



CFARS Repeaters/Officers	2
Membership	2
CFARS Nets	3
VE Testing	3
Upcoming Hamfests	3
Meeting Minutes	4
Contesting	5 - 6
Eatin' Meeting	6 - 9
Jarsfest	10 - 11

The President's Corner: Ron K4FET

It has been a fast month, a lot has happened, tails have been yanked on with expected results, I will be glad when this silly stuff stops and we can concentrate on helping this club attain its full potential, but that is hard to do with the tail trying to wag the dog. You know who you are, if you don't want to be a player here, quit sending emails threatening more juicy tails from Duncan MacRay, just leave, go somewhere else to play!

When I agreed to run as President of CFARS had I known how much juvenile crap would be coming down the line my decision may have been different. If this mythical Duncan MacRae was half a man, he would present his case in person, but we have already ruled that out. So be it, that had to be said and I figured it may as well come from the horses' mouth. And no, I don't have the ends mixed up.

On a lighter note, we had a great Christmas meeting/dinner. I think everyone enjoyed themselves. To say nothing about those who left with a great assortment of equipment and goodies won on the raffle. Santa was looking out for me, as the only thing I really wanted was a power supply for my new radio, and Santa came through, and low and behold, that is what I won. Kudos to Marty, W4MLW, for securing the restaurant, passing out, and collecting the menus to say nothing about all the work he and Linda, KE4BGW, did in getting and wrapping all the prizes.

Talking about Santa, Marty, W4MLW, and Linda, KE4BGW, knocked the ball out of the park with their performance with this year's Santa Net, on the evenings of the twenty-second and twenty-third of December. Participation was a little light, but they came through it undaunted and when it was over you were left wondering if Marty really was Santa. Again guys, a great job, and the CFARS community thanks you.

And when you think about it, CFARS is a community, and like all communities' is composed of a diverse segment of the population. There are good communities and bad communities. It is incumbent upon all of us to make CFARS, a beacon of light all the other clubs can aspire to emulate. We have the talent we just need to point it in the right direction. Our composition is diverse, we have DX enthusiasts, to POTA devotees, we are in the process of running the full gauntlet of the Digital Modes, we are working on an Elmer program, to say nothing about excelling in virtually every event we enter as a club! I bet you never realized how great CFARS really is! Well now you know, so if you're not on the bandwagon, jump aboard, there's plenty of room.

And at this point I think I will close this month's message, hoping for a good turnout at the next meeting.

73 de Ron K4FET

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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 \$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 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.



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
PTN 10-10	Tuesday	2000	CW 28.150
PTN 10-10	Wed	2000	SSB 28.345
DMR Net	Sunday	2000	TGIF 910 Talkgroup

CFARS VE Testing

The CFARS VE team will offer VE Testing in 2022.

Testing will be held at the following location:

Cumberland County Shrine Club
7040 Ramsey Street (US Hwy 401 N)
Fayetteville, North Carolina 28311

Testing Dates

January 8	August 13
March 19	October 8
June 11	

REMINDER: Exam candidates are REQUIRED to register in the FCC CORES system and receive a Federal Registration Number (FRN) before exam day. <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/user>

Upcoming Hamfests

March 12 - 13, 2022

Charlotte Hamfest
Concord, NC
charlottehamfest.org

March 19, 2022

Charleston Area Hamfest
Charleston, West Virginia
w8gk.org

March 27, 2022

Winterfest
Annadale, Virginia
viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest/

April 16, 2022

Raleigh Hamfest
Raleigh, NC
rarsfest.org





December 2021 Club Meeting Minutes

The Annual Eatin' Meetin' of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at Southern Coals Restaurant, 3319 Raeford Road, Suite C, Fayetteville, NC on Monday Evening, December 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

President Ron K4FET opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our county. Paul K4PGM gave the invocation, and a moment of silence was held for our Silent Keys of the past two years: Bill KU4W, Ed W9EAO, Gene N4ANV, Pat

KC4TBS, Steve W4SMD, and Chuck KJ4RV. The Minutes of the November meeting were approved as published.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: David KO4RKR gave the Treasurer's Report. We had money, we spent money, we made money, we have money left. He read a bill for insurance and the club voted to pay the bill.

VE Coordinator: Jim K4BUC VE Coordinator said the next VE Testing Session would be at the Cumberland County Shrine Club on January 8, 2022.

Possum Trot Net: Ron K4FET reported the numbers for the Possum Trot net are down (probably due to the holidays) and asked for volunteers to take a net during the week.

There being no more business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

A fine meal was enjoyed by all present, after which Marty W4MLW and Pat KE4BGW held the door prize drawing.

Door Prize Drawing: The Grand Prize, an ICOM 4100 Dual Band radio was won by Jeremy KN4JUY. An ICOM 2730A Dual Band radio was won by Paul K4PGM. A Yaesu 7250D Dual Band radio was won by John K4RDU. A TYT 8600 Dual Band radio was won by Linda KE4BGW. A TYT 380 Dual Band DMR HT was won by Berry W4IKS. A Yaesu FT65 Dual Band DMR HT was won by Larry N4USB. A 30-amp power supply was won by Paul K4PGM. A 30-amp power supply was won by Ron K4FET. An Astatic Speaker was won by Mitch KD4ONH. An Astatic Speaker was won by Pete K4QFK. A Main Trading Company Mystery Box was won by John K4RDU. A Main Trading Company Mystery Box was won by Steve KA4CZL. A crisp new \$100 bill suitable for framing was won by Carl N4CDJ.

Secret Santa brought a few gifts as well. These went home with Jim K4BUC, Pete K4QFK, Steve KA4CZL, John KF4JDR, George KM4ODS, Ben KM4ODT, Jeremy KN4JUY, Will KN4OTA, David KO4RKR, Fred N4ZCG, and Billie W4IKS.

