



Vice President's Notes	2
Club Officers	3
Repeaters	3
Club Dues	3
CFARS Nets	4
Upcoming Hamfests	4
VE Testing	4
Meeting Minutes	5 - 6
Auxcomm - Man Down	7
CFARS Swapfest	8

The President's Corner: Rod KQ4FNO

Here it is, 24th April, and another month gone by. We had a good show for the Club meeting on the 20th of April, and that is always good to see. What makes it even better is that following the meeting people tend to hang around and chat with each other. That shows that the Club is healthy and working for the members! Sorry if I had to chase you out.

During the meeting we started a discussion as to our position for Field Day. There was some talk about the difference between Field Day being a service to the community and a contesting event. My opinion is that Field Day is both at the same time. Since ARRL posts scores and lists "winners" it is a "contest". However, we do go out to the public and try to get as many others interested as well, so we are a community asset. I would love to have us set up in an area with a high amount of foot traffic while still being able to operate in air-conditioned comfort. As we all know, many of our members are getting rather seasoned, and weather conditions need to be as comfortable as possible. If anyone has a brilliant idea for an area like that, please let me know, and we will investigate it for next year! In the meantime we will use the SF Compound and set up there. It will be advertised around the county, and I hope each of you will let your friends and family know too. As to what our status will be, That is to be decided. I hope to have a Discord meeting with all interested people prior to the scheduled Club Meeting, and we can discuss that in the Discord meeting. As it stands right now as a 2A station we have come second many times but cannot break the "First" barrier. 2A, 3A and 4A are heavily contested each year, so we could look at 5A instead. This means that at some time during the event we have 5 radios operating at one time, which we are most certainly capable of. This also allows us to have a radio, or two, available for people who want to try out contesting, without taking away the radios from those who are heavily involved with radio traffic. In other words, we keep the high level of operating on the usual radios but have others that can take their time to make a QSO, and of course those contacts count too! What I have seen in previous years is that we have an extraordinary group that supports the Club for each event, coming out to help set up and to help breakdown. I sincerely hope those of you that I just described come back and help us once again this year

Other news. I believe David, WD4NC, will write this up, but I want to mention the 'Man Down Fox

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

Hunt' held on Saturday 25th of April. The base stations that came up on air to check in were great. I checked in myself, couldn't hear on Simplex and left to go to the site. Arriving there I found David, WD4NC, Jeremiah, N0NV, and Paul, AI4PB, working the Command Center and tracking the teams looking for the "victims". All-in-all it was a good first-time exercise, and we all found out we had a lot to learn. The "victims" were found and everyone had a good time. Thank you AUXCOM section for a great event.

Hope to see all of you next month at the meeting, and I will try not to chase you out too soon! 73 to all!

Rod KQ4FNO

From The Vice President Paul NC4PB

As April draws to a close, it has been a productive month for the club. On April 4th, several members traveled to Raleigh for Rarsfest. The event included many informative presentations, including one delivered by our own Jeremiah Jones, N0NV. He performed exceptionally well and represented CFARS with distinction.

The club POTA event originally scheduled for April 11th was rescheduled due to the fact that I ended up having to work that day. The tentative new date is Saturday, May 23, at 9:00 a.m., at Nicholson Creek State Park (Upchurch Lake boat landing area).

On April 19th, WD4NC hosted the Rookie Roundup for several newly licensed amateur radio operators. The event was successful, and participants made numerous contacts.

On April 25th, several club members participated in a hybrid AUXCOMM "man down" scenario and Fox Hunt. The exercise provided a useful baseline assessment of our readiness for land navigation and for plotting waypoints on maps. During the after-action review, the group identified several opportunities for improvement, and the club will develop training to address them. This was a really fun event, and I'd like to do another one soon!

Field Day will take place in approximately two months, and planning meetings will be scheduled soon to begin preparations. Meeting times will be posted on Facebook and Discord and announced during the club nets. We're looking forward to lots of member participation this year.

73

Paul NC4PB

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

May 2, 2026

UnFest
 Goldsboro, North Carolina
www.k4cyp.com

July 11, 2026

Firecracker Hamfest
 Salisbury, North Carolina
rowanars.net

July 18, 2026

53rd Annual Cary Mid-Summer Swapfest
 Cary, North Carolina
wcars-cub.org

CFARS VE Testing

The 2026 VE exams will take place at

Peace Presbyterian Church
 3203 Ramsey Street
 Fayetteville, NC 28301

Dates:

August 8, 2026 - 7046 Ramsey St. - Cumberland County Shrine
 October 10, 2026 - Peace Presbyterian Church





April 2026 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at 7:00 pm, Monday, April 20th 2026, in the Fellowship Hall of Peace Presbyterian Church, 3202 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC.

President Rod MacLean KQ4FNO called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country. Don KO4IHM gave the invocation. Rod led the introductions in the usual CFARS fashion. There were 47 members and guests present.



Rick N2GNF made a motion to approve January's meeting minutes Bill KE4DER seconded, the club voted, and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Mike KC4ABE gave the financial report.

Net Manager: Larry N4USB, Stay tuned to the local 2 meter net for net reports. 667 contacts, Average of 21.8 check ins for an average net time of 30 minutes with 34 pieces of traffic.

Health & Welfare: Nina KN4KUL provided a report on the health and welfare of our members.

Repeaters: David K4FXC no report.

Field Day: No report.

