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The President's Corner: David WD4NC

This year has been wide open so far and we are just on the first half of it. The club has been busy and doing great things. Contest, POTA, STEM and working Sky Warn and ECOMMs.

First of the month Rod KQ4FNO and I went to Kinston and join in on the South Eastern FEMA meet and greet. The event was open from 10 to 2 and we had some good speakers. There also was some good lunch as well. There was a lot of how and why things work and why they run the way they do. This led us to having ECOMMS month with CFARS. There were over 50 hams at this event from 33 County's in our area.

I asked Chini from the EOC of Cumberland County to come out and give us a talk and how the EOC is doing and where the club fits in. Right now, they have a IC-7300 with MARS and the GO Box has been refitted as well. They are still missing the HF antenna and the 2M/70CM antenna as well as coax for both. Right now, that is a budget issue, and they hope that it will be funded soon. We also talked about our upcoming ECOMM test for the club. On June 14 we will be headed to the Shelters around Cumberland County, we will work the drills from there and test to be sure all is working and can reach the EOC with the repeater and by Simplex. We also will be removing two antennas and coaxes and installing them at another location. Yes, we could use some help with that. I have not got a date on that yet.

Our second was Vicke AD3I. She did a talk on was like working the Mt Mitchell Repeaters during the Hurricane Helena event. She is still active in the recovery of the areas that were hit hard. She gave a strong talk on what it was like to hear kids calling in on the net and asking for help. This reinforced why the club is active in ECOMM. We need every ones help with this. If you do not want to get out and get involved, you can still help from home. We always need relay stations on the air on Simplex to get the signal back to the EOC. Everyone can play a part in this. I will push out more intel on the event as we get closer to the date.

The club did a POTA event at Carvers Creek State Park, Sandhills Access. The club had a great turn out and we did a SE for 82nd All American Week. We also did a lot of training for the new hams

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and those that wanted to learn about portable set-ups in the field. We made a lot of contacts and had our new hams on the air and had fun. Sadly, we did not burn any hot dogs at this event.

Our next focus is Field Day. That is coming up at the end of this month and we are already talking about plans for it and will be doing a walk through at the SFA and getting a game plan together. I will be putting a date and time out soon. All are welcome to be at this event and there just may be some big changes in how we work the event. If you want to get your input in, try and be there. We may even field a team for the EOC F class as well.

So much happening that I also forgot the USS North Carolina that we are going to do on June 7th. I will put info on that event next month. I am writing this on May 23 to get it to Mike so he can have the newsletter ready before the meeting. Everyone be sure and thank Mike and the rest of our crew for the great job they are doing for the club when you see them.

Still a Space Camp to talk about and an upcoming BSA. Also, Norman with the Salvation Army could use some help as well. If you are looking for something to do, just ask. We can find it. Once again, thank you all for what you do to support the club and keep it moving forward. You all are what makes this the best Ham group in the world!

David WD4NC

ARRL FIELD DAY



www.arrl.org

**From The Vice President
Rod KQ4FNO**

Another month has flown by, and the year feels shorter than ever!

First, our last meeting with Chini Gault from the Emergency Management Center was packed with valuable updates. We also had an inspiring talk from Vicki Carnes, AD3I, who shared her experiences as a net control station. Her firsthand stories of handling emergencies—and even assisting on-site—were a great reminder of the importance of preparedness, especially with hurricane season approaching.

Speaking of emergency preparedness, we recently attended a meeting at the Kinston Emergency Management Center with the Eastern Branch of North Carolina Emergency Management. The briefings we received were insightful, and we had the chance to connect with many professionals in the field. I've uploaded two of the briefings to the Club Facebook page under "Files," so feel free to check them out.

Looking ahead, our local EMCOMM exercise is set for June 14th. We're hoping to use shelter locations, but plans are still in motion. If shelters aren't available, we'll proceed with a scenario that allows us to work nearby without disrupting operations. Mobile operators are always welcome, and home stations play a crucial role by relaying messages for those unable to communicate via simplex with the County EOC. There's a job for everyone!

You should have received an email with details on volunteering for the Salvation Army. Norman has been a tremendous help to us, so if you're able, consider lending him a hand.

Speaking of volunteering—ARRL Field Day is fast approaching! Station chiefs should be finalizing their plans and ensuring they have all necessary equipment. Operators, be sure to coordinate with section chiefs so we can keep the radios running 24 hours. There's plenty to do—setting up towers, running lines, preparing for the start, and then breaking everything down afterward. And let's not forget food! Let us know what you can bring or cook so we can make sure we're well-fed throughout the event.

In other news, I'm happy to report that our amendment to our Incorporation has been accepted and published by the State of North Carolina! Now, we're working on getting IRS approval for our 501(c)(3) status—though that process may take some time.

On a fun note, I've just received Club stickers! They're vinyl, built to withstand harsh conditions, and will be available at the next meeting—\$3 each or 2 for \$5. I'm also hoping to have lapel pins ready by then, but we'll have to wait and see.

Finally, a reminder of why we do this: ham radio is more than just a hobby—it's a passion. Whether you enjoy contesting, POTA, SOTA, satellite relays, meteor scatter EME, SSTV, or simply having a good conversation with a friend, get out there and have fun!

