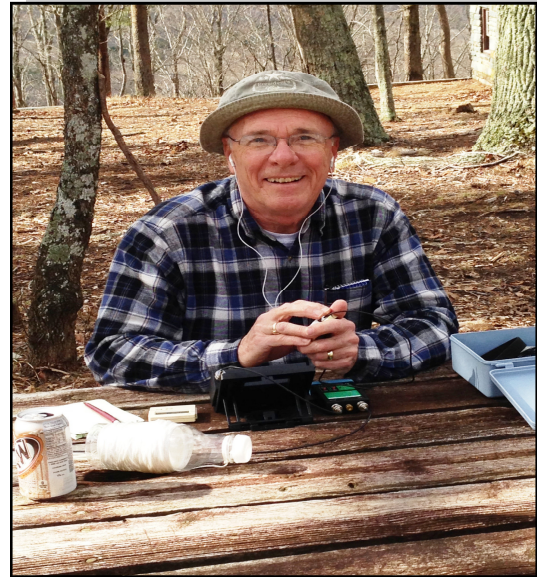




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**The President's Corner: Van N4ERM**

**We're Number One! Again!!**

For the third year in a row, the CFARS team, **K4MN** finished the North Carolina QSO Party in First Place in the In-State Club/Mixed category. CFARS beat **K4EG**, second place, Alamance Amateur Radio club 79,844 points to 71,884 points. Congratulations to the entire team of Installers, Operators and Spotters! Way to go team!!!

**CFARS Volunteer Examiners Test a Bunch**

On Saturday, 21 March 2015, our VE Team, led by **Pat N4UGH**, tested 15 candidates for various licenses. All but 2 folks who tested walked away with a Completion Certificate. Several candidates who started with no license passed both their Tech and General tests. A large part of the group consisted of soldiers who were coached by **Luke AK4ZR**. **Luke AK4ZR** is obviously a great coach/instructor following in the tradition of **Chuck KJ4RV**, who coached "several hundred" soldiers in getting their tickets. **Chuck KJ4RV** was ultimately selected as *ARRL Trainer of the Year*. Congratulations to **Luke AK4ZR** and all!!!

**Home-Schooled Briefing**

On Friday, 27 March 2015, **Irv K3IRV**, **Bob WA4WHV** and I gave a demonstration and briefing to a class of approximately 40 home-schooled children and their parents at the Lake Rim Recreation Center. **Bob WA4WHV** demonstrated "spark gap transmission" via a "Jacobs Ladder" apparatus he built.

**No More Paper Licenses...Unless You Ask For It!**

Starting February 17, the FCC no longer will routinely issue paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission they prefer to receive one. Licensees will be able to print out an official authorization, and an unofficial "reference copy" from the ULS License Manager. The FCC said applicants/licensees who include a valid e-mail address under "Applicant Information" in the ULS will receive an official electronic authorization via e-mail. New license applicants who don't provide a FCC Registration Number at the examination point will receive a printed license and a FRN and temporary password to access the Commission Registration System (CORES).

**Fayetteville Annual MS Walk - Sunday April 19, 2015**

We need at least 6 volunteers to assist in the MS Walk in support of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Let's met at the entrance to Honeycutt Park at 352 Devers Street, NLT 1300 hours. We'll coordinate on the CFARS Simplex Frequency 147.59. See you there!!

**73 de Van N4ERM**

CFARS Officers

President ..... Van, N4ERM n4erm@arrl.net  
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 Swapfest .....David, KR4OE kr4oe@nc.rr.com  
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 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](http://WWW.CFARSN.C.ORG/NEWS.PHP)**

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



### March 2015 Club Meeting Minutes

On March 16th the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by **Van N4ERM**. The meeting was held in the Auditorium of the Science Building at Methodist University. **Van N4ERM** led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Elton W4VGW** led the invocation. **Van N4ERM** led the introductions in the normal CFARS style.



**Van N4ERM** talked about the newsletter and mentioned several spelling errors. A motion was made by **Chuck KJ4RV**, seconded by **Kelly N4EWG**, to approve the minutes of the February meeting as corrected. By vote the motion carried.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer: Chuck KJ4RV** gave the treasurer's report. We are still solvent.

**Repeater: Bill KU4W** told the club the repeaters were up and working except when the wind blows from the west.

**Net Manager: Chuck, KJ4RV** gave the net report. He reminded us these were our repeaters and for all to take part in the nets.