Membership: David KI4W - Two new members were presented to the club for membership. Cody Frasz – Not present at the meeting. Lilly Tigney – KR4LAF. Bill Ivey KJ4OFD made a motion to approve these memberships Jeremy KB4D seconded, the club voted and the motion was carried.

Contesting: Hector KT5H - check contestcalendar.com for contests and events.

VE Coordinator: Jim K4BUC - The next testing session will be at the Cumberland County Shrine Club on August 8th, 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.

Swapfest: No report.

Public Relations: Hector KT5H, continue posting ham radio and club activity on the CFARS Facebook page.

Emergency Coordinator: David WD4NC - nothing additional to report.

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.

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued from Page 5)

Possam Trot Net: Alan KQ4QEM, PT net continues Weekdays from 5:00am to 7:00am. Alan provided a report: January had an average of 40 check ins per day. February 39 March 41. 5 new PT Memberships since January 2026. If you would like to sign up to run a PT net, please contact Alan KQ4QEM.

Skywarn: No report.

Event Coordinator: Paul NC4PB August 8th is the next scheduled VE testing session, go to the CFARS website to see the times. April 25th there will be a fox hunt, David WD4NC had an idea. Mike KC4ABE and Ty N4TTN will be the fox for a simulated injury or lost person type scenario. They will go out someplace and transmit. Base station radio operators will be needed to listen to help triangulate them to a general area then mobile and portable operators will be sent out to track them down. David WD4NC provided a brief overview of the event.

Old Business: Rookie Round Up: David WD4NC briefed the results of the Rookie Round Up. 3 hams showed up at his station and took part in the ARRL sponsored contest. Three (3) 10-80 Meter EFHW antennas ordered from Chris Hostetter. A check was sent to get those ordered. They should be delivered in the next few weeks.

New Business: Radiograms and Message handling: Joe W3OJO briefed traffic handling and how to fill out a radiogram. The ARRL has lots of types of Radiograms and they all have a specific purpose. Some are for handling basic messages, congratulations, routine, etc. Contact Joe if you would like to send a radiogram or wish to participate in sending them. Field Day. A discussion regarding the class of our field day event ensued. Rod asked for the club to think about which class we might like to be in other than 2A. Some discussion about using class 3 or 4 or even 5 for our field day event.

Program: None.

Announcements: None.

Door Prize Drawing: Lannie KO4BVV won a radio, Tim won a Radio, Paul AI4PB won a Radio, Tim won an dual band mobile antenna, Don KO4IHM won a desk stand, Don WO4SFA won a ammo can, Bob KL7NL won a stack of ham magazines, Jeremy KB4D won a propane gauge and John Whinery (no license) won a speaker.

50/50 DRAWING: \$166 was collected, 3109 was the winning ticket held by Don WO4SFA who won \$83.

Adjournment: Jeremy KB4D made a motion to adjourn and Norman K4MGZ seconded, the club voted and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

Submitted: Chris KR4I
CFARS Recorder

AUXCOMM / Foxhunt / Man down drill**Carvers Creek State Park /Sandhills****04/25/2026****1030 to 1245.**

The CFARS AUXCOMM team hosted a Man Down drill which brought the team together to work the exercise and have fun with a Fox hunt at the same time. In this case the Fox was Mike – KC4ABE and Tyler – K4TTN. They were given a safety brief and a general area to go to hide for the event.

There were a total of 16 hams on site at the park to work on the event. A command-and-control team put a shade tent and set up on two tables. One for HF Win-link and one for VHF 2m simplex on 146.520 and 146.910 frequency. We also had seven Base stations that checked in to the AUXCOMM net to tell us if they could hear the ops that were in the woods and asking for help. Our base stations reports were a very important part of the drill. They are the ones that gave us information on where to start looking for the man down.

Once the Command was set up in the park, the hunters came in and we did a sign in sheet of all that were on site. Then we broke the groups into battle buddies and gave a safety brief. Next there was a demo on how to use the HT to find the person that is down in the woods. At this point the teams were deployed to start the hunt.

This op was done as a Raw op. We wanted to see what the hams would bring to the Fox hunt and what they took in the field with them. Some were spot on with their gear and others came with hope and goodwill.

There were a lot of lessons learned by the AUXCOMM Command team and the hunters. These were briefed during the AAR after the event. Also, we checked the sign in sheet to be sure we had everyone back on site at the end of the drill.

Overall, it was a great event and a lot of fun. We had great support from the club, and it is the first time we have run this type of event. One of the main lessons learn is to go over the gear you take into the field and what apps to use for sending in your information on your location so we can track where everyone is at. Note: if you are going on a hike, give someone the information on where you are going and what trail you are going to be using and set up a check in on the hour to let that person know you are okay.

David / WD4NC

26th Annual

CFARS SwapFest

Sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society

www.cfarsnc.org

Fayetteville, North Carolina

Saturday August 8, 2026

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

Information and Table Reservations:

David KI4W davidki4w@gmail.com

910-624-1394

VE Test Session Walk-ins Only Registration 9:00am Testing 9:30am

ARRL VE Testing: Jim K4BUC jbuccieri@twc.com

910-309-5218

Set-up begins at 6:30am. Only vendors inside before 8:00am. If you need tables please call or email in advance. On the morning of the Swapfest see David KI4W for tables.

**Table Reservations recommended.
Tail Gating available - - also FREE!!!**

An ARRL Sanctioned Event