For those who were not present, you missed a great time with good food, good friends, and good fellowship. Plan to make it next year, and bring friends.

Submitted: Bill Ivey, KJ4OFD, Recorder/Secretary



Ham Radio Contesting (Radio Sport)

George Davenport KM4ODS

Amateur radio contests and contesting are an important feature in the activities of many radio hams. Contests and contesting add a further dimension to amateur radio operating, proving new challenges and interest to the hobby. Some radio hams even run their calendar by when the contests occur.

Amateur radio contests come in many forms and take place on many frequencies. Some ham radio contests may take place only on the HF bands, or possibly a single HF band, while others may be focused on the VHF, UHF or microwave frequencies. The contests may also have different aims. This will naturally depend upon the frequencies used and their radio propagation characteristics. Some ham radio contests may focus on contacting as many countries as possible, whereas other amateur radio contests may look at contacting as many areas within a country as possible. For each different contest it is necessary to look at the rules to check the aims of the contests.

What is certain is that when a ham radio contest is underway, then the level of activity increases. For some contests, the bands come alive with activity in a way that does not happen at any other time. For others there may be a more modest increase in activity. It all depends upon the size and popularity of the contest.

Ham radio contests and contesting can provide many advantages for the individual operator. It can also be great fun to participate in a large station set up specifically to enter a contest. However, for most people, contest activity will be confined to dabbling in the contest and enjoying the additional activity created on the bands.

The Basics:

Ham radio contests can take many forms, and when looking to participate in one, if only to enjoy the additional contacts that can be made, it is necessary to study the rules and find out how the contest is set up.

During a ham radio contest, it is normal that specialized serial numbers are exchanged in addition to the basic report. At least it is necessary to know the format of the numbers so that the correct serial number can be given when any contacts are made.

Radio stations participating in a ham radio contest are in a hurry to make as many contacts as possible. They will not want to waste time explaining the basics of the contest to people.

The main points to note are:

- What is the reporting / serial number system used?
- Are stations from a given area to make contacts with stations from another given area. In this case, for example if the aim is for European stations to contact other stations outside Europe, and you are in Europe, then don't to contact European stations.
- What bands and frequencies are to be used?
- What are the times and dates of the ham radio contest?

Contest DX-peditions

One of the benefits of a ham radio contest is that many groups organize DX-peditions to activate rare and interesting places on the globe, especially for the HF band contests.

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued from Page 5)

While many DX-peditions are organized throughout the year especially those to the particularly rare locations, many DX-peditions are organized to coincide with a particular amateur radio contest. By operating from a rare location, it is possible to attract significantly higher levels of contacts as more people will want to contact stations in areas they may not have contacted before. Also, points multiplier systems mean that contacting a new country or area will add further levels of points to stations, making a station in a new area worth contacting.

All this means that ham radio contests can be good hunting grounds for stations wanting to chase operating awards as there are likely to be a number of DX-peditions active.

Contesting Summary

Ham radio contesting and amateur radio contests can provide a large amount of enjoyment and they can also provide new challenges within the hobby or amateur radio. For many, contest operation will consist of joining into a contest and making a number of contacts possibly with new countries, islands or areas, and enjoying the chase of contacting stations through the crowded conditions of a contest. To others the enjoyment is in setting up a contest station with the aim of submitting an entry and competing to win the contest or a section of it. Whatever your interest, contests can provide another dimension and can be very interesting ham radio activities in which to participate. Regardless of the reason you might participate in a contest, turn on those radios and get involved. One thing you'll almost always notice during contests is... The bands aren't as dead as you thought they were.

CFARS Eatin' Meeting



CFARS Eatin' Meeting



CFARS Eatin' Meeting



CFARS Eatin' Meeting



CFARS at the Jarsfet 2021



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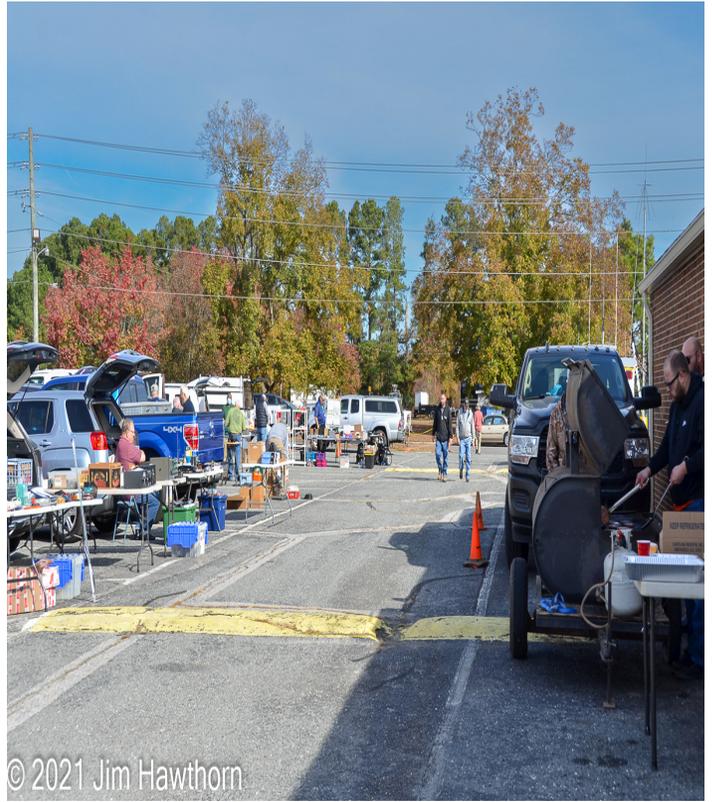


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CFARS at the Jarsfet 2021



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