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**The President's Corner: Ron K4FET**

They roll around fast don't they. It has been a hectic month with a lot on everyone's plate. The full range of field day topics has been first and foremost on many minds.

This ranges from site selection to site acquisition, to include two in person site surveys. The site surveys consisted of the key players on the field day committee. I would be remiss if I didn't give Kudos to George, KM4ODS, for the effort he has put in on this operation. By the way he asked me not to say this.

We as a club are well on the way to having three complete sets of packaged equipment for CFARS commitments and events. This has not been an easy task, yes, we encountered some speed bumps in the process hopefully they are behind us. We are well on the way to being capable of committing or deploying with 100% new and operational equipment for the first time. This was a joint effort that worked out, still some heartburn, but time sort-of cures everything. In the grand scheme of things, CFARS came out ahead.

Preliminary coordination will culminate in a town meeting the evening of the 6<sup>th</sup> of June with a proclamation about the event being presented to CFARS by the Hope Mills Mayor. This was primarily orchestrated by Don Talbot, and for that sir, we are grateful.

That about wraps my comments on Field Day. We must always keep in mind what Field Day really is. No, it is not a contest or a competition. To the contrary, it is an annual event to allow clubs to postulate a meaningful evaluation on their readiness and capability to perform their emergency mission to their respective communities, without outside assistance. Not very glamorous, but it is one of our reasons for being.

We are in the middle of a heat wave right now, I just received a shipment of Alaska Sockeye salmon that was thawed out. I let them know and they asked me to discard the shipment and they would send me another out right away. Unfortunately, that is minor when you look at some of the heat related issues members are experiencing. But, like Dale, AK4YS, says, "just another beautiful Carolina day". Hopefully this heat will abate prior to field day.

It wouldn't be me if I didn't point out how I think we could do things better to maintain the established (and traditional) standards and enhance the professionalism projected by CFARS.

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That about wraps it up, looking forward to the meeting. This is one of those occasions where brevity So let's talk about net discipline. The instances of people cutting others off, is reaching the point of being ridiculous. A complete double will happen on occasion, but to come in on top of someone who has already started his call suggests that you just aren't listening before you jump on top of him. That can be easily avoided, you can accomplish that with your ears. A lot of this stuff is so basic it is almost embarrassing to bring up. I know different backgrounds, what can I say?

Then we have the question, what is a radio net, and what constitutes a check in? From the beginning of the Possum Trot net, it has been a RADIO net. Initially the NCS had to personally hear each individual check in. Well, good things never last and ultimately, it got to the point where numerous people sent in emails, texted in their check-ins etc etc. I rolled the rules back to a tenable point where personnel had to check in by radio, while still making occasional exceptions for those who were out of town. And for that dastardly deed I suddenly become a horses butt, fortunately I wear that hat well. I hope my successor has the fortitude to maintain the established standards.

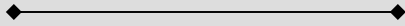
And in closing I want to leave you with a couple of thoughts. A persons CW speed is immaterial, as is their DX count or even the different modes they have worked and mastered, knowledge is great however truthfulness is higher on this list than anything previously mentioned. BUT reliability trumps them all. Being able to have the confidence in a person, that they will do what they said they would do in the time frame discussed is priceless! Often overlooked, but a trait that places a person in a category we should all aspire to be in.

And with that I will bring this Presidents Message to an end. Best wishes to all.

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.





### May 2022 Club Meeting Minutes

The monthly club meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held Monday evening, May 16, 2022 in the Fellowship Hall of Peace Presbyterian Church, 3202 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC at 7:30 pm .

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Ron K4FET asked if all had the opportunity to read the minutes of the last meeting. Van N4ERM and Jim KI4YRH moved the minutes be accepted as published.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** David KO4RKR was not present, Ron K4FET presented the financial report. We had money, we made money, we spent money, and we have money left in the checking account.

**Net Manager:** Larry N4USB was not present to give the Net Manager report.

**Health & Welfare:** Carl K4CFB was not present to give a Health and Welfare report.

**Repeaters:** Mike K4JWX reported the repeaters were up and doing fine business. David KB4FXC reported the 440 repeater has been linked to the internet, but was overheating and fans had been ordered to keep them cool. They will be re-linked when the fans have been installed.

**Membership:** David KI4W was not present, Ron K4FET reported we currently have 137 members, of whom 57 are ARRL members.

