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The President's Corner: David WD4NC

Hello all,

I have been sitting back and thinking about all the club has done this year and what a fine group of Ham's that we have in this club. We still have a lot of fun left this year. We have the Planetarium coming up on Nov 8th, BSA event Nov 15th and a Christmas party coming up on Dec 15th. (Keep in mind you will need to buy a ticket for our eat and greet before the event, same as last year).

Then we start a new year with a great group of ham's leading the way into the new year. Rod will be our President KQ4FNO, Paul as VP NC4PB, Chris as the Recorder KR4I and Mike keeping the books KC4ABE. I have a ton of faith in these guys that they are going to keep the club moving forward and growing.

Speaking of growing, have you noticed that we are getting new members at about every meeting now. That is because we have an active club that is working to get the name out in public and on the air. A lot of this I would say is coming from "Parks on the Air" and we picked up a few more from AUXCOMM group. Then Hector KB4LOA has been busy keeping the Facebook page busy with events and contests and promoting our club members.

A lot of us are still working at knocking out CW and I have to say that my time has been limited on that. I have not given up and still working on it when I can. The club does need more CW operators to keep the contest moving and making contacts. We could use some help here and I hope we have some more step up and get this skill set.

Thinking about that, the club has a Contest group that works SSB, CW and Digital events. You can jump in and be a part of one or all three. Love to have you. We have a POTA team as well that are doing a lot of events and meeting up in the Parks to have fun. You are welcome to come out and be a part of that. We have a Skywarn team as well as AUXCOM working with the EOC here in Cumberland County. I can add in there a DMR repeater and a GMRS now as well. I could keep going, but I think you see my point. There is something in this club for everyone. Even down to a nice and easy rag- chew with friends and a chance -to- face-to- face at meetings. Last meeting we had a nice Hotdog and hamburger cookout that I really enjoyed. My main point to this is to get involved with the club, find where you will fit in and enjoy it. I promise you that when you show up. Some one is going to shake your hand and welcome you in.

**From The Vice President
Rod KQ4FNO**

Another meeting, and another month has flown by. As you get older the time doesn't last as long as it once did. We had a good turnout for the meeting, and I appreciate all who came. I thank the Club for their support and for voting me in as the President for 2026. I believe that Paul NC4PB Vice President, KC4ABE Mike Secretary/Treasurer, KR4I Chris Recorder and I will do our best to keep the Club growing and having success in all our activities. As it has been for the last two years, it will be the Club that decides how we grow and what direction we will go. You will be the approving authority while we, the leadership, will offer opportunities. Looking forward to another great year.

So, what did we do this month? Obviously, the big event was our Auxcom Exercise. Thanks to all that participated, I think it went very well and we have never done anything as complicated and involved before. I will let David, WD4NC, take the lead on discussing this event, as our Auxcom Leader. I will say, however, as a participant, I activated one net and tried to log in to all the other nets I could, while also trying to monitor the GMRS radio we used as an "intercom" between us. Talk about being busy, like trying to hang wallpaper in a gale!

We have the upcoming visit, for all club members and family, to the Fayetteville State University's Planetarium on 8th November at 3:00 PM. The planetarium is in the Lyons Science Building. Access from W.T. Brown Drive (main entrance to FSU) is via the walkway between Lyons Science (16 - grey) and Lyons Science Annex (37 - brick). It promises to be a great visit.

Another event coming up will be the elections on 4th November. As a non-profit organization we cannot endorse or support particular people for running for election, but we are allowed to promote the voting process, and it is my personal belief that we all have the right to vote and that we should take that as a duty to vote. Remember, if you don't vote you lose your ability to criticize those that are elected. Please be part of the decision to choose those that lead us locally, at State and Nationally. And it is the local municipality that take most of your wages in taxes! End of rant.

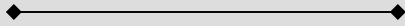
Next Month we have the Boy Scout Jamboree at Bowen Park on Hwy 53. We need volunteers for that. CW and digital displays along with SSB and HT communications to club members at home will be a major element. Please contact me, or David, WD4NC.

To end this note, I would like to mention that the Christmas Meet and Eat is scheduled for 15th December at Peace Presbyterian Church. We will be selling tickets for the meal at \$7.00 for each person coming (i.e. couples will be \$14.00). I will have the tickets available at our next meeting (17th November). The Club will cover the remainder of the cost of the meal, as we did last year.

Rod MacLean, KQ4FNO

CFARS Officers

PresidentDavid WD4NC davidwinfree02@gmail.com
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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



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 day 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.

