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**The President's Corner: Rod KQ4FNO**

From the president

Time seems to fly as I get older—March is ending, and next month's activities are already lined up. Thanks to Paul, NC4PB, for organizing upcoming events (see last month's minutes). Check them out, find what interests you, and join in! Scheduled activities include RARSFEST buying trips, W1AW Special Events, a POTA event, foxhunt, and contests published by Hector, KT5H.

Last month, we had a strong turnout at Grays Creek Middle School STEM night. David, WD4NC, demonstrated FT8 with contacts in Italy, Mid Africa, and the UK, impressing students. Tyler, K4TTN, helped explain radio concepts. Volunteering had its perks—pizza and a delicious red velvet cupcake.

We've requested a \$3,285.21 Micro Grant from Cumberland County to build three Winlink hubs at the EOC, Spring Lake, and the Bladen/Cumberland border. If approved, the EOC hub may take some time to get installed. However, we can use that to provide a 'mobile hub' at any time if needed. I encourage club members to participate in Winlink Wednesday nets. You don't have to be monitoring the radio (or computer) all the time. Set up the email, contact RMS and send the email. The report will be available the next day. You will get reminder emails, through Winlink, to submit the next week. If you cannot reach a VHF node (and they are much faster than HF) then after sending by HF you can always check for emails using Telenet, which is even faster than VHF! Just a useful method of doing emails over the air.

Dale, AK4YS, and Hector, KT4H, are restarting the 10M net with Ten Ten—look for updates in this newsletter and listen in at next month's meeting. This is a great opportunity for new club operators.

New Operators: David, WD4NC will be hosting the Rookie Roundup on 19<sup>th</sup> April. If you have not participated in a contest, have only just got your license or are coming back into the hobby please contact David and you can have the chance of learning how to contest against newbies like yourself. No high power, amplified stations and professional contesters hogging the spectrum, just rookies!

The Club passed the motion for us to buy three 10 – 80 meter EFHW antennas, and that has been

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ordered from Chris Hofstetter at \$100.00 each. We have used one of his antennas at both Winter Field Day and NC QSO Party events (thank you David, WD4NC. Now we will have one for each major station, or special events.

Lastly, Ron Dahle made his final call on the Possum Trot Net last Wednesday after many years of service to the Club and Possum Trot Net, including two terms as Club President (2021, 2022). We wish him well in Maine and hope to hear him on the airwaves soon, if you need Maine for all states we have his number!

Rod KQ4FNO

### **From The Vice President Paul NC4PB**

Well, I can't believe March is already gone. April is set to be a fairly busy month for the club.

Coming up on April 4<sup>th</sup> is RARSFEST. Be sure to come out to support our very own club member, Jeremiah Jones, N0NV, as he presents "Activating Parks, Summits, and Islands" at 9:00 am in the Hall of Fame room. There are lots of other presentations that look very promising scheduled throughout the day as well.

On April 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM (weather permitting) I will be set up at Upchurch Lake/Nicholson Creek State Park to play a little POTA. All are welcome to drop by, especially our Technicians who have not had much of a chance to get on HF yet. We'll light up 10 meters and see what we can rustle up. Feel free to bring your own setup so we can have a few radios on the air on different bands.

On the 19<sup>th</sup>, David, WD4NC is planning to have a few newly licensed hams over for Rookie Roundup. The event lasts 6 hours, from 1800 to 2359 UTC. Please contact David if you are interested in participating or helping out.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> is the club meeting at 7:00 PM. Looking forward to seeing LOTS of club members there. (and yes, that means you 😊).

And finally, on the 25<sup>th</sup> we will be putting on a hybrid Fox/Human hunt! We will be simulating a man-down situation where the individual needs assistance. More details will be shared at the meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup>, so be sure to stop by.

Field Day is coming up the last weekend in June, so preliminary planning is underway.

All of these events are being put on for YOU, the club members, so come out and join us!

See you at RARSFEST,

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*

**April 4, 2026**

RARSFEST

Raleigh, North Carolina  
rarsfest.org

**April 25, 2026**

Winston-Salem Spring Fest  
Winston Salem, North Carolina

**May 2, 2026**

UnFest

Goldsboro, North Carolina  
www.k4cyp.com

**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





### March 2026 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at 7:00 pm, Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 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. David WD4NC gave the invocation. Rod led the introductions in the usual CFARS fashion. There were 35 members and guests present.

Jeremy KB4D made a motion to approve January's meeting minutes, David WD4NC seconded, the club voted and the motion carried.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** Mike KC4ABE gave the financial report. Ed N4ESA moved to accept the financial report, Jerimah N0NV seconded, the club voted and the report was approved.

**Net Manager:** Larry N4USB, net report: Stay tuned to the local 2 meter net for net reports.

**Health & Welfare:** Travis N4BEL provided a report on the health and welfare of our members.

**Repeaters:** David K4FXC no report.

**Field Day:** No report.

**Membership:** David KI4W had no new members to vote in this month.

**Contesting:** Hector KT5H announced several upcoming contests, CW NAQCC sprint is this week, Russian DX contest is 20 March, CQ WW SSB28/29 March, 17 April is Support your Parks weekend. Check [contestcalendar.com](http://contestcalendar.com) for additional contests and events.