**Contesting:** No report.

**VE Coordinator:** Jim K4BUC reported the next VE Testing session would be June 11, the Saturday before Field Day at Peace Presbyterian Church. The new fees invoked by the FCC will apply to new testers, and to those who are upgrading their licenses.

**Swapfest:** No report.

**Public Relations:** Dale AK4YS had nothing to report for Public Information. We will be sending notices to various venues for publication and advertisement for Field Day

**Newsletter:** Mike KN4XP was not present to report on the newsletter.

**Web Site:** Steve KI4EZL was not present, but reports we had 5494 site visits last month.

**ARRL Liaison:** No report.

**Possum Trot Net:** Ron K4FET reported that check-ins to the Possum Trot net are between 30 and 45 check-ins daily.

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**Old Business**

George KM4ODS reported Field Day will be June 24 and June 25. Site location has not been confirmed as yet. Hope Mills Town Board is meeting this evening, and it is hoped they will approve the Golfview Walking Path and Park where we are hoping to have Field Day. Dale AK4YS reported he is trying to get Up and Coming Magazine to write an article for our trip to Field Day this year. We hope that the City Council will approve our request. He presented a tentative timeline for activities for setting up, for operating, for breaking down,, and for storage of club equipment.

**New Business**

Van N4ERM and Don WO4SFA moved we set \$500.00 from the checking account for unusual needs for Field Day.

**Program**

David KB4FXC gave a brief lesson on how the repeaters work on all-star mode.

**Door Prize Drawing:** Jim K4BUC held the drawing for the evening. George KM4ODS won a book Extreme Weather Survival and Jeremy KN4JUY won a CQ Magazine 15 month calendar.

**Adjournment**

Jim KI4YRH and Laird WA2COU moved to go home before the rain and Ron K4FET closed the meeting at 8:40 pm.

There were twenty five (25) members present at the club meeting.

Submitted: Bill Ivey, KJ4OFD, Recorder/Secretary

**ARRL Field Day 2022 is coming June 25-26!!**

Every June, amateur radio operators around North America set up temporary operating stations in public places to promote ham radio by demonstrating the science, skills and community service contributions to the local communities and the country. Field Day is our "open house" to the community.

Field Day is the single most popular event in ham radio, and it has been an annual event since 1931.

The Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society will participate in this year's Field Day on Saturday June 25th, from 2:00pm through 8:00pm at the Golfview Walkway in Hope Mills. This will be our first Field Day operation from this location and we are excited as to what the location has to offer. First, this location is a highly visible with a lot of daily public activity. Along with the proclamation by the Mayor of Hope Mills, our set-up will easily get the attention of the daily walkers and passersby bringing many visitors to our stations and operations. This will be great publicity for CFARS and hopefully instill interest in some to join us in our hobby.

Field Day to me should be a time where ALL members of the club come together with a common goal to establish a site where we can demonstrate our capabilities and proficiency in amateur radio operations. It is NOT just a get together of a few club members and "play radio". Field Day should be a consolidated effort by all club members who are able to assist, no matter how small or big the role. I read a statement the other day that said "Remember our club will only be as strong as the members that ACTIVELY participate." I hope to see our biggest member participation in recent years.

Now to the details. We will begin setting up on Friday the 24th of June. The mission is to erect two Delta Loops, assemble two hexbeams and attach to towers; and then erect the shelters for our three stations and the PIO station.

Saturday morning will start early with some arriving as early as 7:30 to continue by connecting all the station equipment, setting up generator power and running all the electrical connections to each station and erecting the towers. This will be followed by station and power tests, identifying and correcting any problems and finally one last power load test on the electrical system.

The contest will begin at 2pm Saturday and continue for 24 hours until 2pm Sunday. The effort to fill seats of not only operators but loggers will be a challenge as it has been in the past. In past years, a few have done the work of many and "made things happen". I hope this year will bring an abundance of volunteer operators to all the stations to include those recently licensed in the past year to operate at the GOTA station. Let's make this the best CFARS Field Day ever.

**Sequence of Events:****Friday 24 June**

1200 - ??? Set up station canopies, assemble hex beams, position towers, attach hex beams and hang loop antennas.