Rod MacLean, KQ4FNO

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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.



May 2025 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at 7:00 pm, Monday, May 19th, 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. Will KN4OTA gave the invocation. David WD4NC led the introductions in the usual CFARS fashion. Bill KF4OKD moved April's minutes be approved, Rick N1GNF seconded, and the

members voted and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Mike KC4ABE gave the financial report.

Net Manager: Larry N4USB reported August net report: 718 check ins for an average of 23.6, 1011 minutes for an average of 32.6 and 29 pieces of traffic.

Health & Welfare: Travis N4BEL gave the welfare report.

Repeaters: David K4FXC the repeaters are working well as of last check.

Field Day: No report.

Membership: Membership: David KI4W had 4 new members to vote in, Felipe Acevedo KC4ACE, Derec Mercer KO4SPG, Jarrod Jones and Aaron Brown KF4VGI. Travis N4BEL made a motion to approve these new members- Jerry Shreker seconded, the club voted in favor and the motion was carried.

Contesting: No report.

VE Coordinator: Jim K4BUC next VE test session, check the CFARS website for details on the next testing session.

Swapfest: David KI4W CFARS 25TH anniversary SwapFest will be August 9th this year.

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

Emergency Coordinator: Jeremiah KO4VRM, Greg NC4GK, every 2nd Tuesday night is Skywarn night.

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: Greg NC4GK the PT net continues 5:00 am to 7:00 am.

Skywarn: No report.



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Event Coordinator: Rod KQ4FNO reported Carvers Creek on Thursday the May 22nd for POTA special event for 82nd Airborne Division's clean sweep, will be at the Ramsey St park entrance 4 to 7pm. Museum ships on the air event is on June 7th. ARRL Field Day is June 28 and 29. David announced there will be a station chief meeting later to go over antennas and station setups.

Emergency Coordinator: Jeremiah, Greg NC4GK, every 2nd Tuesday night is Skywarn night.

Old Business: Tower is now moved to the EOC. State approved our 501 c(3) now has to get it through the Federal government, and IRS. Kinston meet up regarding the EOC, David WD4NC and Rod KQ4FNO attended.

New Business: None.

Program: Fayetteville State ham shack is being worked by Joe KQ4WGW. They have two commercial HF antennas that need to be tuned. Anyone that is willing to help with turning these please get with David WD4NC. Chini from the EOC briefed an update from the EOC. She asked the members if they have questions regarding the EOC let her know. The Ham radio room at the EOC, has everything setup for the most part. Anyone wanting to help should have the required ICS training to operate in the EOC. They will be offering this ICS Training, some of the classes are during the day, so she plans to work on evening classes. In the event of an emergency, don't self-deploy to the EOC, work through David and Rod for support. Kinston NC, the meet up went well, David and Rod attended. She mentioned they will be moving radio communications equipment from a few schools to other schools that are used for shelter locations, they will need our help, the schools are on board helping with the logistics of this. They are looking at the last week of June for these two moves which include antennas and cables, by their policy antennas cannot be mounted on the roof but can be on the side of the building. David WD4NC will put together a crew to get these two locations moved. Club ECOMS Drill in June, David WD4NC is working on this, will be working on coordinating with hams to be near or in the shelters, we may not be able to access the inside of the shelters and will do this from outside the shelters if needed. Planning for June 14th

Vicky AD3I talked about her involvement with Western NC hurricane Helene relief and communications. She helped extensively coordinating communications traffic, supplies and welfare messages. She gave a chronicle about the Mt Mitchell Repeater and some of the rescues and other events that occurred. She helps to run a youth STEM amateur radio club. Vicky also enjoys Parks on the Air and works with girl and boy scouts

Announcements: None.

Door Prize Drawing: Tim won a Pelican case, Hector KB4LOA won a UV-5R and blueberries, Jeremy KB4D won a phone plug adapter and Rick won a knife ammo case.

50/50 Drawing: \$90 collected and Rod KQ4FNO had the winning ticket of for \$45.

Adjournment: Larry N4USB made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Tyler K4TTN seconded, the club voted and the motion was carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:41 PM.

Submitted: Chris KR4I
Recorder

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

July 12, 2025

Firecracker Hamfest
Salisbury, North Carolina

August 9, 2025

25th Annual CFARS Swapfest
Fayetteville, North Carolina
cfarsnc.com

August 30 - 31

Shelby Hamfest
Shelby, North Carolina
shelbyhamfest.com

CFARS VE Testing

The 2025 VE exams will take place at one of these two locations - as noted.

