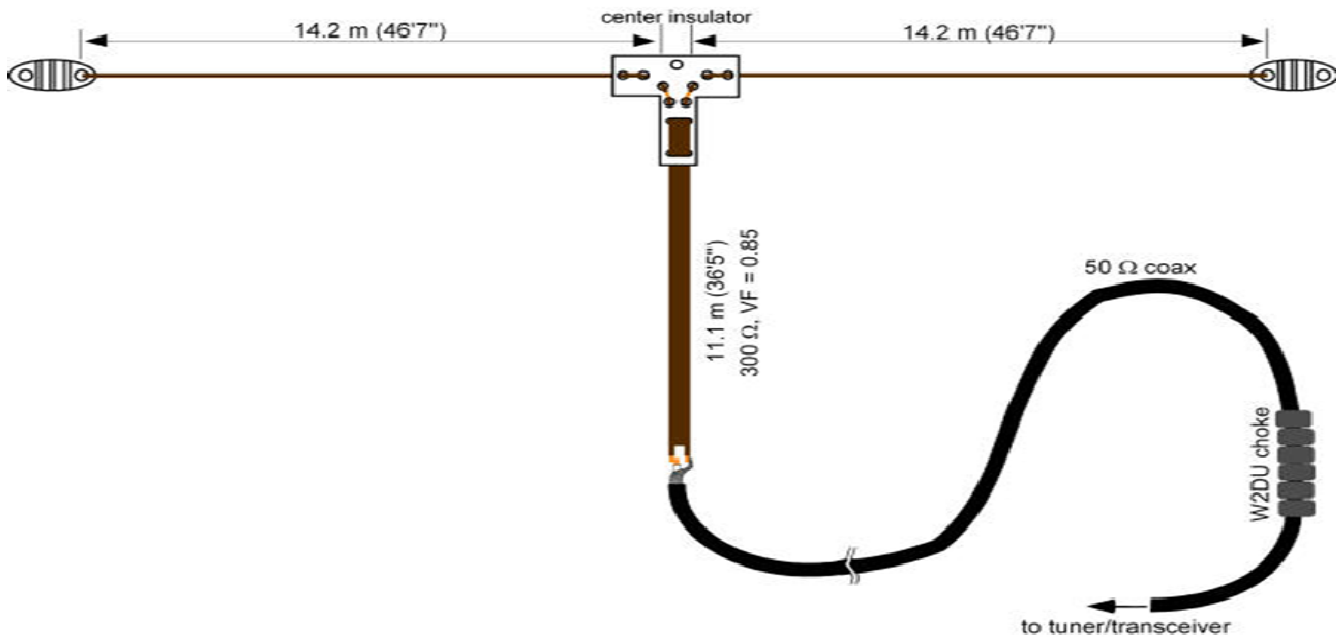
February 26, 2017  
1000 EST to 2000 EST



### Build the ZS6BKW Multi Band Antenna Radiated by "EI Cheapo" N4ERM

Here's a great multi band antenna that is modeled after the venerable G5RV only smaller. It is only ~ 93 feet long and perfect for our tall sand hills pine trees. I've used WD-1 (field telephone cable) with great success. The antenna in this version is fed by any length of 50 Ohm Coax (shorter the better), then to 36'5" (critical) of 300 Ohm ladder line. The drawing below shows a choke balun on the coax. I've never used one and the antennas seem to work fine. You can build the center insulator out of any non-conductive material. I've used plastic, acrylic and Plexiglas with equal success. Let me know if you need some.

Check out the antenna scan at the bottom. The SWR scale on the left indicates that 6 bands resonate with an SWR of 2 to 1 or lower. No need for an antenna tuner on these six bands!



ZS6BKW for Larry W4RHY