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The President's Corner: David KI4W

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all. I think we will all be glad to see 2020 behind us in the rearview mirror. What a year it has been. If it could happen it did in 2020. For us amateur radio operators it sure was nice to have such a great hobby to participate in and offer an escape to the events taking place around us.

I am really proud that all of us as a club did such a great job adapting to the ever changing restrictions we all had to face. I never would have thought there would have come a day where we had to conduct our meetings on the air and play Field Day like we had to this past year. Let's all hope and pray that as we go into 2021 things will change for the better and we get things back to some sense of normalcy.

I am not sure where the time went but I want to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as President of CFARS the last three years and for serving as President back in 2000. It has been a privilege and I enjoyed every minute of it. I am pleased to welcome Ron K4FET as the incoming President for 2021. Please thank Ron for stepping up to serve as well as the other officers who are continuing on again next year.

It takes all of us to keep the club moving forward and I thank all of you for all the assistance and support the last three years. In particular I would like to thank Larry N4USB and Dale AK4YS who served as vice president and for all the great programs they arranged for the club meetings. Bill KJ4OFD serves as recorder and thank you Bill for keeping track of all the meetings and also serving as the Saturday net control for our two meter evening net. Chuck KJ4RV serves as club treasurer and has for more years than either one of us would probably want to count because he and I have been signing CFARS checks now for a lot of years. Chuck also has served as net manager for a lot of years and as a net control even longer on both the evening net and the Possum Trot morning net on Friday mornings.

In addition to the club officers there are some additional members who play an important role in keeping the club moving forward. Carl K4CFB took over the Health and Welfare position for the club about three years ago and I would like to thank him for stepping up to the plate to handle this for us. George KM4ODS has been heading up our Field Day operations keeping everything organized and for also revamping the Possum Trot Chapter of Ten Ten International. The Possum Trot Net on ten meters has been a huge success and we are enjoying it. The Possum Trot Chapter continues to dominate. Also thanks to George for all of his efforts in coordinating our efforts in the North Carolina QSO Party where CFARS has also dominated winning every year we have participated. Additionally George is a net control for the Possum Trot two meter net on Wednesday mornings. Mike K4JWX has serves as Emergency Coordinator and due to his relationship with Cumberland County Emergency Management Mike is an asset to both the club and the county. Mike also serves as the trustee for our repeaters and that has been a busy job the last three years getting the repeaters relocated. Pat N4UGH continues to serve as our Volunteer Exam Coordinator and with all the restrictions we faced this year it was a challenge arranging our test sessions. Another position in our organization is that of Public Relations and there has been no better person for this job than Marty W4MLW. Marty brings his media experience to the table and has done great getting the word out about the events of the club. Marty also takes care of the door prizes at the monthly club meetings and I would especially like to thank him for taking

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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
 EmergencyMike K4JWX k4jwx@outlook.com
 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



CFARS Club Patches are available for purchase. Contact **Chuck KJ4RV** for your patch today!

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.



November 2020 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly club meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was not held in person on November 16, 2020 due to the meeting restrictions due to COVID-19 and the Governors orders. There was a meeting on the K4MN repeater, with 35 members and 2 visitors logged on to the net at 7:00 pm, November 16, 2020. President David KI4W was the net controller for the CFARS 2m Evening Net/Meeting. David KI4W called the meeting to order after taking check-ins and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag of our country. David welcomed all for participating in the net and thanked all for checking in.



Jim KJ4EMX moved to accept the minutes of the October meeting, Marty W4MLW made a second, and the minutes of the October meeting were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Chuck KJ4RV gave the Treasurer's Report. He reported we had no income in October, we spent a little money, and we are still solvent.

Net Manager: Chuck KJ4RV gave the Net Manager report, September vs October 802 minutes for 27.2 minutes for September, 795 minutes for 25.6 minutes for October 1085 total check in for 30 per net September, 1117 minutes for 25.6 minutes for October. These are our repeaters, let's give them a workout.

Health & Welfare: Carl K4CFB reported on Health and Welfare. Barry Schwartz has been hospitalized, Carl has sent a card. David KB4FXC lost his mother Sunday morning. Condolences to David. Van N4ERM is alive and well in Apex and is recovering from several broken ribs.

Repeater: Ben KM4ODT reported the repeaters were all working, both at Highsmith-Rainey and the Soldier Support Center on Fort Bragg. He reported the 6m repeater is still a work in progress.

Membership: David KI4W reported we had new members apply. We will meet them in December and vote on their membership.

Field Day: George KM4ODS reported on Field Day. CFARS made just shy of 10,000 points with 10 sheets submitted for the club. He is still trying to figure points to see how we did.

Swapfest: David KI4W reported that our Swapfest would be August 14, 2021 at the Cumberland County Shrine Club. The Raleigh Swapfest is from 10 am to noon on December 12. Support them if you can.

Emergency Coordinator: No report.

