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The President's Corner: David KI4W

One thing amateur radio operators are known for is improvising and adapting to any situation that may present itself. If a band is shut down we move to the band and/or mode best suited to get our signal through. If we need an antenna on short notice a trip into the junk box and storage building or garage and behold an antenna takes shape. We as a nation and world are faced with a situation where we all are improvising and adapting. I pray that we all are back to some type of normalcy soon and the coronavirus is a distant memory. That being said the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society will need to adapt as well. Last month we had an informal on the air meeting/net on the night of the regular scheduled meeting. We will not be able to hold a formal meeting this month either at Methodist University so this month we will attempt something that has never been done before. We will hold the monthly club meeting on the CFARS two meter repeater(146.910). This will be a first so bear with me as we conduct this meeting. I ask that if you hold a committee position to please try to be with us that evening to give us your report. I look forward to hearing you all on April 20 at 7:00pm.

As a result of the coronavirus we have all been told to stay home unless leaving is necessary. We all know what the restrictions are but if you tell an amateur radio operator to stay home what does he or she do? Well you play radio of course. As a result George KM4ODS came up with something fun for all of us to do. It's called the CFARS Stir Crazy-Stuck at Home QSO Party. As this is being written the event is in the eighth day. It has been a lot of fun so get on the air and score a few points or give some out. Our evening net has sure been going strong so please join us nightly.

As a result of the coronavirus all upcoming hamfests have been cancelled as well as VE testing. If you are looking for an item that you were going to look for at a hamfest just give a shout out on the net. Most of us have a lot of extra stuff and we might just have what you are looking for or can point you in the right direction. As far as the VE testing we will have to wait out the state and federal orders before we can resume testing so all who are planning on testing keep hitting the books or computer and be ready to roll when the time comes.

On a personal note the shack at the alternate residence is taking shape as over this past weekend I was able to get the Comet GP-6 dual band antenna and a 440 beam permanently mounted after around three weeks or so in a temporary position. The 440 beam is aimed at a DMR repeater so it is good to be back on the NC PRN network. Next on the agenda is to get up the antenna for 10 thru 20 meters and get something more efficient for 40 and 80 meters than the wire I am currently using. I am really looking forward to joining the local activity on 10 meters.

It is good to see so much activity on our two meter nets. It takes me back some years ago hearing the large numbers of checkins in the morning and in the evening. We aren't equaling those numbers from days gone by but we are certainly getting close especially on the evening net if not there already. Please keep it up folks and remember you don't have to wait until net time to talk on the repeater, just throw out your call and hopefully someone will answer or you answer their call.

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CFARS Officers

PresidentDavid KR4OE kr4oe@nc.rr.com
Vice Pres..... Dale AK4YS dale.mohr@yahoo.com
Sec./Treas..... Chuck KJ4RV kj4rv@arrl.net
Recorder.....Bill KJ4OFD kj4ofd@arrl.net
Newsletter Editor...Mike KN4XP kn4xp@yahoo.com



Coordinators

Membership.....David KR4OE kr4oe@nc.rr.com
Net Manager.....Chuck KJ4RV kj4rv@arrl.net
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Information.....
Repeaters.....Ben KM4ODT bassettbw@aol.com
Sky Warn.....Jim KI4YRH ki4yrh@aol.com
Field Day.....George KM4ODS km4ods@gmail.com
Health & Welfare... Carl K4CFB carlbeene@gmail.com
VEC..Pat N4UGH n4ughpat@aol.com
SwapfestDavid KR4OE kr4oe@nc.rr.com
Public Info... Marty W4MLW carolinapretzel@embarqmail.com

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 \$15.00. CFARS offers a lifetime membership option for \$150.00. 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 Friday 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 Club Patches are available for purchase. Contact **Chuck KJ4RV** for your patch today!



March 2020 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly club meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was not held on March 18, 2020 due to the closure of Methodist University. There was an informal meeting on the K4MN two meter repeater, with 35 members and 2 visitors logged on to the net at 7:00 pm, March 18, 2020. President David KI4W was the net control for the CFARS 2m Evening Net.



COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Chuck KJ4RV reminded all that the 2020 club dues were due on by March 31st and that if you haven't paid them yet, guess what?... Dues are \$15 per year, or lifetime membership for \$150. Chuck will be happy to lighten your wallet by an appropriate amount. See him at the breakfast at K&W, send them via snail mail, call, shout, talk on the repeater...

Net Manager: Chuck KJ4RV gave an abbreviated Net Manager report; February time was 1131 minutes with 725 check-ins and thanked the Net Controllers for doing a great job.

Health & Welfare: Carl K4CFB had no reports for Health and Welfare.

Repeater: Mike K4JWX reported that the 2m and 440m repeaters were working, and the 6m repeater continues to be a work-in-progress. Bobbi N4KAY said hello.

Membership: David KR4OE tried to introduce our new members. Unfortunately, none of them were present. Chuck KJ4RV still has membership packages available for KN4JUY KK4TKU KA4RLO and KN4WNF to list a few. Get up with Chuck and pick up your membership package. On the same note, if you have not paid your dues for 2020, I feel confident that Chuck would be happy to exchange your \$15 for another year of your membership for the Club. Not sure if you have paid? See <https://cfarsnc.org/current-members> and check the list and find out if you're naughty or nice...

Swapfest: Swapfest will be at the Cumberland County Shrine Club on August 8, and already has several table reservations for the event.

Emergency Coordinator: Emergency Coordinator Mike K4JWX is working with surrounding counties concerning emergency preparedness. Spring Lake shelters are still in flux.

VE Testing: David KI4W reported that the VE Test session at Methodist University on March 21 has been cancelled due to the Coronavirus closure. There will be an opportunity on March 28 in Calabash, March 21 in Smithfield, and Lumberton on April 25.

Field Day: David KI4W reminded everyone of Field Day dates on June 27-28.

Public Relations: Marty W4MLW reported that the Charlotte Hamfest March 10 and Dayton Hamvention May 21 have both been cancelled due to the Coronavirus quarantines. If you have any items that you need to sell, give a list to Mike KN4XP for inclusion in the CFARS newsletter. Support your local swapfest.

Possum Trot Net: His Most Exalted Royal Imperial Possumness Ron K4FET reports that 50 is the new 40 on the Possum Trot Net.

Webmaster: Steve KI4EZL gave the Webmaster report. The February newsletter and been published on the website at <https://cfarsnc.org> Steve reports that traffic is up at the site, and needs kitten videos to make the site go viral.

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Announcements: Several members indicated the Charlotte Hamfest last weekend was a disappointment due to the last minute quarantine and all of the major vendors were not present. George KM4ODS has tallied the numbers for the NC QSO Party and we beat our score from last year by 1500 points.

David KI4W then proceeded to continue the net already in progress...
We had a total of 37 checkins and the net lasted 66 minutes.

Submitted:
Bill KJ4OFD, Recorder

President's Corner - Continued

I look forward to hearing and talking to you all. Get on the air and be heard. If you are reading this and not a member of CFARS please consider joining and if not this club join the club of your choice and give them your support. Amateur radio clubs do such much as a group to support amateur radio and keep repeaters on the air. They need your support.

Until next month 73
David KI4W

Items For Sale

- Yaesu FT-857d with optional 500hz cw filter and LDG FT Meter, box and owners manual \$450.00
- Yaesu FT-817nd with optional 500hz cw filter with box and owners manual \$400.00
- Kenwood TS-140s hf radio with optional 500hz cw filter \$300.00
- TYT MD-380 440 DMR handheld \$45.00
- MFJ shortened hamsticks for 20 and 40 meters with mag mount \$35.00
- Yaesu FT50r dual band handheld-needs battery Yaesu VX-5r tri-band handheld 6,2, and 70 centimeters-comes with alkaline battery case, speaker mic, and cigarette lighter adapter-has touchy power button-the accessories are interchangeable. Have box and manual for the VX-5r and an aftermarket tri-band antenna \$75.00 for all

David KI4W

Upcoming Hamfests

The upcoming hamfests will return once we know they have been scheduled. At this time many hamfests and swapfests have been canceled.

