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**The President's Corner: Dale AK4YS**

Happy thoughts of Spring. I want to thank everyone who came out to the meeting. We had a great turnout. We talked about the State QSO party and finalized planning and looking for a great turnout, good propagation and ultimately a good time. Thanks to Greg NC4GK for the coordination and planning.

Your club officers are working hard to inspire and motivate everyone, trying to build on the experience and knowledge of all the members yesterday and today.

Again, looking forward to seeing and working with all this new year. Please feel free to send me a text with questions, comments, and ideas to improve your club.

**POTA:**

Look to see more in the way of Parks on the Air, POTA. Looking at Mike KN4XP, he has more than 50 parks activated, 200 plus park activations, 25000+ qso's, and hunted over 3000 parks with almost 12000 hunted qso's. What did you do on POTA?

**CW:**

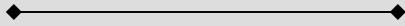
Greg NC4GK and I made a start and will continue to meet at least once a week. Tuesday @ 8pm on 28.150. Slow cw ops are welcome for a no pressure, fun time as slow and as long as you need.

Thank you.

73  
Dale AK4YS  
910 723-2195  
mohrd57@gmail.com

CFARS Officers

President .....Dale AK4YS mohrd57@gmail.com  
Vice Pres.....Hector KB4LOA hectorj.gonzalez@live.com  
Sec./Treas.....Bill KJ4OFD kj4ofd@arrl.net  
Recorder.....Jeremy KN4JUY jeremygilchrist4@gmail.com



Coordinators

Newsletter Editor...Mike KN4XP kn4xp@yahoo.com  
Membership.....David KI4W kr4oe@nc.rr.com  
Net Manager.....Larry N4USB lte67@charter.net  
Emergency .....John Ray KF4JDR jdray.jr88@gmail.com  
ARRL Coordinator..David KI4W kr4oe@nc.rr.com  
Repeaters.....Mike K4JWX k4jwx@outlook.com  
Sky Warn.....Jeremiah KO4VRM jdjfbncphone@gmail.com  
Field Day.....Greg NC4GK gkhamrhead@gmail.com  
Health & Welfare...Carl K4CFB carlbeene@gmail.com  
VEC.. .....Jim K4BUC jbuccieri@twc.com  
Swapfest .....David KI4W kr4oe@nc.rr.com  
Public Info.....Dale AK4YS dale.mohr@yahoo.com  
Contest Coord.....Vacant  
Webmaster.....

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.





### **February 2023 Club Meeting Minutes**

The monthly meeting of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society was held at 7:30 pm, Monday, February 20, 2023, in the Fellowship Hall of the Peace Presbyterian Church, 3202 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC.

President Dale Mohr AK4YS called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country. Bill KE4DER gave the invocation. Dale AK4YS led the introductions in the usual CFARS fashion. We had 38 members and guests present.



Bill KE4DER moved January's minutes be approved, Van K4QFK seconded, and the motion carried.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** Bill KJ4OFD gave the financial report.

**Net Manager:** Larry N4USB gave the net statistics.

**Health & Welfare:** No report.

**Repeaters:** Mike Mason K4JWX gave a repeater report, repeaters are working appropriately. Working on an announcement for the linking of repeaters. Mike said to please inform him K4JWX@outlook.com or David McGough if there are any suggestions on additional nets to link on a schedule.

**Field Day:** No report.

**Membership:** No report.

**Contesting:** Hector gave an update on the NC QSO Party roster. Operators and loggers are needed to sign up. Greg NC4GK gave a presentation on the upcoming NC QSO party the weekend of February 25 and 26, 2023.

**VE Coordinator:** Jim K4BUC announced that the next session will be March 18, 2023 at Peace Presbyterian church.

**Swapfest:** No report.

**Public Relations:** No report.

**Newsletter:** Any submissions please send to Mike KN4XP. [cfarsnews@gmail.com](mailto:cfarsnews@gmail.com)

**Web Site:** Any submissions please send to Dale AK4YS (now managing the website). [cfarsncweb@gmail.com](mailto:cfarsncweb@gmail.com) or [mohrd57@gmail.com](mailto:mohrd57@gmail.com)

**ARRL Liaison:** No report.

**Possam Trot Net:** No report.

**Skywarn:** No report.

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**Old Business:** QSL cards - Hector has the QSL cards coming.

**New Business:** None.

**Program:** None.

**Door Prizes:** None.

**Announcements:** Planned CFARS outing 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March. Recognitions were given to Jim K4BUC, Fergie KK4MCY, Mike KN4XP, Larry N4USB, Jeremiah KO4VRM and Van (Pete) K4QFK for their work as Volunteer Examiners. Recognition given to George KM4ODS for outstanding work with 10-10 International Possum Trot Chapter with CFARS.

**Door Prize:** David K4FXC won a Swiss army knife, Lani KQ4BVV won a western shirt, Hector KB4LOA won a steering wheel lock, Mike KN4XP won a Swiss army knife, Mike Grant won a wireless car FM transmitter, Chris N4CDJ won a steel coffee cup and Bill KE4DER won a bathroom vanity light.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm. There were 27 members and 2 guests present.

