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November 2012 Club Meeting Minutes:

On November 19th the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by **Dale AK4YS**. **Dale AK4YS** led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. **William KD4DCR** led the invocation. **Dale AK4YS** led the introductions in the normal CFARS style.

Kelly N4EWG, made a motion, seconded by **Bill KU4W**, to accept September's minutes with the noted corrections. By vote the motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer; Chuck, KJ4RV gave a report on income and expenses. We are OK!

Repeater; Bill KU4W gave a report on our repeaters. All of the repeaters are working! The .91 machine is still located at Womack Army Hospital.

Health & Welfare; Mya informed us the December Eating Meeting is on for Golden Corral on Ramsey Street.

Net Manager; Chuck, KJ4RV gave the net report

Membership; David KR4OE reported We had 95 members in July. ARRL members are 53.

Field Day; Dale KI4WOH said new construction on the campus will be displacing us next year. We'll adapt!

Old Business: None

New Business: A check for \$350 was written to Methodist College as our annual donation. It is set up as an automatic event annually. **Van N4ERM** made a motion, seconded by **Bill KU4W**, to approve the donation. By vote the motion passed.

Kelly N4EWG was then given the floor for the purpose of electing a 2013 officer roster. He began by asking for any nominations from the floor, and then announced the "Past President's" nominations. **Bonnie KF4LVF** made a motion, seconded by **Bill KU4W**, to accept the nominations as announced. By vote the motion passed.

The President's Corner:

Dale AK4YS

We are coming to the close of an old year and the start of a new year. I pray we will be blessed with good health and propagation. We voted on the officers for 2013. I am proud and humble to accept another term as President. **Vice President Tripp KJ4BKD, Recorder Bill KJ4OFD and Treasurer Chuck KJ4RV**. I think the club has a great team.



I want to wish everyone happy holidays as we enjoy time with our families and give thanks for the many blessings this past year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

73 de **Dale AK4YS**

THE CFARS NEWS IS NOW PUBLISHED AS A PDF DOCUMENT OBTAINABLE ON THE CLUB'S WEB SITE AT WWW.CFARSNC.ORG/NEWS.PHP

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CFARS Officers

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◆—————◆
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Newsletter Submissions

Please submit any items you would like published in the CFARS Newsletter to Mike KN4XP
Cfars_newsletter@yahoo.com

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The positions for 2013 are:

President - Dale Mohr AK4YS
Vice President - Tom (Trip) English KJ4BKD
Treasurer - Chuck Ward KJ4RV
Reporter - Bill Ivey KJ4OFD

Dale AK4YS talked a bit about the upcoming year. He is also asking all the members to give input as to the direction they would like to see the club pursue, program ideas, etc.... Suggestions, guys?

Door Prize: Kelly N4EWG held the door prize drawing. **Darian** (Dale's Son) won a nice big Maglite Flashlight.

Jim KI4YRH made a motion, seconded by **Bonnie KF4LVF**, that the meeting be adjourned. By vote the motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Items For Sale

Icom PS-85 Power Supply
20 amps
Used very little and looks like new.
Gene N4ANV @ 910-425-8003

CFARS Needs You

If you have pictures of CFARS activities or would like to put an article in the newsletter please send them in to cfars_newsletter@yahoo.com.

The newsletter is published monthly and all contributions are welcomed.

Gaining Access to Methodist University

Beginning Monday December 17 at 6 am the main entrance to the campus on Ramsey Street will be closed for approximately five (5) weeks. As an alternative to the main entrance, Stacey Weaver / College Center Drive will reopen for both entering and exiting the campus.. This will allow access to the PA Complex and BB&T Bank as well as the main campus. The entrance on Kenwood Drive at the Village will be manned and open during the day for both entering and exiting the campus Monday through Friday from 6am to 6pm. The North Gate will be open during the day for exiting the campus only.

CFARS Meetings

Club meetings are normally held on the 3rd Monday of each month on the campus of Methodist University

Club Repeaters

	K4MN
2 m	146.910/146.310
70 cm	444.400/449.400
	W4EBM
6 m	53.810/52.810
	WA4FLR
2 m	147.330/147.930

Field Day and Automatic Keyers

By
"EI Cheapo", N4ERM

Our Society's performance in the annual ARRL Field Day event always gives me a great source of pride. We consistently do an excellent job. We participate in what is likely the most difficult and most popular class (Class 2A – 407 entries competing). We finished 56th out of the 407 entries in the Class. We should also take pride in our state. North Carolina had a total of 79 entries. Only four other states (Ohio, Michigan, Virginia and Illinois) had more. Congratulations to our Field Day leaders and participants for a great showing!

Much of our would-be competition has moved away from competing with us. The Raleigh Club participated in Class 9A. The Durham guys entered from the 9A Battery Class. Most of the Charlotte and Shelby folks have moved off to Class 3A or 4A, but did not get higher scores.

Still, WE CAN DO BETTER!

I think our Side Band/FM guys/gals get tired of calling CQ and getting no response. They get discouraged, wear out their voices, lose their energy and enthusiasm, and shut down the station. That's understandable. I may get drummed out of the CW "Dream Team" for mentioning this, but what keeps us going is the automatic keyer. We just push a button and the machine sends CQ until we get an answer. No tired fingers here! The rest of the team needs to do the same thing.

If you haven't already, read the Super Simple Digital Voice Keyer article on page 35 of December's QST (you do subscribe to QST, don't you?). Then check out the number of voice keyer programs there are on the net (Google: voice keyer). Try using a couple of the free programs to interface with your transceiver. You'll be amazed!

Looks like if you start from scratch, the whole interface could cost you less than \$30.00! And hey, I'm no whiz at this stuff, but I'd be glad to help any of you get started along this road. I'd like your suggestions/recommendations as well.