**Old Business: Dale AK4YS** reminded the club the VE testing would be held March 21st, Saturday morning, at 9:00 a.m. in the Science Building Auditorium. Bring a copy of your ID, your license and any CSCE's and upgrade. **Van N4ERM** talked about the NC QSO Party. Our scores were slightly lower than last year but we still did well. Kudos went to **Dan KW4BG** and **Chuck AE4FZ** for ferreting out the bonus stations, **Dale AK4YS** for running the SSB station and **Bill KJ4OFD** for walking and chewing bubble gum (but still gets all wet when playing with water pistols). The Disaster Preparedness seminar is April 11, 2015. **Van KG4HYJ** is looking into pricing for a new tower and replacement pricing for antenna, cables and repeaters. He will report back with more information next month. **Irv K3IRV** is working on "go-box" contents and pricing. He will let us know more information next month.

**New Business:** The RARSfest will be held April 4, 2015. We have two (2) tables reserved. The MS Walk is Sunday April 19, 2015. We need volunteers to man the course and one to keep the coordinator apprised of the situation.

**Program: Dale AK4YS**, gave the presentation for the month on various emergency communications. He specifically talked about ALE - Automatic Link Establishment. A good web site for the information is [www.hflink.com](http://www.hflink.com).

**Door Prize Drawing: David KR4OE** conducted the door prize drawing. **Larry KI4DQF** won an all weather pen and paper pad. **Tripp KJ4YRH** won a multi-meter modified by **Van N4ERM** as a field strength meter. **Jim KI4YRH** and **Van N4ERM** donated the prizes for this month's drawing.

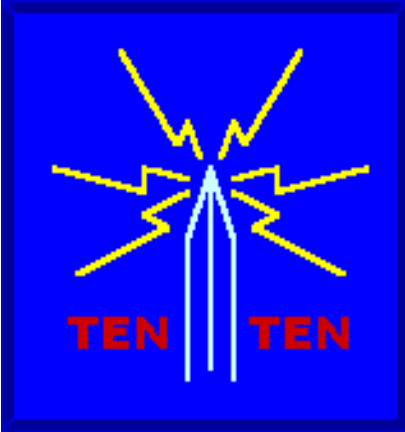
A motion was made by **Bill KU4W**, seconded by **Kelly N4EWG**, to adjourn the meeting. By vote the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



*NC QSO Party*

CFARS participated in the 2015 NC QSO Party. As we normally do, we participated in the In-State Club Mixed category. For the third straight year CFARS has placed first in the QSO Party! CFARS beat out the Alamance Amateur Radio Club. CFARS scored 79,878 points and Alamance Amateur Radio Club scored 71,884. Way to go CFARS!!! Will 2016 be a fourth straight year of CFARS taking the top spot?





## Ten Ten International Digital and CW Contest

The Ten Ten International Digital contest is coming up the weekend of April 25th

and 26th. The band has been opening up a little more regularly. The competition is getting ready to open Ten up with a bang! The Ten CW contest is coming up the weekend of May 2nd and 3rd. Jump on ten meters and help the Possum Trot Chapter gain the top spot in the world.

If you don't have a Ten Ten number, contact Bill KU4W. CFARS has a weekly 10-10 net where you can make the contacts to submit for your very own Ten Ten number.

CFARS will monitor the 146.910 repeater during the contest. Stop by, help out CFARS and have some ole fashion fun on 10 meters!!!

See ya on 10!!!!

### *Upcoming Hamfests*

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| April 18 | Catawba Valley Hamfest<br>Morganton, NC    |
| May 2    | Blue Ridge ARS Hamfest<br>Spartanburg, SC  |
| June 13  | Winston Salem Hamfest<br>Winston Salem, NC |

### *Items for Sale*

Free!!!! Tim has a mast pipe designed for a tower to handle stacking beams on. He isn't sure of the length but its probably 15 - 20 feet in length. It's a heavy duty mast. He wants someone to take it away.

Tim Tapio K4SHF  
910-429-4620

- Kenwood TS-520S
- Keyer
- Tone Generator
- Coax Switch
- Coax Cable
- Headphones
- ARRL Publications

For more information and prices contact -  
Charles Miller  
i2cmars@yahoo.com

### **Upcoming CFARS Meeting**

#### **Dates**

April 20th  
May 18th  
June 15th  
July 20th  
August 17th  
September 21st  
October 19th  
November 16th

Come on out to a CFARS Club meeting.  
See and hear amazing presentations!!!  
See ya at the meeting!!