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

November 16, 2025

Jarsfest
Benson, North Carolina
jars.net

March 6-7, 2026

Charlotte Hamfest
Concord, North Carolina
charlottehamfest.org



CFARS VE Testing

The 2026 VE exams will take place at

Peace Presbyterian Church
3203 Ramsey Street
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Dates:

January 10, 2026 - Peace Presbyterian Church
more dates to follow



November 2025 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at 7:00 pm, Monday, October 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. There were 41 members and guests

present. Bill KJ4OFD made a motion to approve the August minutes, Don WO4SFA seconded, the club voted and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Mike KC4ABE gave the financial report. Ed N4ESA moved to accept the report, Laird WA2COU seconded and the motion was carried.

Net Manager: Larry N4USB September net report: 694 check ins 23.1 on average per day; we were on the air 1045 minutes with 34.8 average minutes per day.

Health & Welfare: No report.

Repeaters: No report.

Field Day: No report.

Membership: David KI4W had 1 new member to vote in Ben Wagner - KC9TPM. Dale AK4YS made a motion to approve these new members Tim KO4VEC seconded, the club voted in favor and the motion was carried.

Contesting: Hector KB4LOA reported on several upcoming events. The next one of note is the CQ World Wide contest this October 25th and 26th. Check Contest Calendar

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.php> on the web to check out additional upcoming contests.

VE Coordinator: Jim K4BUC, the next testing session will be at Peace Presbyterian Church on January 11, 2026 check in starts at 9am. Make sure you bring a copy of your license and if you are not licensed bring a copy of your FRN or you will be turned away. The last testing went well. Several new hams passed their technician test and some upgrades. One candidate had an expired extra class license that retested to get their extra license reinstated.

Swapfest: No report.

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

Emergency Coordinator: Jeremiah N0NV let the club know, every 2nd Tuesday night is Skywarn night. David WD4NC announced that we had a very successful emergency preparedness exercise on October 11th. Amanda from the Cumberland County EOC stated that she was very happy with the results of the event and thanked the club for the support. She also mentioned the 2025 Disaster

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Comms week was held in Cumberland County. She thanked everyone that participated and helped. There were several courses held and communications exercises during the week.

Newsletter: Any submissions please send to Mike KN4XP by end of month, ideally in Microsoft Word format. cfarsnews@gmail.com. Emails and .pdf files are difficult to format for the newsletter.

Deadline for submissions is the last day of the month.

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

ARRL Liaison: David K4FXC is still working with the ARRL.

Possum Trot Net: Alan KQ4QEM, PT net continues Weekdays from 5:00am to 7:00am. If you would like to sign up to run a PT net, please contact Alan KQ4QEM. Alan provided a report on the possum trot check in numbers. We have had some increases in check in's the last month.

Skywarn: No report.

Event Coordinator: 8 November at 3pm at Fayetteville State University FSU "Dark Side of the Moon" Planetarium hosted by Joe. 15 November Scout Jamboree at Camp Bowers off Hwy 53 the club will setup some and show the scouts some radios and operations. December 7th is Museum Ships on the air, we are planning to go to the USS NC in Wilmington. Winter Field day is coming in January and NCQP in February.

Old Business: Cory K9BTR retuned the duplexer the WA4FLR 147.330 repeater, seemed to help a little bit, he will also turn down power to see if that will help more. There are some additional upgrades in the works like a voice receiver and a network drop for other possibilities. 501(c) (3), no letter back from the IRS yet but the club is now registered on the online roster of non-profit organizations, so we can now take advantage all the nonprofit benefits. We can now have raffles, take donations, etc.

New Business: David KI4W announced that it was time for final nominations and vote for club officers for 2026. David KI4W asked for nominations for the club recorder. Chris KR4I was previously nominated. No additional nominations were received. David asked for a motion to and a second to vote Chris KR4I for the role of Recorder, the club voted and the motion was carried. David KI4W next asked for nominations for club Secretary/Treasurer. Mike KC4ABE was previously nominated. No additional nominations were received. David asked for a motion and a second to vote Mike KC4ABE for the role of Secretary/Treasurer, the club voted and the motion was carried. David next asked for nominations for club Vice President. Paul NC4PB was previously nominated. No additional nominations were received David asked for a motion and a second to vote Paul NC4PB for the role of Vice President, the club voted and the motion was carried.

David finally asked for nominations for club President. Rod KQ4FNO was previously nominated. No additional nominations were received David asked for a motion and a second to vote Rod KQ4FNO for the role of President, the club voted and the motion was carried.

David handed out slips to vote for ham of the year. These were collected and the Ham of the Year will be announced at the Christmas Party.

Program: None.