Keep in mind the CFARS Swapfest is scheduled for August 11, 2020 at the Cumberland County Shrine Club. As always there is no cost for the Swapfest, either for entry or tables. Please contact David KI4W for tables. He needs lead time to have the correct amount of tables available.

VE Testing

CFARS will be conducting VE Testing again in 2020. Testing is held at Methodist University.

June 13, 2020
October 10, 2020

Check in begins at 9:00 am
Testing begins at 9:30 am

If you have any questions, please contact Pat by email at n4ughpat@aol.com or phone 425-8994.

Listing of Items for Sale

With the hamfests being canceled at this time with no end date in site, CFARS will gladly list items for sale or purchase in the newsletter.

So if you are looking to sale an item (s) or looking to purchase an item (s) send an email to cfarsnews@gmail.com

Your items will be listed at no cost. Who knows, someone may just have the item you are looking for to upgrade your ham experience. The only way to find out is to put it in the newsletter so others will know what you are either looking to purchase or

The CFARS "Stir CRaZy, Stuck at Home, QSO Party" April 1 - April 30 2020

Purpose: To promote CFARS member activity on both the local nets and during routine daily activities on both the 2 meter and 440 club repeaters.

Overview: The contest is simple. At the end of the 30-day period the person with the most points wins. Utilizing the CFARS 2 meter and 440 repeaters contacts will be tallied by each individual as per the rules described below. Logs will not be required; however, the attached scoresheet will be required for submission by 4 May 2020. Contacts and scoring will be summarized on this scoresheet using the honor system.

Methodology and scoring:

1. One point will be awarded for each log in for both the Possum Trot Net and the evening CFARS net. A total of two points daily.
2. Two points will be awarded for each 2 meter, and 3 points for each 440 contact during times other than net times during the course of each day. There is no maximum points in these categories. Points will be awarded for each unique call sign contacted during each day on each repeater. ie...If a contact is made with XX3XYZ on both the 2m and 440 repeaters, that would be 5 points, two for the 2m repeater and three for the 440 repeaters.
3. HF: One point for each HF contact up to a maximum of 5 points. These contacts can be by whatever mode or modes you choose. The limitation on 5 contacts is in the interest of those who are still required to work each day and may not have the opportunity to "play radio" as much as others. Limiting this category to 5 contacts will still allow them to get on the air in the evenings or when not working and still be competitive.
4. Bonus Points: Bonus points will be awarded for a contact with a club official. One contact with any of the following callsigns will be allowed for 50 or 25 bonus points respectively during the course of the contest. Additional contacts with the same official will count as a normal QSO. 50 points: KI4W, AK4YS, KJ4RV, KJ4OFD 25 points: KN4XP, KM4ODT, KI4YRH, W4MLW, KI4EZL, K4CFB, K4FET
5. Technician Category: Presently we have quite a few members who are Technicians without HF radios and/or with reduced privileges. If you are in this position, we are also offering a Technician category in the contest. A separate prize will be awarded.
6. Scoresheets: Scoresheets will be submitted to George (KM4ODS). Email: KM4ODS@gmail.com NLT 1700 EST 4 Mat 2020.
7. Winners will receive a fantastic prize at the next scheduled CFARS meeting.
8. Questions can be directed to KM4ODS at the above email address.

Added a New challenge for the Stir CrAzY QSO Party
Can you spell C-U-M-B-E-R-L-A-N-D ?

Begginning April 5, 2020 collect callsigns which contain one of the letters necessary to spell CUMBERLAND. Each call sign can be used only once and for one letter only during the contest. So collect 10 callsigns during the remainder of the contest and earn an additional 500 points.

These 10 callsigns must be listed in your final submission to earn these bonus points.

22nd Annual Ole Fashioned

CFARS SwapFest

Sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Saturday

August 11, 2019

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

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

**Information and Table Reservations: David KR4OE kr4oe@nc.rr.com
(910)624-1394**

**ARRL VE Testing: Pat N4UGH n4ughpat@aol.com
(910)425-5994**

Set-up begins at 6:30am. If you need tables please call or email in advance. On the morning of the Swapfest see David KR4OE for tables.

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