Public Relations: Marty W4MLW said there was no activity on the Public Relations front.

VE Testing: Pat N4UGH was not present for VE Testing report. We will have our next VE Test Session on January 9, 2021 at the Cumberland County Shrine Club. Study hard, test, and upgrade your license.

Newsletter: Mike KN4XP was not present to report on the newsletter. He does welcome submissions for the newsletter.

Website: Steve KI4EZL reported the CFARS website is alive and well and getting good numbers of visitors. He also welcomes submissions for inclusion on the website. He asks that if you find issues with the website to bring them to his attention so he can take care of them.

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Possum Trot Net: Ron K4FET talked about the Possum Trot Net. Check ins are down from earlier this year, averaging 45 - 50 check in per day. George KM4ODS had 59 one day last week. Remember to check in with the other Possums every morning Monday thru Friday and let's get the numbers back where they belong. George KM4ODS reported on the 10-10 nets on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. Check ins are light, try to check in with the 10-10 nets Tuesday and Wednesday evenings after the 2m net beginning at 8:00pm. The 10-10 Digital contest was last weekend; remember to submit your logs so we can win the contest this year.

Old Business: David KI4W reminded all about next months Eating Meeting and Christmas gala. It will be December 21 at Southern Coals restaurant on Raeford Road. Marty W4MLW reported he had 7 people committed thus far, we were supposed to turn in our menu choices to him at the meeting that was supposed to be tonight. David KI4W called a roll of those checked in to the net tonight for a count of who and how many people planned to attend the meeting. It was enough to make the minimum for the restaurant. Steve KI4EZL will post the menu on the website so send your menu choices to Marty via email at carolinapretzel@embarq.com so he can give the restaurant a heads up of what to prepare for our visit. He needs to get the information to them by December 15. Ron K4FET reported on the home school children presentation. He reported it was a huge success and he would do it again. He was assisted by Leanne W4LEA, Fred N4ZCG, John KF4JDR and Mike K4JWX. David KI4W spoke of the NC QSO Party in February. We will take this on back up at the December meeting to see if we want to do it, COVID restrictions permitting.

New Business: None.

Program: AK4YS presented a slate of officers for 2021. He and the Past Presidents propose the following for Club Officers for 2021:

Recorder	Bill KJ4OFD
Sec/Treasurer	Chuck KJ4RV
Vice President	Dale AK4YS
President	Ron K4FET

There were no nominations from the floor. The vote was taken and the slate of officers was approved by all present.

Announcements: David KI4W reminded us once again of the Raleigh Hamfest 10 til noon December 12 off Glenwood Ave in Raleigh. He also said the Sandhills Amateur Radio Club will be celebrating their first anniversary with a raffle, tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. More information is available at their Facebook page. David KI4W welcomed our newest ham, Allen KO4JII, Leanne W4LEA son.

Door Prize Drawing: Marty W4MLW said he had 2 gel cell rechargeable batteries. David KI4W asked Marty for 2 numbers between 1 and 35. #4 and #10 were selected. The winners of these highly coveted batteries were Steve KI4EZL and Steve KA4CZL.

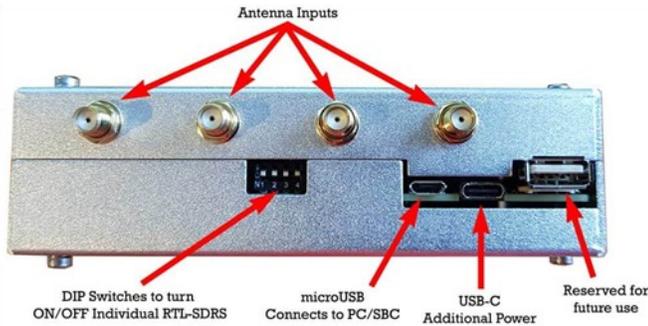
There being nothing further for the meeting, the meeting closed at 7:51 pm. David KI4W then continued with the 2m Evening net. The net closed at 8:19 pm.

Submitted:

Bill KJ4OFD, Recorder

Software Defined Radio By Ben Bassett, KM4ODT

Kerberos SDR (KBSDR) is a low-cost direction finder comprised of four SDR dongles in one box connected and operating coherently. This is a great way to get a leg up on the Fox Hunting game. However, I found this to be a bit of a challenge in the beginning. This required me to put my RF understanding, networking, Raspberry Pi, and research skills to work. Oh yeah and my YouTube and google skills as well.



KM4ODT's DF in A Box.



The capabilities listed below reemphasizes the software truly defines the radio. Theoretically you can use the same basic hardware and with the right software and have limitless capabilities.

ADS-B: Aircraft Tracking, AIS (ships), Amateur Radio, P25 Trunking, Direction finding (Kerberos SDR), DVT Broadcast – Digital Television, Weather Mapping, IMARSAT, Spectrum Analyzer and APRS.