**VE Coordinator:** Jim K4BUC the next testing session will be at Peace Presbyterian Church on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026, check in starts at 9 am. 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 would like anyone interested in calling the Skywarn NET to please let him know, everyone should know how to call the net. It's only once a month on the 910 K4MN and the 045 WB4TQD repeaters. During bad weather please report any issues or weather to David WD4NC and Colt to make reports and the reports will be sent to the EOC. If you want to be included in the SIGNAL App for AUXCOMM please get with David WD4NC, Colt, Jerimiah N0NV to be added to that app to communicate with the AUXCOMM team.

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

**Deadline for submissions is the last day of the month.**



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**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](mailto: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.

**Skywarn:** No report.

**Event Coordinator:** 21<sup>st</sup> of March VE testing, see the website for time. Paul (Rash?), is heading up an event for North Carolina for the ARRL called the America 250 event, this is an event using the W1AW call sign, if you want to activate the W1AW call sign for NC, contact Paul NC4PB and he will provide the details. This will be a two, 2 week event so there will be time for several operators. RARSfest is April 4<sup>th</sup>. Check out their website, they have a lot of forums and events. Amateur Satellites, AUXCOMM, Skywarn, etc. 18<sup>th</sup> of April, there will be a POTA event. 19<sup>th</sup> is the ARRL Rookie Round Up, David WD4NC is running this event and to please contact him to come get on the radios. April 25<sup>th</sup> 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 operators will be sent out to track them down. Another POTA event will be held in May and Museum Ships on the Air and Summer field day in June.

**Old Business:** Rod KQ4FNO submitted the logs for the NC QSO party. We put up a lot of antennas, and it takes a lot of time and effort. We need to look at ways to be more efficient, be thinking about what we really need for a particular event and if a few wire antennas will suffice, we may not need a full wave loop each time. Rod filed the taxes for this year. He needs to work on the dates, but this is the first time that he has known of in history that the club has filed taxes. Rod thanked Ed N4ESA for supporting the audit on the club's finances. Ed mentioned that the monthly treasury report is great and recommended that we keep doing it. Mike will be providing the full budget report for 2025 at the next meeting since the audit report is now final.

**New Business:** Rod KQ4FNO requested support from anyone available to attend and present at Grays Creek Middle School for a STEM event being held 24 March at 5pm. Please let him know if you can help. The Hope Mills Historical Society has shut down and is donating its remaining funds to CFARS in the amount of \$2,520.27 to buy equipment. Rod noted that we want to use the funds to purchase equipment to put in a digital node (digipeater) at the same location as the K4MN 910 repeater site and purchase some 80 to 10 End Fed Half Wave antennas. Rod asked for a motion to approve these purchases using these funds. WO4SFA made a motion to approve the purchases and Rick N2GNF seconded, the club voted and the motion carried. Chris KR4I announced that the first End Fed Half Wave antenna workshop is April 11<sup>th</sup>. If you have signed up and can't make it, there will be other events. E-mail [KR4I@arrl.net](mailto:KR4I@arrl.net) for details.

**Program:** None.

**Announcements:** None.

**Door Prize Drawing:** KB4D won an office desk card holder and a US Flag, Michael KF4UHI won a 2 meter mobile antenna and a CD holder, Lanni KQ4BVV on a base antenna and a pouch and Paul NC4PB won an ammo can.

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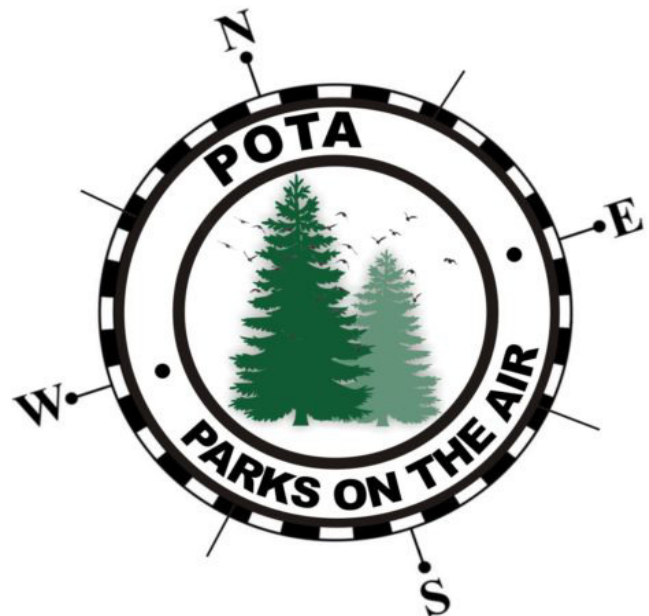
**50/50 Drawing:** \$109 was collected, 455 was the winning ticket held by Rick N1GNF who won \$54.00.

**Adjournment:** Joe made a motion to adjourn and Tim KO4VEC seconded, the club voted and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

Submitted: Chris KR4I  
CFARS Recorder

### The Next 90 Days in Contesting Slicing the Pie

- POTA Support your parks- 3rd weekend of April (17-19)
- Georgia POTA Event - April 18th
- Museum Ships On The Air - June 6 - 7
- Field Day - June 27 - 28
- 13 Colonies Special Event - the entire 1st week of July
- WRTC 2026 - World Radiosport Team Championship will take place in the UK between 7th and 13th in an area known as East Anglia. The 50 operating sites will be on the air.
- IARU HF Championships (24 hrs) July 11 - 12



*26th Annual*

# **CFARS SwapFest**

Sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society

[www.cfarsnc.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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*