Build is Better than Buy!

Radiated by "El Cheapo", N4ERM

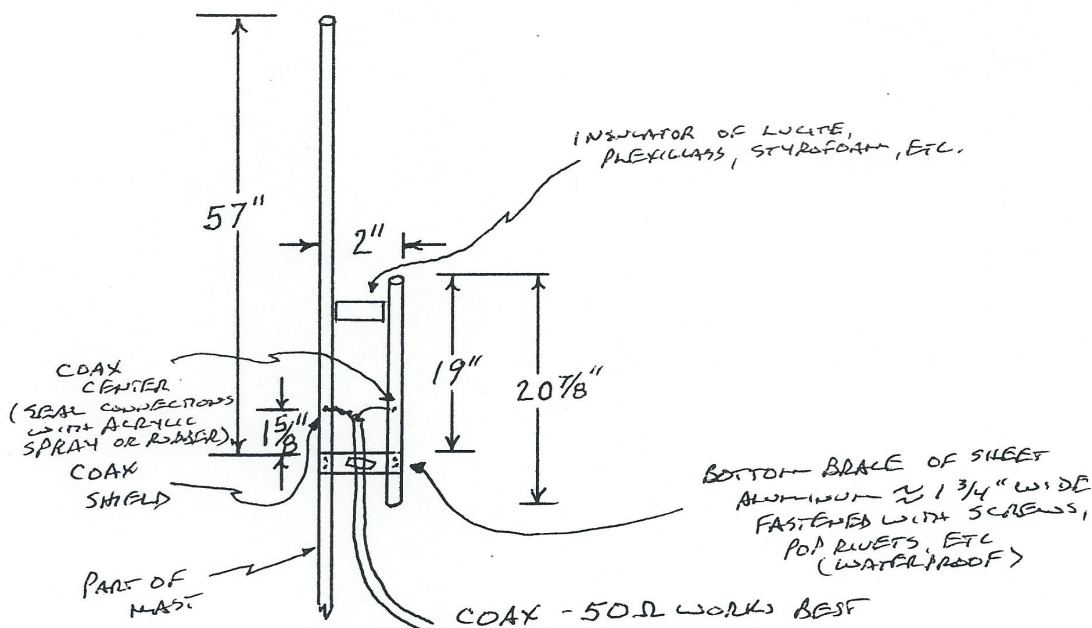
2 METER J-POLE ANTENNA

When it comes to saving money in Amateur Radio, one of the areas in which Hams can really "cut costs" is antennas. For 2 meters, this J-Pole is hard to beat. It is low cost, omni-directional and it works (ask anyone who has used one).

The antenna can be built out of practically any conducting material. I've built "poles" out of aluminum and copper tubing, steel electrical conduit (EMT tubing) and out of stiff wire with about equal success. Materials can even be mixed. One fellow in Florida used his steel flag pole for the mast, measured the appropriate length down from the top and attached a piece of EMT. I've also built a pocket portable model out of 300Ω TV twin lead.

If you follow the dimensions provided, you probably won't have to worry about tuning the antenna. If you're fussy, tuning may be accomplished in a variety of ways to achieve a low SWR:

1. Use hose clamps at the coax conductors and slide the coax conductor feed point (especially on the 19" matching stub section) up and down prior to fastening.
2. Move the 19' matching stub up and down with respect to the shorting strap.
3. Use smaller tubing inside the top of the stub and slide it up and down within the stub.



One final note. The amount of mast under the shorting strap is not important. I built one of these J-poles out of EMT and nailed the base of the mast to the top of the tallest tree in my yard. Worked fine--and it was cheap!

*17th Annual Ole Fashioned*

# CFARS SwapFest

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

## Saturday

## August 8, 2015

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 KR4OE [kr4oe@nc.rr.com](mailto:kr4oe@nc.rr.com)  
(910)624-1394**

**ARRL VE Testing: Pat N4UGH [n4ughpat@aol.com](mailto:n4ughpat@aol.com)  
(910)425-8003**

**Set-up begins at 6:30am. If you need tables please call or email in advance. On the morning of the Swapfest see David KR4OE for tables.**

**Table Reservations highly recommended. All tables used last year.**

***Tail Gating available - - also FREE!!!***