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**The President's Corner: David KI4W**

It is with a heavy heart as I compose this Presidents Message. On April 26 we lost our good friend and CFARS Life Member Bill Kelchner KU4W. The one remark that was repeated often was that when you met Bill you liked him. I can certainly attest to that. Bill was the first amateur radio operator I met when I decided I wanted to become a ham. There was a recorded message on the repeater about a VE Test Session being held on Fort Bragg and Bill was the contact person and it gave his phone number as a point of contact. I did not own a radio at that time but I would monitor the repeaters with a scanner.

I told Bill during that first conversation I was not ready to test at that time but I would be ready by the time the next exam session rolled around. Bill asked for my phone number and told me he would call me as soon as he knew the date of the next test session and for me to call him if I had any questions.

I did call when I needed clarification on some things and during those conversations I learned that I had graduated from high school with Bill's daughter(more on that later) and that he had worked with my uncle at the phone company. I get a call from Bill one morning and Bill gives me the date of the test session which was about two weeks away. The plan was to meet at K&W for breakfast and follow him to Fort Bragg for the test session. I go to K&W that morning and meet Bill for the first time and he introduced me to some of the group. I was impressed as to the welcoming I received and was able to put faces with the voices I was hearing on my scanner. I passed both written tests and then the wait was on for the ticket to arrive by mail. Back then you could not operate until you had the license in hand and it took around ten weeks for that license to arrive. In the meantime Field Day rolls around while I am waiting around for the license to arrive. Bill tells me to come out to Field Day and hang out with the gang. I walk up to the cw station and Bill is operating and carrying on a conversation with me at the same time. I was in awe as to how he could do that and the cw sounded like a blur of dits and dahs. Anyway I told myself I wanted to be able to do that one day and two Field Days later there I was sitting beside Bill operating cw and also with my other cw friends being Chuck KJ4RV, Van N4ERM, Pete K4QFK, and Bob KL7NL who became the charter members of the Dream Team(that's another story for later).

That began many years of Field Days and many fond memories as that first year was 1991 and since then I only missed one Field Day. In addition to Field Day there were meetings, public service events, hamfests, Christmas Dinners and hanging out at Harry's shop. We sure had more fun than should be allowed and I enjoyed every minute of it and I know Bill did as well. Unfortunately Bill lost his daughter in 1994 after a long fight with cancer. I, as well as some of you shared tears with Bill during this time before and after her passing in 1994. Fast forward to April 15, 2010 and I get the same news about my daughter that Bill received about his daughter. Bill knew the road we were getting ready to travel and he was the one person who understood more than anyone. Parents who go through such a thing share a bond and unless you have lived it you can't truly understand what it is like to be told your sixteen year old daughter has been diagnosed with cancer. But

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CFARS Officers

President .....David 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  
 Swapfest .....David 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.



### April 2020 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly club meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was not held on April 20, 2020 due to the closure of Methodist University. There was a meeting on the K4MN repeater, with 36 members and 5 visitors logged on to the net at 7:00 pm, April 20, 2020. President David KI4W was the net controller for the CFARS 2m Evening Net/Monthly Meeting. David KI4W called the meeting to order after taking check-ins and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country. Paul K4PGM gave the invocation.



Marty W4MLW moved to accept the minutes of the February meeting with the following correction: the computer donated as the door prize was donated by Larry N4USB and repaired by Ryan KN4WNH. Steve KA4CZL moved to accept and the minutes were approved.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** Chuck KJ4RV gave the Treasurer's report for March, we had money, we collected money, we spent money, and we have money left.

**Net Manager:** Chuck KJ4RV gave the Net Manager report, February we had 723 checkins for 25 average per net, 1143 minutes for 39 minutes per net. March we had 916 checkins for 29.5 average per net, 1343 minutes for 43 minutes per net. Let's keep the repeaters warm and working folks, great job.

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

**Repeater:** Ben KM4ODT reported that the 2m and 440m repeaters were working, and the 6m repeater continues to be a work-in-progress.

**Membership:** David KI4W reported on new members: Jeff Carroll K4DOL and Chris Loranger W4EKO. We will get packets out to them.

**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 sessions are on hold currently, until the lifting of the stay-at-home social distancing experiment.

**Field Day:** David KI4W reminded everyone of Field Day dates on June 27-28. Plans are for Methodist University, but currently TBD.

**Public Relations:** Marty W4MLW reported that the CFARS Facebook page is a good place for information about the club and its operations and George KM4ODS is keeping it current.

**Possum Trot Net:** Ron K4FET reported that checkins have dropped into the 40s per net from the 50s of last month and places blame on the stay-at-home slug-a-beds.

**Webmaster:** Steve KI4EZL gave the Webmaster report and that we need to pay for the annual subscription for the website.