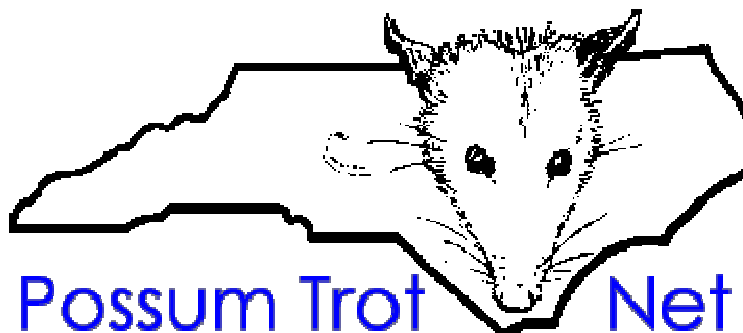


Peace Presbyterian Church
3203 Ramsey Street
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Cumberland County Shrine Club
7040 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville NC 28311

Dates:

August 9, 2025 - Cumberland County Shrine Club
October 11, 2025 - Peace Presbyterian Church



What is the purpose of all these Nets?

Chris KR4I

Someone recently asked me why do we hams have all these nets? Well, that is a very good question which I wanted to answer in this month's newsletter. I hope this helps others that may also have the same questions. Hams run nets (short for "network") for a variety of reasons, all centered around organization, efficiency, and community building. Here are some key purposes:

Emergency & Public Service Communications: One of the most important reasons for nets is emergency preparedness. Ham radio operators often coordinate disaster response, provide backup communication during outages, and assist in public service events like marathons or disaster drills.

Training & Skill Building: Regular nets help operators practice communication protocols, signal handling, and net control procedures. This ensures that everyone is ready in case they ever need to operate under stressful conditions.

Club & Social Nets: Many amateur radio clubs run weekly nets as a way to keep members engaged, share updates, and foster friendships among operators.

Traffic Handling: Some nets specialize in relaying formal messages (known as "traffic") between locations, ensuring that important communications reach their destinations.

Technical Assistance & Discussion: Nets provide a space for operators to share technical advice, troubleshoot issues, and discuss various aspects of the hobby.

Contesting & Special Events: Some nets revolve around specific challenges, like working contacts in rare locations, testing propagation conditions, or celebrating historical radio milestones.

Running a net involves having a **Net Control Station (NCS)**, which organizes the check-ins and directs the flow of communication to ensure smooth operations. Another side effect of a net is that the frequency is active, so other hams, or someone else interested in the hobby might happen by our frequency while scanning or while dialing the VFO on their radio or receiver. This encourages participation with the club and in ham radio in general. Whether for emergency response or just casual conversation, nets are a fundamental part of amateur radio culture!

Do you participate in any local nets yourself? Below is a list of club sponsored nets that you are welcomed and encouraged to check in with us. I'm listing them below and they are also on the cfarsnc.org website.

- Weekday mornings 2m net Possum Trot: 05:00 - 07:00 (Sometimes it's manned even earlier.)
- 2m K4MN 146.910 Repeater Every evening 2m net 19:00 until when we have finished.
- 10 Meter Possum Trot Chapter Nets SSB Thursday 8:00pm 28.345
- ADY NET (Ain't Dead Yet Net) M-F 08:10 3.855 HF
- CFARS DMR Talk Group TGIF Network CFARS TG 910 Sunday evening DMR Net 20:00 hrs.

Please come by and check in with us and polish your skills!

73 Chris KR4I

QRP**Mike KN4XP**

So you have been hearing stations identify as QRP. What is QRP? What is it all about? QRP is normally used on the hf bands to indicate a station is running low power. Usually a SSB station will run no more than 10 watts and a CW station will run 5 watts maximum when they are qrp.

One might think that life is too short for qrp. Why should I run qrp when my radio will do 100 watts? Are you up for a challenge? Or do you feel you have to be first in every contact?

The difference between 100 watts and 10 watts is normally not noticeable on the hf bands. For every 3db you get just a little bit more signal strength.

So let's look at reasons to run qrp.

- A qrp rig is considerably cheaper than a 100 watt rig.
- A qrp rig is smaller in both size and weight.
- Power requirements are much less.

One thing to keep in mind about ham radio is if you are the DX or activator someone is looking to work they will seek you out. In this situation you do not have to try to break the huge pileup. You are the pileup. You are in control. Remember, if you are the dx or sought after park, people will chase you. As long as you can be heard you will log contacts. You are not competing with the amplifier driven home stations with a large tower and yagi antenna.

So as either a new ham or a ham looking for a challenge why not try qrp operations? You have most likely worked several stations that are qrp but don't know it. At least not until you get that coveted qsl card. If you are a POTA operator, many of the activators are running qrp. They just don't always publicize it.

QRP operations is a fun way to see just how good of an operator you are or can become. You will learn many things that will help you out in other aspects of ham radio. Learning an operator is very important. Think back to the last DX station you tried to work. Did you have to spend several hours to get them in the log? Each operator works differently. Their style will dictate how they want to manage their operation or pileup.

With the solar cycle being as it currently is, it doesn't take much power to work all states or DX stations. Yes, I know there are days when solar conditions, such as a flare, make it harder. If you turn on the rig, listen, call cq or respond to others, you never know what unique station you might log.

I have been running qrp quite a bit lately. It's a fun way to operate. Field Day even has a qrp category. Why not give it a try? Hope to see you on the bands soon!

25th Anniversary Edition

CFARS SwapFest

Sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society

www.cfarsnc.org

Fayetteville, North Carolina

Saturday August 9, 2025

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