**Saturday 25 June**

0730-0800 - personnel begin arriving at site

0800-1030 - establish CW, SSB, GOTA and PIO stations. Assemble all station equipment, run power lines from generator, erect towers

1030-1100 - Initial load test on generator and power. All stations operational

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**Saturday 25 June**

- 1100-1200 - Final adjustments to all stations and power.
- 1200-1400 - Station Chief time. Operator familiarization. Final Station adjustments
- 1400- Field Day begins CQ CQCQ

**Sunday 26 June**

- 1400 Contest ends ---- QRT
- 1400 - ??? Disassemble and pack up all equipment.  
Transport and store all club equipment to storage facility.

We need people for Friday and Saturday set-up as well as operators and loggers during the event. If you are able to assist, please come join the fun.

- POC's      Field Day Chief/GOTA Station - George, KM4ODS (KM4ODS@gmail.com)  
 CW Station - Ron, K4FET (mcgoo1138@yahoo.com)  
 SSB Station - Hector, KB4LOA (HectorJ.Gonzalez@live.com)

**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:

Peace Presbyterian Church  
 3203 Ramsey Street (US Hwy 401 N)  
 Fayetteville, North Carolina 28311

Testing Dates

- June 11
- August 13
- October 8

**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*

**August 13, 2022**

CFARS Swapfest  
 Fayetteville, NC  
 Cfarsnc.org

**September 2, 2022**

Shelby Hamfest  
 Shelby, NC  
 shelbyhamfest.com

## Some Comments About SWR

By  
"El Cheapo" N4ERM

I'm worried about the unnecessary concern over SWR. It's as if

- \* "A low SWR guarantees better performance on my antenna." NOT NECESSARILY!
- \* Or "High SWR will damage my transceiver." NOT NECESSARILY!
- \* Or "The SWR on my antenna is 1 to 1, so I must be getting out." NOT NECESSARILY!

Let's dispel some of these myths.

Think of it: Your low SWR into a dummy load does not make it a good radiator. On the other hand, a high SWR into a good antenna is likely a better radiator than your 1 to 1 dummy load. Now read those sentences again. And again. Reasonable. Right? Which would you rather have, a low SWR or a good radiator? Ideally, of course, we'd like to have BOTH. You're not likely to have both. But the fuss over SWR is just not warranted.

Some agonize over every facet of their radio system; wanting to know every aspect of what's going on. After the transceiver, they place a wattmeter to monitor output, then SWR meter to view standing waves, then an antenna tuner (a misnomer: it does NOTHING to tune an antenna!), then maybe an antenna switch, maybe a balun or two, some feed line and finally the antenna. None of this helps the *antenna*. But may, in fact, interfere with the *antenna system*. Every connection and every apparatus between the transceiver and antenna has the potential of introducing losses to the system. In fact, in almost every "mystery" transmitter problem (it worked just a second ago, but now the transceiver just shuts down.), the issue is usually not the apparatus, but a connector. In the transceiver-to-antenna outlined above, there are at least 7 or 8 connectors. The goal should be to reduce loss in the system and to have as direct connection as possible between the transceiver and antenna.

Here's how:

Take out the wattmeter. Then, rather than saying "I'm transmitting with 78.7 watts out," say "I'm operating with less than 100 watts." In fact we all should be transmitting in accordance with FCC Rule 97.313(a), which reads: *An amateur station must use the minimum transmitter power necessary to carry out the desired communications.* Take out the SWR meter. It does nothing for you anyway! Take out the antenna tuner. We already know it does nothing to change the antenna, rather it adds or subtracts inductance and capacitance to make the transceiver "see" closer to 50 Ohms at the output. In this process you've also removed a bunch of problem-causing connectors!

"But if I transmit into a high SWR, won't it damage my transmitter?" The answer depends on your transmitter. Almost all commercially-made transmitters/transceivers built after 1980 has 'fold-back' to protect the finals. That is, if the transmitter senses high SWR, it automatically reduces output power through a process called "fold-back."

**BOTTOM LINE:** Don't ever let concerns over SWR prevent you from getting on the air. The person on the other end of the QSO can't tell what YOUR transceiver, antenna, out-put power or SWR is anyway! Just get on the air and enjoy this wonderful hobby of ours.



*23rd Annual Ole Fashioned*

# CFARS SwapFest

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

**Saturday**

**August 13, 2022**

**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 KI4W kr4oe@nc.rr.com  
(910)910-624-1394**

**ARRL VE Testing: Jim K4BUC jbuccieri@twc.com  
(910)309-5218**

**Set-up begins at 6:30am. 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!!!**