Submitted: Jeremy Gilchrist KN4JUY  
Recorder

**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
DMR Net	Sunday	2000	TGIF 910 Talkgroup

*Upcoming Hamfests*

March 10-11, 2023  
 Charlotte Hamfest  
 Concord, North Carolina  
[charlottehamfest.org](http://charlottehamfest.org)

April 8, 2023  
 Rarsfest  
 Raleigh, North Carolina  
[rarsfest.org](http://rarsfest.org)

**CFARS VE Testing**

The CFARS VE team, led by Jim K4BUC, will once again be administering VE exams in 2023. Here is the scheduled exam sessions.

Date	Location	Time
March 18 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Peace Presbyterian Church 3203 Ramsey St. Fayetteville, NC 28301	9:00AM
August 12 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Cumberland County Shrine Club 7040 Ramsey St. Fayetteville, NC 28311	9:00AM
October 14 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Peace Presbyterian Church 3203 Ramsey St. Fayetteville, NC 28301	9:00AM

**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>.**



## CFARS North Carolina QSO Party

Our club participated in the NC QSO Party this year, which was held on February 26, 2023. This year the contest ran from 10:00 am until 8:00 pm EST (15:00 2/26/23 – 0100 2/27/23 if you prefer the UTC designation). This is a radio contest where operators make contacts with as many other operators as possible. As with most radio contests, contacts on various modes earn points at a different rate. In addition to the points for contacts, this contest included multipliers for counties in North Carolina and states within the USA. One additional multiplier was also allowed for a DX contact.



All club events happen due to the hard work of our club members and this event was no exception. Tasks such as coordinating the event, making reservations, informing other club members, hauling equipment to and from storage to the site, runs to the stores for supplies were just a few of the things necessary for a successful event. But the efforts did not stop there.

Due to the contest period beginning at 10:00 am on Sunday, we had to have everything in place, set up and tested. That happened on Saturday, the day before the contest. Many club members arrived on site about 9:00 am to handle the chores

of setting up for a club contest. Chores included assembling up our hex beam antenna. If you have never done that before, it is now an easy task to accomplish due to past preparation.

We also used the club tower. Setting that up required careful navigation skills to get the mast to the correct location, connecting the assembled antenna, knowledge of where to run the coax and rotator control wire, and finally extending the mast vertically.

Another operating requirement was to set up two loop antennas. We relied on expert marksmanship with a fishing pole and weight to set the ropes to hoist the antenna and many volunteers to handle the ropes and antenna loop to pull it into position. This was a group effort, and our club members did an excellent job.

While antennas were being set, other teams were setting up the radio stations. This year we used the club radios, antenna tuners and newly acquired computer logging equipment. All these items had to be set up in the rented cabins, sometimes re-arranging the rustic furniture to make room. We had most of the setup complete by 1:00.

Are you hungry yet? After all that hard work, we were glad that we had nourishment on site. Taking advantage of the campground grill, we cooked hot dogs and hamburgers to go with chips and cookies and other items for a well-earned lunch break.

After lunch it was time to begin testing the radio stations. Learning how the external tuners worked with the radios took us a little effort initially. We used the radio menu to designate the external tuner and only had to power cycle the external tuner once or twice to get it synced with the tune button on

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the radio. Testing of the equipment went on for a few more hours, learning how to aim the hex beam, fine tune the hex beam and integrating the logging software. Operators were making some good DX contacts during this testing and having fun.

We had to suspend the fun for the evening, leaving behind someone to guard the equipment and have fun making contacts late into the evening while the rest of us retired to be prepared for a long contest day.

When contest day arrived, many club members showed up again. We saw some familiar faces and some new faces as everyone readied the radio stations waiting for the contest to begin. Operators began and continued until the very last minute. While not operating, other members supported by logging and keeping the group fed again.

Have you had enough fun for one day? We were all tired by the end of the day but still had things to do. We had to take down and pack away everything that had been set up. Again, our club members rose to the challenge. Radios, tuners, antennas, towers and all accessory gear were taken down and packed up. We might use some reflective tape on the antenna ropes next year since the take down crew was not the same as the set up crew, and spotting black ropes at night proved difficult, but not impossible. Most members were on the road home by about 10:30 pm, leaving returning the items to storage for another day.

How did we do? We did great! We had a club event with people from all experience levels working together. We had fun! We made contacts. We learned more about operating, logging and contesting. Between the phone station's 733 contacts and the CW station's 488 contacts, we had 1221 contacts during the 10 hour period. That averages out to 2 contacts per minute. Based on just the contact points, the Phone station edged out the CW station by a mere 2 points. We were able to make contact with all 6 bonus stations for the sweep, even though one station was only operating phone mode. As the numbers show, our members were working very hard.

If you missed the event this year, stick around and come out next year. The NC QSO party is the last weekend of February. Remember that this club and the events hosted are only a success if club members contribute. We had great contributions again this year, and expect our members to contribute in future events.

To wrap things up, log submissions are due by March 13<sup>th</sup>, and our log was submitted March 5<sup>th</sup>. I hope the final results will be available by the end of March and we will announce the results at the first meeting after they are available. Feel free to check in at their website, <http://ncqsoparty.org> to see the results of this contest, past contests, and the schedule for future events.





CFARS North Carolina QSO Party





CFARS North Carolina QSO Party