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Announcements: None.

Door Prize Drawing: Don WO4SFA won a pelican case and a book and some walnuts, Luis KQ2L won an ammo can, Harold KR4COM won an ammo can, Bob KL7NL won a flood light, Colt KF6GRG flood light and a patch cable, Keith won a book and some light bulbs, Jim K4BUC won some black walnuts, Rick N1GNF won a bell and a roll of cable, Tim N9OUS won a power station, Mike KC4ABE won a wifi adapter, Jerry N0NV won a cable and Ben KC7TPM won a glass cup.

50/50 Drawing: \$112 was collected, 2757 was the winning ticket held by Paul NC4PB won \$56.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm. There were 41 members and guests present. Ed N4ESA motioned to adjourn, Bob KL7NL seconded, and the club voted, and the motion was carried.

Submitted: Chris KR4I

CFARS Recorder



Emergency and Skywarn

I have often been out-of-town for krow recently, but I am excited about developments with our AUXCOMM team as I reengage with the club. Our training at the EOC has been going very well. And this article will focus on the emerging news about a DMR repeater, where I see a motion passed to acquire a club DMR repeater either through purchase or donation.

What is the significance of DMR to AUXCOMM specifically?

Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) technology has become increasingly relevant among the narrow FM bandwidth digital voice modes. DMR offers some degree of compatibility with other modes, for example Yaesu's System Fusion/C4FM option and Icom's D-Star option, via a personally owned hotspot. Emergency training exercises often include a DMR task on the Brandmeister or TGIF networks. North Carolina's VIPER network and other trunked radio platforms used by emergency services have a similar look-and-feel at the handset or mobile radio level as DMR. By learning DMR, amateur operators gain familiarity with the same principles—talk groups, time slots, and networked repeaters—that underpin public safety communications. This makes DMR not only a hobby but also an opportunity to build skills that mirror real-world emergency service operations.

Beyond its technical applications, DMR is also simply fun. Unlike traditional analog radios, DMR enables global contacts on equipment that would otherwise be limited to local, line-of-sight conversations. Through the use of repeaters and internet-linked talk groups, operators can make unique QSOs. Reference the USS Midway on the Air events at <https://papasys.com/uss-midway-on-the-air-january-11/> for a regularly occurring special event station that can earn a QSL card.

Finally, DMR can be accessible. The cost of equipment has decreased significantly, with capable handholds and mobile units available at reasonable prices. My first DMR contact was on DroidStar at https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.dudetronics.droidstar&hl=en_US before I even purchased a multi-mode radio handset. CFARS has a strong community of mentors to provide guidance, code plugs, and support to help newcomers get on the air. This means anyone with interest can begin exploring the technology. Check in to the CFARS Sunday evening DMR Net at 20:00 EST on TGIF Network talk group 910.

In conclusion, operating a public safety radio – either a handset or base station built into our console at the EOC – is a task in the AUXC course and Position Task Book, if those are avenues you want to approach. Operating a DMR radio is the closest you can get on personal equipment, and it is also pleasurable for ham communication.

Jeremiah N0NV

AUXCOMM / EOC

You cannot win the fight without Comms.

October has been a busy month for the Sky Warn/AUXCOMM team. We are still holding a SKY Warn net on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 PM on K4MN, 146.910. Join me and give me a short Weather report for your area and then tell us about your day. This is how we learn how to send and handle traffic. If you are not a part of Sky Warn, we can help you with that. The class is online, or you can take it in person. It is a great class to learn about the weather and what those maps are telling you. It is a big help to the National weather service. It can save lives in our local area as well.

The AUXCOMM group has come up with a PACE Plan, and it is in the file section on FB and Discord. If you have not joined Discord yet, Send Paul, NC4PB an email and he will send you a link to join in. (yes, it is free). We used the PACE Plan to work a drill that touched 12 counties around Cumberland and got State attention. The Club PACE plan for Cumberland County was used in the NC State Comms test that was held here for the first time in Cumberland. I heard that it went so well that they are going to do it again here next year. There was a lot to learn at this event. I hope to be there and learn what I can.

AUXCOMM requires that you take the ICS-100, 200, 700, 800 and 288a. You can get this done online and it is free. Once you have it done. Send me a copy of your certs and I will add you to the list at the EOC. Each one of these will take about an hour and not that hard. Give it a try. Right now, I have 25 members with certs on the AUXCOMM team, and these are a great group of hams. We also do training at the EOC and are setting up a Ham shack there as well. I hope to see it up and running soon.

If you need help, Get up with me at DavidWinfree02@Gmail.com

David WD4NC