Take time and explore each of these capabilities and as a ham I'm certain you will find a useful way to add SDR (if you haven't already) into your shack. Whether it's a \$6,000.00 professional grade SDR transceiver or the \$30.00 SDR USB dongle, there is a huge world of RF to explore.

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this on for me as I was wearing too many hats and needed to take one of them off. Mike KN4XP has handled the newsletter for many years now serving a second term as newsletter editor. Mike first served as newsletter editor when the newsletter had to be printed and mailed out to the members. Steve KI4EZZL is the CFARS webmaster and I for one think our website is great. Steve keeps the website updated and informative. Our incoming President, Ron K4FET, has been our Possum Trot Net Manager since we lost Kelly N4EWG so we thank you Ron for being there at 5:00 am Monday through Friday taking care of the net and also being the net control on the evening net on Tuesdays. Thanks to the net control stations for being there early on weekday mornings to run the Possum Trot morning net. I have already mentioned three of the net controls and the other two are Joe W3OJO and Paul K4PGM. These guys are also net controls on our two meter evening net. There are also two other positions in the club and that is Membership Chairman and Swapfest Chairman.

One group I would like to especially thank is the committee who were responsible for the relocation of our repeaters after we lost our site at Methodist University. This group worked extremely hard and I am proud to have worked with them. We still have repeaters on the air thanks to them. The members of this group are Mike K4JWX, David KB4FXC, Ben KM4ODT, Mike KN4XP, and Marty W4MLW. This group met several times aside from the normal monthly meetings and there were countless emails and phone calls between the members of the group and we enjoyed some pizza and fellowship at our meetings. There was a mission to be accomplished and did they ever come through. The new location for our repeaters at the old Highsmith Rainey Hospital has proven to be a great location. Our repeaters have never sounded better. This location is a county owned building and it didn't hurt that three members of the repeater committee have extensive experience with Cumberland County and are familiar with its inner workings. These relationships with county government are what put us over the top in gaining this location for our repeaters. Also I would like to thank Bobbi N4KAY and Paul K4PGM for the assistance on the work at the repeater site. There is still work to be done and there will be always be continued maintenance as long as we have repeaters and you can bet these guys will get the job done. To wrap it up I would remiss if I did not especially thank David KB4FXC for the role he played in getting our repeaters on the air. His technical expertise is second to none when it comes to repeaters. If you are ever on the southeast coast of North Carolina and have used the 146.820 repeater thank David because he is the trustee of this repeater as well as others and they are great wide coverage machines.

That pretty much sums up the folks who keep the club going but there is another group who are just as important. They don't hold a club office or any other position in the club but they are always there to assist with whatever event or undertaking the club may be conducting. They show up to help with antenna work or assist with amateur radio demonstrations for the scouts or students. When the alarm sounds they respond.

The holiday season is here and I would like you to remember those who we have lost and remember their families as Christmas gets closer. Dan KW4BG, Harold KF4IUV, Kelly N4EWG, Bill KU4W, Gene N4ANV, and Pat KC4TBS were all vital members of our club. I have spoken about them at various times over the last years and I won't repeat myself except to say we all miss them. If there is anyone I have left out I apologize but these are the ones I remember since taking over as President three years ago.

If you are reading this and not a member of CFARS we would very much like to have you as a member and if you choose not to join us I hope you choose a club and join it. Clubs are vital to the survival of our hobby. Clubs sponsor those repeaters you use and by sponsor I mean they pay for them. Your club dues help pay for those repeaters and keep them on the air. I am a member of three clubs and their dues range from \$15.00 a year to \$30.00. This is not a break the budget amount of money.

Our Christmas dinner is limited as to the number of attendees due to the pandemic and we are limited to a total of 45 people. That being said I won't be able to see most of you at our dinner. For those that don't attend I hope to see you in the coming year. Again thank you for allowing me to be President of the greatest club in the state.

Merry Christmas de David KI4W ... _._

CFARS Christmas Eatin Meeting

Menu for Radio Party

12/21/2020 @ 7PM Southern Coals

Restaurant. 3319-C Raeford Rd.

Please mark your selection. Email your selections to Marty at carolinapretzel@embarqmail.com

NLT 12/10/2020

Name _____

Call Sign _____

Pick Your Meat

- Chicken Breast
- Leg Quarter
- Pulled Pork
- Brisket

Pick Your Sides

- Mac and Cheese
- Baked Beans
- Green Beans
- Collards
- Potato Salad
- Cole Slaw

Pick Your Bread

- Cornbread
- Dinner Roll

Dessert

- Banana Pudding

Prices are as follow:

1 meat
2 sides
Dessert
Bread
Drink \$9.00

2 Meats
2 sides
Dessert
Bread
Drink 12.00

1 Meats
3 Sides
Dessert
Bread
Drink 11.00

2 Meats
3 sides
Dessert
Bread
Drink 14.00