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Bill knew even though his daughter was older when she was diagnosed it was still the same. Our story had a happy ending where Bill's with his daughter did not and any time Bill and I talked he would always inquire how my daughter was doing. That was Bill. Enough of that now on to some of the many contributions Bill made to CFARS and the amateur community. For around thirty years Bill kept our repeaters on the air. There were days he made two trips in one day all the way from Rockfish to Methodist University when the repeaters needed attention. Bill was also the Chapter Head for the Possum Trot Chapter of Ten Ten International and called two ten meter nets on Sunday, one on ssb and one on cw. It was cw he enjoyed and there were countless Sundays he and I and AJ W4EK(sk) played cw. We sure had fun jerking AJ's chain and if you knew AJ he took it all in stride. Some days AJ would turn up the speed just to make Bill work a little harder and it was all in good fun and good practice for me keeping up with them. Bill was also a Volunteer Examiner and during the days of cw testing we had fun in the code room along with Van, Chuck, and Fred. The biggest contribution Bill made to the amateur radio community was that if you needed help he was there. All you had to do was call or say you needed help with an antenna, radio, etc. and he was there. Bill was a friend to all. After several attempts of trying to get a 1x2 or 2x1 call sign I finally succeeded in February. I regret greatly that KI4W never got to work KU4W. The CFARS family has lost a valued member. We would all do well to follow in the amateur radio footsteps of Bill Kelchner KU4W.

Our next meeting will again be on the air on May 18 at 7:00pm on the 91 repeater. I hope to have some news on the status of Methodist University by then. If we get clearance we have a test session scheduled for June 13, a meeting on June 15, and Field Day on June 27-28 with set up on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

73 de 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](mailto:n4ughpat@aol.com) or phone 425-8994.

### *Items For Sale*

- 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 and aftermarket tri-band antenna \$75.00 for all

David KI4W

William Kelchner KU4W - Silent Key



Mr. William Edward (Bill) Kelchner, Jr. of Raeford went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Sunday, April 26, 2020 at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst at the age of 82. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Cathy Ann Kelchner.

He is survived by his wife Linda G. Kelchner of Raeford, NC, a son Mike Bundy and his wife Ruth of Sanford, NC, a daughter Lynne B. Bommele of Raeford, NC; four grandchildren, Lindsey Justice, Jessica Bundy, LeeAnne Bommele and Joshua Bundy; a sister Sally Manzer of West Islip, NY. Several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held 11am Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at Tabernacle Baptist Church Cemetery in Rockfish with Reverend Tommy Underwood officiating. The family will receive friends after the service at the gravesite.



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**Old Business:** George KM4ODS reported on the NC QSO Party results and that we won again this year. He thanked everyone who participated for their usual great job. David KI4W reported that the annual financial audit has been completed and Bob WA4WHV says all is in order. The annual inventory is on hold pending the ability to visit the locations.

**New Business:** George KM4ODS reports that the 10-10 digital contest is this weekend, get your radios on the air and lets win this beastie. If you need a 10-10 number we will meet at 28.410 MHz after the nets to allow all to get numbers to allow them to join. The 10-10 CW contest will be next weekend, and the 10-10 Spring Open season is the first weekend in June. He reports that the new nets will be starting after some of the paperwork is finished.

**Door Prize Drawing:** David KI4W held a door prize drawing. Paul K4PGM donated 2 Shure microphone cases and Ron KD4QMS donated 2 12v rechargeable batteries. David asked Marty W4MLW for two numbers and the prizes were won by Chuck KJ4RV and Chris W4EKO.

David KI4W went to comments at 7:40 pm, the members checked in gave their comments and David closed the net at 8:16 pm.

We had a total of 41 checkins.

Submitted:

Bill KJ4OFD, Recorder

## *2020 NC QSO Party Results*

CFARS once again participated in the NC QSO Party. The club set up stations at Smith Lake on Fort Bragg. CFARS members had a good time. Many contacts were logged. Now for the results...CFARS won the MultitOp / In-State / Mixed / Low Power Category.

<b>Station</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Multipliers</b>	<b>Bonus</b>	<b>Score</b>
K4MN	CUM	Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society	83	550	150,365
W4YK	HEN	Blue Ride Amateur Radio Club	87	550	77,458
W4MIS	ALE	Misfit Amateur Radio Club	83	250	73,954
NC4OC	ONS	Onslow Amateur Radio Club	79	100	64,485
N4LNR	CAL	Lenoir Amateur Radio Club	85	250	60,600
NI4BK	NEW	Battleship North Carolina	72	0	45,720
W4MGT	WAK	Jenkins Family	56	250	21,922

CFARS has won the NC QSO Party many years running. Each year there is a change to the rules and CFARS comes out on top. This year was the first year the NC QSO Party deleted the club category. It's time to start planning for the 2021 NC QSO Party. CFARS will continue the winning tradition.

*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](mailto:kr4oe@nc.rr.com)  
(910)624-1394**

**ARRL VE Testing: Pat N4UGH [n4ughpat@aol.com](mailto: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!!!***